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Hotel Plaza
Buenos Aires

Sunday, Feb. 4, 51

Dear Dannie,

We have had very full and interesting days since our arrival early Monday morning. There wasn't much to write from the ship but I mailed you letters at Trinidad, Rio and Montevideo, which, I hope, you got but letters mailed from ships seldom get to destination for either the stewards or the postal people have a rather general practice of taking off the stamps and destroying the letters.

I will be dictating some letters to you and others tomorrow here in the apartment as it is a holiday. Brosens has only one good English stenographer so I will use one from the Embassy.

We have had a really full, interesting and pleasant week. Brosens and Deschamp were at the boat to meet us as well as Mallory, our Chargé d'Affaires and his wife. The President very kindly sent the Chief of Protocol who happens to be an old friend to the boat to meet us and gave some cordial messages of greeting from the President and Mrs. Peron to both Marion and myself and said the President and Mrs. Peron would be glad to see us any time. Brosens and I spent almost all of Monday and Tuesday and a good part of Wednesday and Thursday talking over the electricity situation and Mallory, the Chargé d'Affaires, who is an old pupil of mine and friend of years gave me a good deal of time as did some of his associates, as I wished to get some economic back ground. I feel I have a good idea of the present situation and problems and certainly this electricity problem is fundamental to any maintenance of economic and political and financial stability and the supply situation is even more acute now than I thought, and steps have to be taken in the immediate future to get new equipment for the Argentine in production. This in itself will be difficult enough, and nothing can be done in that direction until there is adequate provision of credits. It is a serious situation and does not admit of further delay without creating very serious problems for the Economy and the Government.

I am delighted we decided to take our holiday thru this trip, for I hope I may be able to help in this fundamental problems.

As you know this is Carnival, and tho they dont celebrate Carnival here like in Rio, the business houses etc. are very quiet in February which is the warmest ~~month~~ here. Brosens went to Punta del Este for the week as there is nothing to do during the coming week.

President Peron saw me on Friday and altho it should have been merely a short curtesy call we got so interested that we chatted for almost an hour. He looks very well, is in excellent spirits, has many problems as Chiefs of State have everywhere, but is full of optimism. It was fine to see him again and to exchange views. We talked a good dieal of electricity and the Cade and while he appreciates the importance of electricity in the economy, and of the Cade, I have the feeling that some of his associates in the Government have not informed him of the most serious problems. This is often the case, where subordinates do not inform fully to cover up their own inadequacies. I told the President I would like to have the privilege of talking with him on electricity and the Cade very fully and naturally with Brosens there and the President said we must do this, at his house about 8 days from now. I suggested it would be good to have Cerijo there also and the President was so good asto agree. We will have ample time to talk over the whole problem with him, and my experience is that when the President really has been adequately informed ~~on~~ on so important a problem, he not only fully understands it, but does the necessary. In this cas of course the problem involves outside credits of real importance but if the Argentine will do the fundamental things, I hope we our country will provide the credits.

I haven't had a word from you wince we left and you promised to write me of your health ! How is the shoulder ? How is the head and pulse ? You really promised to write me a line as to how you are feeling. That is the most important thing I want to know. I had a letter from Jimmy on his return to Mexico and the family seems well. Best to Hettie and Edna and Yvonne and yourself. Marion and I are enjoying our stay. I hope and think it may be useful. We are both very well.

Cordially and faithfully,

GEORGE