

June 29, 1942.

Dear Friends:

We hope you will be interested in our account of some of the things that have happened here since our last letter.

A few weeks ago, on the Friday following Panamerican Day Ula directed a pageant entitled "The Americas". She had written it in English and had had it translated into Spanish. The municipal theater in which it was presented and which seats about 1000 people was completely filled. We charged popular prices hoping to have as many see it as possible. We did not want to make money on it except to pay for the costumes. We took in enough money to pay all expenses. And, we think, fulfilled to some extent our purpose of promoting good will between the Americas.

As far as we have been able to learn there had never been a pageant in Bogotá. When the pantomimes were presented showing parts of bible stories the people gasped in amazement. Some of the teachers and Ula had spent many hours making angel costumes and angel wings and costumes of peoples of the nations that made the Americas. They were beautiful. Our U.S. Embassy had a box in the theater. When the parade of "The Nations" came down the aisle from the rear of the theater these emotional Spanish people fairly rose to their feet. The boys of our school, dressed in white trousers and blue coats carried large silk flags of each of the 21 American republics. The Colombian flag came first, then the Stars and Stripes followed by those of the other nations of the western hemisphere. The "Mother of the Western Hemisphere" was represented and she plead for the churches, homes and schools. When the church scene was presented with angels and the Christ-child in pantomime, the church choir sang from a balcony in the back of the theater. Truly, it was beautiful. It seemed to us that the very theater shone with star light and these Spanish boys and girls were thrilled. How they love such things! Somehow those angel scenes had the heart of the Garrisons in them as never before. In one pantomime, "The U.S. Pantomime" our students sang The Star Spangled Banner in English. One wife from the U.S. Embassy bent over the box in which she was seated and said with feeling, "Those children make us ashamed. They sing it better than we do at home". At the close of the pageant Washington and Bolivar (the Washington of South America) clasped hands in friendship and the flags of Colombia and the U.S. were crossed. Thrills upon thrills were in that program for us because of the audience. Oh! there is so much to be done here and so few of us to do it., And these people are so appreciative of what we do for them.

Our son, Dean, now seven years old, is in the primary department of our school. His teacher who speaks only Spanish has insisted from the beginning of the year that he understands everything she says to him. Our school starts in February and ends in November. All of Dean's classes save one are taught in Spanish. That one is the class in English. We are also teaching him english for he does not get as much in that class as we want him to have.

About three weeks ago Mr. Brickel of the cultural relations department of the U.S. Embassy here presented a large U.S. flag to our school. His presentation speech was in Spanish and one of our students, representing the student body accepted it. Then the students all sang the Star Spangled Banner in English followed by a prayer by the Colombian pastor of our Spanish church in which for the continued and ever closer cooperation between and better understanding among the Americas.

In response as ever to a call for a worthy purpose the