

Mexico

August 22, 1928.

Hon. S. Dutton-Pegram,
British Vice Consulate,
Torreon, Coahuila, Mexico.

Dear Mr. Pegram:

I was very glad to receive your letter of July 17 which arrived during my absence. I also received a page from the Editor & Publisher from Victor Murdock which I pass on to you feeling that you will be interested.

I should like to sit in with you again for a heart to heart discussion of Mexico and existing conditions of which you are so well informed. I was not greatly surprised at the death of Obregon. Some way I felt that the conditions were such that one might expect the violent death of either Calles or Obregon.

When we were in the City of Mexico we were to be received at Chapultepec Castle by the President at twelve and we were given to understand that twelve meant twelve and not five minutes past twelve. In some manner, very undiplomatically, it seemed to me, we were to call on Gen. Obregon in the neighborhood of ten o'clock. This seemed to me to have been an hour unwisely chosen and one would naturally think that we should see the President first and the candidate for the presidency next. I did not go to see the General but those who did said that they were delayed until they did not see how they could possibly reach the Castle on time. I wondered at the time if there were anything sinister in this arrangement. On the face of it, here were two very big men who were ardent friends and ready to support one another. While this arrangement was beautiful, it isn't in line with the history of Mexico and of other modern and ancient countries somewhat similarly governed.

Our return home was almost immediately saddened by the death of our youngest child, a promising boy of thirteen. We came home about noon on Monday and I did not see the little boy until he returned from school. We had a fine time together that night and the next morning I took him to school. At noon he came home complain-