

MISSIONARY DISTRICT OF PORTO RICO
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

P. O. BOX 1115

SAN JUAN, P. R.

Dec. 2, 1932.

Rt. Rev. Manuel Ferrando,
63 Briarcliff Road,
Mountain Lakes, N. J.

Dear Bishop Ferrando:

I suppose of course as I wrote you that Mr. Valentine would begin Machiavellian methods of attempting to divide members of the staff. My supposition is born out by the recent letters he has written me which are very insulting and, to which of course, I will pay no attention as far as Mr. Valentine is concerned. In one of his letters he says the following: "One other point to think over: Bishop Ferrando in thanking Mrs. Valentine for care, hospitality etc. mentioned in his letter that as a very small token of his gratitude he named her as beneficiary to inherit one third of the Ferrando-Church of Jesus lands in the event of my pre-deceasing her. As it stands now in the event of my death Mrs. Valentine automatically becomes possessed of one-third of the estate."

"I have no interest whatever in the place having alienated it to you, but I certainly had no right to sign away any beneficiary's interest and was not asked to do so. If Mrs. Valentine has reason to think that her inheritance is being despoiled or waste committed in any way, she can not legally by personal physical effort prevent the waste, but she can apply to the courts for a restraining injunction. I don't think she anticipates any such happening, but as she is too delicate to make a personal inspection she has a right to appoint an agent to act for her - I would make a pretty good agent, or Ruth or Marjorie - The point is let your mayordomo exercise great care and restraint - There is a strong feeling against him now since Marjorie has had to give up some visits. These people are all good friends of ours and I hope none of the young hot heads will forget the respect due a minister. That would be just too bad." If such a letter was written by you to the Valentine family and any such inheritance offered Mrs. Valentine I think it would be well for you to write and withdraw this offer, saying that you are making other disposition of the property. At least I think you should consult your lawyer in regard to the matter. It just occurs to me without having consulted any lawyer that in the case of your death some trouble might be made for us by Mr. Valentine but that during your life time you could withdraw the letter speaking of one-third of the inheritance going to Mrs. Valentine.

In another paragraph Mr. Valentine apparently indicates the real purpose of his trouble making as follows: "If I had not dug in so deep I would promote peace by abandoning my poor people and leaving the island - By George I'll do it now if you will take my place at what it cost, and at that price you get a clear 10% per annum, with more than twice that when the new coffee comes in."

Land	\$2,550.
House	1,375.
Garage and Almacén	125.
Tank and septic	125.
Planting	100.
Fencing	25.

Total \$4,392.

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Please pardon me for bothering you with this matter but I am giving you the text of Mr. Valentine's letter and you will probably find out from your lawyer what, if anything, should be done in regard to the matter.

With all best wishes and warm regards to all of you, believe me ever,

Very sincerely and affectionately yours,

Chas. S. Blum

CBC/I