

MISSIONARY DISTRICT OF PORTO RICO

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

P. O. BOX 1115.

SAN JUAN, P. R.

Oct. 2 1924.

Dear Bishop:

Just a note personally to say that I have received on ~~that~~ this mail a letter from one of the Bishops telling me he wants to propose my name for Mexico. Am sure nothing will come of it, but I wanted you to hear of it from me; and not from the floor of the House. I have proposed your name and don't want you to think I have been in any way trying to get it for myself. I don't want it and would be afraid of the task presented there. Am not fitted for it and such a proposal has never occurred to me and I never would be a party to it. Hope the Bishop will not bring up my name. This is only as an assurance of my integrity which I feel sure you will say is not necessary. But I feel better to have written it to you anyway. Love to all the family.

Sincerely & affectionately yours,

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SAN JUAN, P. R.

Oct. 2, 1924.

Rt. Rev. Manuel Ferrando,
Mountain Lakes,
New Jersey.

My dear Bishop:

Your letter of the 24th arrived on this mail and greeted me upon my arrival at home from a trip around the Island. Both checks arrived, also, by the same mail, from 281 Fourth Avenue. I sent word by the last mail of the great news to St. Thomas, but have hardly had a chance to hear from them yet. I knew that the parish will be most delighted and that they will feel a great gratitude to you for your great kindness and the effort you made in their behalf. Please be sure and give my warmest thanks and expressions of gratitude to your friend for helping us out of the difficulty.

The pump and light system has been ordered, as I wrote to you on the last mail. They expect to have it here in the course of another week or so. On my trip this week, I took Fr. Saylor from Mayaguez to Ponce and on Wednesday morning we went out and spent the whole morning at Quebrada Limon. We took Aleje with us and discussed the whole situation with regard to the house for the two plants. The pump will have to be placed at the well, and Fr. Saylor says that the present house will be quite sufficient for that need. There will be some expense, however, probably in walling up the well with concrete and putting a ~~front~~ as well as a base for the pump to rest upon. This we may decide to leave until you come, in as much as the old pump is working satisfactorily and the house has plenty of water. I do not mean by this that the ~~new~~ pump is not needed since the old one is worn and, I understand, obsolete.

As to the light plant, we decided to place it in a corner of the ironing room, in the basement of the house. Access is easily had to it from the staircase leading from the kitchen, and it is a great advantage to have the plant in the basement of the building. The room can still be used if needed for ironing, and the noise of the plant will not disturb the house. This does away with the necessity of building a house for the plant.

I find that Miss Levett's automobile is in good running order. The only difficulty is in regard to wheels, which are not of standard size, and it seems unwise to buy other tires which have to be ^{be} much larger and more expensive than if the wheels are standard. There is another similar car in Mayaguez for sale at \$200., and in as much as the mission as a whole needs a light truck, and especially will this be needed at Quebrada Limon as soon as we place a farmer there, and as Fr. Saylor offers to convert one of the two cars into a truck without further expense to us, I decided to buy the other car, which will be a little more convenient for Miss

Lovett, at least as far as the wheels are concerned, ^{ie.} easier for her to change tires, etc. You told me that you had authorized Miss Lovett to have Cortez do some considerable repair work on her car, and I thought that, in lieu of this, ~~we~~ ^{you} would probably be willing to share ^{the} expenses of the purchase of the other car. Fr. Saylor and Miss Lovett went to Mayaguez yesterday afternoon in Miss Lovett's car, to make the necessary exchanges on the two cars, and she will drive one of the results back to Quebrada Limon.

I have succeeded, as I had hoped, in securing a guarantee of \$1200. for the salary of a farmer at Quebrada Limon for 1925-26, two years. You told me that you thought you could secure one-half as much for the farm. We would need quite a bit for equipment, with which to begin the work, that is, the most necessary things, such as a pair of horses or mules, a plow, etc. There would also be some expense in getting a man down here from New York, with his family. Of course the farm will produce something, even as at the present, and there will be some income which could go towards equipment and labor needed to bring the place into production. This, if properly handled, will bring in some money, so that I feel sure \$600. would be ample for all purposes, including the traveling expense of a farmer and family. I told you of Mr. Francis Edmunds at Great River, Long Island, who seemed to be very much interested in the proposition. I have, of course, no kind of compromise with him. I think it would be very desirable that you make an appointment with Mr. Edmunds to meet him in New York and have a talk with him about the general situation, and see if he still is interested and if you think he could handle the situation. You could make up your mind if you think it would be wise to employ him. I told him that anyone taking the position would work under you.

I was greatly encouraged about Quebrada Limon. There have been frequent rains; everything ^{is} beautifully green, and I feel certain that the coffee and milk alone would bring in enough to guarantee the farmer's salary. Other produce would bring in an additional amount, which I would suggest should be divided equally between the farmer and ourselves.

I neglected to state above that the industrial department of the Mission at Mayaguez has offered us the said guarantee, and they all feel very happy at the thought of one mission helping to put another on its feet.

Please give my warm regards to Mrs. Ferrando and Edith, and looking forward to seeing you next month and hearing all about the meeting of the House of Bishops, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

Chas. Saylor