

January 11, 1919.

My dear Senator:

I received your recent letter with reference to the appropriations now before the Senate for the earthquake and epidemic relief of Porto Rico.

I appreciate very much the interest you have promised to take in these important matters and I hope that you will continue to help us secure some form of financial aid from Congress, especially as to the matter of the earthquake, for that was a most serious and extraordinary calamity and the Island should not be left to struggle with it alone.

I am hoping to get to Washington myself about the middle of February, and of course I shall come to see you promptly and talk over all these and other matters.

I hope that you and your family are all well and that you are not working too hard in these strenuous times.

Very sincerely your friend,

Governor.

Honorable J. C. H. Beckham,  
United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.

January 18, 1919.

My dear Mr. Bird;

On returning from Juncos day before yesterday I found on my desk the card left by you and Mr. Farnum.

I regret very much having missed you and hope you will be sure to call the next time you visit San Juan. I have some matters of importance concerning which I wish to talk with you confidentially.

With best wishes for both yourself and Mr. Farnum as well as for your family, I am,

Sincerely your friend,

Governor.

Mr. Jorge Bird Arias,

Fajardo, Porto Rico.

86x11

P. F.  
~~DEPARTMENT OF LABOR~~

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON


February 28, 1919

My dear Mr. Yager:

The Secretary of Labor has just learned that you are in the City and he urges me to invite you in his behalf to the Conference of Governors in the East Room of the White House, which convenes Monday morning, March 3rd, at 9:30 A.M.

If the Secretary were in the City he would personally sign this letter, but he was obliged to leave for Pittsburgh last evening. The President will speak Monday morning and the sessions will continue throughout Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Cordially yours,

  
Director General, Information & Education Service

Governor Arthur Yager,  
c/o Shoreham Hotel,  
Washington, D. C.

March 1, 1919.

Mr. Roger W. Babson,  
Director General, Information and Education Service,  
Department of Labor.

Dear Sir:

I acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of your letter of the 28th of February inviting me to attend the conference of Governors at the White House on March 3.

This seems to me to be an extremely important conference and I appreciate the opportunity of being present. I hope that the matters which I recognize are of most urgent importance and with which this conference will have to deal will be discussed and acted upon with great profit to the country.

Thanking you for the invitation, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Governor of Porto Rico.

86X11

March 6, 1919.

Mr. W. R. Bennett,  
Marshal, Federal Court,  
San Juan, P.R.

My dear Bennett:

I received your cablegram, took up the matter with Senator McKellar, and did everything possible, and I think he did everything possible, to secure the confirmation of your appointment before the adjournment of the Senate.

Nevertheless, the appointment failed of confirmation along with some 1500 other appointments and reappointments. Your nomination was sent over to the Senate on February 27th. At the Attorney General's office they tell me that you will hold over after the expiration of your term until the matter can be taken up again. There seems to be no question of the reappointment, but I don't know whether they mean to wait until the President's return and a special session is called, which would probably be some time in June, or whether they will try to have a recess appointment. I think, myself, that the former course would be better, but I will talk it all over with you when I return the latter part of the month.

I am sorry that we could not push it through the Senate, but you know most everything failed in the Senate this time, even some of the most urgent and important appropriation bills.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
INFORMATION AND EDUCATION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
DIRECTOR GENERAL

IN REPLYING REFER TO

March 8, 1919

The Honorable  
Governor General of Porto Rico.  
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Sir:

I enclose stenographic report of the  
address you gave at the conference of Governors and Mayors.

Before we print the same in the official  
proceedings, would you kindly read it over, make such changes  
as are desired, and at once return the same to me?

I also take this occasion to thank you for your  
cooperation in making the conference a great success. I  
deeply appreciate your spirit of cooperation.

Very truly yours,

*Walter W. Babson*  
Director General.

(Enc.)

86 x 11

Governor           ldge:   Porto Rico.   Governor General  
Arthur Yager.

ADDRESS OF HON. ARTHUR YAGER

Governor General of Porto Rico.

Governor General Yager: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the Conference, in the name of Porto Rico I appreciate very much the opportunity to lay before you some of our problems and difficulties this morning.

I hope most of you know that Porto Rico was placed on the map of the United States by the Treaty of Paris, in 1899. We have, therefore, been there only about twenty years. The Spanish colonial administration did for its colonies nothing that a modern government always tries to do for its people. Therefore, we inherited a situation where we had everything to do that ought to be done, and very little money to do it with. Consequently, gentlemen, we have not gotten very far with that job yet, because everything had to be done at once -- education, roads, health, agriculture -- everything possible that a modern government tries to do for its people, as

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the gentleman from Pennsylvania has just told you -- but we have done our best.

Now, there may be some question as to whether or not there is much the matter here in the United States; but I want to tell you that there is a great deal the matter with Porto Rico; not perhaps the things that you are thinking of, but other things that have been accumulated by the centuries of maladministration that preceded us.

We have there all the problems that you gentlemen have in your States. We have demobilized our encampments of soldiers -- some twelve or fourteen thousand of them. The War Department mobilized and brought up for war work here some twelve or fifteen thousand laborers. They did not work well; it was mismanaged; they brought them up in the fall or the winter and they did not select them, and they did not make good, and peace came, and everything went wrong; so they have all been brought back. (Laughter) So we have our soldiers and our war workers back upon our hands to try to find employment for them.

Then we have had other things that you have had -- influenza and all that. (Laughter)

But the things that trouble Porto Rico are not these



things, but extraordinary things that you gentlemen know nothing about. First, we had an earthquake. (Laughter) On October 11th last an earthquake visited the island, which shook the whole island as you would shake a bird cage in your hand; and the west coast was absolutely devastated and ruined by it; thousands of people were made homeless and other thousands put out of employment by the paralysis of all commercial and industrial activity. That has added to our problem<sup>s</sup> immensely. But the worst thing is not that. (Laughter) I mean that emphatically. The fundamental difficulty with labor conditions in Porto Rico is the fact that the island is overpopulated. (Laughter) I am not going to give you figures people do not like figures; but we have a population of one million and a quarter upon a territory of three thousand four hundred and thirty-five square miles. That is, 350 people to the square mile. We are not in the condition of New Mexico -- land poor -- we are people poor. The question is, how can we possibly find employment upon that little island for all those people who are there; and the worst of it is that they are coming along all the time. (Laughter) The population in Porto Rico has been increasing steadily two per cent

per year, and that is without any regard whatever to the opportunities for education and employment of the people.

Now, that is the condition that confronts us.

Porto Rico is like the woman spoken of in Mother Goose:

"There was an old woman who lived in a shoe;

She had so many children, she didn't know what to do."

But Porto Rico cannot do what the old woman did:

"So she gave them some broth and she gave them some  
bread,

"And spanked them all soundly and put them to bed."

We have not the broth or the bread. I have always wondered where that old woman found room for the bed in her limited quarters. But we have not the broth or the bed.

Now, the people in Porto Rico must in some way be relieved from the immense surplus of population. That is the fundamental social problem, gentlemen. Now, how? (Laughter) This is no joke down there. I have myself recommended emmigration, especially to the neighboring island of Santo Domingo, which has the same climate, the same industries, and 18,000 square miles and only 600,000

people -- thirty to the square-mile -- while we have 350. But in order to carry that out we need help from the Federal Government. The Federal Government has gone into Santo Domingo and quieted down that little hot-bed of revolution, business has started up and labor is in great demand. Porto Rico is full of labor, but we have difficulty in getting them over there and difficulty in persuading the Federal Government to make some kind of a definite policy known to the world that would indicate to the world whether or not Santo Domingo is to remain under the United States' guardianship, or be thrown back into the old era of a revolution every fifteen minutes. (Laughter)

Governor Coolidge: Your time has expired.

Governor General Yager: I thank you very much, Gentlemen. (Applause)

March 6, 1919.

Judge J. W. Bonner,  
San Juan, P.R.

My dear Judge:

I found upon arrival here that your reappointment as Auditor had no opposition, was entirely satisfactory to everybody, and that it did not require confirmation by the Senate. So that it can be made by the President at any time.

I recommended it, of course, to the Secretary of War, and he recommended it and had the commission filled up all ready for the President's signature, but I feel sure that the President did not have opportunity to sign it before he left for France on March 4th. It will be sent over there, though, and he will sign it some time, and that will end the matter. Meanwhile, of course, you hold over until the reappointment is made.

I have been too busy to write letters or do anything since I arrived in Washington, which I am sure you will understand.

With best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely, your friend,

1748

May 28, 1919.

My dear Mr. Burleson:

I am informed that there have been some inspectors' reports sent to Washington that reflect, possibly in an indirect way, upon the character and the capacity of Mr. E. W. Keith, Postmaster at San Juan.

Of course, you will remember that Mr. Keith was originally appointed upon my earnest recommendation, and I am writing this to say I know Mr. Keith as well as I know any one in Porto Rico, and I still wish to endorse him thoroughly, both as to character and capacity.

He has had many difficulties in the administration of the postoffice at San Juan, caused partly by extraordinary duties connected with war work, war saving stamps, shipping difficulties, etc., and partly by the shortcomings of his assistant postmaster, who was not thoroughly adequate for the position for lack of ability, training, etc., but I am perfectly sure that Mr. Keith himself has done his full duty, though he has had to work awfully hard in order to keep up the efficiency of the service.

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(26 May 19)

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He also has the entire confidence of this community, and I feel confident that there are no complaints against him from San Juan that are worthy of consideration.

With best wishes for you in the work of your heavy job, and assuring you of the highest personal regard, I remain as always

Sincerely your friend,

Governor.

Honorable Albert S. Burleson,  
Postmaster General,  
Washington, D. C.

June 14, 1919.

My dear Governor:

Your letter of June 2d, inviting me to attend the Governors' Conference to be held in Salt Lake City next August, has been received, and I was greatly tempted by the most attractive program, both of work and play, which you offered, to accept at all hazards, your cordial invitation. However, I fear that it is useless for me even to consider the matter in spite of my strong desire to visit your great and growing State.

I am estopped chiefly by the requirements of the law which compel me to prepare and deliver to the Public Printer at Washington, the annual report of the Governor of Porto Rico, by September 15th, of each year. This report covers all the operations of our government for the fiscal year ending June 30th. It includes, of course, the reports and the work of all of our executive departments for that year, and its preparation can not be begun before the month of August. And it must be written in Porto Rico where I can have access to the records of all of the departments.

I assure you of my appreciation of your cor-

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(14 June 19)

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dial invitation, and it seems to me under the circumstances, you ought to have present upon that occasion, practically all the governors of the States and Territories.

Wishing you a most successful and profitable meeting, I am

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

Honorable Simon Bamberger,  
Governor of Utah,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.



STATE OF UTAH  
**Executive Office**  
SALT LAKE CITY



June 2, 1919.

My dear Governor:

I hope you will allow nothing to keep you away from the Governors' Conference to be held in Salt Lake City next August 18th to 24th. You are aware, of course, of the importance of the meeting this year, and of the many vital problems which we may help to solve, but I wish to suggest an additional motive for your attendance in the opportunity for a vacation for yourself and members of your family, which our program will offer. I am enclosing a tentative outline of the program in this regard.

The recreational features of the conference will all be of an informal nature, and I would suggest that in place of full dress you bring along some old clothes so that you may properly enjoy the outings in the mountains. In view of the Yellowstone Park trip it would be well to include in your wardrobe some wraps, for you will find the mountain climate very bracing at that season of the year.

I am sure you will derive genuine pleasure and benefit from your visit to Salt Lake City and Utah, and I shall look forward with a great deal of pleasure to greeting you here. Every arrangement will be made for adequate accommodations for such members of your family as may accompany you.

May I ask that you let me know as early as convenient whether or not you will find it possible to be present and how many will be in your party?

With kind personal regard, I am,

Yours very truly,

*Simon Hauberg*  
Governor.

Honorable Arthur Yager,  
Governor General of Porto Rico,  
San Juan, Porto Rico.

86x11

TENTATIVE PROGRAM  
GOVERNORS CONFERENCE  
SALT LAKE CITY  
AUGUST 18-24, 1919.

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MONDAY, AUGUST 18.

- 8:00 p.m.--Organ recital and formal opening at  
Mormon Tabernacle.  
10:00 p.m.--Reception at Tabernacle.

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 19.

- 10:00 a.m.--Business session--House of Representatives,  
State Capitol  
1:15 p.m.--Luncheon to visiting governors and members  
of their families--Hotel Utah Roof Garden.  
3:00 p.m.--Drive around city  
4:00 p.m.--Leave for Saltair--bathing, dancing, etc.  
7:00 p.m.--Dinner at Saltair pavilion.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20.

- 10:00 a.m.--Business session, State Capitol.  
1:15 p.m.----Luncheon  
3:00 p.m.----Leave for Ogden on Electric Line.  
6:00 p.m.----Dinner at Hermitage Inn, Ogden Canyon.  
7:30 p.m.----Leave Hermitage  
8:15 p.m.----Leave Ogden special electric train  
9:00 p.m.----Arrive Lagoon  
9:45 p.m.----Leave Lagoon, arriving Salt Lake 10:15 p.m.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 21.

- 10:00 a.m.--Business session--State Capitol  
12:15 p.m.--Luncheon  
1:30 p.m.----Leave for Bingham via B&G Rwy.  
6:00 p.m.----Arrive Salt Lake for dinner.  
8:00 p.m.----Leave Salt Lake of Yellowstone Special  
for three-day tour Yellowstone Park

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San Juan, P. R., July 18, 1919.

*His Excellency*

*The Honorable V. Marquez Bustillos,  
President of Venezuela,  
Caracas, Venezuela.*

*My dear Sir:*

*Madame Tamaki Muira, a Japanese artist, is going to visit Caracas with an opera company in the near future. Madame Muira is the first Japanese woman to develop the vocal art, according to European standards, sufficiently to be a prima donna in grand opera of high artistic excellence. In addition to this she is a woman of great culture and refinement, and in the performances of the opera company here in Porto Rico, exhibited marked talents both as a singer and an artist.*

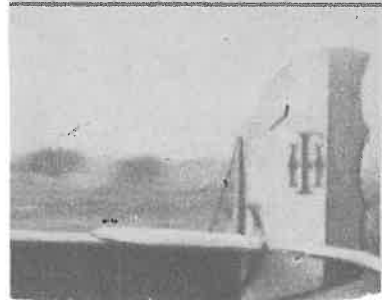
*I will appreciate it if you could extend to Madame Muira, while she is in your capital, such courtesies as you may find convenient, and if you have an opportunity to hear her sing, I am sure that you will realize that she is a great artist.*

*Cordially yours,*

*Governor of Porto Rico.*



The Filson Historical Society



COMMODORE E. C.  
BENEDICT,  
Viewing the Seawan-  
haka Corinthian Yacht  
Club Races on Long  
Island Sound from  
His Yacht The  
Oneida, Flagship of  
the Event.

July 31, 1919.

Commodore E. C. Benedict,

Greenwich, Conn.

My dear Commodore:

I have just seen your picture, in the *New York Times* of July 6th, standing on board your good ship *Onaida*, watching yacht club races. It reminded me of old times to see your picture, and it was a good one too, and you seem to be feeling as fine and fit as an unconquerable old sailor, which I am sure you are.

As you have probably already learned, our dear old friend Mr. Esterbrook passed away here in Porto Rico last Sunday afternoon, and his body is now on the way to Boston. He had come to Porto Rico only two or three weeks ago in a very weak condition, but with the desperate hope that the mild climate and the beauty of his old home here might restore him to health. His many friends here regret his going with real sorrow.

I hope you are as well and as strong as you look in the picture. I am going to cut it out and keep it as a memento of our very pleasant acquaintance.

With best wishes for you always, I am

Sincerely your friend,

August 9, 1919.

Mr. T. D. Boyd, Jr.,  
Encenada, P. R.

My Dear Mr. Boyd:

The War Department has at last sent me a definite answer as to the limits of authority I may have in the matter of passengers for the transport General Goethals, and they have turned down the case of Mrs. Trapp by stating that that does not constitute a real emergency in the eye of the law. However, as the transport is going direct to New York and not to New Orleans this means of travel would not be of any great importance to Mrs. Trapp, still I regret very much the decision because I should have been very glad to have sent Mrs. Trapp and her children direct to New Orleans on one of the transports. You will please give the information to her.

With best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,

Governor

August 12, 1919.

My dear Doctor:

In accordance with our conversation this morning I am enclosing herewith copy of the cablegram asking for the detailed information, under three heads; I am also sending copy of cablegram from Judge Turner of the Commission, giving the present status of the matter in Washington.

You can see that if we can answer these questions in a satisfactory manner we have a pretty good chance of securing the extension of the law to Porto Rico. I feel sure that with your knowledge of the agricultural conditions here in Porto Rico gained from the large experience you have had in making loans upon farm lands, you will be able to write me a letter that will be very helpful in convincing Congress that we need this law, and that our farmers can make use of it with great benefit to themselves and with safety to the Farm Loan Board.

I would appreciate as prompt a response as you may find it convenient to make.

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. José C. Barbosa,

Governor.

San Juan, Porto Rico.

86x11

San Juan, Porto Rico,  
August 13, 1919.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to introduce the bearer, Mr. Francisco Barrante, a Detective of the Insular Police Force of Porto Rico.

He has been long in the service, and is now granted a leave of absence to visit the United States for the purpose of studying detective and police methods employed upon the Continent.

Any courtesies which you may conveniently extend to Mr. Barrante will be properly appreciated.

Very respectfully,

Governor of Porto Rico.

11x28



August 25, 1910.

My dear Mr. Durlison:

I am writing in reference to the matter of the appointment of the postmaster for the City of San Juan, Porto Rico, in place of Mr. E. W. Keith, who has resigned.

You will remember that some three or four years ago you sent to Porto Rico a memorandum authorizing and establishing a method for filling vacancies in the Postal Service of Porto Rico the chief features of which were: First, the appointment of all the postmasters by promotion within the service in accordance with the regular method of announcing vacancies and calling for applications from all of those members of the service eligible for appointment; and second, the establishment of a Board of Recommendation consisting of the Governor of Porto Rico, the Chief Inspector of the Postal Service, and the Postmaster of San Juan.

I think the Department has made a mistake in the matter of the post office at San Juan by including this office in the list of those in which appointments were to be made according to this method for the following reasons: First and chiefly because the postmaster at San Juan is a member of the board which is to make the recommendations for promotion. This implies, I think, that this office is

11x78

(25 Aug 19)

-3-

to be filled by another method. It is quite necessary that this board of recommendation should be entirely independent and free from any possible connection with either of the local political parties in Porto Rico, and in fact from all local prejudices of any sort, and the only way in which to secure this complete independence, at least for the present is to have this board consist entirely of American officers who are appointed by the President, or at least from Washington. In the second place the postoffice at San Juan is in a certain sense the head office of the whole Island. It is the depository of all of the other offices and the source of their supplies and being at the capital and seat of the government and at the chief port and commercial center as well as the largest city, the business done is so far in excess of that done at any other office that it stands apart from the rest. I was myself, surprised when I learned that immediately upon the occurrence of the vacancy "The Call" was immediately made up and sent down to the Chief Inspector with instructions to announce the vacancy and call for applications in exactly the same way for the San Juan office as for any of the small offices in the Island. As I state before I think this is a mistake for it not only limits the field of choice absolutely to native Porto Ricans, but also that still narrower group which includes active postmaster only or those who are in the postoffices, excluding the railway mail service from consideration.

(25 Aug. 1

My recommendation is that this mistake should be corrected first by withdrawing "The Case" for the reason that inasmuch as the postmaster of San Juan himself belongs to the board that makes recommendations that office should not be included within the scope of the memorandum referred to. It would have been far better not to have made the mistake and made the announcement for it has created the keenest expectation and activity amongst all of the leading postmasters and assistant postmasters in the Island to secure appointment to the chief office in the service. Nevertheless, under the circumstances I think it would be better to withdraw "The Case" and start over in the right way.

I will appreciate it if you will give this matter your immediate personal consideration, and advise me of your decision at the earliest possible moment.

With every assurance of high personal regard, and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

Honorable A. S. Burleson,  
Postmaster General,  
Washington, D. C.

(Through Bureau of Insular Affairs.)

August 29, 1919.

Mr. Edwin D. Bloom,  
Perry, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 22d instant has just been received. I had intended to reply to your first request on this subject, but have been so busy that I have neglected to do so.

I enclose heroin a short tribute to Mr. Roosevelt, which I hope may be useful to you.

Very respectfully yours,

Governor.

The Filson Historical Society

11x22

*THEODORE ROOSEVELT.*

-0-

*Statesman, soldier, patriot, author, traveller,  
the most versatile of American leaders, the incarnation  
of the American spirit, of the American energy, of the  
American ambition to serve his generation! After a full  
life, short in years but great in service, may he sleep  
well!*

The Filson Historical Society

Theodore Roosevelt

Statesman, soldier, patriot,  
author, traveller, the most  
versatile of American leaders,  
the incarnation of the  
American spirit, of the American  
energy of the American ambi-  
tion to serve his generation!  
After a full life, short in  
years but great in service,  
may he sleep well!

Arthur Jager

At no time in the history of the world has the flag of any other country risen to such prominence--that it has outgrown its part of standing for one nation solely--but has established itself as a world wide flag--E. D. BLOOM.

EDWIN D. BLOOM  
PERRY, N. Y.

To Gov Arthur Yager  
San Juan  
Port Rico

Aug 22/19

Some little time ago - I wrote you relative to procuring from you a tribute - to our former <sup>and</sup> Ex. President, Theodore Roosevelt for Historical Preservation - to be included in a Portfolio of tributes I am collecting - which I hope later on to have compiled and published under a title of A Roosevelt Anthology. Possibly through in-advantage my letter was overlooked, for at the same time I wrote you I wrote to Alaska & Hawaii Islands and Virgin Island, and all have replied granting my request - you see I have included the Govs of all the states & our territorial possessions. <sup>and</sup> the missing of even one breaks the chain of the Govs tributes. These tributes I have as far - are all type-written or ~~Gov~~ Ex-ecutive's stationery bearing the Autograph of the Govs. I had a letter from Pres Wilson's says only a few days ago - in which he said when an opportunitie time presented itself - he would endeavor to procure one for me from the President. I have a large number of letters endorsing my work. Thanking you in advance and trusting I may have a line from you I remain  
Cordially Yours - E. D. Bloom

September 10, 1919.

Mr. Wenceslao Borda,  
Royal Bank of Canada,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Borda:

I have received your letter of the 29th ultimo, and I am glad that one of your troubles, at least, has been removed.

I had an interview with Colonel Jarvis with reference to the depredations made by the soldiers on your coconut finca as reported to you by the Attorney General of Porto Rico. Colonel Jarvis had already heard of the matter through your overseer, and he said that depredations of this sort by the soldiers were absolutely forbidden by the regulations, and that the soldiers all knew it. In spite of this however, some of the soldiers sometimes commit trespasses of this sort. The only way to stop it absolutely is to punish the individual soldiers who do it, and this requires identification of the individuals, and this is not always easy. But the Colonel said that he had written to your overseer asking him to aid in any way that he could the identification of the men who are engaged in these depredations, and if they can be personally identified they will certainly be punished, and this will stop it. I hope this will be done and that you will be relieved of this annoyance.

11728



(10 Sept 19)

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Your letter contain d no address, but I am  
sending this to the Royal Bank of Canada.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

The Filson Historical Society

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL.

52 Wall Street,  
New York City,

September 25, 1919.

Gen. Arthur Yager,  
Governor of Porto Rico,  
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Governor:

I have not thanked you for your trouble and for your letter of the 10th, because it came to me at a time when I was filled with anguish and consternation.

My Aunt's home, in the beautiful devotion of its members to each other, was such a home as yours. Death robbed it of its head. The morning of the funeral my Aunt put on the dead man's coat, the rose button he was wont to wear in life. She was white, very white, but held herself bravely up, tearlessly, unfalteringly. Are you surprised that such a scene as this has deprived me of any interest in my own affairs.<sup>5</sup>

I hear from Washington that Sifre will be appointed Attorney General. The appointment will be an excellent one, none better. But if Sifre had not told me that under no circumstances would he accept the position, Mestre would not have been a candidate and now exposed to ridicule. He should have been advised from the first that his appointment was impossible, but, failing in this, it should have been made, methinks.

Remembrances to all, and best wishes,

Faithfully, your friend,

J. Borda

11X98

San Juan, P. R., October 10, 1919.

My dear Mr. Berwind:

I acknowledge with great appreciation the kind invitation extended to Mrs. Yager and myself to attend the opening dinner in the Condado Vanderbilt Hotel on Thursday evening October the 16th.

I shall take great pleasure in being present on this auspicious occasion and as Mrs. Yager is not in Porto Rico, I will take the liberty of bringing her mother Mrs. Lewis in her stead.

Sincerely yours,

Governor of Porto Rico.

Mr. John E. Berwind,  
Condado Vanderbilt Hotel,  
San Juan, P. R.

AY.SDS

December 16, 1919.

Mr. G. D. Billieson,  
405 Walker Building,  
Louisville, Kentucky.

My dear Billieson:

I received your letter a long time ago, but I have been too busy to answer in the first place, and in the second place, I have been waiting in the hope that Ernest would get back from Florida. It was necessary for me to take up with him the matter of making a contribution to your church. I am sure we both feel like making a contribution, but the question of money is getting very serious with us at present. Unless Ernest has accomplished something in the way of sales of real estate in Florida, of which I am not aware, we are going to be exceedingly hard pressed this winter. I think Ernest has returned to Louisville by this time, and I hope you can take up the matter with him. I am sure that real estate conditions in Louisville are now much better than they have been for years, and we must make some sales of unproductive property so we can have cash enough to repair the houses that we have, and get in better condition. I wish you would talk this over with him, and offer him not only advice, but any assistance that you can give in this matter. I shall write him myself; and sometime this winter, perhaps, in February, I am planning to go north and get out to Kentucky, and give some personal attention to our business there. Meanwhile, I wish you and your family, and your church, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely your friend,

11x18

January 5, 1920.

My dear Dr. Battie:

I have not kept in touch with you except in a general way through the newspapers since the old days of my educational activities in Kentucky, but I wish to assure you that I have not allowed myself to lose interest in the tremendously important work which you and your Board have been doing for the educational work of our Country. I still feel unabated interest in the development of education everywhere, but especially in my own state of Kentucky.

I am glad to see that at last those things which I confidently predicted for the old College at Georgetown, to which I gave the best years of my life, have been realized and that the College is going to fulfill its destiny as a great center for the educational work of the Kentucky Baptists. You will remember that I always told you that this College had before it the greatest opportunity for usefulness of any of the colleges of the State, except the State University. I simply knew that this was true because I knew the Kentucky Baptists. Now, at last, they have gotten busy as one of the results of the great War and have shown in the most practical way their determination to make the College worthy of their needs and their ability. I understand that they have already raised sufficient funds in their big campaign to add at least \$700,000 to the endowment fund of the College, and that before the drive is completed they may be able to do even more than this. The College, however, needs at this moment a large sum of ready cash with which to provide for its immediate necessities in buildings and equipment, and also to replace a part of its endowment which has been depleted by deficits in running expenses, and, I am informed by President Adams, that they have applied to your Board for a cash donation of \$300,000, to enable them to meet at once, the new situation and the new life that will be open to them. Now, Dr. Battie, I write you with some hesitation about a matter of this sort because you may think that at present I am entirely disconnected with the educational work in Kentucky, and therefore, may not have anything especially to do with it, but I am sure that you will understand that I know very thoroughly the educational conditions and outlook in Kentucky. I have never altered my opinion as to the value and importance of the so-called denominational colleges in Kentucky and the South. They must perform a large share of this work, and

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(5 Jan 20)

it is their duty to share in it. Especially is this true of the Baptists of Kentucky whom I know very thoroughly. The education of their children ought to be done, and if it is done quickly, must be done through a good standard college of their own. I have always had some doubts as to the permanence of some of their other educational institutions, but they must have one good modern college, and that college must be Georgetown.

I know that the General Education Board has always had and doubtless now has a large number of applications before it from educational institutions throughout the country, but I feel perfectly sure that none of them present a better opportunity for real usefulness in the cause of education than that of Georgetown College. The time seems to have come to put the College firmly on its feet and to secure its successful attainment of that destiny which has always been before it. The Baptist people have selected it as its one standard college, have shown their determination to endow it in a large and permanent way, have sub-ordinated all of their other schools, and have shaped their educational activities so as to give it adequate support in the future, not only in the matter of funds but also in that of students. And I think it would be an admirable thing for the Rockefeller Board to show their recognition of this great achievement by supplementing their funds in the way they have requested.

I would appreciate very much a letter from you giving me your own personal views in regard to this matter.

I am planning a trip to New York and Washington sometime in February, and I hope I may be able to have an interview with you in your office while I am there, and to renew the pleasant acquaintance I have had with you in the years that are past. I hope also that you have entirely recovered your health, and wish to assure you of my continued personal regard and friendship.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Wallace Buttrick,  
Secretary, General Education Board,  
New York City.

January 5, 1920.

Dear Sir:

This brief note of introduction will be handed to you by Mr. Edgar Salinger, a business man of New York City, concerning whom I have received letters of introduction from very reliable citizens and officials of New York.

Mr. Salinger desires to discuss with you some business propositions about which I know nothing, but I am sure you will give them such consideration as may seem to you to be just and proper.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Juan Bianchi,  
Mayaguez, Porto Rico.

SIXTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

CLEMENS BRUMBAUGH, OHIO, CHAIRMAN.  
JAMES H. MAYS, UTAH. WILLIAM L. LA FOLLETTE, WASH.  
BENJAMIN F. WELTY, OHIO. LOREN S. WHEELER, ILL.  
H. J. DRANE, FLA. EDWARD W. GRAY, N. J.  
THOMAS L. BLANTON, TEX. HENRY A. CLARK, PA.  
W. S. STEVENSON, S. C. MILTON KRAUS, IND.  
LOUIS B. GOODALL, ME.

House of Representatives U. S.

Committee on Railways and Canals

Washington, D. C.

6 January 1920

Governor and Mrs. Yager,

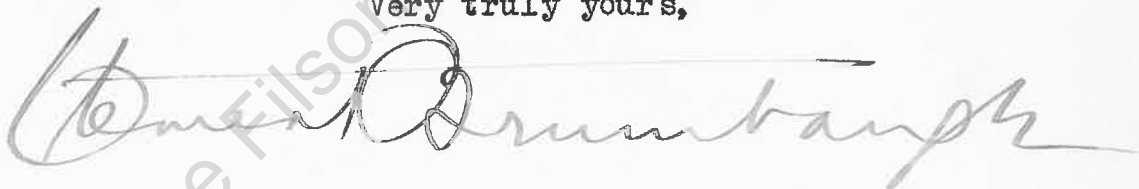
Isle of Pines,

Porto Rico.

Dear Friends:

I thank you for your Christmas greetings and desire to extend to you my best wishes for a very happy and prosperous year.

Very truly yours,



The Filson Historical Society

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San Juan, Porto Rico, January 23, 1920.

Hon. José B. Benedicte,  
Acting Governor of Porto Rico,  
Governor's Palace, San Juan, P.R.

S I R :

On behalf of the American Federation of Labor and the Free Federation of Porto Rico, we call your attention to the starving conditions and low wages now being paid by the sugar planters and centrals.

In our visits to various parts of Porto Rico we found wages as low as sixty cents for eleven hours work, and in some rare instances as high as \$1.50—but only where the best and strongest men could be secured. The rate of pay for women for the same number of hours was from thirty to sixty cents and children got from ten cents up. Many of these children are far below the legal age for employment. But the necessities of living being so high, it is impossible for these unfortunate people to live as human beings should. We therefore ask you, as Acting Governor of Porto Rico, to immediately call into conference all the representatives and managers of the various centrals and other sugar interests, or a meeting of the entire sugar growers association, with the end in view of securing some living wage for these very much exploited men, women and little children who are so undernourished and so poorly fed that they make of Porto Rico a "Living graveyard".

This condition is brought about entirely by the inhuman treatment and exploitation of these workers by the heartless employers, some of which, if not entirely the worst and most heartless, are members of the Porto Rican legislature. The conditions of the people are so bad that to save them from a continuance of this living death the Government should take charge of the situation in the strongest possible manner. In fact, the refusal of these corporations, individuals and statesmen of Porto Rico to remedy these deplorable conditions is a defiance of Government authority and the Government's right to look after its people from the administration of its affairs so that justice may be fairly distributed.

From the evidence given to us as to the cost of living, we ask that the minimum wage for all male workers be arbitrarily set at \$2.50 for a day of eight hours, and \$1.25 for women and boys, but when the work is the same as that done by the men, then the rate of \$2.50 a day should be paid. With this rate paid, the workers will furnish their own breakfast and lunch.

In the matter of those who live on the employers' property, there is to be no difference in the wage paid, for in this instance the employer has the advantage of having the workers for immediate use in case of emergency, and all time over eight hours is to be paid for at the rate of time-and-a-half. Employees of better ability should be given a wage in proportion to their ability, above the minimum wage we ask.

The sugar profits are enormous, so there can be no excuse for these soulless individuals and corporations and Porto Rican statesmen in being more human, fair and just to the unfortunate and helpless people who must depend upon their charity for the right to live.

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(23 Jan 20)

The continuance of this starving condition of the people of Porto Rico should not continue a moment longer. The very men who sit in the Porto Rican legislature are the worst profiteers and most heartless.

One of them, when his people refused to work any longer for the meagre wage which his inhuman charity permitted to give them, denied to them unlawfully not only the use of the public highways, but also the drinking water from the streams. He has placed wire fences around the water and stationed men with rifles to shoot the poor starving and thirsty people who want only a drink of the water which God provides for us all.

We ask you frankly how much longer you are going to tolerate the exploitations of the poor people of Porto Rico. There was a time when the islands of the West Indies and the Caribbean Sea were exploited and pillaged by such pirates as Harry Morgan, Captain Kidd, Edward Teach, Pierre Grand, Francis L. Lollionate, Charles Gibb, Basiliano Mansvelts, and many others of lesser fame.

Their depredations and cruelties to the people unfortunate enough to fall into their clutches were no greater, if not less, than the cruelties practiced by this member of the Porto Rican legislature, who, in violation of the laws which he has taken an oath to uphold, denies these people the right to use the public highways and the right to have water.

This is a defiance of the Porto Rican Government and we demand on behalf of the Porto Rican workers that this man be brought to the bar of justice. The West Indies and Porto Rico may be protected by the United States Government from attacks by pirates like Teach and others, but they are suffering far more by the hunger and slavery in which they are kept by the absentee landlords in Spain, France, Germany, England, the United States and other countries, and the speculation in the stocks of the soulless corporations on the exchanges in Wall Street, London, Madrid and elsewhere, and by the scheming of the members of the Porto Rican legislature who profit by their slavery.

We therefore ask you to summon before you all the members of the Sugar Growers Association and insist that they pay the above minimum wage to their employees. And we ask you to urge this conference to select a certain number of representatives to meet with a like number representing the American Federation of Labor in Porto Rico which is known as the Free Federation, this committee to work out the details of these minimum wages and their application and payment to the workers; this committee to select their own chairman and to continue in existence to take care of disagreements and misunderstandings that may arise; the decision of this joint committee to be binding upon both sides and both parties to be responsible for the discipline of the respective members.

A continuance of the starving conditions of the people of Porto Rico, the failure of the Porto Rican Legislature and Porto Rican statesmen and other men of affairs to recognize and appreciate that the responsibility for these conditions is theirs and theirs alone, can only mean that the hopes of the helpless and starving people lies in a receivership for the Porto Rican Government by the United States. So far, the Porto Rican Legislature and its men of affairs have failed to appreciate that the workers are not now looking to them with hopeful eyes or thoughts, but

but are seriously listening to the teachings of those who would tear down and destroy the solid government of the United States.

The stateemen of Porto Rico are blind and deaf to the menace within their gates, or they are so engrossed in the worship of their god of gold that they cannot hear the cries of the starving people nor the murmurs of the discontented and dissatisfied nor their demands for a system of government which would put the stateemen and the employers to work in the fields and would place the workers of the field in places of responsibility in the administrative positions of government.

So deem this condition so grave as to justify any radical and determined treatment of these heartless and soulless sugar profiteers by the Porto Rican administration. If this government is not equal to the task it will be necessary to ask the United States Government to take hold.

Assuring you of our sincere desire to be helpful in every way that will bring justice and fairness to the people of Porto Rico and stability to its government, we remain

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Peter J. Brady  
A. McAndrew

Representing The American Federation  
of Labor.

The Filson Historical Society

San Juan, Porto Rico, January 23, 1920.

Hon. José E. Benedito,  
Acting Governor of Porto Rico,  
Governor's Palace, San Juan, P.R.

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(23 Jan 20)

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Yours very truly,

(Signed) Peter J. Brady  
A. McAndrew

Representing The American Federation of Labor.

The Filson Historical Society

Officers of the Board

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*President*  
Abraham Flexner  
*Secretary*  
E. C. Sage  
*Assistant Secretary*  
L. G. Myers  
*Treasurer*  
L. M. Dashiell  
*Assistant Treasurer*

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Jerome D. Greene  
Anson Phelps Stokes  
Abraham Flexner  
George E. Vincent  
James H. Dillard  
Frank E. Spaulding  
Charles P. Howland

# General Education Board

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER 1902  
61 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK

January 26, 1920

Hon. Arthur Yager  
Government House  
Porto Rico

Dear Dr. Yager:

Thank you for your very interesting letter of January 5, which has been acknowledged by my secretary. I observe all the good things you say about Georgetown College, and am glad to note them. You may be sure that in the distribution of our funds Georgetown will have our most careful and sympathetic consideration.

With warm personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,  
*Wallace Buttrick*

WB/LFA

All correspondence regarding the business of the Board should be addressed "General Education Board, 61 Broadway, New York City."

86X11

February 3, 1920.

Honorable J. W. C. Beckham,  
United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator Beckham:

I was rejoiced indeed to get your recent letter and especially appreciated your sympathy and good wishes for me during my sickness.

As you know my trouble was a very dangerous hemorrhage of the intestines which struck me suddenly without the slightest warning, on January 7th, and in two days had completely prostrated me and had taken about two-thirds of my total blood supply. However, I escaped by a close margin and am now climbing rapidly back into health and replenishing my blood. The only trouble is that there may at any time be a recurrence of this matter, and I surely do not want any more. The doctors all say that there is no way to insure against this risk except by a surgical operation, but I have not yet decided whether, or when, or where, to undergo this.

Mrs. Yager and our daughter hurried down as soon as they heard of my sickness and my son Rodde, the doctor, also accompanied them, arriving on the 21st.

We all still greatly enjoy the visit of you and your party to Porto Rico, and Mrs. Lewis and I especially enjoyed having you and your family with us here at the Palace. It was to us an unalloyed pleasure from beginning to end. I hope that you and Mrs. Beckham and both the children are entirely well, and that you may sometime find it convenient to take a few days off and make another voyage to the tropics, and spend a few days with us in Porto Rico.

Sincerely your friend,



JAMES W. WADSWORTH, JR., N. Y., CHAIRMAN.  
FRANCIS E. WARREN, WYO.  
HOWARD SUTHERLAND, W. VA.  
HARRY S. NEW, IND.  
JOSEPH S. FRELINGHUYSEN, N. J.  
HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF.  
PHILANDER C. KNOX, PA.  
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GILBERT M. HITCHCOCK, NEBR.  
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HENRY L. MYERS, MONT.  
CHARLES S. THOMAS, COLO.  
MORRIS SHEPPARD, TEX.  
J. C. W. BECKHAM, KY.  
WILLIAM F. KIRBY, ARK.  
KENNETH D. MCKELLAR, TENN.

R. E. DEVENDORF, CLERK.  
W. A. DUVALL, ASST. CLERK.  
WAYNE A. SMITH, ASST. CLERK.

## United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS.

February 11, 1920.  
Personal.

Governor Arthur Yager,  
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Governor:

I cannot tell you how much pleasure it gave us yesterday to receive your letter of February 3, and to see from it how greatly you have improved. Every member of my family when we read it rejoiced and instructed me that I write to you and express to some extent at least our sincere pleasure in hearing of your improvement. I earnestly hope that you will have no return of it, and that the doctors will be able to give you a reasonable protection from another attack.

Mr. Miller whom I met while we were with you has been exceedingly kind and thoughtful in writing me several letters, telling me about your condition and your improvement, but, of course, I feel that it is much more satisfactory to hear direct from you, and to see that you are able again to write letters. I appreciate very much Mr. Miller's thoughtfulness in it, and if I had not heard from him at intervals, I should have written direct to your good secretary and asked him for information about you.

I am glad that Mrs. Yager and your daughter and son have been with you, and I feel sure that it is a great pleasure to you and Mrs. Lewis to have them there.

We often talk of our delightful visit with you, and how much you and Mrs. Lewis did to make our visit so pleasant and successful. We would certainly be glad to return there some time, but with the political situation as it is in this country and in my race, it will hardly be possible for me to get away from here for some time. I hope you will soon be entirely recovered, and that you will be able to make a visit here some time this year.

Please give our kindest regards to all the

86 x 11

(11 Feb 20)

JAMES W. WADSWORTH, JR., N. Y., CHAIRMAN.  
FRANCIS E. WARREN, WYO.      GEORGE E. CHAMBERLAIN, OREG.  
HOWARD SUTHERLAND, W. VA.    GILBERT M. HITCHCOCK, NEBR.  
HARRY S. NEW, IND.            DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA.  
JOSEPH S. FRELINGHUYSEN, N. J.    HENRY L. MYERS, MONT.  
HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF.        CHARLES S. THOMAS, COLO.  
PHILANDER C. KNOX, PA.         MORRIS SHEPPARD, TEX.  
IRVINE L. LENROOT, WIS.         J. O. W. BECKHAM, KY.  
SELDEN P. SPENCER, MO.         WILLIAM F. KIRBY, ARK.  
ARTHUR CAPPER, KANS.          KENNETH D. MCKELLAR, TENN.

R. E. DEVENDORF, CLERK.  
W. A. DUVALL, ASST. CLERK.  
WAYNE A. SMITH, ASST. CLERK.

## United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS.

#2--Governor Yager.

family and especially to Mrs. Lewis.

With kindest regards, and best wishes, I am

Your friend,

*J. W. Beckham*

B/H

The Filson Historical Society

Los Angeles

Feb 6 1920

Gov. Arthur Yager

San Juan, Porto Rico

Hon. Sir:

Would it be possible for you to send  
me two small views of the Capital  
Building as it has been impossible  
for me to obtain them here?  
I enclose postage to cover mailing of  
same.

Yours Truly

J. E. Greck

2672 N. Pico St  
Los Angeles Calif

86x11

March 23, 1920.

Mr. D. E. Brush,  
2672 W. Pine St.,  
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of February 6th, addressed  
to the Honorable Arthur Yager, Governor of Porto  
Rico, has been handed to me for reply.

We have no capitol building, therefore  
can not send any plans as requested.

Respectfully,

Confidential Secretary  
to the Governor.

86X11

WENCESLAO BORDA  
SAN JUAN  
PORTO RICO

April 1, 1920.

Hon. Arthur Yager,  
Governor of Porto Rico,  
San Juan, P. R.

My dear Governor:-

Before you go to Jájome Alto where they tell me you intend going soon, I wish to express how glad I was to see you out again the other day.

You know what I think of the appointment of Mestre. It was an act of justice and I feel sure that he will not betray the confidence you have reposed in him.

Wishing you every good thing,

Yours faithfully,

*W. Borda*

11898

April 14, 1920.

Mr. W. R. Bennett,  
52 Peachtree Place,  
Atlanta, Georgia.

My dear Mr. Bennett:

Your favor of the 9th instant reached me only yesterday.

I regret very much that I missed your telegram when you went through Baltimore before. I had at that time just left on my way here. Dr. Green received your wire and answered it, but it seems his reply went astray and I have as yet been entirely unfound.

In reply to your question, I think it would be better for you to go to Baltimore and see either Dr. Young, Dr. Garrity or Dr. Frontz. I know all these men personally, and have the utmost confidence in their work and judgment. Your man in New York, Dr. Ayers, may be all that any one could wish, however, as he is entirely unknown to me both individually and by reputation, I would, of course, hesitate before advising any one to go to him.

I am planning to be in Baltimore sometime between the first and middle of May, as I am taking Father to Hopkins for whatever procedures that may be necessary. I appreciate very much your interest in Father's condition, and wish that I could join you in such complete confidence as to the outcome. It seems however, that his chances are quite favorable, but to the initiated the remote possibility is always a source of annoyance.

Hoping that we may meet in Baltimore, and that I may be of some real service to you, I am as always,

Very sincerely your friend,

86x11

AUDITOR OF PORTO RICO  
SAN JUAN

P.F.

April 22, 1920.

Honorable Arthur Yager,  
Governor of Porto Rico,  
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Dear Governor Yager:

After fully considering the question of transportation, I finally decided that there would be too much risk in waiting for the possible privilege of sailing on the transport "Northern Pacific". Accordingly, I have taken up my reservation on the "San Juan", which sails at five o'clock today.

I regret very much that you are not in town so that I might call upon you before leaving, to pay my respects and to say goodbye. I hear that you are sailing for the States next Wednesday on the "Brazos", and I wish you a most delightful voyage, with the hope that it will assist in the recuperation of your health and that the doctors whom you see in the States will have absolute success in the matter of relieving your trouble.

I am hoping that I may meet you in the States at some time during your vacation, although, owing to the fact that my children there are widely scattered, it will be hardly possible for me to go elsewhere than to visit them in their homes.

With renewed good wishes and every prayer for your health and safety, I remain, as ever,

Very sincerely yours,

JWB/k

*L. H. Bennett*

86x11

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
LUQUILLO NATIONAL FOREST

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
FOREST SUPERVISOR  
AND REFER TO:

RIO PIEDRAS, PORTO RICO

May 11, 1920.

Hon. Arthur Yager,  
Government House,  
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Dear Governor Yager:

I have just received a memorandum showing that the Secretary of Agriculture has approved the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$20,000 of Federal funds for the construction of the first section of the Mameyes-Rio Blanco Road across the Luquillo National Forest in cooperation with the Insular Government. No Federal funds are available now but doubtless they will be available by the time or before the Insular funds are provided.

Your letter asking me to take this question up with the Department while in Washington last winter was indeed very helpful and I want to thank you for your interest in it.

I am hoping that the Interior Department here may make the preliminary survey and estimates on this first section in the near future so we will be ready to ask the necessary appropriation from the Legislature next winter.

I sincerely hope your trip to the States will completely restore you to health and strength.

Very sincerely yours,

*E. Murray Bruner*

11X28



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

April 12, 1920

ER  
D-7, Porto Rico  
Mameyes-Rio Blanco

The Secretary of Agriculture,

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Hon. Arthur Yager, Governor of Porto Rico is very anxious to secure the cooperation of this Department in the construction of a section of the Mameyes-Rio Blanco Road within the Luquillo National Forest, Porto Rico. As noted on the enclosed synopsis of the administrative report, the project is of great importance to the Insular Possession and is also of great value to the National Forest. Through extensions of this road even greater value to the National Forest will be secured.

While it is believed that until the appropriations for National Forest roads are increased, it will not be possible to provide any money for this road, nevertheless it is believed advisable to recognize the worth of this project and to indicate the conditions under which it would be approved for cooperation whenever the Federal funds are of sufficient amount.

It is, therefore, recommended that you approve this project for an expenditure of not to exceed \$20,000 Federal funds provided at least 50 per cent cooperation can be secured and provided the Federal funds are of sufficient amount to permit our cooperating in the construction.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) W. B. GREELY,

Approved: April 15, 1920.

Acting Forester.

(Signed) C. V. MARVIN,

Acting Secretary.

11x78

May 16, 1920.

Mr. W. R. Bennett,

San Juan, P.R.

My dear Mr. Bennett:

I have read over Rodes' letter to you of even date, which is enclosed herewith, and approve and endorse all of it.

I am especially gratified that we have so good a friend and so capable a business man as yourself to leave in charge of these matters during our enforced absence.

I am very hopeful that you are not going to have any more trouble with your health, at least for some time to come, and when we get back, I shall confidently expect to find you hale and hearty.

With the best possible wishes, I am, as always

Sincerely your friend,

86 x 11

May 16, 1920.

Mr. W. R. Bennett, Marshal,  
U. S. District Court for P.R.,  
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Mr. Bennett:

In accordance with our conversation of yesterday afternoon, I am writing you this letter outlining and describing those things about which we talked.

In the first place, in regard to my note which will fall due on July 5th, and in my absence, I hereby authorize you to sign my name either on a renewal or in drawing a new note. I wish also to express the utmost confidence in your judgment and my agreement to abide by whatever arrangements you may see fit to make.

The second matter we talked of, that of a farm in Rio Grande, I also wish to state that both Father and I are very happy indeed to avail ourselves of your kindness, and to abide by your judgment. Should the place, in your judgment, prove to be a bargain, we would be very glad indeed to have you take an option on it for us at a proper price, or to have you buy the place for us at whatever price your judgment advises. We should, of course, like to know as early as possible what you have done in order that we may make the necessary financial arrangements without any embarrassing delays. The deed to the place is recorded in the name of Dental Passarell, and I understand that the title is clear. I also understand that Mr. Passarell is anxious to get hold of some cash, and is trying to sell this place and another one which he owns over at Loquillo. It therefore seems likely that some disposition will be made of it pretty soon, and that prompt payment terms would be a strong temptation. The man through whom I discovered the place is named Francisco Alamo, who lives in Santurce somewhere on Monserrate Street. His telephone number is Santurce 331 Aul.

The third matter that we discussed, that of getting for Porto Rico some of Congress' appropriation for venereal disease work here in Porto Rico, has shown no developments. Father thinks that if properly managed it can be put over without much difficulty. He will take the matter up himself with Surgeon General Blue in Washington, and I will see Dr. King, who was formerly here. This, of course, will have to have the endorsement and cooperation of the man in charge here. If any questions

86X11

(16 May 20)

-2-

arise about which you wish any professional advice, Dr. Grant, of the Rockefeller Institution has assured me that he would be very glad to cooperate with you on this proposition.

Of course, it is needless to say that I am highly delighted at your results. Upon thinking over your case even more guardedly, I feel quite confident that you may hereafter live with little worry. The whole gross pathological change I discovered in my examination of you has right now been most successfully handled and has given a result which far exceeded my expectations in the time necessary to get it. Your x-rays were very satisfactory so far as photography was concerned because they gave clear kidney shadows, which were easy to interpret. I was delighted to see no change whatsoever on either side and feel quite sure that there is no stone or other anatomical change responsible for your flurry. It therefore boils down to a simply metastatic pyelitis. This you know has cleared up most satisfactorily, and I feel that with proper care such as I have outlined to you, you should have no fear of a recurrence so far as the kidney itself is concerned. As a prophylaxis, I should advise especially the proper care of your upper respiratory apparatus, your nose and throat particularly. It is certainly most probable that your throat infection was directly responsible for the trouble you had and I should therefore, use undue care about any symptoms you had in that apparatus. I should further insist upon avoiding fatigue especially in the office. Get some exercise, particularly those kinds which you enjoy most, and at the same time avoid fatigue in this. You understand fully the problems of diet and medication.

Hoping that your health continues to improve, as I feel sure it will, and with the warmest personal regards, I am, as always

Sincerely your friend,

My address in the States is:

"520 North Broadway, Baltimore, Md."

June 2, 1920.

My dear Governor:

I was very glad last week when I received the news that you had already been operated upon, and that a complete success was expected from this operation. Today Mr. Rodrigues received your letter in which I have noticed that you were feeling strong and in a very good condition for the operation you were about to undergo, and that your doctors advised you that in two or three weeks you would be able to leave the hospital. I can not tell you how glad I am to know this, and I expect to see you back pretty soon in complete good health, fulfilling the duties of your important position in which you have labored so much in behalf of our people.

Conditions here are normal, and there is nothing that deserves special reference. The strike of longshore-<sup>and</sup>men has practically ended, even though the strikers have not all gone back to work they are going and conditions are quite normal. No serious disturbance of the peace has occurred at any time.

Please let us know of your improvement in health, and with my best regards to Mrs. Yager, and Rodes, I am

Very truly yours,

86 x 11  
Honorable Arthur Yager,  
520 North Broadway,  
Baltimore, Md.

# American Colonial Bank of Porto Rico

MAIN OFFICE SAN JUAN BRANCHES: MAYAGUEZ, ARECIBO AND CAGUAS.

Herman L. Cochran, Vice President.  
SAN JUAN, P. R.

Angel Gonzalez, Vice President.  
SAN JUAN, P. R.

Chas. E. Lawton, Cashier

J. M. Torres, Asst. to Vice-President

DEPOSITARY  
FOR THE  
GOVERNMENT OF  
PORTO RICO

Paid up Capital \$ 400.000 Surplus \$ 400.000

Cable Address "Americol" Porto Rico

William Schall, President.  
NEW YORK CITY.

Frank M. Welty, Vice President.  
NEW YORK CITY.

DEPOSITARY  
FOR THE  
UNITED STATES

San Juan September 10, 1920.

Hon. Arthur Yager,  
Governor of Porto Rico,  
San Juan.

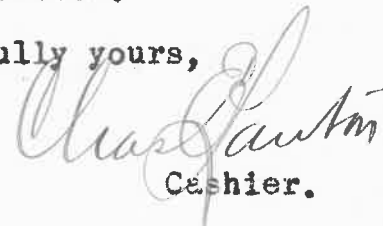
Dear Governor:-

We acknowledge receipt today of your check for \$1,500. covering ten shares of stock of the American Colonial Bank, at \$150.00 a share.

As our transfer offices are in New York, it will be a matter of three or four weeks before we will be able to deliver this stock to you.

This letter will serve as your receipt until delivery of the stock is effected.

Respectfully yours,

  
Cashier.

CEL/M

11x78

San Juan, Porto Rico.  
October 18, 1920.

Honorable José Benet,  
Justice of the Peace,  
Mayaguez, Porto Rico.

My dear Mr. Benet:

Your letter of some weeks ago with reference to the expected arrival of General McIntyre was duly received. As you know the coming of General McIntyre has been delayed for some time, but I've been officially informed that he has sailed from New York on October 24th to Port Au Prince, Haiti, and from thence he will go to Santo Domingo and from there to San Juan, arriving some time in the last week of October. I think his plans include a return to the United States about November first. I shall give him your message and if at any time he finds it possible to visit Mayaguez, I am sure he'd be very glad to avail himself of your kindly invitation.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

July 9, 1920.

My dear Governor:

I was very glad indeed to receive your long and nice letter, in which you state you have almost recovered from the operation and the trouble you have had thereafter.

Even though I know that your condition was serious I had the utmost confidence that you would have a complete recovery, and that sooner or later you would be back in Porto Rico assuming again the direction of the most important public problems, and I hope that this will be realized within a very short time.

Sometime ago I received a letter from Mr. Spelman, and to which I gave due consideration. He requested a copy of the franchise granted to Mr. Bessach, which copy was sent to him by the Secretary of the Public Service Commission. I instructed Mr. Barga to advise me of any petition for franchise that should be filed in the Commission regarding the concession for the construction of piers or any shipping line. Up to now no application has been filed.

The necessity for a new line is very clear. It is very difficult to secure transportation from here to the states, and the tickets must be engaged from three to four months in advance. If a business man is called from the states to go immediately, he would not be able to do so, and this situation is causing difficulties in the regular march of business.

This morning I received a letter from General McIntyre, in which he sends me a copy of a letter addressed to him by Mr. Mood, President of the New York and Porto Rico S.S.Co. This gentleman states that additional transportation is not necessary. This is clearly a mistake. A great many people are coming here every week complaining of the difficulties in securing passage and trying to get accomodation in the Army transports, which is not very easy either.

I believe that the idea of Mr. Spelman, if realized, will be of great benefit to the island, and I am willing to give him all the cooperation I can in order that he may succeed in securing the necessary franchise.

I have been trying to interest some people in

11X28



(9 Jul 20)

-2-

the island to buy the transport "Fitz Patrick", which will be sold sometime in this month, but I have not been successful. So this is another opportunity that we are going to lose.

The general condition of the island is normal. The registration of electors was closed the last day of June. I was really tired of this work, which has lasted for four months, and has kept the public much excited. But after all the registration was conducted in a very normal and impartial manner. Equal opportunities were given to the three parties. In those cases in which the days set aside were not sufficient I granted an extension of time so no one who desired to be registered was refused. At present we find that a great many electors filed their application for registration but did not bring the picture with them, and afterward neglected to do this. Under the recommendation of the Commissioner of Elections I have granted a new extension of time for the exclusive purpose of filing the photographs, thus completing the registration.

No serious complaints have been filed. I have only received about eight or ten complaints against members of the Police, or of the Boards of Registration. These complaints were investigated. Some were found baseless and others were well founded. In the latter case due measures were taken to correct irregularities. At present as the work is completed I am receiving telegrams from the political directors of the three parties congratulating me on the attitude of the police and other officials in charge of the registration work. As to the public in general, I believe they have conducted themselves wisely in this long period of political excitement. We have had only three or four cases of disturbances where the intervention of the police was necessary. I believe that this month and next will be without much political unrest, that is to say, July and August, and that the strong campaign will be in September and October.

I expected to receive a half million of dollars from the states for Internal Revenue collections during this past fiscal year, but I was disappointed in this regard. Nevertheless, I am going to close the fiscal year with a good cash balance. I can not state now the exact figure because we are now working on the liquidation of all the accounts, but I feel sure that our surplus will be about four or five hundred thousand dollars, which, I believe, is splendid, taking into consideration that very little money has been sent from the states during the last year. If you could arrange with the Washington authorities so that the Collector of Internal Revenue at San Juan could

make monthly deposits to the credit of the Treasurer of Porto Rico just the same as the Collector of Customs does, it will be a great advantage to us, and this will keep the condition of the Treasury Department in a very normal condition. According to my estimates we must have in the hands of the Treasurer of the United States about one million and a half of collections made during the last year. It is with this money that I intend to meet the increase in salaries granted by the Legislature at its last session, and which amounts to \$1,200,000. All other sources of revenue have worked finely during the last fiscal year.

It will be interesting for you to know that we have paid the \$240,000 which were loaned from the Banks last year, to carry into effect the law granting relief to the earthquake sufferers.

As you know, a law giving an additional salary to all the officers and employees of the government, for one year, and on account of the high cost of living was passed. The Assistant Auditor, following instructions from Judge Bonner, is going to refuse this increase in salary to the Governor, the heads of departments, the Executive Secretary and Justices of the Supreme Court. Judge Bonner sent a cable to the Assistant Auditor instructing him to request an opinion from the Attorney General of the United States, but I have not sent this request because as you know, the Attorney General has not been willing to give any opinion on purely local matters, and I do not believe it proper to insist in this respect. On the other hand, the question raised by the Auditor is not an important one, and I think it should be decided by the proper officers in this island.

I am glad to say that I believe that the strike will be over today. I have made great efforts with the laborers to withdraw all petitions other than salaries, and when I had obtained their consent I endeavored to have the companies grant a small increase. This I thought was the only way to finish the controversy, but I failed in this and all efforts have been of no avail. Now I have offered to continue my endeavors with the companies to obtain an increase, and it is my opinion that this could be done even though they dropped their strike and returned to work. They are now considering this proposition, and from confidential information, I think they will accept it and go back to work as soon as possible. I have made it very clear to them that I do not guarantee that their wages will be increased, I am only offering to continue my efforts to that effect. If this strike is finished

(9 Jul 20)

in this way I will send you a cable.

I notice that you say regarding the Board of Medical Examiners. The term of Dr. Jorge del Toro will expire August 28th, and I will follow your recommendations.

I also notice from your letter that you are aware that I intend to sail to the states on August 18th. It is my desire to attend a meeting of the National Tax Association, which will be held in the first part of September. I have not said anything to you regarding this matter because I did not want to worry you in this connection. If you need more time to recover you can stay as long as you need, and please do not believe that I have any special interest in attending the conference or let it influence you to return to Porto Rico before the proper time for you to come. It is my first duty and my best desire to serve you on this occasion, and I will drop any other proposition in conflict with the accomplishment of this duty.

Your son and daughter came yesterday. They are all right and feeling very much at home.

There are a great many of your friends who want to be remembered to you.

With my best regards to Mrs. Yager, I am

Very truly yours,

Honorable Arthur Yager,  
Bureau of Insular Affairs,  
Washington, D. C.

San Juan, P. R. Nov. 13, 1930.

The Honorable J. C. W. Beckham,  
The United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:-

I have been trying in every way to get an accurate account of the election in Kentucky. I was particularly anxious to learn the result of the election and to feel sure that you were re-elected to the Senate. But our local papers here publish it first one way and then another; and although the New York Times has stated that you were re-elected I still fear that there is some doubt about, especially as the state seems to have been close. I have always felt sure that you would be re-elected but the suspense about the matter is sorely trying to me.

I know, of course, that there was a Republican land slide and a land-slide always carries along with it a considerable portion of the adjacent. I escape; but nevertheless I find it hard to believe that the Kentucky voters could have elected your opponent at this time. I sincerely hope that the final count will show that you have been safely re-elected.

I greatly regretted that I did not get to see you when I was last on the continent. After reaching Washington I called up your office and found, of course, that you were in Kentucky. When I was in Kentucky I tried to find you in Louisville where I was for a few days, but I was unable to connect with you.

I also regret that I could not stay in Kentucky long enough to take some part in the campaign, but my long and grievous illness made it necessary both to conserve my strength and also to hurry back to my work so as to recover some of the ground lost during the period of my forced inactivity. I am now, I think completely well. Please let me hear from you when you find the time to write. I am still hoping that you will soon be back in Washington not only to fill out your present term but also to undertake a new one.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Beckham and your children in which my family join I am

Sincerely and always your friend,

11/18

San Juan, Porto Rico.  
December 14, 1920.

Mr. James Betram, Secretary,  
Carnegie Corporation of New York,  
Fifth Avenue, New York City.

My dear Mr. Betram:

I know you will pardon me for writing you once more in support of the application of my old college at Georgetown Kentucky for the donation of a library building by the Carnegie Corporation. I shall do this not solely or chiefly because of my former connection with the college, but because I really think that the institution is now in a position to make use of such a building in strict accordance with the plans and purposes of the Carnegie Corporation.

You will remember that several years ago when as President of this college I made an application to your board for a library building, I stated to you that the college was on the eve of a period of rapid and progressive development. This development has actually taken place just as I predicted. The enrollment funds and the attendance have both been largely increased, the relations of the college to its feeders and sources of support have been made closer and firmer. Its standards have been raised until they are equal to those of the best, and this is true both as to entrance requirements and as to methods of instruction and graduation. There is no preparatory department and no sub-freshman work done at the college. No con-

(14 Dec 20)

2.

ditioned students are received.

The college is now a member of the best Associations of Colleges in the country such as: the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools of the Southern States, and the American Association of Colleges. In short, this college can furnish the most indubitable evidence of advance and growth in everything that enters into the definition of a high-grade standard college.

The recent additions to the endowment funds, when they shall have been all collected will amount to about \$500,000., but it will be necessary to use all of the proceeds of this new endowment for teachers' salaries and other expenses. Additional buildings, which are sorely needed, can not be supplied from this source or any other source that seems to be in reach of the college for several years. The need for a new library building is especially urgent. The space now devoted to that purpose is not only crowded with books, but it is dangerously exposed to loss by fire.

Under all these conditions the college feels justified in appealing again to the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation for the donation of a sufficient sum to erect a good library building. In addition to the great material assistance that would be afforded them, the college authorities covet the credit and prestige that would follow recognition of the college by the Carnegie Corporation.

(14 Dec 20)

3.

With full and complete personal knowledge of all the educational conditions and institutions in my native state, I can assure you that this college is well worthy of this recognition and will make an excellent use of this building, if it is given, and in direct line with the purpose of the donation. I hope, therefore, my dear Mr. Doxram, that you may see your way to give this application your strong personal recommendation and support.

Assuring you of the highest personal esteem, I am

Very sincerely yours,

The Filson Historical Society

(File) Confidential  
GOVERNMENT OF PORTO RICO  
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR  
SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO

September 10th, 1920.

ADDRESS ALL OFFICIAL  
COMMUNICATIONS TO THE  
AUDITOR  
SAN JUAN, P. R.

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL.

The Honorable  
The Governor of Porto Rico,  
San Juan, P.R.

S i r :

As requested by you, during our conversation of yesterday afternoon, I am herewith sending you warrant, transferring the sum of \$300.00 from the appropriation "Miscellaneous Expenditures subject to the Approval of the Governor, Fiscal Year 1920 - 21" to "Insular Police, Secret and Confidential Service, Fiscal Year 1920 - 21".

The object of this transfer has been duly explained by yourself and, in accordance with our agreement, it is respectfully suggested that you instruct Mr. Saldafia to procure a New York draft in the name of the Chief of Police of New York, New York City, stating, of course, his christian and surnames, which I suppose are well known to the Insular Chief of Police.

Please instruct Mr. Saldafia to write a letter to the Chief of Police of New York City, instructing him to have the draft cashed and turn over, in person, the proceeds of same to the person thereto entitled. Instruct him, further, that in no case should he endorse the draft to any other person, but to strictly follow instructions just

above given.

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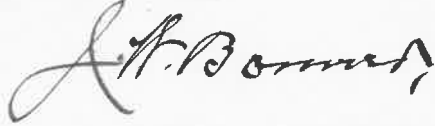


(10 Sept 20)

- 2 -

above given. This course, if followed, will avoid unnecessary publicity and, at the same time, secure the object of the transfer made.

Very respectfully,



Auditor of Porto Rico.

JWB-h.

Encs.

The Filson Historical Society

J. CREPPS WICKLIFFE BECKHAM  
KENTUCKY

## United States Senate.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 24, 1920.  
Personal.

Governor Arthur Yager,  
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Governor:

It was indeed a great pleasure to me to get your letter of November 13, which came today, and I appreciate very much your kindness and thoughtfulness in writing me as you did.

I suppose from what you say that you have not been getting the Kentucky papers to show the result of the election in that state, particularly in the Senatorial race. On the night of the election and the next day it was generally believed that I had a majority of about 15,000, and there is really no doubt that such was the case. The Republicans, however, were in full control of all the machinery, and by the grossest frauds, especially in many of the mountain counties, were able to hold back returns and pad them sufficiently to overcome my majority, and to give a majority of less than 5,000 to my opponent. He will, therefore, have the certificate, and I am not much disposed to make a contest, as there will be little chance of success in it before the Republican majority in the Senate. Some of the frauds committed were most glaring, and the Department of Justice is making an investigation of them. The landslide naturally effected us in Kentucky, but our state withstood it better than any other state in the Union.

It was a matter of great disappointment to me that I did not succeed in seeing you when you were <sup>here</sup> the past summer. We all left here June 21, and I did not return until about ten days ago. I was very anxious to see you, and particularly to learn about the condition of your health. I heard a number of times indirectly of your improvement, and I am delighted to see in your letter that you are now completely well. We have all felt a deep interest in your health and welfare, and I am sure Mrs. Beckham will be greatly pleased to hear directly from you when I show her your letter.

86 x 11

J. CREPPS WICKLIFFE BECKHAM  
KENTUCKY

(24 Nov. 20)

United States Senate.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

#2--Yager.

My term will expire March 4, and I have not yet made definite plans for the future. We will probably remain here during the spring and early summer on account of the fact that the children are still in school. Eleanor graduated at Holton-Arms last summer, but is taking some post graduate and art studies.

We are all well. We often think and talk of our delightful visit with you last winter, and we earnestly hope that you and all of your family are enjoying good health.

Mrs. Beckham joins me in kindest regards to all of you, and particularly to Mrs. Lewis.

Very sincerely your friend,

J. W. Beckham.

B/H

SIXTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

HORACE M. TOWNER, IOWA, CHAIRMAN.  
CHARLES E. FULLER, ILL.  
JAMES P. GLYNN, CONN.  
BENJAMIN K. FOCHT, PA.  
JOHN I. NOLAN, CALIF.  
CHARLES A. NICHOLS, MICH.  
IRA G. HERSEY, ME.  
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LOUIS W. FAIRFIELD, IND.  
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FINIS J. GARRETT, TENN.  
CLEMMENT BRUMBAUGH, OHIO.  
CHRISTOPHER D. SULLIVAN, N. Y.  
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LEONIDAS D. RODINSON, N. C.  
MARVIN JONES, TEX.  
FRED H. DOMINICK, S. C.  
SCHUYLER O. BLAND, VA.  
FELIX CORDOVA DAVILA, PORTO RICO.

COMMITTEE ON INSULAR AFFAIRS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON

December 22, 1920

H. E. MORRISON, CLERK.

Governor and Mrs. Yager,

San Juan, Porto Rico.

Dear Friends:

I received your nice Christmas greeting and thank you sincerely for the same. I want to reciprocate your good wishes and kind thoughts and I surely wish for you and yours a very happy Christmas and a good New Year and many of them.

Very truly yours,

*Clement Brumbaugh*

86X11

CARNEGIE CORPORATION  
OF NEW YORK  
522 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

JAMES BERTRAM  
SECRETARY

December 23, 1920

Hon. Arthur Yager, Governor  
San Juan  
Porto Rico

My dear Governor Yager:-

I have turned over your favor of  
December 14th to Dr. Angell, President of Carnegie Corporation  
and its chief executive. Dr. Angell has been in communication  
with the President of the college, but I know he has a great  
deal to do, and while the application from Georgetown College  
is on file it may be some time before Dr. Angell can get to it.

With the season's greetings and  
best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*James Bertram*

Secretary.

11498

San Juan, Porto Rico.  
January 5, 1921.

The Honorable J. C. W. Beckham,  
United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

This is to introduce to you Mr. W. R. Bennett, the Marshall of the United States District Court of Porto Rico. Mr. Bennett has lived in Porto Rico fifteen or twenty years and for the greater part of that time he has been an official of the Insular or Federal Governments; and he has also been engaged for many years in the business of fruit growing. I think that he knows the island as thoroughly as any American who has ever lived here. In addition to being an excellent official Mr. Bennett is a gentleman of fine character and absolutely reliable.

I would esteem it a personal favor if you could conveniently give Mr. Bennett a conference in which he might have an opportunity to discuss with you some urgent matters of importance to Porto Rico. You may rely implicitly upon his discretion and trustworthiness as well as upon his complete knowledge of all of the facts affecting the present political and economic conditions of the island.

Very sincerely yours,

AY/DLY.

San Juan, Porto Rico.  
January 7, 1921.

The Honorable J. C. W. Beckham,  
United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I received your letter of November 24th and read it with keen interest, and also with great disappointment because of the result of the election in Kentucky. I have some hope that you may change your mind as to making a contest, for it seems to me possible that the Senate might be willing to do complete justice, especially in view of the fact that they have an ample majority anyhow. However, you are, of course, the best judge as to what may be advisable in that matter.

I received also a copy of Miss Eleanor's thesis <sup>on</sup> "The Art Motive in Primitive Painting." I have also read this with unusual interest and pleasure. It seems to me that Miss Eleanor has shown, for one of her age, unusual ability and capacity for research in a rather difficult field; and I hope that she will continue her work. Please express to her my compliments and congratulations.

I took the liberty the other day of giving my friend, Mr. W. R. Bennett, a letter of introduction to you. He is going to Washington some time this month and I hope that you will be able to give him an interview some time after he arrives. He is planning to make an effort to get a line on the political situation at Washington on the eve of the New Administration, especially as to the policy that may be adopted in regard to Porto Rico.

The political situation here is rather peculiar. The results of the local election last November were about as one-sided as in the United States; - only the other way around. The so-called Republican party here was completely defeated because they attempted the coalition with the radical Socialist party. Their opponents, the Unionist party, secured an overwhelming majority in both houses of the Legislature and also carried most of the cities and municipalities.

Now, the local Republicans have transferred the contest

(7 Jan 21)

J.C.W.B.

2.

to Washington, and will attempt to secure from Mr. Harding's administration, thru the power of appointment, some consolation for their defeat at the polls. Of course, this effort will center around the appointment of a governor. The majority party here will make an effort to persuade Mr. Harding to take no action with reference to the governorship, at least for a while. This would result in continuing the present administration, as the term of the Governor is indefinite. I have not yet determined what action, if any, I shall take in this matter. Of course, I should like to find out, if possible, what are the wishes and policies of the New Administration in regard to it.

Of course, you know that under the Jones Bill the Governor of Porto Rico is practically compelled to cooperate with the local Senate in the matter of appointments and with the local Legislature in the matter of legislation practically in the same way as the President does with Congress. And any effort on the part of the new Governor to carry out a contrary policy would inevitably result in a dead lock that would be exceedingly injurious to the island government at this time. And it is chiefly in view of this fact that I would hesitate to create a vacancy by resigning. But, of course, I shall cooperate with the new administration, if I can learn what its wishes may be.

I know that you are a close personal friend of the President elect. Perhaps you might be able to ascertain from him, some time between now and March fourth, something as to his general plans in reference to Porto Rico that might be helpful to me in reaching a decision. At any rate I hope you will be able to have a talk with Mr. Bennett and perhaps also give him some assistance in his efforts to secure some information.

I would be very glad to have a line from you and to know your plans, if you have formulated them in regard to your own purposes. We are all well here. Our two younger children are at school in the States, Elizabeth at the University of Chicago, and Holmes in Kentucky at Georgetown. Mrs. Lewis is quite well considering her age and often speaks of Mrs. Beckham and all of you. I think that I am almost completely restored to health.

With best wishes for you and all of your family I am

Sincerely your friend,



JAMES W. WADSWORTH, JR., N. Y., CHAIRMAN.  
FRANCIS E. WARREN, WYO.      GEORGE E. CHAMBERLAIN, OREG.  
HOWARD SUTHERLAND, W. VA.    GILBERT M. HITCHCOCK, NEBR.  
HARRY S. NEW, IND.            DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA.  
JOSEPH S. FRELINGHUYSEN, N. J.    HENRY L. MYERS, MONT.  
HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF.        CHARLES S. THOMAS, COLO.  
PHILANDER C. KNOX, PA.         MORRIS SHEPPARD, TEX.  
IRVINE L. LENROOT, WIS.         J. C. W. BECKHAM, KY.  
SELDEN P. SPENCER, MO.         WILLIAM F. KIRBY, ARK.  
ARTHUR CAPPER, KANS.          KENNETH McKELLAR, TENN.

R. E. DEVENDORF, CLERK.  
W. A. DUVALL, ASST. CLERK.  
WAYNE A. SMITH, ASST. CLERK.

## United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS.

January 15, 1921.

Personal.

Governor Arthur Yager,  
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Governor:

I have your letter of January 7, and have read it with a great deal of interest and pleasure. It is especially gratifying to me and all my family to hear how much improved you are in health, and we all hope you may continue to improve.

I shall be glad to see your friend, Mr. Bennett, when he comes, and shall give him what information and assistance I can. I have not seen him yet, and I presume he has not arrived in Washington.

It will be interesting to me to hear about the political situation there, for on my visit there last winter I learned enough to believe that there was an element in Porto Rico disposed to make trouble both for this country and for the Island. The papers here had some comment upon it a few days ago. The indications were from what I read that there was general satisfaction with your service as Governor, and that if some of them could not secure the appointment of a native Porto Rican, they would prefer that you remain in that office. Of course, I should be delighted to see that happen if its agreeable to you.

It is hardly possible now to get any line upon what Senator Harding will do after he becomes President, for he is keeping his counsel upon all matters very closely. I shall be on the lookout as much as possible, and wherever I can see a chance to serve you, I shall gladly do it. It is not possible for me to see him before his Inauguration, as I understand he will not be in Washington until about March 4th.

We are all well and often talk of our delightful visit with you last winter. All the family are espec-

11798

(15 Jan 21)

JAMES W. WADSWORTH, JR., N. Y., CHAIRMAN.  
 FRANCIS E. WARREN, WYO.      GEORGE E. CHAMBERLAIN, OREG.  
 HOWARD SUTHERLAND, W. VA.    GILBERT M. HITCHCOCK, NEBR.  
 HARRY S. NEW, IND.            DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA.  
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 SELDEN P. SPENCER, MD.        WILLIAM F. KIRBY, ARK.  
 ARTHUR CAPPER, KANS.        KENNETH MCKELLAR, TENN.

R. E. DEVENDORF, CLERK.  
 W. A. DUVALL, ASST. CLERK.  
 WAYNE A. SMITH, ASST. CLERK.

# United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS.

#2--Yager.

ially interested to hear about Mrs. Lewis and to know that she is well. Please remember us most kindly to her and all the family.

I have not yet made any definite plans about what I shall do after March 4, I am considering several propositions, one of which would be to return to Kentucky and practice law.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely your friend,

*J. W. Beckham*

B/H

The Filson Historical Society



Department of Justice,  
Division of Accounts,  
Washington.

January 26, 1921.

Dear Governor:

This morning I had a very satisfactory talk with Senator Beckam. He is your friend and will do anything he can for you. I related our side of the situation to him, and asked him to relate it to others. He and his secretary tried to get a conference with Senator Kenyon for me, but all efforts have so far failed. He is so very busy that he rarely gets to his office and he allows his secretary to make no engagements. I tried to catch him at the Senate, but without success.

I had a talk with Senator Pointdexter. He did not say so, but I am sure he has been listening to the other side. But he listened to me and I handed him the truth unadorned. When I left him he seemed very much more inclined to our view of things, but I doubt if we can count on him for much.

My conference with Representative Towner was delightful, and he told me in confidence that he had seen the President and that there would be nothing done with respect to the appointment of a governor for Porto Rico for some time; that the President-elect asked him who was available for the place in case a change should be found desirable and that he had said to the President-elect that they had no one for the

(6 Jan 21)



Department of Justice,  
Division of Accounts,  
Washington.

place. He has frankly told Cordiva Davila and Travieso and Barcelo that the appointment of a native <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ out of the question. He seems well informed as to what has taken place down there; nevertheless, I went over the ground with him, and he has asked me to let him know when I am in town, saying that he may want to use me later on. I told him that I would write you of what he had said to the President and of what had been agreed upon. He says the President will make no appointment without consulting him.

I am stopping at the Washington. At 12 o'clock today Lee Nixon called me and asked me to come to room 128. When I got there I found Lee and Todd. I took them to lunch with me. Todd, who had already seen Towner, a fact I learned from Towner and not from Todd, had been told by Towner that the republicans were in just about as bad as the unionists; that no appointment of a native was possible etc., and he, Todd, was urging Nixon to become a candidate for the place. Nixon is trying for something else and says he does not want the place, a statement which of course is not true, but Towner tells me that he knows Nixon well and that Nixon has no ghost of a show. I soon learned that Todd had been filling Lee with their line of rot, and I waded in. They were unable to tell me what they would have had the Governor do to stop

(6 Jan 21)



Department of Justice,  
Division of Accounts,  
Washington.

the independence campaign talk. I have made it plain to them all that the Governor is and has always been as much opposed to the independence idea as anybody could be and has not hesitated to express himself in no uncertain terms with respect to it. A little warm under the collar, I told Senator Pointdexter that you were a civil and not a military governor. Todd may be very popular and persuasive when unopposed, but he is a weak sister in an argument. I am to see Nixon again to-night. He knows nothing, however, beyond the fact that nothing will be done for quite awhile. When I get him off to himself I am going to remind him that you were his friend etc.

I have just come from General McIntyre. He is your friend and was very much more frank about it than I expected him to be. I told him that I had no doubt but that the matter would ultimately be handled by the Secretary of War, (and Nixon, by the way, tells me that Senator Weeks will be appointed to that place) and that he (McIntyre) will probably be able to do more for you than anybody. He thinks that perhaps true and I have no doubt but that he will stand by. He understands the situation well, but I took no chances and went over it with him.

I am tempted to leave matters as they now stand

(6 Jan 21)



Department of Justice,  
Division of Accounts,  
Washington.

until after March 4. I know of no reason why I should not see Senator Kenyon, but I somehow have the feeling that it might be better to hold my letter to him until after that date.

With warmest personal regards to the Governor and all his noble folks,

Hurriedly,

*[Handwritten signature]*

The Filson Historical Society



L. M. BOOMER  
MANAGING DIRECTOR.

Hotel McAlpin

Broadway at 34<sup>th</sup> St.

New York City

July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 21

Dear Governor:

It has been my hope that just such a letter as General McIntyre suggests might be handed to the President by Senator Kenyon, but in view of the President's statement to the effect that he would not act hastily in the matter, I believe it better to send him the letter by mail. As heretofore advised

86x11

(25 Feb 21)



L. M. BOOMER  
MANAGING DIRECTOR.

**Hotel McAlpin**  
Broadway at 34<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York City

I shall stay here until  
after March 4, when I  
shall see Senator Kenyon  
and the others and do  
whatever a man of my  
size can do.

The Secretary of War will,  
of course, have a big  
say in the matter - General  
McIntyre has promised  
to stand by you in con-  
ference with the new Sec-  
retary on the subject. I  
shall not let the General  
forget that we are rely-  
ing on him.  
Your letter just reached  
me. I must post this



(24/21)



L. M. BOOMER  
MANAGING DIRECTOR.

# Hotel McAlpin

Broadway at 34<sup>th</sup> St.

New York City

note at once in order that  
it may catch tomorrow's  
boak

I am concerned about  
Judge Bonner, but utterly  
disgusted that he treated  
Dr Yager as he did. Judge  
Bonner will stand soverly  
in need of Dr Yager  
yet - if I understand the  
nature of his trouble.

I am sorry I can't write  
you at length - but you  
shall hear from me  
immediately upon my  
return to Washington.

Thank you for your letter

Sincerely

Benney

San Juan, Porto Rico.  
February 28, 1921.

Mr. Waller Bennett,  
Richmond, Ky.

My dear Waller:

We were greatly surprised and pleased on a recent afternoon to have Lieutenant Corzelius step into the Palace with your letter of introduction. He had with him a young friend of his, Lieut. Smith of the Navy, and both of them were unusually attractive young officers; and we immediately took possession of them, kept them for dinner and the evening as they were sailing for Panama the next morning. It was a great pleasure to us; and Mrs. Yager, Mrs. Lewis, and I got well acquainted and picked up lots of interesting news, of Richmond especially. Unfortunately Rodes and Diana had just left the Palace a few minutes before the young men came in and had gone out into Santurce for dinner and none of us knew where they had gone. So we could not call them up and they did not get back until the young men had left for their ship.

Your note referring to the celebration of your 25th anniversary made me real home sick. I would have given almost a year of my life to have been present and as we say in Spanish "to have assisted in the celebration of that auspicious event," — not omitting the turkey and the champagne feast. I have "no doubts" about the latter from my knowledge of your habits. I would say that if you ever get into any trouble with the Volstead Law it would be more likely to be in connection with a mint julep or a toddy or some other concoction of old Bourbon than with champagne. However I wish to add my tardy congratulations both for you and Cousin Mary on account of this important anniversary. I hope to help you celebrate your golden anniversary when the years roll by.

Estill has been right sick with a severe attack of bronchitis and throat trouble for some 3 or 4 weeks. But she is better now and we hope will soon be well. The rest of us are all right. We have started in with a little epidemic of bubonic plague in San Juan. This, you know, is a very serious matter for the city and of course makes lots of trouble and work for the Governor. But we hope to have it under control very soon. Rodes is officially connected with the plague

(26 Feb 21)

2. W. Bennett

campaigns as head of the division of vaccination and is working very hard. Our Legislature is also in session and that makes more hard work. Life is one thing after another.

The inauguration of the new administration takes place this week. From all the news I can gather from many sources at Washington it seems to be understood that the new President will take a considerable time to study Porto Rican conditions and problems before attempting to make changes, especially in administration here owing to the political situation in Porto Rico and the results of the last election. It is going to be rather difficult to choose my successor, and I think that the President will not desire to have a vacancy in the office of the Governor thrown upon his desk very soon — at least that is my information. However, it is up to him, and I am ready just as soon as he is.

I am expecting my old friend Dr. Albert Shaw, editor of the Review of Reviews, on the next boat for a little visit. He is bringing his son Albert Junior along with him, and I am delighted at the prospect. I am planning when he gets here, if he is strong enough for he has been sick and had an operation also, to "shake" the plague work and the Legislature for a few days and take a rest.

By the way I am sending you under separate cover a copy of my Message to the Legislature. While it is in both English and Spanish I am expecting you to read the Spanish.

Remember us all most cordially to your whole household and when you get an opportunity write me a letter. As always,

Sincerely yours,

also as to their own expressions and activities. The  
plain truth about the matter is that nobody anywhere in the  
world knows as yet what will be done or what policy will be

San Juan, Porto Rico.  
February 15, 1921.

Mr. W. R. Bennett,  
The Alpin Hotel,  
New York City.

My dear Bennett:

I have received and read with very great interest all your recent letters including those of January 26th and 29th. I greatly appreciate the information which you have secured and transmitted to me, and feel sure that it is absolutely correct. I have recently received also long and confidential letters from General McIntyre and Judge Towner and Cordova Davala; and they all practically corroborated all you have said about the situation. Some of them referred to their conversation with you and expressed their willingness to cooperate with you in every way.

I have had conferences also here with Mr. Travieso, Mr. Barceló, and José Ruiz Soler since their return from the continent; and the reports that they all give of their conferences with Senators, Representatives, and the Bureau chiefs and others all practically all agree, both as to the situation in Washington and also as to their own expressions and activities. The plain truth about the matter is that nobody anywhere in the world knows as yet what will be done or what policy will be

(15 Feb 21)

W.R. Bennett page 2.

adopted; not even the President-elect himself. They all agree that Mr. Harding himself, though he received them cordially, listened to them sympathetically, and expressed himself frankly, made only one promise, and that was he would not act hastily upon the matter of Porto Rican appointments especially the governorship, but would take ample time to study the situation and formulate a policy in regard to the island. He stated that this would be all the more easy inasmuch as they had a governor on the job who was satisfactory to them.

I've delayed answering your letters for a while because in one of them you stated that you would send me your address as soon as you had gotten settled. And as you have not done this I suppose you have not gotten settled. I'm writing to-day, however and will try to get your address from Mrs. Bennett because I would like to have your judgement as to whether, when, and how I should take the initiative in this matter of the governorship. I feel that if I should do anything at all it should be done pretty soon after the 4th of March and that's almost here. I put this question up to General McIntyre and he answered it as follows: "The office is at present without term and is specifically held "at the pleasure of the President and until his successor is chosen and qualified," and for that reason I believe that it would be advisable for you to write to President Harding placing yourself

(15 Feb 21)

W/R/Bennett page 3.

at his disposal, setting forth the status of the legislative sessions and the annual reports." But upon the whole I'd rather hear from you directly upon this point before taking any action.

Things are quiet here, The Legislature has just met today and sent me their committee; and I go over tomorrow morning and read my message.

There is no especial news. Our friend Judge Bonner is in the hospital and I think he is planning to have an operation. But either he or Mrs. Bonner seems to have gotten the situation all balled up as to the surgeon who is to perform it, and I understand there is likely to be some delay on this account. Dr. Yager had been preparing the Judge for a certain sort of operation for about a month, and when he'd gotten him ready the Judge concluded that he preferred to have Dr. Glines operate as surgeon-in-chief and so informed Rodes. Rodes then, of course, felt it his duty to withdraw from the case, so the Judge might have whom he liked. Then Dr. Glines also declined to perform it and I understand that Dr. Hildreth has also declined and so the poor old man seems to be in some serious difficulty. I hope, however, they will get it straightened out and that the operation will be performed by some competent surgeon, for Rodes tells me that he will really have to have it.

We are all well except Mrs. Yager who has a cold. She

(15 Feb 21)

W. R. Bennett page 4,

attended a delightful luncheon bridge the other afternoon at  
Mrs. Bennett's, who was at that time quite well.

Very sincerely,

The Filson Historical Society

Fajardo, P.R.  
march 8<sup>th</sup> 1921



Governor Arthur Jagers  
San Juan?

Dear Governor: I beg to acknow-  
ledge receipt of your letter of the 4<sup>th</sup>  
and to thank you very sincerely for  
the interest you have taken in favor  
of Mr. Casanova.

I need not say that  
I shall be very glad to have you co-  
me with Dr. Shaw, and very happy  
to be able to meet him. You  
have allways made hurried visits  
to Fajardo, and I suggest that this  
time you come early and stay  
to lunch with us, and I will arran-  
ge for you and Dr. Shaw, to see our  
factory, railroad, and cane fields

11798



Trusting that I may soon have  
the pleasure of seeing you and Dr  
Shaw, and with kind regards for  
all your good family I beg to  
remain very sincerely yours

Jorge Durrant

The Filson Historical Society



**Hotel McAlpin**  
Broadway at 34<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York City

L. M. BOOMER  
MANAGING DIRECTOR.

Dear Governor

Mr Townes told  
Barcelo, Spaness & others  
that their independence  
ticket had made the  
appointment of a native  
as governor quite out  
of the question.

^  
owner says he is  
in favor of retaining  
Judge Hamilton,  
but from other sources  
it is said that he  
has but little chance  
^  
Sodd is far Kelly, <sup>and others</sup>  
of more or less influence,  
including Nixon, are

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L. M. BOOMER  
MANAGING DIRECTOR.

**Hotel McAlpin**  
Broadway at 34<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York City

also for Kelly Nixon  
could, & perhaps will,  
make Hamilton's responsi-  
bility impossible. But I  
think it will be some  
time before any appoint-  
ments for P.R. are made.  
I write this note because  
I am not sure that I  
included all the fare-  
going in my report of  
last night.  
I will give you my  
address as soon as I  
get settled.

Milly Bennett

March 9, 1921.

Mr. W. R. Bennett,  
McAlpin Hotel,  
New York.

My dear Bennett:

Your letter of March 1st from New York has just been received and read with much appreciation and interest. I want to write you a really long letter but I am too busy to do so to-day and the boat leaves this afternoon. The official work necessarily connected with the plague and the legislative session takes most of my time during the day; and the visit of Dr. Albert Shaw, the distinguished and influential editor of the American Review of Reviews, who is also my old friend and classmate at the Johns Hopkins University, of course occupies most of my time in the off hours of the day and evening. Dr. Shaw is recuperating from a severe illness and surgical operation, and has come down with his young son to make me a personal visit and of course is staying with us here at the Palace; so you can understand my situation.

This can be only a brief letter but I will enclose copy of my letter to Senator Poindeexter and also some clippings from the newspapers with reference to the letter of Mr. Towner to Mr. Barceló; and these will probably aid you in getting a line on the present situation and bring it up to date.

I have not yet entirely formulated my letter to President Harding, but will do so in 2 or 3 days and mail it to him. I shall endeavor to state briefly the political situation here in Porto Rico and my own relations to it, and shall place the matter entirely in his own hands giving him complete freedom of action as far as I am concerned and at the same time releasing him from any necessity of precipitate action which would result from my immediate resignation. The Governor holds his office without term or in the language of the Organic Act "at the pleasure of the President and until his successor is chosen and qualified", which seems to imply that he should, if possible, remain in the discharge of his duties until his successor is appointed and inaugurated.

1198

(9 Mar 21)

2. W/R/B.

I suppose you have heard of the Concurrent Resolution adopted by the Legislature; but for fear you have not seen it I also enclose a copy of that. Its passage produced a rather unpleasant discussion in both houses and passed by a strict party vote which has emphasized the fact that the whole matter is a question of political policy as well as one of personal consideration.

As I frequently stated to you the revival of the independence propoganda at the election by the Unionist party was the natural counter-movement against the Republican insistence upon the status of state-hood for the future with the immediate demand for the status of an organized territory. This Republican program is just as foolish and still more impracticable than that of the Unionist party. Moreover, the aspiration for independence was largely stimulated by the revolutionary state of mind of the whole world and by the emphasis placed upon "self-determination and the rights of small peoples" during the world war. This, you know, has given Great Britain no end of trouble in Ireland, Egypt, India, etc. It was natural that this world-wide adjutation and discussion should have some effect in Porto Rico. The local Republican party has greatly exaggerated it in every detail and distorted its significance for political purposes.

The magnitude of the Republican defeat in the local election is clearly shown by the publication of the official figures. In round numbers - out of a total vote of about 250,000 the Unionists polled about 227,000; the Republicans 83,000; and the Socialists 59,000. As compared with the vote of 1917, which totalled about 190,000 the Unionists and Socialists gained largely, but the Republicans actually lost about 6,000 votes. This was due, as you know, to the attempted coalition and not greatly to independence.

I think that the visionary impracticability of their own program and platform should be rubbed in on the local Republican party. For the present atleast state-hood is as much of a dream as independence and the immediate proposition of an organized territory is a piece of disastrous damfoolism. Any party that advocates it for Porto Rico is absolutely unworthy of confidence

(A Year 21)

3. W/R/B.

It was impossible for me to stop the independence talk without direct interference with the election, which I never attempt and regard as wholly improper. I have always advised the Unionists to cut out this part of their propagan-da and to make clear and definite their platform. Tambien I could not prohibit the use of the local flag without inter-ference with the elction. Of course you understand the pe-oulicar conditions that enabled me to prohibit the revival of the red flag. I have jst had a talk with Coll y Cuchi, the Speaker of the House, and gave him some good advise as to his own and the Legislative's reaction to Judge Towner's let-ter. I wish I were sure that he would follow it. But you know Coll.

I note what you say about young Todd. I hardly think it possible, under the conditions here now, to appoint him judge at Ponce. I've offered the position to Mr. Kelly, but he has declined it and I fear will not reconsider. Unfor-tunately, as the Senate is in session so that I cannot make a recess appointment and confirmation is necessary to assump-tion of the office. I'm sure I could secure confirmation of Kelly, but I am almost equally sure that I could not for young Todd.

I understand that the Senate is still considering the confirmation of Gen. McIntyre as Head of the Bureau. I do not see how they can fail to confirm him. It would be im-possible, in my opinion, for them to secure a chief of this important bureau whil has the clear intelligence, the broad statesmanship, the wide and deep comprehension of the duties and responsibilities of the position together with the ex-perience and all-round competency of General McIntyre. A change there would be a distinct misfortune.

Mrs. Bennett and the children, I'm sure, are all well. We are all well except Mrs. Yager and I hope she soon will be. This letter is long enough. I hope you get back very soon.

Sincerely your friend,

AV/DLY.

~~Original~~

1708 Bolton St  
Baltimore Md -  
April 15, 1927 -

Copy

My dear Senator:

After our conversation of yesterday I learned that the Secretary of War has reported to the President that conditions in Porto Rico are extremely bad. Also that the President has listened, with apparent belief, to reports to the effect that the Government is working hand in hand with the Unionist Party in unwise and dishonourable undertakings: namely, the purchase by the Government of the old American Railroad Co. property at an exorbitant price in order to save certain prominent members

86X11

of the party from <sup>(S. G. 21)</sup> great  
financial loss; that at  
the expense of the Govern-  
ment they are preparing  
a book for the Governor  
as President of the University  
of Porto Rico.

I also learned that within  
the next few days the Presi-  
dent will consider the appli-  
cations of the various can-  
didates for the governorship.

I hope you will see the  
President. It is imperative  
from the standpoint of the  
Governor's interests that  
you do so. He should be  
given an opportunity to  
state the facts; but one  
side of the case has been  
heard.

The Chief of the Bureau  
of Insular Affairs, General  
McDuffy, called me a  
fair statement of the  
general situation if  
called upon but the  
Governor should be heard.



from as to specific <sup>changes</sup> changes.  
His enemies are doubtless  
making use of bills that  
have merely been introduced  
in the legislature - bills  
which have no possibility  
of approval by the  
Governor.

I am sending the  
Governor a copy of the  
letter and suggesting  
that he write you. You  
should hear from within  
a couple of weeks.

With many expressions of  
esteem

Sincerely yours  
W R Bennett

The Filson

April 15-21

Dear Governor

The inclosed first draft of a letter just sent Senator Kenyon is practically a "true copy" of the redraft. I send it instead of going over the same ground, as my time for this note is very short.

If you make any written statement to Senator Kenyon, do not let my name appear, for reasons which I will explain to you in person in a few days.

Strange that the Secretary of War should be so bitter advised, don't you think? How we depended too much on Genl. McDougall.

I suppose that they had great doings at El Tiempo when Todd's cable about his interview with the President got down there.

86x11

(15 Apr 21)

I have decided to stay  
over until next Saturday  
the 23<sup>rd</sup>. I want to see  
Senator Kenyon again;  
Judge Townes and possibly  
Senator Painter.

Odlin tells me he hopes  
and expects to go on the  
23<sup>rd</sup>.

I wish I were not  
an official - merely a  
property owner and  
fruit grower. I could  
do so much more, and <sup>do it</sup>  
more effectively.

Always your friend  
Benjamin

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
THE SOLICITOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE  
WASHINGTON

April 14, 1921.

Dear Governor:

It is just possible that I shall be able to catch Saturday's boat, but fear I don't:

I got an audience with Senator Kenyon this morning, and it was a most delightful one. After I had talked for a few minutes, he interrupted: "You don't need to show me that Governor Yager has made a good governor, or that he is a good man; and right now I want you to know that I am as good a friend to him as you are, and that I am ready to go to the bat for him; tell me what charges have been made against him and what you want me to do". Whereupon I outlined the situation to him, and told him that I wanted him to go personally to see the Secretary of War. He had his secretary make an engagement for him for tomorrow morning at nine o'clock. He says "I am in favor of the Governor's permanent retention", out if that is impossible, as I am afraid it is,

11728

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
THE SOLICITOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER

(14 Apr 21)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE  
WASHINGTON

WHAT NEXT?" I replied that in that case, you should be retained until October or November, and gave him my reasons therefor to the effect that the legislature is in session and may remain in session for some months; the preparation of the annual report etc etc. and called his attention to the precedent set in the matter of a change of governors. He replied that he would make a real fight for your retention until that time, at least; asked me to give you his love etc.

I then went to General McIntyre and told him what I had said to the Senator, and asked him if I had omitted anything that he thought I should drop him a memorandum about for tomorrow morning's conference. He could think of nothing that I had not gone into. I then reminded the General of a matter of so that he said he would attend to, but about which he asked me to say nothing. Will go into it when I see you. I saw the General a couple of days ago. He is our friend. The General thinks I can do nothing else here now, but I think I shall see Judge Towner, and perhaps Senator Poindexter, though I don't think much of the latter.

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The General is cabling you today that the administration has determined upon a successor for Major Martin, and you know, of course that Odlin has been selected to succeed Judge Hamilton. I shall doubtless receive similar news soon, for Shanton has written the Attorney General making certain--I don't know just what--charges against me in the matter of my war work. I learned of this through friends; I have been given no chance to reply to them. If I was not conducting my war work rightly, it seems to me that he should have made his charges at that time. I only worked fourteen hours a day during the war, and I was not among those who were ready to send innocent men to prison in order to make a reputation. I am not doing much about it and am not worrying any about it: I told General McIntyre about it and he said he would see the Attorney General. If some Republican Senator would say to the Attorney General that he is interested in my retention, it would have weight. A letter from you to Senator Kenyon might induce him to do just that. I am not sure that I want to ask you to go to the trouble to write him, but if you do it is perhaps important that I was not appointed from the States; that I have been a resident of Porto Rico for 22 years; that I am a member of the Republican Party there, and that I went to Porto Rico as a

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boy and have never voted in the United States. I had no  
idea of mentioning this matter when I started to write this  
letter.

I have decided to try to get a conference with Judge  
Towner this afternoon, and hope to write you further later  
on, if I do not catch Saturday's steamer.

Sincerely,

*Pennell*

The Filson Historical Society

April 29, 1921.

Mr. Edw. van Beverhondt,  
Guánica Central, Saneada, P.R.

Dear Sir:

The Governor has received a letter from the United States Patent Office in reply to his letter of March 29. It is stated that "this Office is not cognizant of the formation of any organization which has been established in this City to assist poor inventors in the prosecution of cases before the Patent Office. If there are any organizations which advertise to give such assistance, it is questioned whether their work is of a legitimate character. Attorneys in good standing necessarily charge for their services in proportion to the efforts expended, and it is the opinion of this Office that those who claim to do work at less than the established rates perform it at the expense of quality.

Of course an organization based on eleemosynary principles could well conduct affairs on behalf of inventors to this end, but such an institution is not in existence to the knowledge of this Office."

We regret that it is impossible for us to give you the desired aid and if I hear of any such organization I will inform you.

Very sincerely,

86x11



San Juan, March 29, 1921.

Mr. Edu. van Beverhondt,  
Guanica Central,  
Ensenada, P. R.

Dear Sir:

I have received your letter of March twenty eighth and read it with real interest. I appreciate your situation; but know of only one way in which I can assist you. I have heard in some way that a government bureau has been formed at Washington for the purpose of aiding inventors to secure reliable patents without the expense of the heavy fees charged by the patent attorneys.

I have written to Washington for information upon this subject, and upon receipt of reply I will write you again in regard to the matter. Seventy five dollars seems a heavy fee for an attorney in a matter of this sort.

Very sincerely yours,

San Juan March 28, 1921

His Excellency Gov. Gager,  
Casa Blanca, San Juan, P.R.

The humble petition of Edward van Beverhondt  
in Guanica Central, Censeñada,

Showeth,

That your Excellency's petitioner, being desirous of taking out an American Patent on an idea and being greatly in need of the necessary funds, humbly ventures to solicit the favor of your Excellency's kind assistance.

Your Excellency's petitioner has noticed the liability of the chauffeur's foot to slip off the brake pedal of the automobile or truck, especially if the pedal have been somewhat used, just at the critical moment (especially in wet and rainy weather) when it is desired to avoid running over someone or prevent a collision. It occurred to him that if a small, toothed plate, similar in shape to the surface of the pedal, be attached to said pedal, no matter how rainy the weather, - no matter how suddenly the chauffeur is called upon to put on the brakes, - no matter whether he has a brand new and slippery pair of boots on his feet, - no matter how used and slippery the pedals have become from constant use, - it is absolutely impossible for his foot to slip off the pedal if same has the attachment applied; thus, the safety of the occupants of his auto or omnibus is insured, - thus collisions are avoided, - thus the safety of unwary pedestrians is assured. It is thought to be quite superfluous to invite your Excellency's attention to the numerous accidents which have occurred in the busy thoroughfares of San Juan and especially in Santurce, - the majority, it is believed, due to foot-slipping at the critical moment. However, your Excellency's petitioner is just in receipt of the account of the death of a very promising young chauffeur in St. Thomas, by the name of Carl Marionetti. He was driving a truck around a corner. On the same side of the road and around the same corner an auto was coming in his direction. The brakes were applied. His foot slipped and the collision was the inevitable result. He was dashed a considerable way to the side of the road from the impact of the blow, and sustained such serious in-

(29 Mar 21)

terrible and eternal injuries that he died while in transit to the hospitals! Your Excellency's petitioner had long before this conceived his device and when he received the above details, very much condensed and in substance, they gave him the impulse to communicate with some generous and influential person who has the means to assist him in rendering Humanity a service.

The Attachment is very simple and in detail is as follows: A steel plate  $\frac{3}{32}$ " thick and cut similar in shape to the face of the pedal has V-shaped holes punched in it, thus forming rows of little teeth. On diagonally opposite sides are small clamps which, when tightened, rigidly fasten the plate or attachment to the pedal. It will be noted that no shoe, however slippery the sole may be, is capable of slipping over the rows of teeth. Moreover, the entire affair can be manufactured and sold for a few cents each, retail price. The idea was sent to Jas. L. Norris, Patent Attorney, 4 & Fifth Sts., N. W., Washington, who, on the 2nd instant wrote me to the effect that the idea was very practicable and ought to be patented. The necessary capital, however, is what causes your Excellency's petitioner to take the liberty of venturing to make this petition. The amount needed is:

Payable in Advance	{	Attorneys fee for search in Patent Office	\$ 10.00
		" " preparing and fil- ing Application for Patent	65.00
		1st Government fee payable with Ap- plication for Patent	15.00
		2nd Government fee payable in 6 mos.	<u>20.00</u>
		Total	<u>\$110.00</u>

Trusting that your Excellency will excuse this intrusion on your notice and assuring you, Sir, that should your Excellency's petitioner be so fortunate as to obtain your very generous assistance in securing the Patent and doing Humanity a service, he shall ever most gratefully remember your Excellency's kindness and remains,

Very respectfully,  
Your humble, obedient petitioner,  
Edw. van Beverhondt