

San Juan, P. R., Jan. 13, 1915.

Hon. Auditor of Porto Rico,
San Juan, P. R.

S i r :-

I have the honor to enclose herewith an exact copy of declaration sworn to by me before Mr. Pedro González García, Notary Public, which declaration I have presented to-day to the Hon. Director of Labor, Charities and Correction, against the Superintendent of the Boys' Charity School.

Trusting in your spirit of fairness and justice, which has never been doubted of, I hope that you will order that an immediate investigation of the charges be made, and at the same time I beg of Y. H. that you have the books of expendable and non-expendable property examined.

Respectfully,

(Signed), RAMIRO RIVERA,
Head Servant.

I beg of Y. H. to acknowledge receipt of this letter.

TRUE COPY
Trans. by F/JAM.

To the Honorable Director of Labor,
Charities and Correction:

AFFIDAVIT

I, RAMIRO RIVERA do solemnly swear that I am domiciled in this city and of age.

THAT I am at present employed as Head servant in the Boys' Charity School at Santurce; THAT I was also detailed by the Superintendent of said school, Mr. Enrique Biascoechea to serve temporarily as store keeper, said Superintendent having ordered Miss Monserrate Pérez, who had been appointed Storekeeper, to work in the office of the school.

THAT through these circumstances and owing to my stay in the school I am aware of the irregular manner in which the interests of The People of Porto Rico are treated in said institution by the above mentioned Superintendent, who has been doing and is doing the following:

(A) From the stock of provisions in the store-room for the subsistence of the inmates of the school, the following articles are issued daily for his private residence:

- 3 cans of condensed milk; sometimes 4, 5, and even 6.
- 3 pounds of refined sugar; some days 5 and even 10.
- 2 pounds of cheese as a general rule; sometimes 4.
- 1 pound green coffee.

2 cans of pears.

2 cans of red peppers.

Cocoa, ham and butter is issued every two or three days; butter in 2 pound cans and last week one ham weighing 10 pounds was issued.

All the soap and starch needed by his family; the soap is issued by the acting storekeeper to a laundress named Nieves Cruz and the starch is delivered by the matron Maria Luisa Camacho to said laundress in the quantity of 3 pounds every Saturday.

From the bread intended for the inmates he consumes 3 pounds in the morning, 3 pounds at noon and 3 pounds in the evening, which are delivered by the servant Emilio Reyes and occasionally by Carlos Alberty, an inmate of the institution.

(B) The meals intended for the subsistence of the Superintendent and his entire family, numbering 12 or 14 persons are prepared in the school, using the provisions in stock in the store-room of the institution.

(C) The bakery building of the institution having been demolished, the Superintendent appropriated for himself the bricks and zinc of said building. The zinc was taken to a farm that he has in Hato Rey to be used in roofing the stable that he was building in said farm, and the balance of the bricks were given by him to his brother, Mr. Alberto Biascoechea. The zinc was transported to the farm by cart driver Valentín Castro and the bricks were carried away from the school by his peón Manuel Torrent. For the construction of the

stable mentioned there were taken from the carpenter shop of the school 7 packages of nails, which were delivered by Mr. Cándido Acevedo to the following employees of the institution: 5 packages to Gerónimo Medina and 2 packages to Miguel Calderón.

(D) In plowing the soil and planting grass in his farm the Superintendent used for about four or six weeks, the services of Feliciano Figueroa, an employee of the school, as stated by him before the following witnesses: Pedro Figueroa Boison, José Alvarez Morilla, Jesús Torres Colón and Gerónimo Medina. This last named man worked four days as carpenter and all of them could furnish more information in other matters.

(E) For some time the Superintendent of the school was taking to his farm to be used in the feeding of some cows, the grass grown in the lands of the school. Now he is using said grass in feeding cows that he has near the school and of one cow that he keeps in the grounds of the school, which is being cared for by Pablo Pérez, whose salary is paid by the People of Porto Rico and he does not do any other work for the institution.

(F) In the shoemaker's shop and by the order of

said Superintendent shoes are made for the employees with the materials bought to make shoes for the inmates of the Asylum and said shoes are made by employees paid by The People of Porto Rico.

As all these acts are a matter of scandalous comment for all the employees of the Asylum as well as for some outside persons I respectfully beg that you cause an investigation of these matters to be made as soon as possible, and also of the daily Subsistence book from July 1, 1913.

Copies of this affidavit have been submitted to the Governor, the Auditor of Porto Rico and to the Attorney General.

Respectfully,

(Signed) RAMIRO RIVERA,
Head Servant.

No.2488.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED to before me the preceding declaration by Ramiro Rivera personally known to me, that he is domiciled in this city, married, employee and that he is of age.

Given under my hand and seal of office.
San Juan, P. R., January 13, 1915.

(Signed) PEDRO GONZALEZ,
Notary Public.

(Seal) TRUE COPY
Trans by FF/JAM.

Manuel Perez Aviles,

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Arecibo, Jan. 15th. 1915.

Mr. Arthur Yeager,

San Juan, P.R.

My dear Governor:-

I understand that the Director
of the Insular Male Orphan Asylum is going to
resign. As I have not started on any new business
yet, I take pleasure in offering you my services
for said position, if you consider them accept-
able.

Yours respectfully,

Manuel Perez Aviles
Ex-alcalde of Arecibo.

86 x 11

January 22, 1915.

My dear Mr. Pérez Abiles:

I received your letter of the 15th instant with reference to the possible vacancy in the Directorship of the Insular Male Orphan Asylum.

While there has not yet come about any vacancy in this position it is possible that it may occur and in that event I shall give very careful consideration to your name in connection with this position.

With best wishes for you, I am
Sincerely yours,

Governor.

Mr. Manuel Pérez Abiles,
Arecibo, Porto Rico.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF PORTO RICO

OFFICE OF SUPERVISING PRINCIPAL

C a y o y , P. R., Enero 17, , 1915.

Sr. Dn. Eugenio C. de Hostos,

SAN JUAN, Pto-Rico.

Mi querido amigo:-

Confidencialmente he sabido que el cargo de Director del Asilo de Niños -The Boys Charity School- quedará vacante de un momento a otro, y aunque sé que dicho cargo es político, me parece que una indicación de Ud. y de otros buenos amigos al Gobernador me valdría de mucho.

Ud. me conoce y sabe que soy maestro de vocación, y al obtener un puesto así, no sería el Director solamente, si no el maestro que trabajaría porque pronto salieran de aquel centro muchos jóvenes preparados para la lucha de la vida.

Ayúdome, amigo mío, como me ayuda su generoso padre desde el espacio.

Lo abraza,

M. Negrón Allaz

Mr. Francisco Acuña Aybar,

Manager of the Insular Blind Asylum,

Ponce, Porto Rico.

is also anxious to be appointed as Superin-
tendent of the Boys' Charity School.

The Filson Historical Society

GOVERNMENT OF PORTO RICO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR
SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO.

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January 25, 1915.

The Auditor of Porto Rico,

San Juan,

Porto Rico.

S i r :-

On January 14, 1915, Ramiro Rivera, Head Servant in the Boys' Charity School in Santurce sent to this Office a copy of the charges presented by him on said date to the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction, against Enrique Biascoechea, Superintendent of the Boys' Charity School, with the request that an investigation of the charges be made as soon as possible. A translated copy of said charges is attached to this report.

On the same date the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction asked this Office to assist him to make the investigation of the charges in question, and you instructed me verbally for said work.

In accordance with this, the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction together with the undersigned and Mr. Eugenio T. Iglesias, Chief Clerk of the Department of Labor, Charities and Correction was constituted into an examining board, this last named official acting as Secretary thereof. The board thus constituted held daily sessions at the Boys' Charity School in Santurce, from January 14, 1915 to January 22, 1915, and several employees of the school as well as private persons were summoned to appear as witnesses. The sworn declarations of all these

witnesses were taken verbatim by the Secretary of the board, signed by the respective witnesses and by the members of the board and are now, together with all the documents pertaining to this investigation, in the hands of the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction, for proper action.

This communication is intended to report to you the opinion that I have formed in connection with the charges in question, said opinion being based on the evidence submitted to the examining board, as well as to submit to your consideration the recommendations, that in view of the conditions existing in the institution under investigation I deem proper to recommend for the best administration of the interests of The People of Porto Rico in the future. Some of these recommendations should be made extensive to all the other charitable institutions supported by the Insular Government and to the Reform School.

1st Charge (a): That from the stock of provisions in the store-room of the school several articles are issued daily for the use of the Superintendent of the school and his family in his private residence.

All the evidence presented in connection with this charge shows that it is true, although the quantities shown therein seem to have been exaggerated. The Superintendent himself acknowledged that the provisions shown in the charge in detail were issued to him daily for his private use, in smaller quantities than shown in said charge, excepting ham, soap and starch, which were never issued for his private residence. He stated that he had been taking those provisions because some time in the month of July, 1914, he had asked Mr. Annexy, Supervisor of Charities, as to what interpretation should be given to that part of the appropriation act providing for subsistence of the inmates and employees

of the Boys' Charity School during the Fiscal Year 1914-15, and this official informed him that it was his opinion that as the Superintendent of said school had to reside in the building, if he had family he was entitled to subsistence for himself and family. This assertion was denied by Mr. Annexy in his declaration before the examining board, stating that he did not remember at all having had such conversation with the Superintendent of the Boys' Charity School.

Nieves Cruz, laundress of the Superintendent testified before the board: THAT she works for said Superintendent as laundress, being paid \$6.00 a month; that she works in the same room with all the laundresses of the school; that the soap and starch furnished to her is bought by the Superintendent's family at a store opposite to the building of the school but that sometimes, when she runs short of soap during the week, she is given some from the store-room of the institution; that the quantity generally given to her in these occasions is one cake of Octagon soap.

2nd Charge (b): That the meals for the Superintendent and his entire family, numbering about 12 or 14 persons are prepared in the kitchen of the school, using the provisions intended for the subsistence of the inmates and employees of the institution.

An ocular inspection of the kitchen, made by the board on January 14, 1915, disclosed the fact that Julia Crispín, Assistant Cook of the school, at a yearly salary of \$120.00 is used exclusively for the preparation of the meals for the Superintendent and his family, with the groceries taken from the quantities supplied to the cook by the store-keeper of the school.

As a fair example of the management of the Boys' Charity School I have the honor to insert herewith the list of dishes for the evening meal of January 14, 1915:

FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Chicken soup
Red beans
Cooked rice
Fried potatoes
Roasted chicken
Fritters
Dessert.

FOR THE EMPLOYEES:

Potatoes with Spanish peppers
Red beans
Cooked rice
Dessert
Cocoa.

FOR THE INMATES:

Red beans
Cooked rice
Cocoa.

3rd Charge (c): That the Superintendent appropriated for himself the bricks and zinc from the bakery building demolished by the Interior Department in the grounds of said school.

It was proved that the Superintendent took the zinc in question, some pieces of lumber and broken bricks to a farm that he had in Hato Rey (Stop 31). He claims that he did so because he was authorized by Mr. M. L. Miró, Inspector of Public Buildings, Department of the Interior, who was in charge of the demolition of the bakery. Both Miró and the Superintendent testified that the zinc was unserviceable, but a personal inspection of the stable where said zinc was used, made by the board on January, 15, 1915, disclosed that there were about 70 pieces of corrugated galvanized iron, which was in good condition and could have been used by the Insular Government for roofing stables, sheds and other outside buildings.

In this connection, the undersigned doubts if the

Inspector or the chief of the Division of Public Buildings, Department of the Interior, have any authority to give away property of The People of Porto Rico, without express authorization of the Commissioner of the Interior. Furthermore, I consider it very improper and incorrect that an employee of The People of Porto Rico, occupying a responsible position as Superintendent of an institution, should be so ignorant of the laws of the country and the regulations of the government, as to believe that he could take away government property for his own benefit, authorized by a subordinate employee of another department.

In connection with 7 packages of nails mentioned in 3rd charge as having been delivered by Cándido Acevedo, Master carpenter of the school to Gerónimo Medina and Miguel Calderón to be used in the building of a stable in the Superintendent's farm in Hato Rey, the evidence is rather contradictory, and I will not, therefore, comment it.

4th Charge (d): That Feliciano Figueroa and Gerónimo Medina, employees of the school were used by the Superintendent in doing agricultural and carpenter work in his Hato Rey farm.

The declarations show that Feliciano Figueroa worked in the farm during his vacation leave; according to his declaration the Superintendent paid him \$12.00 for 15 days work, but other employees of the school testified that on several occasions they heard Figueroa complaining that he had not been paid for his work. As to Gerónimo Medina, the Superintendent himself testified that this employee had worked for him, building the stable in the Hato Rey farm, part of the work having been done while said employee was on leave and part of it during the free hours of the day, that is, from about 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. That Medina had refused to receive any compensation for this work.

5th Charge (e): That the grass grown on the lands of the school was sent to the Hato Rey farm for some cows owned by the Superintendent and is now used to feed some cows that said official keeps in a lot adjoining the lands of the school, and that Pablo Pérez, employee of the school is used exclusively to take care of a cow that is kept in the grounds thereof, said cow being owned by the Superintendent.

The declaration of the Superintendent shows that he has been using the grass grown in the lands of the school for the feeding of his cows, 6 in number. The milk produced by these cows is sold by the Superintendent to the public. He admitted that he had kept one of the cows in the lands of the school for 3 or 4 days, some time ago. He denied that Pablo Pérez was used for taking care of the cows.

6th Charge (f): That by order of the Superintendent shoes are issued to employees of the school from the stock intended for the inmates.

Written orders from the Superintendent for the delivery of shoes to employees in each case were produced by the master shoemaker and said orders are now in the hands of the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction.

The Superintendent explained this procedure by saying that these shoes were issued only to servants whose duties were to scrub floors with potash, which chemical destroys or spoils the shoes.

Those are the charges embodied in the sworn declaration presented by Ramiro Rivera. Besides those, this Examiner found the following: José Vicente Llera appears in the Pay Roll of the Boys' Charity School as assistant cook at a salary of \$120.00 per annum, since October 20, 1914. But this employee is actually doing servant work and by order or recommendation of the Superintendent of said school this employee divides his monthly salary with Luis Agosto, who performs work around the school, but does not

appear as employee of the People of Porto Rico.

The Superintendent's family residing in the school is composed of the following members: The Superintendent, his mother, mother in-law, wife, four sisters, two brothers, three children, two female servants and one peon. This is according to the best information obtainable by this examiner.

There is no doubt in my mind that the Superintendent of the Boys' Charity School is unfit to hold any responsible position in the Insular Government, due to his lack of executive ability. This opinion is based on the fact that he claims that he always acted in good faith and in the case of the meals for his family he claims that he did it due to the wrong interpretation given to the appropriation act by the Supervisor of Charities. As may be seen above, this assertion was denied by said Supervisor, Mr. Annexy.

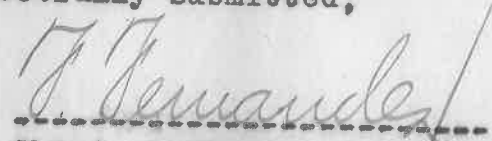
R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S

I would respectfully recommend the following:

That a careful revision be made of the salary list for the Boys' Charity School for the next year, suppressing all the uncalled for or unnecessary positions.

That a provision be inserted in the appropriation for subsistence for all the charitable institutions and the reform school, excluding the Superintendents, clerks, teachers, masters of trades and arts, night watchmen, band master and all other employees of said institutions which are not entitled to subsistence. Also, that the issuing of raw rations to employees who are entitled to subsistence be prohibited.

Respectfully submitted,



Chief, Division of Audits
and Examinations.

PERSONAL

GOVERNMENT OF PORTO RICO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR
SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO

January 26, 1915.

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

The Honorable,
The Governor of Porto Rico,
S a n J u a n .

S i r :

I have the honor to herewith submit for your careful attention and consideration a copy of the report made by Mr. Fabriciano Fernandez, an Examiner of this office, in the matter of the charges which have been brought against the Superintendent of the Boys' Charity School. A copy of the charges referred to was sent to this office, and shortly after the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction called and requested my co-operation in the matter of making a complete investigation of the charges referred to. In compliance with his request and in discharge of my duty, Mr. Fernandez was sent to the Boys' Charity School in company with Mr. Camuñas. Several visits were made and proof was taken in regard to the charges aforesaid. The report which I herewith submit has been carefully considered by myself and I endorse to the fullest extent the con-

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[26-JAN-15]

II.

clusions reached and the recommendations made by Mr. Fernandez. I am thoroughly aware that in this report I am differing from the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction in the matter of the conclusions arrived at, and also as to the action which he expected to take with regard to the accused employe, but in matters like these my official duty must be first, and I can not agree that the head of the department referred to should pursue a course which I regard as detrimental to the best interests of The People of Porto Rico.

The following charges have been completely established by the proof submitted:

I.

That the Superintendent of the Boys' Charity School fed at the expense of the Government some 15 or 16 people when the only ration which he was entitled to was one for himself personally. The appropriation for this purpose states distinctly that it is for a certain number of employes and a certain number of inmates. There is nowhere any suggestion that the Superintendent of the Boys' Charity School had the right to feed any relative, any member of his family or any personal servant of his own at the expense of

III.

the Insular Government. It will not do for the Superintendent to say that he was not aware of the law in this case. He is an experienced employe in Governmental matters, both in the United States and in Porto Rico. He was for some time in the office of the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction and has had ample opportunity to inform himself with regard to all matters concerning the government of this institution. I need hardly remind you that it is a universal maxim that "Ignorance of the law excuses no man." No man can contend that he is ignorant of an existing law and is, therefore, innocent. It is manifest that such a conclusion would be ruinous to good government.

II.

It is also clear that the Superintendent appropriated for his own use, and carried away from the School premises a considerable quantity of brick and galvanized iron, which he used for erecting a stable (or building of that character) upon his farm at Hato Rey. The Superintendent claims that he was acting in this matter upon the advice of Mr. M. L. Miró, who is connected with the Department of the Interior in the Division of Public Buildings.

IV.

That Mr. Miró had not more authority to give away Government property than the Superintendent had to take it away is too clear to admit of argument. The Director of Labor, Charities and Correction suggests in his communication to me that this material was probably worthless. If this was worthless material, why did the Superintendent value it so highly that he was willing to haul it several miles to Hato Rey and make quite an extensive use of it in erecting a building for his own use?

I beg leave herewith to hand you attached to this report a printed copy of Administrative Bulletin No. 6, dated December 23, 1909, which will abundantly demonstrate that the officer referred to had no right to dispose of the property referred to in that way.

Extract from Administrative Bulletin No. 6, dated Dec. 23, 1909.

Section 5.—When public property has become unserviceable from any cause or is no longer needed for the public service, and upon application of the accountable officer, the Auditor shall designate an inspector to examine the property and if found by him to be valueless or unsaleable, he shall recommend its destruction, or if found to be saleable, make recommendation that it be sold at public auction or private sale, in accordance with regulations of the Auditor. Upon approval of the Governor of the action recommended, the property shall be destroyed in the presence of the condemning officer or other person designated by the Auditor, or sold by him in accordance with said approval.

V.

The property should have been reported to this office, an inspection had, and condemnation ordered for the purpose of sale, and the proceeds of the sale paid into the Insular Treasury. This is the regular course in such matters and has been in use for years and it is useless for any officer of the Government to say that he was not aware of this regulation. Besides, he is charged with the knowledge thereof, and Mr. Miró is certainly subject to censure through the head of his department for having in this manner violated the law.

III.

The Superintendent of the Boys' Charity School had without any authority whatever given away 16 pairs of shoes which had been manufactured at the school for the use of the boys. This he had no right to do, and he is clearly chargeable with the value thereof, which I understand to be \$1.38 per pair. He is also chargeable with a reasonable value for the building material which he appropriated for his own use. This value I have not yet been able to ascertain, but pending the settlement of this matter and pursuant to the provisions of the Political Code and the authority vested in me, I shall lay an embargo

VI.

upon the salary account of the Superintendent until these accounts are satisfactorily settled.

IV.

The Superintendent has used the grass grown upon the grounds of the Boys' Charity School for his own use in feeding cows owned by him and kept at Hato Rey, and that cows owned by him are kept in a lot adjoining the school and are fed with grass grown on the school grounds. For this he should also be required to account.

V.

That he has utilized the services of one or more employees of the school for his own personal benefit upon his farm at Hato Rey.

VI.

That there has been discrimination in favor of the Superintendent and employees of the Boys' Charity School and in favor of the Superintendent and his family in the matter of provisions which were supplied for the Superintendent and the employees and for the boys. An inspection list filed by Mr. Fernandez will show that if the meal in question was a fair sample of all the boys receive, they are being fed simply on rice, beans and cocoa, while the Superintendent and his family are

VIII.

removing the Superintendent from his position, to give him a place of almost equal importance in his department, that of purchasing agent for the department. . . The Superintendent has shown himself so recreant in this matter, that I may be pardoned for expressing surprise that the Director should have believed that he was a man fitted to be trusted with the purchase and distribution of supplies to any of our charitable institutions. If the Superintendent has shown himself to be unfitted for anything, he has shown himself to be unfitted for the purchase of Government supplies for the Boys' Charity School.

Therefore, inasmuch as I was called into this investigation by the Director, and inasmuch as independent of his request I had the right to make the investigation into the affairs of the school, I beg leave to make this independent report and to recommend that the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction be advised that the Superintendent of the Boys' Charity School is not a suitable employe, and that in place of re-employment he be altogether excluded from the payroll of the Government of Porto Rico.

I am herewith handing you a copy of the charges as filled, and also a memorandum showing the

IX.

positions of trust previously held by the Superintendent in the service of the Government of Porto Rico and the Government of the United States, which dispose of his claim that he either was, or could have been, ignorant of Government regulations in matters of this kind.

I recommend that this report be treated as confidential, except insofar as you may see fit to adopt my conclusions. They are made in absolutely good faith, and with the sole desire to benefit the government of which I am an officer. If this department can be of any further service in making an investigation of the Boys' Charity School, or other charitable institution, I beg leave to inform you that it is entirely at your service.

Very respectfully,
your obedient servant,

J. H. Bonnell
AUDITOR OF PORTO RICO.

P. S. I have just been informed that there is a report current to the effect that the report of the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction was made with the full knowledge and concurrence of this office. I desire now to assure you in an emphatic manner that no one in this office knew anything of the contents of the report until a copy was handed in, and that at no time did the Auditor concur in the recommendation

[26-JAN-15]

X.

that this man be re-employed in the service of the
Insular Government upon his removal from his position
of Superintendent at the Boys' Charity School.

J. H. B.

JWB H

The Filson Historical Society

PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL

GOVERNMENT OF PORTO RICO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR
SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO

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

January 29, 1915.

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

My dear Governor Yager:

Mr. Jaime Annexy, Supervisor of Charities,
called at my office this morning very much wrought up
with regard to the manner in which he had been invol-
ved in the charges lately brought against the Superin-
tendent of the Boys' Charity School. I insisted that
he should make a statement in writing, a copy of which
should go to you, in order that both of us might be
fully advised in regard to the position which he takes,
and as to the defence which he desires to make in con-
nection with his own conduct in this matter. Owing
to this fact, I think it would be well for me to with-
hold my report with regard to the contents of the let-
ter submitted ~~by~~ you ~~by~~ the Superintendent of the Boys'
Charity School, which I have read with much interest.
I do so simply in the interest of justice and in order
that neither Mr. Annexy nor his friends may feel that
any unfairness is being done him.

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II.

In the meantime, I desire respectfully to call your attention to a card which appears in today's issue of "El Tiempo," which you will find on page 6, and invite your most careful attention to the concluding paragraph of the card, in which Mr. Biascochea indignantly affirms his innocence and very earnestly insists that the proof which has been made in the case in no way affects his honor and good name and that he, therefore, declines to accept the ruling of the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction in the matter, and, for that reason, he has the honor to present his resignation to take effect on the 20th day of February.

You will thus see that the Superintendent virtually defies the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction and declines to accept the position which was tendered him in the Office of the Director, effective as of February 1, and deliberately, and with what we call in the States unmitigated "gall," has declared that he will resign, but that he will fix the date of his own resignation. In other words, for a term of practically one month he elects himself to an office which he has already disgraced and abused, and expects the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction to humbly accede thereto. This is a trifle ahead of anything that has ever come under my official

III.

knowledge. But this is not all. I regret to say that I was shown a copy of a letter which the Director of Labor, Charities and Correction had written to the Superintendent under date of January 27, in which he actually accedes to the demands of the Superintendent that his resignation be accepted as of February 20. It is indeed hard to see how the Director can justify this action after his own decisive action in the matter previously, or how he could see fit to retain this man in the same position, with as full opportunities as before to abuse his trust.

I do not know whether, after this revelation, you will care to consider the matter further, excepting to insist that the Superintendent be removed and removed at once. In fact, I now believe that the credit of this Government demands that this be done as an example to other gentlemen who may be disposed to do as they please and terminate their engagements with the Government at their own option. It is my belief that the Superintendent really thinks that the Government is afraid to deal with him on account of what he believes to be his political "pull," and that he proposed to do just as he pleases in the matter of holding office in Porto Rico. These are strong words I will admit, but at the same time I

IV.

think the situation is such as to demand prompt and vigorous treatment.

If, however, you prefer to wait until I receive Mr. Annexy's communication, I shall then make my report, based upon the letters received from the Superintendent and Mr. Annexy himself.

Awaiting your further communication, I remain

Very respectfully,
your obedient servant,

J. H. Barrett

AUDITOR OF PORTO RICO.

JWB H