

Apartado 538
México, D.F.
November 19, 1929

My dear Mr. Rogers:

I hand you herewith an outline of some of the people and institutions which I plan to see during the course of my forthcoming trip to the United States:

Chicago

1. E.R. Embree, Mr. Julius Rosenwald, et al.
2. J. Laurence Laughlin, University of Chicago, in re Hart Schaffner and Marx proposed prize essay, "Our Economic Relations with Mexico."
3. M.E. Shire -- International banker.
4. Recent developments in the Department of Sociology at the University of Chicago with special reference to the survey of the city.

New York

1. Lawrason Riggs -- for introduction to Lamont and through the latter to obtain copies of the Bankers' Report on Mexico and the report on the National Railways of Mexico.
2. Foreign Policy Association -- see Raymond Buell about material on tropical resources.
3. Council on Foreign Relations and the editorial office of Foreign Affairs.
4. Latin-American Department of the National City Bank.
5. Rife, in Guaranty Trust Company in re building and loan associations.
6. Rummel -- Rockefeller Foundation in re statistical work in Mexico (Merriam's suggestion).
7. G. Butler Sherwell, Baker and Kellog.
8. A.J. Merz and M.O. Fano -- officials of the Ward Line.
9. Edmund E. Day, Rockefeller Foundation.

10. Hubert C. Herring, the Committee on Cultural Relations with Latin America.
11. Isaiah Bowman, American Geographical Society.
12. Guy Emerson, Bankers Trust Company.
13. Henry Allen Moe, Senator Guggenheim, et al.
14. Jerome D. Greene, Chairman of American Council of Pacific Relations.
15. Miguel Covarrubias, Mexican artist, and through him other members of the Mexican colony in New York.
16. Anita Brenner, -- author of recent book on Mexico.
17. G.R. Parkin, Sun Life Assurance Company (Montreal).
18. Institute of Human Relations (see Gordon Williams at Yale University).
19. New York City Planning Commission.
20. Herbert Feis.

Philadelphia

1. Frank Aydelotte.
2. José Zozaya,

Washington

1. John C. Merriam, Carnegie Institution.
2. Harold G. Moulton, the Institute of Economics et al.
3. Lawrence Martin, Library of Congress.
4. William Orton, Tropical Plant Research Foundation.
5. T.S. Dunn, Member of Committee on Latin-American Relations.
6. Edward Eyre Hunt, one of the directors of Hoover's survey on recent economic changes.

C O P Y
CONVERSATION

Montes de Oca, Luis
Secretaria de Hacienda
11-20-29

Present: Sr. Carlos Contreras (architect), and
Sr. Montes de Oca, the Minister of Finance.

Purpose of Interview: To discuss with Sr. Montes de Oca the plans of the government for the building of the Ciudad Universitaria (University City) and to sound him out on what the government's attitude would be if any of the American foundations should express a willingness to assist financially in this project.

I explained to Sr. Montes de Oca that I had been making a rather detailed study of the present situation of the National University and that I had been greatly impressed with the many urgent needs of the institution. I stated that in my opinion every effort should be made to build the educational system in Mexico from both ends, i.e. Mexico should not only continue its very excellent policy of fomenting rural and primary education but also should look to the creation and development of leaders by strengthening the system of higher education and more specifically the National University. Finally, I intimated that in all likelihood during my approaching visit to the United States I would be talking to officials of various educational and philanthropic foundations and that my study of the University would doubtless be read by some of them. I suggested that it might come about that some of the foundations would become interested in the National University and the plans of the Mexican government for the Ciudad Universitaria. I mentioned the recent unsuccessful attempt of one American foundation to cooperate with the government in its rural school program and indicated that I did not wish to be even indirectly responsible for enlisting the interest of any organization in the United States in the National University without obtaining beforehand some idea of what the attitude of the Mexican government might be.

Sr. Montes de Oca said that he would reply with the utmost frankness. He stated that he did not think it would be either desirable or possible for the National University to accept financial assistance from foreign sources: "A University which has placed on its seal the words 'Por mi raza hablará el espíritu' (For my race, the spirit will speak) could not afford to accept money from a foreign race with an alien culture for the purpose of achieving the ends implicit in this motto. The National University of Mexico is, or should be, the center and bulwark of Mexican culture,--its development must come as a result of the efforts of the Mexican people themselves. These efforts can and will be made -- i.e. we are going to build the Ciudad Universitaria; I am setting aside 1,000,000 pesos in the 1930 Federal Budget for that purpose and other funds will be provided in succeeding years for carrying on the work."

Sr. Montes de Oca then went on to state that in his opinion the foundations could be of great service to Mexico if they would establish in cooperation with but entirely in-

Montes de Oca 11-20-29

independent from the University special institutes or centers for study in special fields. As examples of the type of organization which he had in mind, he spoke at some length about the desirability of having in Mexico a center for the study of indigenous languages and related ethnological problems.

At this point I reviewed briefly the effect which privately endowed Universities and research centers in the United States had had upon our state universities and colleges, indicating that, in my opinion, these private institutions had had the salutary effect of forcing the state institutions to raise their standards and improve their methods. I then asked Sr. Montes de Oca if he did not think that institutions of the type which he had mentioned might very well play the same role in Mexico. Sr. Montes de Oca replied that this was exactly his idea and that he personally and, also, in his opinion, the Mexican government and people as a whole would welcome the establishment of private research foundations of the type which he had described.

I then questioned Sr. Montes de Oca with reference to his attitude toward the center of social and economic studies which the Institute of Current World Affairs proposes to establish in Mexico. He gave the idea his enthusiastic approval.

C O P Y

An Outline of Pascual Ortiz Rubio

- 1877 - Born in Morelia, Michoacan. Said to be direct descendant of the Tarascan king, Tzintzicha. Father prominent in political and government circles of Michoacan and one time Secretary-General of the State; brother at one time Ad-Interim Governor of the State
- 1895 - Entered preparatory school in Morelia, Michoacan.
- 1898 - Graduated from the National Preparatory School, Mexico City.
- 1899 - Entered the National University of Mexico.
- 1902 - Graduated from the National University with a degree of Civil Engineer.
- 1911 - ~~Captain~~ in the Engineering Corps of the Army.
- 1912 - Colonel in the Engineering Corps of the army.
- 1913 - Elected to the National Congress of Mexico from the district of Morelia.
- 1913 - Imprisoned for three months by Victoriano Huerta for speeches made in congress.
- 1916 - Head of the department of engineers in the Ministry of War.
- 1914 - Made Chief of the Department of Printing and Stamps in the Carranza Government.
- 1915 Placed in charge of the printing of paper money for the Carranza Government.
- 1916 - Chief of the Department of Properties expropriated by the Revolution.
- 1917 - Governor of the State of Michoacan.
- 1917 - Founded the University of Michoacan.
- 1920 - Promoted to rank of Brigadier General in the Revolutionary Army.
- 1920 - Minister of Communications and Public Works in the Obregon Government
- 1922 - Commissioned by the Mexican Government to study irrigation in Spain, France, Italy and Egypt.
- 1923 - Minister from the Republic of Mexico to Germany.
- 1924 - Ambassador to Brasil.
- 1929 - Appointed Minister of Government in the Portes Gil Cabinet.
- 1929 - President elect of Mexico.

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Eyler W Simpson
125 Colima
Depo N
Mexico City (Mexico)

Nov 20 1929

Days office received letter Day away few days

Rogers

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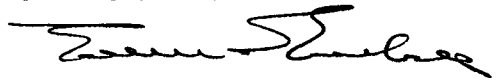
900 SOUTH HOMAN AVENUE
CHICAGO

November 21, 1929

Dear Rogers: I am sorry the Mexican Institute business
 broke down. Day informed me of the difficulties
he was having with his group and it seemed to me unwise to bring
it to our trustees until we were assured of favorable action from
the Rockefeller Foundation.

I trust this matter is not dead or seriously
damaged. I don't know whether our group would be willing to do
anything about it but at any rate I should like to see the
matter thought through completely and brought up to some one
or more foundations. Under the circumstances, I think all I
can do is to wait for the people in New York to make up
their minds.

Very truly yours,



ERE:MS

Mr. Walter S. Rogers
Institute of Current World Affairs
522 Fifth Avenue
New York City

November 23, 1929

Dear Embree:

I acknowledge your letter of November 21st.

Simpson now plans to reach Chicago about December fifth and to remain in the city three or four days.

Enclosed is a clipping from the New York World, which I think you would be interested in reading, if you have not already seen it.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Edwin R. Embree,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
900 South Homan avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

C O P Y

CONVERSATION

Morrow, Dwight W.
American Embassy
11-27-29

Present: Sr. Carlos Contreras (architect), Capt. Louis B. McBride (Naval Attaché, American Embassy), and Mr. Dwight W. Morrow, (American Ambassador).

Purpose of Interview: To present Sr. Carlos Contreras to the Ambassador; to give Sr. Contreras an opportunity to tell the Ambassador about the Mexican government's project for creating a new University Center (Ciudad Universitaria) and to obtain the Ambassador's reactions to this plan.

Sr. Contreras outlined briefly the plans of the government with reference to the Ciudad Universitaria and showed the Ambassador a number of maps and plans of the proposed New University which he (Contreras) has prepared and submitted to the Rector of the National University, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Communications, and other interested and relevant persons.

When Sr. Contreras had completed his presentation, Mr. Morrow asked how much the University Center as Mr. Contreras has planned it would cost and how it was to be financed. Mr. Contreras replied that according to his estimate the project would cost about 18,000,000 pesos, that it was to be financed by the federal government from ordinary revenues, and that the government had already set aside 1,000,000 pesos for the purchase of the land in the year 1930.

Mr. Morrow said that in his opinion a great university for Mexico would be a very fine thing, but that he could not understand how the government could afford to plan the expenditure of 18,000,000 pesos on a University until further progress had been made in the solution of the internal and external economic problems with which the Mexican government is now faced. He explained that it had been his policy since he has been Ambassador to Mexico to assist the government in every way in his power to order its affairs and balance its budget so as to pay the salaries of all governmental employees, meet all bills, as they are made, and otherwise keep up to date on all current internal obligations. This policy he mentioned incidentally had brought down on his head a very considerable amount of criticism from American citizens both in Mexico and in the United States. Mr. Morrow then went on to say that from his knowledge of the financial condition of the Mexican government at the present time he did not see how it would be at all possible for the government to build a university (or undertake any other work of a similar nature) without being forced to raise taxes or to neglect the payment of internal and external debts which the government now owes. Finally, Mr. Morrow said that he had great admiration for the ability of the Mexican people to make plans and projects, and he intimated that he hoped the day would come when he could also have an equal amount of admiration for the capacity of the Mexican people to carry out the plans which

Morrow 11-27-29

they make, and to keep the promises and meet the obligations which they assume.

At the conclusion of Mr. Morrow's remarks I then told him of the recent conference which I had had with Sr. Montes de Oca in which the question was raised concerning the attitude which the Mexican government might assume if offers of assistance to the National University should be made by any of the American foundations. I reported Sr. Montes de Oca's statement that in his opinion the National University of Mexico could not afford to accept gifts from foreign sources. Mr. Morrow then remarked that he found this attitude "interesting" in that if the government should proceed with its plans to build the new University out of funds in part at least were owing to foreign creditors it would just surely be using foreign money as if it should accept outright gifts. Mr. Morrow then went on to remark, however, that he saw no good reason why the National University could not accept money from American foundations if it should be offered, and he recalled in this connection the recent gifts of American foundations to English and French schools.

I then reviewed that part of my conversation with Sr. Montes de Oca in which he had suggested the possibility of outside agencies establishing in Mexico institutes for study in special fields, which would cooperate with but be independent from the National University. Mr. Morrow remarked that he, like Sr. Montes de Oca, thought this would be a very excellent thing to do and that he believed that it might be possible to get money for this purpose.

The conference was closed by Sr. Contreras extending to the Ambassador an invitation to visit the proposed site for the new National University. This invitation was accepted.

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Night Letter

November 27, 1929

Eyler N. Simpson
125 Colima
Departamento M
Mexico City, Mexico

Friend wishes arrange luncheon Chicago Club for you
meet several leading business railroad banking people what days would
you be available

Rogers

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W S ROGERS 522 FIFTH AVE

NYK

WILL BE IN CHICAGO FROM MORNING OF FRIDAY DECEMBER SIXTH
 UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THURSDAY DECEMBER TWELFTH STOP CAN BE REACHED
 AT QUADRANGLE CLUB

SIMPSON

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

December 2nd, 1929

Dear Mr. Russell:

Simpson wires me from Mexico City that he will arrive in Chicago at the end of this week, that he will be available the following Monday or Tuesday noon, and that he can be reached by letter at the Quadrangle Club.

Here in brief is his story. After graduation from the University of Texas, he was a graduate student at the University, taking his Ph.D. with honors. While a student he successfully conducted several very practical research undertakings. He became an instructor at the University, then a dean. By common consent he was accredited with being one of the ablest young men who had showed up in many years.

Two and a half years ago he went to Mexico for this Institute, charged with making a study of contemporaneous conditions and with making practical use of his knowledge and experience.

He has won a distinct place for himself in Mexico - Ambassador Morrow thinks very highly of him.

As result of a study he made of rural education, one of the American foundations offered the Mexican government a very large annual grant to be used in furthering that government's rural school activities.

Another of his reports was a contributing factor to Mr. Simon Guggenheim giving the Guggenheim Foundation an additional million dollars, the income from which is to be used mainly in helping promising young Mexicans obtain training in this country. Simpson is in charge of selecting the men, having been formally elected secretary for Mexico for the Guggenheim Fund.

From various sources funds are now available for Americans who wish to carry on studies and research in Mexico. These agencies look to Simpson for advice in selecting men and for help in directing the activities of such men as are given fellowships.

A proposal for setting up a research center in Mexico is being considered by two of the foundations. The proposal has been endorsed by Ambassador Morrow and by leading Mexicans. The idea is to carry on research of a very practical character for the Ambassador and for such Mexican government officials as welcome such assistance.

Mr. Russell - - - - - 2.

If this plan goes through, as now seems likely, Simpson is to be put in charge.

I commend Simpson to you as an exceptionally promising young man, and both Simpson and I will greatly appreciate any thing you do in the way of putting him in friendly touch with Chicagoans who are concerned with developments south of the Rio Grande.

With best wishes, I am,

Yours sincerely,

WSR/FG

Mr. E. A. Russell,
600 W. Jackson Boulevard,
Chicago, Ill.

CONVERSATION

Ortiz Rubio Pascual
En route Mexico City to Laredo
12-3-29

Present: Ortiz Rubio, Luis Quintinilla (diplomatic attaché to the President), Senora Ortiz Rubio and members of the family and the Presidential Staff.

Purpose of interview: To discuss with the President-elect my report on the National University of Mexico; to get his ideas on the future of the University; to obtain his reactions to the proposal to establish a research center in Mexico; and to tell him about the work of the Guggenheim Foundation.

Before I was taken to see the President I arranged for Senor Luis Quintinilla (whose friendship I had gained last summer in Washington) to show a copy of my report on the University and to explain to the President the contents in some detail. Quintinilla later told me the President had displayed the greatest interest in the report and had asked a number of questions especially about the material presented in the tables and graphs. Quintinilla also said that he had read to the President a copy of the regulations governing the Guggenheim Fellowships for Mexico and that the President had been very pleased to learn of this activity of which he had previously been ignorant.

After the ground had been prepared in the above indicated fashion I was escorted through several cars filled with soldiers and the henchmen and "protectors" of the President and finally into the private compartment of the President himself. I found him playing chess with one of his sons. After I had been introduced to Senora Ortiz Rubio and to other members of the Presidential party, the President received me with the usual Mexican courtesy.

The President-elect is rather heavy set and somewhat taller than the average Mexican of the Central Plateau region. His rather dark cast of countenance lends support to his claim to be directly descended from one of the ancient Tarascan tribal chiefs. Although only barely fifty-three years of age, he seems much older thanks to his sparse gray hair and heavily lined face. In manner and appearance he reminds one of an American College professor - full of years and dignity.

I told the President something about the material contained in my report on the University. He said that he had examined the report with one of his secretaries and found it Muy interesante. I asked him if he intended to support the movement now on foot in Mexico to build the new Ciudad Universitaria. He replied in the affirmative. I then asked the President if he thought that it would be feasible and desirable for Mexico to accept financial assistance for the new University in case offers of such help should be made by Foreign (American) organizations. He said that he could think of no good reason why if such offers were forthcoming, it would not be both possible and desirable for Mexico to accept them.

I then outlined very briefly the idea of establishing in

Mexico independent research organizations (for example, an institute for research in economic and social problems or a center for the study of health problems). The President seemed to be very pleased with the idea and said that he would give organizations of the type mentioned any support that he properly could.

The interview was closed by a request on my part to see the President when I returned to Mexico. He replied in the Mexican manner "that I had only to command him and I would find him at my orders".

OFFICES:
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810 EIGHTEENTH ST. N. W.

THE RESEARCH SERVICE

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Dec. 27, 1929.

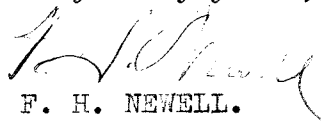
Mr. Walter S. Rogers,
522 Fifth Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Rogers:-

In a recent conversation with Mr. Eyler N. Simpson regarding conditions in Mexico, we touched upon the importance of bringing together more complete information regarding the water resources of Mexico. I am greatly interested in this as I initiated the systematic measurements of streams in the United States some years ago, and have had occasion to study conditions in portions of Mexico in connection with various enterprises.

If convenient, I will try to call upon you sometime next week. I have an appointment with Dr. F. P. Keppel at 3 p.m. on December 31, and will hope to see you possibly before that time.

Very truly yours,


F. H. NEWELL.

FHN:YRJ

January 1, 1930

Dear Professor Hudson:

I have seen your telegram of yesterday to Mr. Simpson in regard to his addressing a special FPA luncheon next Saturday. I have the utmost confidence that he will do his part well.

In the telegram you also refer to Mr. Hopper. He is not here, and I am uncertain where he is or when I shall next see him. I assume that you have arranged with him directly.

For your own information I think I should tell you that, due to Mr. Hopper's condition of health, to his doctor's advice that he should spend some months in a dry climate, and to certain other reasons, he and I have agreed that he should not now return to Russia, that he should go on what amounts to an indefinite leave of absence, and that the question of possible resumption of active service for the Institute will be left for consideration later on.

With best wishes for the new year, I am

Yours sincerely,

January 12, 1930.

Dear Day:

Herewith is Simpson's study of the National University. As he explained the other afternoon, the university not having published a catalogue for several years, he felt obligated to put in many details which otherwise might well have been omitted.

Judicious skipping will reduce the study to a leanness compatible with easy reading. As I am sending you the original, please return it when you are through with it. No hurry, however. You are of course at liberty to have any or all of it copied.

Simpson sailed yesterday for Havana, where he is to talk with Ambassador Harry Guggenheim, whose predecessor, by the way, never found out what Cuba was all about and in consequence was permitted to fade out of sight.

Ambassador Guggenheim has been duly cabled to be on the lookout for Simpson, who carries a letter of introduction provided by Mr. Simon Guggenheim. Simpson hopes to be able to put over the idea that Ambassador Guggenheim might do well to follow Mr. Morrow in the use of experts. With his money, the Ambassador could easily pay for several investigations into Cuban and Cuban-American problems. And, incidentally, might thereby make a great reputation for himself.

This being Sunday and a rainy one at that, I have put in a couple of hours at the typewriter thinking about Mexico and the Institute. What resulted is to be found on the couple of sheets enclosed. Some old straw is rethashed, but nevertheless I am going to ask you to read it. Furthermore, when you get to the parts about Simpson acting constructively, please recall what he is up to in Havana.

I was rather proud of the typing until I discovered several minor errors:

With best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

Simpson's instructions are to understand Mexico and its problems, domestic and foreign, and to make effective use of his knowledge and contacts.

To Understand

The procedure is for him to study each of the principal problems in turn. In the case of each problem he is to read what is available, talk with the people immediately concerned, and to see with his own eyes what is going on. After he has in this way completed his general survey and comes to a broad understanding, his task changes somewhat; thereafter he is to devote himself to studying the acute problems of the moment.

It quickly developed, in regard to most of the problems he approached, that there was a dearth of basic information and a lack of trained personnel working in the particular field. There is even no reliable history of the country; much of the essential source material has not been collected, to say nothing about being catalogued or made accessible.

His own broad survey work, if it is to be more than "clinical impressionism", must be based on a wide range of studies made by others. Realizing this, he was led to an interest in the development of research and of research technicians.

This in turn led to an interest in getting Americans to study Mexican problems, in securing opportunity for Mexicans to study in the United States, and in bringing about provision for research in Mexico by Mexicans.

Simpson interested several American agencies having fellowships to allot, and certain of these agencies are now on the lookout for men competent to, and desirous of, working on Mexican problems. Quite likely, several men will be so engaged within the next year.

The Guggenheim Foundation is now prepared to grant fellowships to Mexicans who desire to continue their training in the United States. Simpson helped on the arrangements, and he is secretary of the selection committee setup in Mexico. In due time this activity will be passed on to some one else.

With a view to focusing such activities and to providing for research in Mexico by Mexicans, a plan was worked out for a social science research center in Mexico. The project was submitted to the Rosenwald Fund and to the Rockefeller Foundation.

Concurrently with the above developments, Ambassador Morrow was having studies made (mainly at his own expense) of pending issues and was encouraging the Mexican government to do research on its own account, one of his aims being to put discussion between the two governments on the plane of dealing with facts.

Furthermore, he had worked out the thesis that, for the long run, satisfactory relations between the two countries could only be

maintained after Mexico has become reasonably prosperous and stabilized. In this view, research efforts, that would help Mexico develop politically and economically, are of direct concern to the American people.

Simpson carried on one inquiry at the request of the Ambassador, who is thoroughly posted on what Simpson is doing and has given his approval to the idea underlying the proposal for a research center.

The proposal might have been drafted with a view to setting up a joint Mexican-American agency to study problems bearing on the relations of the two countries.

Taking into consideration Mexican susceptibilities and the fact that a basic problem in the relations between the two countries is the internal development of Mexico, the project was framed with the idea of making the center as Mexican as practicable from the beginning and in the expectation that it would, in due course, be taken over, in whole or in large part, by the National University or by a Mexican group that would emerge out of association in the enterprise.

Under either scheme much the same problems would be studied and Mexican-American cooperation brought about in research, exchange of personnel and experience, etc.

There is no intention that Simpson should permanently devote himself to the direction of the proposed center, but rather it is the desire that his initiative and experience be utilized in helping it get into a stride.

It is certainly not the aim of the Institute of Current World Affairs to set up, in Mexico or elsewhere, elaborate research centers, as adjuncts to its activities.

In the case of the Guggenheim fellowships, Simpson deals directly with the officials of that foundation. The Institute is not an intermediary; its participation extends merely to a willingness to permit its representative to devote part of his time to such an activity.

In a modified form the same principle would apply to the proposed research center. It would not be an Institute activity, per se. The Institute would not project itself needlessly into the situation. It would make Simpson's services available, and it would quietly try to be helpful and to carry out any clerical or accounting operations which fell to its lot.

The question seems to have arisen whether the essential end in view, underlying the pending proposal, cannot be achieved by a foundation providing funds for research in Mexico by Mexicans, the expenditure of such funds to be controlled by the foundation itself acting through a representative in Mexico City.

Without in any way disparaging such a plan, it does not appear to the writer to be so good a one as that set forth in the pending proposal, which is a broader and more rounded plan, looking toward not only financing research in Mexico by Mexicans but also the provision of a headquarters for Americans working in Mexico, a base for the selection of Mexicans to study in the United States, an agency whereby research activities

can be coordinated and focused, a place for conferences, etc. Such a center, as a going, operating concern, would be an entity that could be taken over by the local university or by a group of Mexicans.

Moreover, if funds are provided for research in Mexico by a foundation having ample means, acting directly through its own agent, there is little likelihood of other American agencies contributing or of money coming from Mexican sources. In the view of the writer, it is desirable that opportunity be offered for Mexican participation in the financing of any research undertaken in that country.

However, whatever scheme is adopted, if Simpson's services are desired in connection with its development, the Institute will be disposed to grant him the necessary permission.

Make Effective Use of Knowledge and Contacts

Picking up again the ideas at the beginning of this memorandum, Simpson's activity in encouraging research in and about Mexican problems is not only a natural outcome of his own experience in that country but it is in direct line with his instructions to act constructively. And his constructive activities have by no means been limited to what has been set forth above. He has worked with Ambassador Morrow and with important Mexican officials. During the past few weeks he has talked with forty-four people having some definite concern with Mexico. He has passed on to them his knowledge and is taking back to Mexico information and viewpoints that will be of use there. A full list of his useful activities would require pages.

The aim of the Institute of Current World Affairs is to develop a number of Simpsons and in time to have one covering each of the important areas of the world. These men, singly or in cooperation, will be studying the outstanding problems of the world and will be participating, constructively and cooperatively, in a wide range of activities.

In general these men will not be conducting highly particularized research, but they will be assembling and bringing to bear on problems all data that has been made available and will be helping to spread throughout the world knowledge of social science research techniques.

This excursus into the aims of the Institute throws light on Simpson's functions in the present situation, as seen from the Institute's standpoint, and it may also make clear that in the proposal for a research center in Mexico the Institute is not seeking funds for its own immediate purposes.

In due time, if experiments with three or four Simpsons proves out, the Institute will be seeking funds - large funds - to extend its activities by adding more Simpsons to its staff. But it is not seeking such funds now.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
BERKELEY

January 13, 1930.

Mr. Eyer N. Simpson,
Institute of Current World Affairs,
Fifth Avenue, New York City.

My dear Simpson,

You doubtless know that, in accordance with our conversations last summer, I have applied for a Guggenheim Fellowship to carry on research in Mexico. In view both of your interest in the project and your relations with the Foundation, I wish to take this means of acquainting you with developments subsequent to my application to the Guggenheim Foundation, and not stated therein since there had been no development *at that time*.

I have drawn up a project for a five-year program of research in rural labor of the West and Southwest, and submitted this to the Social Science Research Council in the person of Professor Mithhell. If granted, such a program would not preclude spending some time on research in Mexico; indeed I should hope to engage in such work very soon. On the other hand it would allow prosecution of research on this side of the line without interruption.

You will understand that this indicates no loss of interest in the application to the Guggenheim Foundation. On the other hand, you will also realize that it represents a broader program, including some research in Mexico within its scope. I want you and the Guggenheim Foundation to have all the facts before you as frankly as I can state them, whether anything comes of my project before the Council or not, and I take this means of presenting them to you both.

In two or three days I am leaving for Washington on a quick trip which will allow me but a day in New York. If you are still there, I shall hope to see you. If I can shed any more light on this matter, call upon me; but perhaps Professor Mitchell can tell you more.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul S. Taylor". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Paul S. Taylor".

January 14th, 1930

Dear Dr. Keppel:

Herewith is a copy of Simpson's preliminary study of The National University of Mexico, which he asks me to send to you for your perusal and for that of President Butler.

He perhaps explained to you that because the university has not issued a catalogue for several years he felt obligated to include many details that might otherwise have been omitted.

Yours sincerely,

VSR/FC
encls.

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

61 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
EDMUND E. DAY, DIRECTOR

CABLE ADDRESS:
ROCKFOUND, NEW YORK

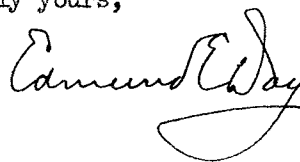
January 16, 1930.

Dear Rogers:

Many thanks for your Sabbath note. I am glad to have my acquaintance with your views on Mexico thus refreshed and sharpened. Frankly, I find myself rather completely in sympathy with the line of analysis you have presented and really not much inclined to take exception even when you argue that some of my recent suggestions are not as good as some of those originally offered by yourself! However, there are times when we have to make concessions to forces which operate effectively even if they are not altogether rational in character.

Do not hesitate to fire additional shots my way whenever the spirit moves you. You need not even wait for a rainy Sunday!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Edmund E. Day". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Edmund E. Day".

Mr. Walter S. Rogers,
Institute of Current World Affairs,
522 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

EED:FMR

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

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WALTER S ROGERS=

522 FIFTH AVE=

ARRIVED YUCATAN YESTERDAY SAIL MEXICO FRIDAY CONFERENCES
BEGIN CHICHEN TODAY=

EYLER N SIMPSON.

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS.

COBY.

Apartado 538
Mexico, D. F.
January 29, 1930

My dear John:

I have just returned to Mexico after an absence of almost two months in the United States and it has occurred to me that you might be interested in being brought up to date on the activities of the ICWA in Mexico and points north and east. With your permission, I will, in the interests of shortening what would otherwise be a rather considerable volume, simply reproduce in more or less shorthand fashion my notes on the trip.

I left Mexico on December 2 and returned on January 26. During my absence I visited the following cities: Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Chapel Hill, Boston, New Haven, Princeton, Habana (Cuba), and Chichen Itzá (Yucatán). In these places, I had interviews with some sixty new contacts and an undetermined number of other individuals whom I had met on previous trips to the United States.

In general, as you may see from the notes given below, the purpose of my trip was four-fold: (1) To meet and talk to as many as possible of what Mr. Rogers likes to call the "effectuals" with a view to opening up new lines of activity and thought and to spreading the good word about the work of the ICWA in Mexico; (2) to report to the Guggenheim Foundation the progress which I had made in my capacity as executive secretary of the Committee of Selection and general representative of the Foundation in Mexico; (3) to further the proposal to establish a center for social and economic studies in Mexico by presenting the present situation in Mexico with respect to studies of this type to the representatives of the various foundations to which we have submitted the plan; and (4) to gather as many suggestions and ideas as possible with reference to the conduct of a center for social and economic studies should such be established in Mexico.

In the two months preceeding my departure from Mexico I was occupied with a rather detailed and extensive study of the National University of Mexico. I made this study partly to round off and complete the series of educational reports which I have been making from time to time and partly to supply the Guggenheim Foundation with the basis for making a judgment of the type of preparation which their Mexican fellows coming from the University will have. I took the completed report with me to the States and on the way up used it as an excuse for having an interview with President-Elect Ortiz Rubio. (By good luck the private car of the latter was attached to the train on which I was traveling.)

Chicago

The three or four days spent in Chicago were for the most part taken up with renewing my acquaintances at the University and in inspecting the new Social Science building which had just been completed.

Among others, I talked with Charles Merriam, Elsworth Farris, E. W. Burgess, Sam Harper, and Leonard White.

The center of my activity during my sojourn in the States was New York City. From time to time, to be sure, short trips were made to Philadelphia, Boston, etc., and these will be dealt with in due course. The following notes will give you some idea of the new contacts made in New York and the reason for making them.

Mallory, Walter H. - - Research staff of the Council on Foreign Relations. Mallory explained the setup and program of the Council and the desire of the Council to have one of their men do a general survey of Mexico.

Howland, Charles P. - - Also on the Council. Wished to interest me in writing a chapter for his yearly compendium of American foreign relations.

Busl, Raymond - - Gave me the general setup of the Foreign Policy Association of which he is the research director.

Chase, Stewart - - Economist. Is planning a three months trip to Mexico in the near future. His ideas and suggestions for methods of studying economic problems of Mexico should be helpful.

Davis, Norman H. - - Will be valuable for any future work of the ICWA in Cuba. Gave me a letter of introduction to Minister of Communications in Cuba. Was very much interested in the National University and in the problem of encouraging social and economic research in Mexico.

Guggenheim, Senator Simon - - This was a luncheon at which Roger Williams Straus (son-in-law of the Senator and heir apparent in the business) and Henry Allen Moe (Secretary of the Guggenheim Foundation) were also present. Later on, I was introduced to Otto Meyers, official in the American Smelting & Refining, and treasurer of the Guggenheim Foundation.

Lynd, Robert S. - - The executive secretary of the Social Science Research Council. Lynd was greatly interested in whole problem of position of the social sciences in Mexico and offered to cooperate with me in any way possible.

Platt, R. R. - - Head of the Department of Hispanic American Research, American Geographic Society. Both Platt and Isaiah Bowman were grateful for my offer to be helpful in their efforts to get information out of Mexican geographers for the new maps which the AGS is making of Latin America.

Lippman, Walter - - Editorial staff of the New York World. This was a luncheon at which Charles Merz was also present.

Duggan, Stephen P. - - Director of the Institute of International Education, and his son, Laurence Duggan, were both interested in the subject of Mexican fellowships in the National University.

Keppel, Frederick P. - - President of the Carnegie Corporation. This plant will undoubtedly grow and flower, if watered from time to time.

Harrison, Shelby - - Russell Sage Foundation. Had many suggestions to make in re the general subject of regional and national planning. Harrison offered to take care of any Guggenheim fellows that I might send up for study in this field.

Thompson, Wallace - - Formerly lived many years in Mexico and is author of several books on the subject. Now editor of Ingenieria for the McGraw Hill Publications.

Desvernine, R. E. - - Associated with the legal firm of Hornblower, Miller, and Garrison. Cuban, of French ancestry; adviser to Mexican government during the Carranza regime; specialist in international loans.

Day, Edmund E. - - (Head of Division of Social Sciences) and Beardsley Ruml (Head of the Spellman Fund) and Dr. William S. Carter (of the Division of Medical Education), all of the Rockefeller Foundation. These gentlemen (especially Day) we hope will be helpful in a very specific fashion in getting under way the proposed center for social and economic research in Mexico.

Mitchell, Wesley C. - - Co-Director with Gay of the National Bureau of Economic Research. Had many suggestions to make in re the conduct of a research institution.

Monroe, Vernon - - Represents my entre into the House of Morgan. Gave me a copy of the Banker's Report on the Economic Condition of Mexico.

Smith, Charles - - Head of the Foreign Department of the Associated Press. Smith introduced me to I. A. Lindberg, Resident High Commissioner of Nicaragua.

Philadelphia.

The special reason for going to Philadelphia was to discuss with Frank Aydellatte and Moe the problems of the Mexican fellows of the Guggenheim Foundation and to review the applications which had been received to date. While I was in Philadelphia, however, Keith and I were invited to the home of William Rosenwald (son of Julius) for dinner. I also met Dr. John Reichel, Director of the K. K. Mulford & Co. laboratories. Dr. Reichel, through his recently acquired Mexican assistant, Dr. Jose Zozaya, has become very much interested in the subject of medical research in Mexico.

Washington

Due to the fact that I was in Washington during the Christmas holidays it was rather difficult to find a number of people that I wanted to see. However, I did manage to have interviews with the following:

Merriam, John G. - - President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. The special reason for seeing Merriam was to discuss the work of the Institution in Yucatan and to get an invitation to the meeting of the research group in Chichen Itza.

Moulton, Harold G. - - Brookings Institution. I saw Moulton twice, both times with a view to getting his ideas on social science research.

Johnson, Nelson P. - - The new Minister to China, Stanley Hornbeck, the new head of the Division of Far Eastern Affairs, and Tyler Dennett, chief of the Division of Publications, represented my introduction to the State Department.

Davis, J. S. and J. E. Sterrett - - These were the men who made the study of economic conditions in Mexico for the Banker's Committee.

Skvirsky, Boris - - Chief of the Bureau of Russian Information. Was very interested to compare Skvirsky's presentation of the peasant in Russia with my own knowledge of the peon in Mexico.

Pasvolsky, Leo - - Brookings Institution.

Newell, F. H. - - Formerly head of the Reclamation Service under Roosevelt. Had many suggestions concerning the methods of making a survey of the power resources in Mexico.

Chapel Hill, N. C.

Chase, Harry W. - - President of the University of North Carolina, and member of the Board of Trustees of the Rosenwald Fund. The purpose of my interview with Chase was to get his ideas on the relation of governments to universities. I became interested in this subject in connection with my study of the National University of Mexico.

Riphey, J. Fred - - Professor of Latin American history at Duke University and author of several books on Mexican-American relations.

Boston

I was invited to Boston to give a talk before the executive council of the Foreign Policy Association.

Hudson, Manly - - Professor of International Law, Harvard University. Hudson is anxious to get Mexico interested in participating in more international conferences.

Gay, Edwin F. - - Professor in the Department of Economics, Harvard, and co-director with Wesley Mitchel of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Rich, Raymond T. - - World Peace Foundation.

Kidder, A. V. - - Head of the Museum of Anthropology at Andover and chief of the Division of Historical Research of the Carnegie Foundation. Kidder invited me to attend the meeting of the Carnegie group in Yucatan.

New Haven

The trip to New Haven was for the purpose of gratifying Moe's and my curiosity about the muchly advertised Institute of Human Relations at Yale. We spent the morning talking to Milton C. Winternitz, dean of the school of Medicine, and W. O. Douglass, professor in the Law Department. Our curiosity was gratified.

Princeton

At Princeton I gave an informal talk on Mexico before a group of members of the faculty gotten together by J. T. Gerould, librarian of the University. I arranged with Gerould to find someone in Mexico to do some bibliographic work for the American Library Association. He is sending me a check for \$150 for this purpose. While at Princeton I also had a talk with James Douglas Brown, director of the Industrial Relations Section of the Department of Economics.

Habana, Cuba

Thanks to the letters of introduction from Moe and Senator Guggenheim, I was received quite royally in Cuba by Ambassador Guggenheim. Outside of the Ambassador himself, the most interesting contact which I made in Cuba was with Grosvenor Jones, formerly of the Department of Commerce of the United States, and now doing special research (unofficial) for the Ambassador. I met several other Americans and Cubans who will be useful when we are ready to start a man in this area.

Chichen Itza, Yucatan.

The purpose of the meeting called by the Carnegie group in Yucatan was to discuss the possibilities of expanding their activities in this area. Up to the present time, as you will perhaps recall, they have been largely occupied with the excavation, study, and reconstruction of the old Maya temples at Chichen Itza. They now propose to invite students of medicine, biology, geology, ethnology, sociology, and whatnot, to make studies in this same area on the general theory that not only would this be a very practical demonstration of the way to break down the artificial barriers between the various disciplines, but that studies of various stypes made within a single region from various points of view would be more valuable than the same studies made in relatively unconnected parts of the world.

At the meeting, besides Sylvainus G. Morley (director) and the members of the resident archaeological research group, there were also present F. M. Gaines of the Department of Biology of the University of Michigan, G. C. Shattuck of the Department of Tropical Medicine of Harvard, A. M. Tozzer, Department of Anthropology at Harvard, George C. Vaillant and C. L. Hay of the American Museum of Natural History, and Robert Redfield, Department of Anthropology of the University of Chicago. The discussions proved to be exceedingly interesting and the whole project strikes me as being an eminently practical one. Albeit, I may say, in passing, that I was somewhat disappointed that the directors of the enterprise are much more interested in historical research than in the present-day problems of Mexico and of Yucatan.

My work during the next month will be pretty largely taken up with the affairs of the Guggenheim Foundation. The Mexican Committee of Selection meets twice during February and I am now occupied in preparing the documents referring to the applications of the various candidates. In March, I am hoping that Day will come down to look over the situation for the Rockefeller Foundation.

I am very anxious to hear about your own activities during the last several months and to learn of your plans for the future.

With best regards to you and your lady,

I am,

ENS

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

61 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
EDMUND E. DAY, DIRECTOR

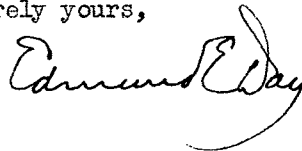
CABLE ADDRESS:
ROCKFOUND, NEW YORK

January 29, 1930.

Dear Rogers:

I spent last evening looking over Simpson's report on the National University of Mexico. The report seems to me an admirable document - clear, comprehensive and illuminating. I do not think I have ever had a more interesting time perusing an educational survey. Many thanks for having placed it in my hands. It is being returned to your office under separate cover.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Edmund E. Day". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Edmund E. Day".

Mr. Walter Rogers,
Institute of Current World Affairs,
522 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

EED:FMR