

May 4th, 1922.

Honorable Jose Tous Soto,
Ponce, Porto Rico.

My dear friend:-

At the start, so that you and my son may take due notice, let me say that any cablegrams sent to me here can be addressed simply "Todd, Washington", and have them sent through the French Cable Co., and that will be sent to the Postal Cable Company here. I registered my name and paid \$2.50 for it, and I hate to be receiving cablegrams with long addresses, costing you money, unnecessarily. The All-America Company would not know my cable address.

At this writing there is nothing new to report, except that yesterday morning as I was having my breakfast at Childs, Secretary Hull came in and sat with me. He told me that he had been advised by cable that he had a very sick sister, but on arriving in New York he had been informed that she was resting fairly well and that brought him here to Washington, where he expected to remain a couple of days. I didn't believe the story. When he asked me about the news, I sailed along in easy waters and avoided shoals and deep water. Later in the day I left him, as I had business with the Department of Labor and I afterward left word at his hotel that he should come and dine with me, and so he did. We met at the National Committee rooms, where he sat down to write a cablegram, which took him some time. He later told me that he had seen the President, but he did not offer any explanation of his interview and I did not ask him anything. I did notice that he was not over-cheerful and this gave me an inkling that his talk with the President had not been very satisfactory.

Hull told me that he had seen Shanton also and had spoken to him plainly about the situation and counseled him not to go back to the Island; at least, in an official capacity. This morning very early Shanton came to see me at the hotel and told me of his talk with Hull, and he also got the impression from his talk that Hull did not get much satisfaction in his interview with the President. Shanton claims that Reilly has double-crossed him, and that if he ever returns to Porto Rico and is

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called to testify before the grand jury, he will give such information against Reily that will do him a great deal of harm. Regarding the story about which I wrote you in my last letter concerning the Hbbitt House, he told me that he had seen affidavits touching this subject which were in the hands of a friend of his, who also had many other affidavits regarding other things concerning Reily's life in Kansas City. Of course, we are not concerned with these matters, except as they confirm our estimate of the man, after dealing with him so intimately.

I received this morning a cablegram from my son requesting an answer to the one he sent me on April 30th, and I did answer today, saying that the Administration would not send down any one, meaning as requested by the Attorney General. Regarding the article in the World's Work, published by La Democracia, I answered to let that alone and wait for my letters, which would explain the situation, which is at this writing unchanged.

As to the memorandum which you gave me regarding Captain Smith of the Farmers Loan Bank, this Captain Smith was the man sent down to Porto Rico to investigate conditions for the establishment of such a bank, but I understand that he is not going back, and that another man, a banker, has been appointed and will shortly leave for the Island. He is an intimate friend of Senator Watson of Indiana, and as soon as he comes to town before sailing, I will have a talk with him touching all the subjects of your memorandum.

This morning while I was waiting to be received by Judge Towner, who was engaged with some other people, Cordova Davila telephoned, requesting permission to bring a prominent Porto Rican to see the Judge. He was told that the Judge could not see him until four o'clock this afternoon. I afterward walked with the Judge from his office to the House and we exchanged views on the situation and he told me I should come back this afternoon about five and he would tell me what Cordova and this Porto Rican wanted with him. In fact, the Judge wants me to see him every day and let him know what I have found out. He is positive that the President will not act in the Reily matter until he has received the confidential report from his friend who went to Porto Rico to find out things for him.

You asked me for the names of the towns where there will be vacant Post Offices in the near future:

Coamo	Juan F. Rivera (Rep.)	Sept. 5, 1922.
Fajardo	Manuel S. Pacheco (U.)	" 5, 1922.
Lares	Pablo Vilella, Jr. (U.)	" 5, 1922.
Rio Piedras	Rodulfo Blanco (Rep.)	" 5, 1922.

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This morning I called on Judge Towner to talk to him about a letter which I received yesterday from my son regarding the Governor's investigation and there he showed me, confidentially, a letter which he had just received from Martin Travieso in answer to one from the Judge, I suppose in the same strain as the letter he wrote you. Travieso's letter claims to have received Towner's by a delayed mail, and that he had no time to write as extensively as he would desire on the "unfortunate situation brought about by opposing factions". These are Travieso's words, but he promises the Judge that on the 10th he is coming up to Washington and will then have a confidential talk, and in the event that he should not come he will then write him extensively. Of course, you know Travieso's way of taking up all these matters, -- never committing himself and always on the fence. Towner considers his coming up as unfortunate, as he supposes that Travieso will try to defend Reilly before the Administration.

On account of heavy rain storm yesterday, it seems that the prominent Porto Rican who was to call on Judge Towner with Davila did not show up at all, and I am still ignorant of who he may be.

This morning I had a telephone call from Secretary Weeks asking me to call tomorrow at eleven A.M. I suppose he will then arrange for our talk with the President. I am to see the Attorney General tomorrow also, and will try to find out what his opinion is in regard to the investigation sent to him by Mestre.

Secretary Hull is leaving town this afternoon, and I have been unable to get anything out of him, but Shanton, whom I saw this morning, told me that he had seen Hull yesterday and his impression was that Hull didn't get much out of the President regarding Reilly.

Nothing more today, and believe me,

Yours very truly,