

July 13, 1964

Dear Folks,

I received Mother's letter of July 7 and it really was an interesting letter. I am glad to know that the kids are using their time to learn more because they will really need the things they learn in the future.

They should be so thankful that they have an organized school system. Down here, there are organized schools but they are scattered and they don't include everything. The kid looks for classes they can take in certain subjects and when a class is offer that they want, they just grab at it.

The swimming really does sound refreshing to me even weather that is warm enough to swim. I am not completely well yet I don't feel up to par and Saturday my company came down with the same bug I had but he had a talk yesterday and got up to give it so I don't know. I am in bed writing so

won't bother him.

Wednesday we got an announcement that there was a special missionary conference in Bahia Blanca. So Thursday we went to Bahia Blanca for a formal missionary conference with President Strong and Elder Heath the first counselor in the mission. The theme really was we getting the baptism we are supposed to be getting. For about 3½ hrs we gave ourselves a personal analysis and evaluation. And then President Strong tore us apart. Just the Argentine Mission is the lowest in baptisms in A.A. but it has been prophesied to be the best. All the other missions with the same amount of missionaries are getting as 200 more baptisms a month and in the Church during the first five months of '64 when we got less than 400 baptism some of the missions got around 7,000. Why well that was the question. And the answer we'll I don't know. We did decide that part of it was that we have not been strong enough in our decision

have not challenged our contacts enough  
have been lazy, not dedicated as  
much as we could have been. I  
know that I haven't been as dedicated  
as I should have. Time I should  
have studying or thinking of ways  
to help certain members or investigators.  
I have talk about things at home, about  
the weather, a big lot of things that  
nally are not bad but are not good  
either.

President Strong said that since  
President McKay has said that every  
missionary should baptise one person a  
month at least that a missionary  
shouldn't even feel like a missionary  
if he doesn't do that. Well in the  
six months I have been down here  
I have had part in 70 baptisms but  
there was three months when there  
wasn't any at all so I guess  
that I was really down in the  
dumps for so long. In the future I can  
improve my effectiveness as a missionary

consider that the work can progress even more rapidly here in Argentina.

Something I have learned since I have been on my mission is the importance of inviting friends and associates to the activities and meetings of the Church. I remember when the missionaries asked me about my friends and I told them that they weren't interested; well I guess really the situation was that I wasn't interested in inviting them, that I was scared. The members tell us the same answers I use to tell the missionaries and we find an ~~answer~~ <sup>answer</sup> as a solution for every problem because now I have a testimony of the importance of group meetings in the homes of the members.

You can't wait till the people come to you, you have to choose which was you want at your group meeting and then figure out the way to prepare them to accept the challenge to become a member of the Church.

This too is a commandment of God  
 First he said "Every member a  
Missionary" and then he told us  
 how he said "Yes we have to have  
 sports activities, public relations,  
 English classes, etc. but the most  
 effective way is that the members  
 have group meetings in their homes  
 with some of their friends.

I really hope and pray that  
 while I am here that you can  
 do your part there in Washington  
 by writing your friends, associates  
 etc. to a group meeting.

About money, I would like  
 to say that I don't need any  
 more than the usual but I do  
 would you send an extra \$5 or \$10 not  
 all of it because I will just  
 waste I know.

Give my love to the world  
 I haven't had time to write  
 anyone lately maybe today.

I might mention that Elder  
 Mikell and his companion

had 7 baptism a week ago  
which really makes me feel  
happy and I know increased  
his testimony. I hope what  
I say to everyone and think  
about also you can write to a  
home meeting.

I will have always  
been with my father & stay  
at pictures in every way ob-  
tained, though not pictures of  
himself, pictures copied at the  
old school, personal touch,  
was his time to talk most  
possibly of himself, but now  
he is no longer here we shall  
keep him & never let him  
forget it and his wife  
know it and last I said I  
will always get him to go  
and talk about his past

VIA AEREA



Mr and Mrs Thomas J. Matthews  
103 Quackson bas H. N. E.  
Washington D. C. 20011  
U. S. A. (EE U. U.)

Elder Harry G. Matthews  
64-3085  
NECOCHEA, F.C.N.G.R.  
ARGENTINA