

Letter 3

February 19, 1908

Dear Folks.

I received your letter of the 1st today, so it took a little longer than usual. It was the fifth letter I have gotten since I have been down here 3 from home, one from Almyl, and one from Helen & Temp.

If you wanted to include me in the letters, I have sent 4 pages ^{regular paper} 2 back & front, and Almyl sent 9 pages ^{air mail paper} for 15¢ air mail which is only 4¢ more.

Since I have been here I have had many, many experiences. I have presented the first lesson 2 to groups of people. We have tracted about 600 discs. Had Group meetings in which we show the movie and is an Mormon (What is a Mormon). And last week started solely working directly with the members Building the confidence and knowledge in order that they will see better what their friends are missing, because it has ^{gone} to the point down here that Reunión de Grupo means I am busy to the members now. And last Sunday I baptised a lady that has been coming to Church for about a year but never was baptised. Her name is Juana Hillerna Gonzales de Bevilacqua. Last Monday we went to Rosario a city of about 300,000 people to a gene conference. It is about 60-75 x.m. north of here. It was really a wonderful spiritual experience to partake of the spirit of the other missionaries.

Tuesday we worked on the construction. They don't have any block companies in the town so we have been making blocks since I have been down here. They expect to finish making block this week and start laying it as soon as the plumbing is all in.

I don't know what I have told you about San Nicolas so I will just say everything I know. San Nicolas is a town of 75-85,000 people. It is located north west of Buenos Aires on the edge of the campo or pampa. It is a important commercial city with the port of Hoberuela, where ships from all over the world stop. There

is a colony of around 50 families of 24 & built outside of Hoboken in one of the barrios or wards of the city. They work as technicians at the port and at a plastic plant here in San Nicolas. There are also lots of Germans, Italians, Japanese technicians here also. As far as Religion goes. Catholic is the main one, but there is a small Church of Christ, a Baptist missionary and a small Church founded on 12 apostles (the only other Church in the world with 12 apostles besides L.D.S.) and the L.D.S. branch. The Rama or branch has a membership of around 200-250 members. It is one of the most active branches in the Mission. It includes people baptised in the 20's & 30's up until those converts baptised in the last year. Most of the young people are girls especially if they are the only members in their families because of the customs and beliefs in Chastity that are down here. It is hard to find a young person that has not broken the law of Chastity.

In the way of sports, the kids love football or soccer as we called in the States and love to try basketball and volleyball. Although they don't play the same grade of game they love to play them. Movies they get from all over the world, A.M. with Spanish dubbing at the bottom, German, French, English, Italian, & Japanese. They have radios, T.V.'s etc. They are not the same quality as in the U.S. but they enjoy them.

The people, very few maybe, really believe in the Catholic Church, but because of tradition or they are able to do what they want they are still Catholics. Also some have gone to the other extreme and are atheists or Communist fascists, etc. The Communists are out on the surface but you know that the influence is there.

I am glad to hear the kids are doing better in school & hope they continue to improve.

The weather down here has really been hot and sticky but has cool off today.

Today, yesterday, tomorrow and to more days next week are National Holidays. They are called Carnaval Days. And are for the purpose of having fun. Something like Mardi Gras in New Orleans. All day long the kids have water fights, etc. and at night they dance etc. I got hit by a water balloon yesterday and got soaked but it was all right.

Today we are having a picnic to get the kids to bring their friends and have a testimony meeting etc. I hope we get some good contacts out of it.

Theryl is making a scrap book for me so I am sending her most of the things I am collecting as I go along but I will try and send some to you too. And you will receive the Pompeii the mission magazine. I asked Theryl if she would like to have you send it to her when you are finished it but I haven't received an answer yet.

Well I better quit writing for now and mail this letter, my hand is tired and my handwriting is getting worse so I will quit for now

Love always
Harry