##### 1964-07-26-Transcription

July 26, 1964

Dear Folks,

I got Mother’s wonderful letter during the week. It is sure good to hear what is going on at home and that everything is going so well. I would like to hear more of what goes on in the ward. I guess I have changed my view of things because before I wasn’t interest[ed].

It was an interesting wonderful full week the past week. The members are really beginning to want to have group meetings or better “home meetings” and this branch is ready to explode wide open.

We had, as I think I told you, our first home meeting a week ago and at least two of those that attended are going to be baptized next Saturday. We baptized two more of the wonderful Romano family yesterday and the others are progressing rapidly. And then today was the cream of the crop. President Strong came to visit again but this time with President Tuttle. What a wonderful man of God. He has been visiting the branches in the Southern part of the Mission the past couple of days and spoke here this morning. We had an article yesterday, today, and also for tomorrow, a personal interview with someone from the local paper. All with photos.

There were fifteen investigators there and 3 I have never seen before.

President Strong & President Tuttle both talked on the same things, repentance, doing your best, home meetings, missionaries for construction.

I have heard President Tuttle three times since I have been down here and every time he has just hit to the bottom of the problem. He said this is the best branch he has visited this trip which really makes me proud but all the more humble because of the responsibility that we have as missionaries to work with this potential.

After the meeting we went and ate with them and both him and Pres. Strong are so friendly, talkative and etc. when they are relaxing but so powerful when speaking for their calling. It makes me so much more sure of the responsibility that I have to prepare myself to meet the challenge here and wherever I am sent.

The Mission as a whole has really been suffering lately for baptisms even though the missionaries and everybody have been working so hard, but lately here and, I know, in the whole mission, things are ready to explode. There is just something in the air; the spirit in the meetings. All add up to an explosion that will blast the Mission wide open and up in baptisms, etc.

Today I have my first chance to translate in a meeting. Pres. Strong’s youngest son (14) came with him and was asked to speak. I have never been so scared in all my life. I felt like I was going to freeze up but I don’t know why or how but I did it and I guess it was the Spirit of God and not me because everyone told me that I had never spoken better Spanish.

I hope that you read can read this letter; I am writing pretty fast.

Tomorrow we are going to Tres Arroyos again for a monthly missionary meeting which is being started here in the South. Which is really good. One of the troubles down here is that sometimes we, as missionaries, feel all alone.

Give my love to everybody and tell them that the missionary here, there, everywhere in the world is ready to explode but we, as members, have to do the work.

Well, I will close for now.

Love always,

Gary