

Recife, June 5, 1930.

Dear Margaret,

Your nice letters of May 10 and Peggy's of May 11 have reached me here. They were forwarded from Rio de Janeiro by aeroplane. The stamps that brought them are enclosed for Gertrude and Billy. The hotel reservations you have made seem to be for the right dates.

Rio was very beautiful, and these northern cities, Bahia and Recife, are also attractive. I stayed only a few days in Bahia and then came on to Recife. When we were in Bahia the Graf Zeppelin came by on its way to Rio and circled over the city, flying low. On the return voyage the Zeppelin reached Recife the same day we did and was moored to the mast when we arrived. Dr. Murray of the U.S. Public Health Service was on the boat with us and he invited us to accompany him in his inspection of the Zeppelin before going to us as a preliminary to giving it clearance papers for the United States. So we went out there in the afternoon and went all through the ship, not only the part for passengers but especially also the interior. The frame structure looks like Billy's erecta set.

It was a long way, from end to end and we had to walk on a narrow board. The first mate wanted to know if it was necessary for us all to see the interior, and Dr. Murray told him it was and that Dr. Richards was in charge of yellow fever in Pernambuco, in Conna in Brazil, and I in Africa and America. He let us in!

I have been traveling like mad. To-day we spent the whole day riding in the railway train to the south western part of the state of Pernambuco, <sup>where they have been recent cases.</sup> We have also made a number of long automobile rides, and I have seen so many towns and villages that they are blending into a hazy type with individual characteristics blotted out. Everywhere there are fields of sugar cane, much of it in blossom with heads like those of a giant grass.

If you were here, you would welcome your old vegetable friends of Brisbane, - pineapple, instead apple (pina), choco (chucher) <sup>(the summer squash hanging on our vine)</sup>, etc, etc. Jacaranda is the name of their finest hard wood, - almost black, but I cannot find out whether it is one the tree is one beautiful friend of Brisbane. The poinsettias are in flame and the Antigon (<sup>?</sup>) or "Houdulu" vine is as beautiful as ever. It rains part of every day at this time of year and my rain coat has been in frequent use. (over)

My outfit has proven almost about  
right this trip and very little was forgotten.  
I've used practically everything I brought.  
The thing forgotten was only nail scissors. I have  
inevitable

used all the languages I have any knowledge of:  
French, German, English, & Spanish mixed with Portuguese.  
I had a nice talk in German with the head  
of a Franciscan monastery at Olinda, near Recife.  
He showed us the old carvings which they  
are restoring and the ancient paintings on  
wood in the church. This region was held for  
a time by the Dutch as well as the Portuguese.

I saw the Proboskers in Bahia. They  
seem happy and he is still interested in  
complement fixation. Now he will also have  
the white mice to play with. 196 was still  
present and accounted for when I handed  
the cages over to him.

I am sorry to have been away on your  
birthday and Mother's. Hope you had a happy day!  
I am enclosing some prints of photographs. Please  
keep them for me unless you want to send them  
to some one. I can of course have new prints  
made for the album from my films.

With much love to all the group,

Hilber.

P.S. Who do you suppose I took the pictures of your  
dogwood tree in absence? Hal.