



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OPERATIONS MISSION TO EGYPT

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Cairo, Egypt, February 6, 1954

Dr. Ignacio Gonzalez G.
Servicio Nacional de Salud
Hospital Regional de Concepcion
Concepcion, Chile.

Dear Ignacio:

Thank you for your long and informative letter of October 20. We have been extremely busy in moving our office and getting the program off to a start in Egypt. This along with the difficulty of schooling for the children has not given me time to attend to my personal correspondence. I wrote a letter to Sotero sometime ago but he has not answered. I am wondering now if he received the letter. I get occasional bits of news from Chile from the Salitre people in Cairo as well as the weekly summary of the news that is printed in the local papers. The economic situation looks bad, but I am sure that this will be corrected in the next few years. Politics can be a rather destructive profession and it is my opinion that all Chileans should attempt at this time to undertake whatever is necessary to put the country back on its feet again. The results so far obtained from the National Service of Health have been somewhat disappointing, and even though this program looked well on paper, the implementation is something that all of the doctors will have to assist in giving their best to developing the program along satisfactory lines to reach the results that everyone wishes to see. Both Juricic and Horwitz are excellent men, and it is unfortunate that there are not more of them that have responsible positions in S.N.S. The problem of medical care is enormous to say nothing of the cost, and I hope to see this program develop into something useful rather than bureaucratic organization.

We are still planning on returning to Chile, and I would like to know what you think my chances are for obtaining a license. I am willing to take my risks, if that can be done, with full knowledge that the economic conditions in Chile at this time may be somewhat difficult for me. If you and all the rest of my friends are able to get along, I don't see why it would be too difficult for me.

Egypt is a most fascinating country, but it is not a place that

10575

you feel you would like to live in the rest of your life. Even though we are enjoying immensely the time here, I would feel that I could stay longer if I were a younger man. Both Betty and I realize that we will have to be in something permanent within the next year or two and that is the principal reason why I wish to explore any or all possibilities of returning to Chile. I imagine that Concepcion has and is developing rapidly, and this is due in a large measure to your efforts in the field of medicine. There is no question in my mind that the Concepcion area will be the industrial backbone of Chile in the future, and anything that is done to help that area should be encouraged.

Please give our very best regards to Mary and the children. Also, please inquire if Sotero received my letter, and if he has not, I will write him again.

Sincerely yours,

Ted

Dr. Theodore I. Gandy, Chief
Health and Welfare Division

BIBLIOTECAS UdeC

Handwritten notes in Spanish, including "espero haya sido bueno" and "me gusta mucho" (mirrored).