

Roosevelt Foundation
1945-49

Estate

June 20, 1945

Dear "Doc":

Among the things which Miss Tully sent to the Archives are two barrels #9 and #10, which contain items in and on the President's desk in his office at the White House.

The Archivist tells me he has to have the approval of the trustees to give permission to have these two barrels removed from the Archives, and since I would like to have them, will you please see that permission is given?

Very sincerely yours,

FDR Estate

The National Archives
The Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
Hyde Park, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

June 16, 1945

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park
New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Dr. Nixon writes me that you are anxious to learn the whereabouts of the ornaments from the President's White House desk.

These are among the materials sent to the National Archives for temporary storage as property of the estate. Miss Tully's inventory of materials from the Executive Offices has the following entry: "Barrels 9 - 10 Items in and on the President's desk in his office at the White House." The Archivist would have to have authority granted him from the executors to permit the removal of this material.

Of course it would be fine if the ornaments could be put on the President's desk at the Library. Anything you do to make this possible we will appreciate.

With kindest regards

Sincerely yours,

Fred W. Shipman

Fred W. Shipman, Director
The Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

FWS:ee

OFFICE

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499 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.

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October 19, 1945

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Sra. Muna Lee de Weston Martin of the Division of Cultural Cooperation, Department of State, has sent me various clippings from newspapers in the other American Republics giving examples of the various kinds of permanent or otherwise significant materials being planned or carried out in tribute to the late President Roosevelt. It is impossible to have all these clippings translated for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library, but I thought you might be interested in having a record of typical proposals and projects.

This list is by no means comprehensive, and does not even include every country; I have no facilities for collecting all the facts. The Department may do so eventually, but I have been informed only that it is preparing a complete record of official acts and tributes of governments and heads of states.

The examples Muna has sent me follow, in alphabetical order of countries:

ARGENTINA: In Buenos Aires, a commission for homage to the late President Roosevelt is collecting funds and designs for a statue; the Association of Argentine-North American Interchange in Rosario sponsored a series of lectures in June on his program of economic and social reconstruction, his international policies, emphasizing both the Good Neighbor Policy and his constant reiteration of the interdependence of nations, and at the doors of the theater in which a big "homage" meeting was held, students solicited contributions of Argentine books to the Washington Library.

BRAZIL: The "Associated Daughters" (Damas Associadas) sponsored a campaign to have elementary schools in every state named for Roosevelt, some of which are old schools with a new name and some of which are new schools or, in many cases, groups of three elementary schools (according to my latest clippings, federal intervenors or other officials have so named schools in Pernambuco, near the great air base at Natal, Ampilis, Suvapes, Caperna, Sebastião Rêbo, Fortaleza, Baruti Alegre, Volta Redonda, Belém, and Rio de Janeiro; in São

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Paulo, the "Norte" railroad station of the Central Railway of Brazil was re-named the Roosevelt Station; São Paulo is planning a monument in stone or bronze and considering the establishment of a Popular University to be named for Roosevelt, with completely free education offered, by day, night, and correspondence courses, and by lectures open to the public; in Rio de Janeiro, the Society of Friends of America is raising funds for a Roosevelt Foundation for the medical-social rehabilitation of cripples, especially victims of poliomyelitis.

CHILE: The Government proposed to Perú that the Chilean-Peruvian stretch of the Pan-American Highway be called the Roosevelt Highway (Camino Roosevelt).

COSTA RICA: The Congress voted unanimously to make the late President an honorary citizen of Costa Rica, and some members proposed to extend this honor to Mrs. Roosevelt and all their children, but my clippings do not show clearly what happened to this amendment; Roosevelt's portrait was ceremoniously unveiled in the halls of Congress, in what is the equivalent of the Diplomatic Galleries of our Congress.

ECUADOR: In Quito the cantonal council is to erect a monument with funds raised by popular subscription, and place the statue along with the other heroes of the Americas, including Columbus, Balfour, etc.; also in Quito, the House of Ecuadorian Culture held a special meeting of its juridical and social science members to study the possibility of "A Universal Code of the Rights of Man," and the first topic was "The Four Great Freedoms of President Roosevelt;" in Cuenca, a hospital built with the aid of Office of Inter-American Affairs gave to three of its wards the names of Washington, Lincoln, and Roosevelt; in May, the northern municipality of Otavalo established a free Roosevelt Theater to show films about the cultural development of the Americas, as well as news reels about the United States, the United Nations, etc., asked the Coordination Committee to send films, and the chairman of the Quito O I A A Coordination Committee, Kurtis F. Haylor, participated in the dedication ceremonies.

GUATEMALA: The Ministry of Public Health and Assistance has named a hospital for Roosevelt.

MEXICO: The Workers' Library, at the Mexican Silk Mill, in Mexico City (which has 5,000 books), was re-named the Roosevelt Library on May 1, Mexico's Labor Day, with impressive ceremonies, including music, oratory, and official recognition of Roosevelt's friendship to Mexico.

NICARAGUA: The Legislative Assembly addressed messages to other parliamentary bodies of the hemisphere suggesting that all of them, on July 4, declare Roosevelt "benefactor of the Americas" (most congresses were not in session, so that unanimous action could not result).

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PERU: The municipality of Lima named a street "Avenida Franklin Delano Roosevelt" and placed a bronze plaque on it in his memory.

URUGUAY: A special commission of the Uruguay-United States Cultural Alliance was named to plan a monument; ANDA (La Asociación Nacional de Afiliados, a private organization), offered a series of prizes, open to any citizen of the Republic, for the best articles, "Franklin D. Roosevelt, A Profile of his Personality," to be written in Spanish and to be published in a special volume, and to "exalt democratic and Pan-American ideals;" the Ministries of Interior and Public Works named the Carrasco National Park the "Parque Nacional Franklin D. Roosevelt;" the Ateneo of Paysandú proposed that a school in each department be named "Escuela del Buzo Vecino Franklin Roosevelt," that a prize be offered for the best work on his political, social, and democratic thought, linking it with Uruguay's evolution of democratic ideas and Pan-Americanism, that there be a contest among teachers for the best short volume on his work and thought, accessible to the scholars of the Republic; Durazno named a park for him, as a "grand citizen of the world;" in Montevideo, the school for crippled children was re-named for him, a bronze plaque designed for Central Park, and a commission was formed to raise money for more books for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library.

VENEZUELA: On April 12, a group of men and women, led by Dr. Caracciolo Rivas, decided to establish the "President Roosevelt Library" in an urbanization project, "Los Jardines de El Valle," to be "a living library," containing not only books and periodicals but also an artists' workshop, a laboratory, a museum, art collections, and holding lectures, musical and poetry recitals, monthly exhibition of paintings, and fortnightly educational movies proffered by the Venezuelan-American Center; EL HERALDO quoted Dr. Caracciolo Rivas thus, "It must be a house of the people in which every question has its answer;" the Municipal Council of Caracas has authorized the erection of a statue to Roosevelt and a special commission has been named to choose the site while the Association of Venezuelan Writers is raising the funds by popular subscription.

With best wishes, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Ruby Black
Special Liaison Officer
Press and Publications Department

RB/rs
cc: Muna Lee de Muñoz Marín