Chile-American Association

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CHARLES M. PEPPER, DIRECTOR

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Dr. Enrique Molina, Universidad de Concepcion, Concepcion, CHILE.

My dear Dr. Molina:

I take the first occasion to send my thanks for the copy of "Por laydos Americas" which you were good enough to forward me. It bears out the anticipations I had formed from reading the newspaper reviews. I have been much interested in your travel notes, but have been even more attracted by your observations of our political and social institutions. Naturally, I might be expected to disagree with some of your views on these subjects, but even in disagreeing I would feel bound to pay tribute to the impartial spirit in which your criticisms are made. I enjoyed very much your pungent analysis of the writings of my friend Professor Shepherd. Pan Americanism really is a pretty deep subject, and I think we should approach it with the fullest toleration for the different points of view and the circumstances which cause them.

For me your most suggestive chapter is that on our essential characteristics. On page 192 you have said a great deal in a very short sentence, "Es un idealismo de carácter social", That is a very sympathetic interpretation of both our tendencies and our aspirations.

Your impressions on educational matters are valuable and cause me to look forward with some impatience to the volume which you propose to devote to that subject. I note that in some incidental observations you show a sympathetic appreciation of educational environment, as in what you say about Berkeley. The year before you visited California I had occasion to spend a month at Berkeley and was enchanted by the ideal surroundings of the academic life. Happily for us there are other colleges and universities which possess a similar environment.

Renewing my thanks for your kindness in sending me the book, I remain

Very truly yours,

Charles melepper