

MISSIONARY DISTRICT OF PORTO RICO

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

P. O. BOX 1115.

Oct. 10, 1924.

SAN JUAN, P. R.

Rt. Rev. Manuel Ferrando,
San Juan, P. R.

My dear Bishop:

I have seen in San Juan Mr. John O. Mays, whose Postoffice address is, Finca Perla, Luquillo, P. R. Mr. Mays is an Englishman; middle-aged man; has wife and one daughter.

Mr. Mays has had experience in Santo Domingo, and for the past five months, has been attempting to farm in Porto Rico. His place is so inaccessible that he cannot get his produce to market, so he is giving up the attempt. He has an equipment, consisting of a Chevrolet automobile-truck, several horses, six oxen, a wagon and several carts.

I asked Mr. Mays about his equipment, thinking that we might be able to purchase some of it when he is ready to sell. He does not know when he will sell, because he has nothing else in view as yet. When I told him what we want this for, he at once became very keen upon getting the place for himself. I told him that we had about closed the deal with another man. I do not recommend Mr. Mays, but in case you have not been able to persuade Mr. Edmunds to come and the case is all off with him and no one else is in view for the place, it might do to make a one-year contract with Mr. Mays. I hope you still expect Mr. Edmunds or someone else to come down from the States.

Mr. Mays proposes that he be employed and that he take all his equipment to Quebrada Limon with him, in which case he would save us expense of buying animals. I would much prefer, however, if it is in any way possible, to purchase as much of his equipment as is desirable and useful for us, and not be under any obligations to him. *Don't employ him.*

I think that Mr. Mays will write to you and have a letter in my box at the time of your arrival, telling you how you can get in touch with him or if he has ^{not} already sold out. I advised his doing this, in order that you might get in touch with his equipment if you feel so disposed. I told him that you were in charge of that work, and if you still have hope of a farmer coming down from the States, simply tell Mr. Mays that you are under obligations to the other man.

I hear that Mr. Cooper is coming down with you, so you will have a chance to see him on the boat. I am leaving for the Dominican Republic on the 20th, and will return on the 30th, two days after your arrival. Sorry I am not going to be able to be on the deck to greet you.

Looking forward with pleasure to seeing you, and with best wishes to the family, believe me.

Sincerely and affectionately yours,

CBC/MAV*

Charles B. Shuster