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Noted T. G. O.

Date: September 25,th 1920.

From: Fernando Iglesias Calderon, Washington, D. C.

To : Adolfo de la Huerta, Mexico City.

As I told the Subsecretary of Foreign Relations in my note No. 6 of August 26 th I have frequently felt tempted to tell Mr. Davis that, since I was not given an opportunity to fulfill my duty of international courtesy which was the cause of my coming here, I considered my mission ended and would return to my country; I did not carry out this intention, however, for fear that I might change to hostility the cordiality which the State Department had shown; and it is for this reason that your decision to call me was very welcome, since it takes me out of the embarrassing situation in which the erroneous reports that have reached you have placed me, and which were the cause for the mission which conferred upon me. This situation has been aggravated by the "sumerlin" incident of which I have no other knowledge--I abstained from making the slightest allusion to it during the visit he paid me yesterday--than that the Mexican (Note: this probably refers to the American Embassy in Mexico City) Embassy has been left in charge of a Second Secretary. Although I believe it is only as a matter of form that I am being called to report in person, as I have been doing so periodically in a detailed manner, I am going to anticipate in essence by telegraph the report I shall have to submit on my arrival:

Last August I received a telegram from the office of the President's Private Secretary advising me of the coming of Pesqueira who would put me in contact with McAdoo, whose services it was thought advisable to use. A little later I received a telegram from Pesqueira to the effect that he had crossed the border and was going to California. Considerably later he simply informed me that he had arrived at New York. I called him immediately (Note: probably over the long distance telephone) in order to be informed regarding McAdoo. He told me that McAdoo was disposed to go to Mexico, accompanied by his wife, on the excursion of the principal

oil men for which he had already arranged. He thought that even the trip of McAdoo and his wife would be advisable in order to hasten recognition, since it would show confidence in the security our country offers. I agreed with him, but added that the really useful service that McAdoo could do us, would be for him to call in private conversation the President's attention to the fact that it is of more interest to him (the President) on account of his renown, not to leave his work of reforming the weak nations, and above all in the case of Mexico, to his unplaceable enemies, the Republicans. Pesqueira promised me that McAdoo would do so, but I fear that this promise will have the same fate as that of his going to Mexico which even two days ago Pesqueira considered certain. In reference to using McAdoo's services as a consulting lawyer of the Embassy--according to your telegram of the ninth inst.--Pesqueira himself told me that we must abandon this idea, as the President would take this as an attempt at bribery. In regard to the suggestion I was asked to submit to the State Department in your telegram of Sept. 7th that my government would be pleased to have this government send a personal and confidential representative to take up directly in Mexico the Petroleum Question, I made it---as I have already informed you---just after the return of Mr. Davis who promised to submit it to the consideration of the President; but he pointed out that he did not like to expose himself to another failure, since all previous missions of this kind, sent by the President, had resulted in such failure. During the same interview I told him that you had had the kindness to offer me once more the Portfolio of Foreign Relations, but that I was prevented from accepting it on account of my obligation to the voters to occupy my seat in the Senate; and that this same obligation forced me to return to my country, as soon as I received word that my credentials (Note: of election) had been approved, whether your autograph letter had been delivered to President Wilson or not by that time. I added that he should send the personal and confidential representative to whom I referred. That circumstance added to the fact that my return to Mexico was impending would facilitate the reception of the letter in question, since such an act would not constitute an essential precedent for the presentation of my credentials as ambassador. He told me then that the President's state of health did not allow certain ceremonies and he asked me if the Secretary of State could receive the letter referred to. I answered him yes, providing the contents of the letter were made known to the person---no matter who it was---who prevented the President from receiving it personally, and it were pointed out that the Secretary of State received it in the name

and place of the President. He (Note: Davis) was to advise me regarding the decision of the Chief Executive (Wilson), but up to this date he has not done so; which fact I attribute to the difficulty even Mr. Davis himself experiences in seeing the President frequently.

Since my departure from Washington as well as that of the entire personnel of the Commission over which I preside is more essential than my arrival in Mexico, and in view of your having authorized me to go to Europe for one month without other notice, I have decided, providing you do not instruct me otherwise, to visit Niagara, thus getting time to obtain passage for Vera Cruz. A sea trip would be very beneficial for my sister Julia. The personnel of the mission will leave before I do. In this regard I wish to know how their fees for October and also their traveling expenses for the return trip are to be paid, taking into consideration that the fares by rail and water have been increased on an average of thirty three percent. I also desire to know in this regard what orders you have relating to my traveling expenses, it being understood that these shall be used only for my return trip and under no condition for my trip to Niagara. Although in the order for the return to Mexico of the personnel of the Commission, in which a few errors in the Christian names occurred, my private secretary and interpreter, Leopoldo Hurtado, is not mentioned, I presume traveling expenses should also be given to him for his return trip. Since the telegram in question orders the return of the Commission at the earliest possible moment, the personnel desires to know what is the latest time limit they have to report to the Department of Foreign Relations and consider their mission ended.

Finally, I presume that all matters of the Embassy will remain in charge of First Secretary Telles and I take pleasure in repeating that he is discreet and competent; and the building will also remain in his charge.