The University of Chicago

Department of Sociology

February 5, 1935

Honorable Olivera Vianne Ministerio do Trabalho Industria e Commercio Rio de Janeiro Brazil

My dear Mr. Vianne:

Thank you for your very cordial letter of December 4th. I am glad to learn that you received the copy of the volume that I sent you as a memento of my brief stay in Rio de Janeiro. I am happy to know that you found in it something that interested you.

I am also delighted to know that you have taken active interest in the possibility of an interchange with American professors, which I may tell you the University of Chicago is now seriously considering. One indication of the interest of the University of Chicago in studying the races and culture of Brazil is evidenced by the fact that the University is now sending one of its most promising graduate students, R. Donald Pierson, to Brazil for two years of study. He will be leaving the United States sometime in June, and - have suggested that he call upon you upon his arrival in Rio de Janeiro, not because I wish to impose upon you any obligations of hospitality to him, but because I believe you will be interested in the program of study he has outlined and that you may be useful in putting him in touch with the persons he should know and who are likely to co-operate with him in making his study.

I have called the attention of the members of our Seminar on Race and Culture to your very interesting essays on the population and racial aspects of cultural life in Brazil. Mr. Pierson has actually undertaken to learn the Portuguese language since I have put your books in his hands. He of course has no command of the spoken language, but he will at least be able to read rather fluently ordinary Portuguese scientific books before he arrives at Rio de Janeiro.

Let me tell you that I was greatly impressed with the character of the country and the people and the boundless resources of Brazil during my stay there, and I have a very real interest in promoting/intimate cultural relations between my own country and yours. Perhaps the desired improvement in cultural relations between the two countries may be to some extent attained through the recognition of a common

interest in a common problem.

Very cordially yours,

Robert E. Park

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