

pointed out a moment ago, I had more than one occasion for discussions with Mr. Lafer, of Brazil.

Argentine Armed Forces

There were, of course, many important events. One was the celebration of the Te Deum in the Cathedral of Buenos Aires, which was a most impressive ceremony. A state dinner was given by the President and there was a military parade which took four hours to pass and which was extremely good. I was very much impressed by the young men of Argentina who participated in it. There were men not only from the navy but also they have marines; infantry and also paratroops, ski troops for the Antarctic and mountain troops for the Andes. They have a very impressive force. Also participating were small forces from the neighbouring countries and, significantly, forces from Spain were given the place of honour at the head of the parade.

In Buenos Aires they have one of the finest theatres in the world. It ranks, I think, as the third best in the world. There was an excellent ballet performance one evening with ballet companies from Paris, Buenos Aires and London.

There was one visit I paid which might be of interest ... It was to a school in Buenos Aires. They have two schools there, one elementary and one secondary, which are named Canada schools. I visited one of those schools. It was a holiday but the children had all been brought out to meet the Foreign Minister from Canada, and that was quite a test. I did not find out this was happening until the children had all gone home. There they were. They all wore white smocks, both the boys and the girls. They had a Canadian flag and the flag of Argentina. They sang songs and a very nice speech was made by one of the teachers but as it was in Spanish I did not get the full drift of it. In any event, this was a very wonderful lesson to me with respect to the way in which goodwill can be spread among the nations.

When I was speaking to the youngsters afterward I asked the girls whether their mothers washed their smocks or whether they did and they admitted that their mothers did. I said, "Don't you think that is terrible? Why don't you do it yourselves?" One little girl looked at me and said, "Who washes the smocks in Canada?" This had me floored and they laughed at that. One of these schools is affiliated with a school in Toronto and I am hoping that a secondary school will be affiliated with a high-school in the remarkable riding of Vancouver Quadra. Other schools are named after other countries. Our Ambassador is helping by getting reading material to these schools and to further understanding the children are supposed to write to children in Canada and vice versa.