



Mr Cesar Romero
Hollywood Athletic Club,
Hollywood,
California

M. Romero
1501 Comstock St.
Astoria, Oregon

Saturday.

Cesar dear:

Your pictures are just lovely, and we have them all over the house. I love the one in the trench coat. you look like a real movie star in that one. I never get tired of looking at them.

Thank you so much, dear. I hadn't written to you before, as I was waiting to get the letter from your press agents office, which came this morning.

Well, I am not much at writing, but I will do the best I can.

Jose' Marti was born in Havana, Cuba, in the year 1853

and from his early boyhood had a great love for his country and dreamed of some day freeing her from the Spanish yoke. At the age of sixteen he was made prisoner by the Spaniards, for his political ideas and writings; while in prison he was made to work in the quarries breaking rocks, with a heavy iron chain that hung ~~was~~ from his waist to his ankle. From there he was deported to Spain and while there he was able to study and finish his studies of law, and became a lawyer. He was an exceptionally intelligent man, with an extraordinary brain, and a very fine poet, and a man

of letters and arts. In the year
to 1878 he was able to get away
from Spain, and came to this
country, always with his one
ideal, to free his country and
he gave and sacrificed all his
years to this purpose, and
after a great struggle and years
of untiring efforts he organized
the "Cuban Revolutionary Party"
of which he was named
"Delegate" and with the work
and propaganda of this party
the dream of his life was
realized. The war for inde-
pendence of Cuba was declared
on February 24, 1895, and
in the month of April of that
year, Martí landed on Cuban
soil, with six other men,
in a small boat, so as to

approach wherein, if possible.
On setting foot on land,
he got on his knees and kissed
the soil of the country for
which he had struggled so,
and given all he had to give
for its freedom. Forty days
after, he was killed, and
of course it was a tremen-
dous blow to the cubans and
the cause. He was a great
patriot, and to the cubans
he was the "Apostle Martí".
He died at the young age of 42.
Your grandmother was born in
Cuba, and came to this
country when very young
and recently married, and
her home was the center of
reunion for many cubans &
patriots

³that were in New York at that time, and it was in the year 1878, when José Martí came to this country, and to our house; ~~looking~~ ^{for} he lived with us for seventeen years, up to the day he left for Cuba in 1895. I was born in 1880, and he was my godfather, and always had a great love and devotion for me, and took a great interest in my education (he having been my only instructor) and special interest in my music. I seem to have showed quite some talent and ability for the piano, which I studied for many of my childhood years, and at the

age of seventeen discovered
I had quite a good voice,
and from that time on, de-
voted more of my time
to singing. I did quite a
bit of concert and church
singing up to the time
I was married, and then
most of my time was
taken up with the care
and duties of a mother,
raising a little family
of which your father and
I are very proud.

When Marti was killed, a
small photograph of me as
a child, was found in his
coat pocket, blood stained.
He had written to me that
he carried that little picture
over his heart, to protect him

from the bulletto. He was very
well known and greatly
admired in all the South and
Central American countries.
Do not mention that he was
my uncle: I want you to
know, dear, that he was my
father, and I want you to
be proud of it. Some day, we
will talk a lot about this,
but of course this is only
for you to know, and not
for ~~for~~ publicity. It is my
secret, and Father knows it.
Well, I guess this is enough
of the family history. Father
was born in Barcelona Spain
and lived in Cuba until
the age of 15 years, when
he came to this country
~~and~~ to finish his education,
and has lived here ever since

I went to have my hair
cut yesterday, - and Mr
Gessa only spoke to me
of you, all the time. He
is so glad of your success,
and interested in your
work, and asked me to
be sure and tell you so and
sends you congratulations
and also said (jokingly)
that if Mr Arliss needs
a double, that you can
send for him: you know
he is the image of Arliss,
and writes poetry and ^{is} dra-
matically inclined.

There is nothing new:
everybody is well, and Marie
~~hasn't~~ hasn't felt any ^{bad} effects

of her first week at school.
Love from us all, and
~~Ha~~ a kiss and the blessing
of your loving

Mother.