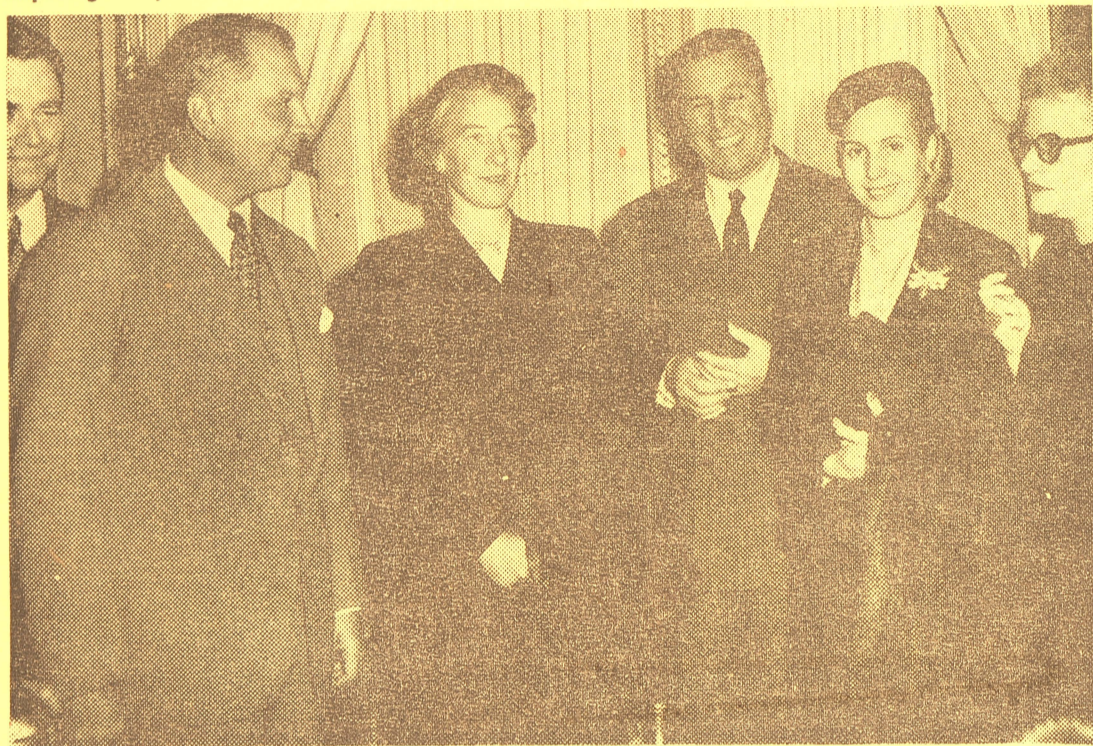


# Arrival in Buenos Aires Climax of Editors' Tour



PALACE of National Congress faces Plaza del Congreso at end of Avenida de Mayo in Buenos Aires. Imposing Independence Monument can be seen in foreground.—[Pan America Airways Photos.]



PRESIDENT JUAN PERON greets American visitors. Left-right: Wilbur L. Morrison, president in charge of Latin American Division of Pan American World Airways; Juan Trippe, president of Pan American; Mrs. Trippe; Peron; Madam Peron; Mrs. Fleur Cowles, editor of Flair Magazine.

*This is the last of a series of illustrated articles by Francis S. Murphy, publisher of The Hartford Times, describing his recent trip through South America aboard a trail-blazing Pan American World Airways Stratocruiser. Mr. Murphy was one of a party of publishers and editors who made the trip as guests of Juan Trippe, president of the Airway.*

By FRANCIS S. MURPHY  
Publisher of The Times

## ARTICLE IV

We arrived in Buenos Aires, the southernmost point of our air trip, in high expectations. We were destined not to be let down in the least.

The great national airport is, as I said, 30 miles out to the southwest. It is believed to be the largest and the finest airport in the world. Its runways are 10,000 feet in length, capable of handling not only the large Stratocruisers but the jet airliners of tomorrow.

Buenos Aires is definitely different from Rio de Janeiro. It is comparatively flat while Rio is dramatically hilly. Buenos Aires is said to be as modern as any city in the world. It is the sixth largest city in the world. It has an avenue, among numerous others, twice as wide as the famed Champs Elysees in Paris.

My first impression was that someone had the great vision to lay out the city with a wonderful network of boulevards and streets, and the push and the power to get the work done. They seem adequate to handle the large, steady flow of traffic easily. Driving is more sane in Buenos Aires. Incidentally, I can remember seeing no traffic lights during the two days we were there. Rio had a fairly normal supply but I don't think Buenos Aires has any.

When I think of the struggle in some American cities to even get a start on boulevards to accommodate automobile traffic, I can't help but take my hat off in salute to those farsighted Argentinians of many years ago.

**MORE** than 3,000,000 live in this great city and there seems to be a subtle blend of the modernity of New York and the spirit of Paris. Argentina has been called a product of European immigration. Its doors were thrown open in 1850 and a wave of immigrants flowed in which has tapered off only in recent years. Most of them came from Spain and Italy, although other groups came from England, Ireland, France, Scandinavia, Germany and Poland.

Everyone knows that Argentina is a great cattle country. More than 33,000,000 head of cattle grow fat on the pampas, and the rolling hills of Patagonia support millions of sheep.

Firpo, the Argentine heavy-weight who will live in fame as the man who knocked Jack Dempsey out of the ring years ago, is running a large ranch of his own, not too far from Buenos Aires, and is said to be very prosperous. He was to have had din-

ner with a few of us one evening, but something interfered.

Argentina needs coal, oil, iron and steel products, autos, agricultural and industrial machinery, chemicals and electronic equipment.

This need, spurred by wartime prosperity, brought on a postwar industrialization program. The government bought the British-owned railways, the United States-owned telephone system and the largest shipping line. The huge outlay, plus operating deficits, brought an economic crisis.

In a series of steps during the past year Argentina has turned the corner on the road to recovery. This culminated in a grant recently of a \$150,000,000 loan by the United States Export-Import Bank to Argentine banks to settle up back debts. This is the loan which seems to have bothered Brazil. Probably this has been very effective in making Argentinians more friendly to America. Our party definitely felt this.

**AN AMUSING** incident occurred when we arrived at Buenos Aires and were going through the terminal.

There was a large crowd there and just as George Healy, managing editor of the New Orleans Times Picayune, was about to step into one of the cars, he overheard a young lady say in rather broken English to another girl, "What a beautiful sombrero!"

George was wearing a large white Stetson, worth probably \$50. Without the slightest hesitation, George swept the hat off his head and handed it to the girl, saying he was giving it to her with his compliments. Needless to say, it was a great surprise to the young lady.

During the day three telephone calls came to the Pan American office requesting information as to how to find the man who was giving away hats.

Mr. Healy went bareheaded the rest of his stay in Buenos Aires.

Our headquarters, while in Buenos Aires, was in the Plaza Hotel, facing the park of General San Martin, the liberator of Argentina, who led the independence movement and freed the country from the dominance of the Spanish crown. Independence was declared on July 9, 1816, so that the anniversary of that date is a big day in Buenos Aires, probably their most revered.

**CALLE FLORIDA** (Florida St.) is the most popular street in Buenos Aires and is lined by fashionable shops of all kinds. It starts close to the Plaza Hotel and extends many blocks to the Plaza San Martin.

During most of the day and starting at 11 a. m. it is closed to all motor traffic and Calle Florida becomes a meeting place for strollers and shoppers. This is quite a narrow street and is 10 blocks long. It is quite a sight to see people walking on and across the street which is free of all vehicular traffic. It is a popular practice, as the street has a large number of people on it all day long and the shops are well patronized.

Buenos Aires has a number of newspapers of high journalistic standards. La Prensa, for instance, is famous the world over. It is a big operation, rendering a great deal of unusual public service. La Nacion and El Mundo are also well known. The Buenos Aires dailies are said to receive and print more cable words of

foreign news than any other newspaper in the world.

A reception at the American Embassy by Ambassador Stanton Griffith was a most pleasant interlude, but the high light of our visit was our engagement at the Palace to meet and interview President Juan Peron. It was to be a press interview at which no questions would be barred.

**WE WERE** seated around a table about 40 feet long, in an ornate high ceilinged function room. There were individual microphones placed along the table for our use. We were ushered in and seated around the table, leaving a section for Mr. Peron and his aides.

His entrance had a dramatic effect. He went around the table and cordially shook hands with each visitor. He is well built, a little above average size, has a strong handclasp, and he has a dynamic, pleasant personality. A well known Texas publisher sitting next to me leaned over and said "What a campaigner he must be!"

The publishers and editors weren't at all bashful in asking Mr. Peron questions about his treatment of newspaper men; his restrictions upon newspapers through control of their newsprint supplies, and other questions. They were answered frankly and fully by the President. Newspapers have fought hard in Buenos Aires to maintain their independence and freedom of expression.

Mr. Peron spoke in Spanish and had an excellent interpreter at his left. We thought that Mr. Peron understood our questions but could not speak English well enough to answer in English.

**MADAM PERON**, or Dona Eva or Evita as she is also called, came in toward the end of the visit and sat at the side of Mr. Peron. She was dressed attractively in a gray tailored suit, to which was fastened a costume jewelry piece near her left shoulder. She was dressed in good Paris fashion.

She told about her interest in the workers. She is much interested in hospitals and spends a good deal of her time in public social affairs. The credit for all the social work going on belonged to her husband, she said. She does all she can to help his program. She is striking in appearance; is not so tall as we had thought; is about 5 ft. 5 and is a blonde. Argentinians seem to be very proud of Eva Peron. We did not see Juan Peron with the public but we felt that he also is popular.

The day following our visit we traveled out to the airfield for the ceremony of the christening of the Stratocruiser—El Spicente — by Madam Peron. She spoke only Spanish so we knew not what she said.

We were surprised to see how closely the crowd was allowed to crowd in upon her.

**THE BUILDING** at the airport handle the traffic which comes from several foreign countries. There are several buildings there. There is a six-story hotel building being erected. It is nearly completed. One building we were in has marble corridors, yet we were told that that building is temporary and will be replaced.

Argentinians are proud of that airfield. On the airport grounds and near the four-lane highway is

## State Shivers In August Chill

Hartford and all Connecticut shivered this morning in the lowest temperatures ever recorded on this date and the lowest ever noted so early in August.

The mercury dropped to an official 48.9 degrees at Brainard Field and to a frigid 35 degrees at Norfolk. Elsewhere throughout the state it hovered in the 40's. Previous low record for the date was the 53.5 recording of Aug. 8, 1929.

Last year during this period the state was broiling in 90-100 degree temperatures, hitting 92 on the 8th, 87 on the 9th and 100 on the 10th.

And the weather won't work its way back to seasonal temperatures for another day, at least, the Hartford Weather Bureau warned.

With a prediction of an 80-degree top today, the bureau said there will be chilly temperatures in the low 50's tonight and a climb to the low 80's tomorrow. Fair and comfortable daytime temperatures will continue through Thursday, with probable showers Thursday night.

## Moose Membership Drive Progresses

Alfred Boisveret and Charles Amari are tied for first place in the membership campaign conducted by Hartford Lodge 723, Loyal Order of Moose, which brought in 15 new members last week.

Raymond McDonald and Ernest Frazier, governor of the local lodge, are tied for second place. Other members of the Rebuilding Campaign Committee are Joseph DeCapia, Frank Uricchio, Ellwood Adams, William Hitt and Anthony Casale.

Members of the committee, their wives, friends and prospective new members will meet at the lodge clubrooms, 202 Wethersfield Ave., tonight at 8:15.



**WORLD FAMOUS** street in Buenos Aires. Most popular street in Buenos Aires is Calle Florida, whose ten blocks house many of the

an attractive village for the workers at the airport. It appeared that two families lived in each of the tiled roofed buildings. We were told by a Pan American man that the worker pays only 200 pesos (or \$14) a month for his housing. Equivalent quarters on the outside would cost 2,000 pesos! (or \$142).

Two of the biggest pools I ever saw with diving platform equipment are part of the village set-up which also has a church and stores.

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**THE NEXT** morning we started back home. After leaving Trinidad we were to fly to Washington for

world's most fashionable shops. Closed to vehicular traffic most of the day, it becomes a surging, eddying street of shoppers

the convenience of several who were going west. We went through customs there.

Before flying in from the ocean, the pilot must pick up a check-point (radio or loran) several hundred miles at sea before proceeding to the coast along an aerial highway. From New England to Florida the coast may be ap-

proached only through several air lanes.

The Navy, the Air Force and the Coast Guard maintain protective air patrol or guard probably more effective than we know.

Reaching New York there ended an air trip packed with thrills and Ohs and Ahs such as to stay in one's memory a long time.