

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN. GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR. ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C. FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, KY. RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. EDWIN S. BROUSSARD, LA R. A. BURR, CLERK.

United States Senate.

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 1, 1921.

Major Archibald M. Johnson, Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., Attorneys at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Boys:

We are very hard at it back here now, long sessions, threatened night sessions, and important measures with vast detail. My letters in the near future, therefore, may be rather skimpy, but at any rate, on Saturday I will write you something, if only a word of greeting.

Two contests are proceeding here. The Tax Bill, a tribute to big business, is before the Senate, and contemporaneously with it, the German Treaty. The position I have taken upon the German Treaty you will have observed from the press, doubtless, from a very brief statement I gave out which was published last Saturday. The passing of the days confirms me in this attitude. It is still a matter of regret that I am in opposition to Borah and to Reed, but I could not see the matter as they did. Of course, I am subjected to some criticism from extremists in the old League of Nations fight, and the very bitter abuse of the Los Angeles Times again, because I am advocating an Administration measure. The Times has very roundly abused me since the 4th of March because I have not advocated Administration measures, and now because I do, they abuse me even more fiercely. Of course, they take the position that I have been whipped into line, and am crawling at the feet of the old standpatters begging to be admitted to their ranks, etc. The attitude of the Times reminds me of what I said in the early days of my Governorship - these old standpatters will beg of you a favor, and if you do it, they will use it to your undoing. According to the Times, I was a scoundrel for opposing Administration measures. And now, I am a worse scoundrel for advocating an Administration policy. They cannot conceive that the fact that it is an Administration policy is a matter of utter indifference to me. I take my stand upon a policy when I believe it to be right, and against it when I believe it to be wrong. And I don't care a tinker's most profane word whether the policy comes from one source or another or whether it is favored by the Administration or opposed by the Administration.

While Borah says nothing, he looks like a sullen child grieving over a supposed wrong. I have such a perfect intuition of men of this sort that I do not doubt where ultimately this honest difference of opinion will lead us. Our minds, however, upon governmental matters run ordinarily along the same lines, and this fact will generally keep us together on most policies. There is not the interest in the German Treaty that some people here believed there would be. Indeed, I don't think our people pay much attention to it, and I think they care little about it. The American people forget quickly. A subject cannot engross them long.

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It may be the Arbuckle case today that excites them to hysteria, but tomorrow a world series will relegate the Arbuckle case to the background, from which it never can wholly emerge. In speaking of the Arbuckle case, I had a wire from Theodore the other day suggesting my employment in San Francisco on a case which had angrossed San Francisco and the United States during the past few weeks, and naively saying that he had been unable to accept the employment. I wired him it was impossible for me to consider it. Arbuckle is paying the penalty, first, for being a beast, but secondly, and in reality, for being found out. Clarence Darrow called on me the other day and told me he had written a book on "Criminology". I asked him along what lines. He explained his endeavor to demonstrate what crime really was, the pschology of it, and the utter futility of modern means of dealing with it. I asked him if he had devoted a chapter to the greatest of all crimes, and in a puzzled fashion, he made an extended explanation that crime by definition did not interest him, etc., and then I told him that the greatest of crimes was being found out. He laughed and said he thought he would add an extra chapter to the work. I wish it were possible to punish intellectual crookedness. I think in many instances it is much more reprehensible than picking a pocket of a watch, or stealing somebody's money. If there could be such a thing as punishment of intellectual dishonesty, our representative bodies would be depleted, and there would be mighty few men in public life. And perhaps I ought not to con- .

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fine the prevalence of this crime to public life. I can't conceive of anything worse than In the business world where the offenses committed are not only intellectual, but actual and material. In the taxing system now in vogue, we create a body of men who grow rich upon teaching our people how to avoid paying their just due to their country. Really, we have put a premium upon dishonesty. The Bill ought to be designated "An Act for the Relief of the Jews" for generally speaking, the Jews cheat at it, and the very few honest men there are have to pay to make up the deficit. But frankly, the subject is so comprehensive, and taxation is so difficult, that I can not see my way clear, and apparently, nobody else can, to remedy existing evils. My mind is turning toward the Sales Tax of late, and yet from the old story of economics, this is the most indefensible plan which could be suggested. One thing I am certain, that the Tax Bill before us has been written with a single purpose of mitigating the woes of the very rich, and of making up from the middle class what is lost from letting the very rich escape taxation. The substitute plans, however, are written by men who have the same design in mind. I am therefore very much in a quandary over the situation.

My prediction of two weeks ago that the Italian butler would last forty-eight hours was wrong. He lasted less than twenty-four . Since then we have had Cora, the colored maid, back with us, merely as a temporary expedient. Mother has been searching for another

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butler. She had a Frenchman, but he evidently utilized her offer to increase his wages in his present place. The chances are, in my opinion, that we'll get no butler until after the celebrated Disarmament Conference adjourns. Washington, the City of Flunkies, and the Home of the World Profiteer, is preparing again to fleece all comers. Rents have gone skyward, domestic service likewise, and everybody, who is a permanent resident in this City, is, with a fine enthusiasm getting ready to despoil the stranger, who in great numbers is expected at the November conference.

The Transit Commission in New York City yesterday with a great flourish of trumpets published its plan for the solution of the transportation problem. It is a very long, full, involved, and comprehensive scheme. I have had numerous telephone calls from the Corporation Counsel, and I have been writing him trying to comment in general terms upon it. It requires, however, an intensive study, and the very study of it, will take up an immense part of my time. Of course, it is thrown into the local campaign in New York at the psychological moment in order to take from Hylan his issue, and in the hope that it will elect Curran. Since the nomination of Curran, the Coalition candidate, the Republicans and Coalitionists, apparently, have renewed confidence, and some of them have told me that they thought Curran would be elected. It's a tremendous fight, and it is a very unfortunate thing that in the midst of it comes this important report for the purpose of influencing the result.

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I really feel little inclined to hard work. I have had brought home to me, perhaps, for the first time ( although I may have talked of it much in the past ) a thorough realization of my physical condition, and I am endeavoring to do what little I can to benefit it. I am quite regular in the slight exercise I take now, and have never been so rigorous in a diet. I am hoping that if I continue the present care I will renew my youth and get rid of the infernal lassitude which afflicts me. I like to solace myself with the idea that it is merely approaching old age. And I hesitate even to say what I have, for fear of the rejoinder which is so obvious. Your Mother feels none too well either, and it is this that makes me seriously contemplate again retirement and peacefully rediding in California. I think probably your Mother would favor this, too, if we should strike oil; but the latest advices are that wells in the immediate vicinity of the land your Mother has in southern California are worthless, although one, three miles south, has developed into a big paying venture.

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Victor after two or three days' sickness recovered. The doctor diagnosed his illness as distemper, but he recovered so quickly that we doubt this. Old Spartan has developed with the passing few months. He has, apparently, the influence over Victor that an older brother has with a younger. Your Mother insists that he takes Victor visiting with him. On several occasions Victor has been gone with Spartan for several hours at a time. This morning they both left about eight o'clock, and when I left at nine, they had not returned. I hate to chain Victor up, but I think it will be necessary if he continues wandering.

Autumn is with us, perhaps the most beautiful part of the year here. It is very pleasant during the day, with just a bit of coolness at night. The old home is still delightful, although its pleasures are minimized by the fact that a house without a butler is really not in running order. In the odd moments we have, your Mother and I play pinochle. Don't you think this is strange? We both enjoy it very much.

With all my love,

Affectionately,

Mr.

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HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN. GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR. ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C. FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, KY. RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. R. A. BURR, CLERK.

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United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 4, 1921.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., Major Archibald M. Johnson, Attorneys at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Boys:

This morning I am in receipt of the following telegram:

"San Francisco, Calif. Oct. 3.

"Senator Hiram W. Johnson

Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.

"While giving dinner last Thursday night to about twenty friends at Bergez Franks our private dining room invaded by police and prohibition agents without legal authority. My guests insulted and threats of arrest made to me after grabbing me by the shoulder and shaking me. Only after protest against such acts made by our friend Ray Benjamin were we relieved of this embarrassment and most distressing situation. Since then a vicious attack has been made in newspapers on Benjamin because of his action. Am writing you full detail of event and as attack on Benjamin is being sent to Attorney General and others in Washington I ask your most vigorous action in justifying him in what he did for me and my wife. I protest to you against such humiliation and insult to my family and friends offered while in a private dining room in this city and committing no offense. I request your interest to see that such things cannot again occur to other equally respectable citizens.

Adolph B. Spreckels"

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Of course, I don't know anything about the matter except the telegram. According to what Adolph Spreckels says some newspaper attack has been made on Benjamin. I presume when the papers come, therefore, I will learn just what the situation is. But thinking that perhaps it may develop, I was anxious to get what information might have come to you aside from the press reports. If you are familiar at all with the incident, would you write me, please, at once.

I have an opportunity to go to the world series this week. Perhaps Mother and I will go to New York Thursday night. I wouldn't go for the series but the acute situation in the traction matter probably will make it necessary for me to spend a day or two with the Corporation Counsel.

With love,

Affectionately,

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL	CLASS OF SEL	IVICE SYMBOL	
Telegram		Telegram		
Day Letter	Blue	Day Letter	Blue	
Night Message	Nite	WESTERN UNION Night Mess	age Nite	
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ST WASHINGTON DC 1029A 6 HIRAM W JOHNSON JR

ATTY AT LAW MILLS BLDG SANFRANCISCO CALIF SPRECKELS WIRED ME TUESDAY SENT YOU COPY HAVE WIRE NEYLAN TODAY THAT EXNICIOS MCCORMACK HONEST MITCHELL BENJAMIN AND OTHERS IN WITH BOOTLEGGERS STOP NEYLAN WAS FOR MCCORMACK STOP HIS STATEMENT DOES NOT AGREE WITH MY OTHER INFORMATION STOP OF COURSE WILL TAKE NO ACTION BUT AWAIT FULL FACTS STOP JUST READ DAILY NEWS ARTICLE STOP AM SMILING STOP LEAVING FOR NEWYORK STOP AT RITZ FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

HIRAM W JOHNSON.

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN. GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR. FRANK B. BRANBEGEE, CONN. RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. R. A. BURR, CLERK.

## Anited States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 10, 1921.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., Major Archibald M. Johnson, Attorneys at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Boys:

We returned last night from New York. I find a plethora of newspaper clippings about the Poodle Dog story, and a very brief letter from Neylan, which does not add to the clippings, nor give any further information. I am not very seriously concerned over the matter. The incident simply confirms what we all know, that prohibition, after all, means prohibition for the poor, while the rich may do as they please. Of course, the part of the incident that I don't like is that anybody whom I may be supposed to be even in part responsible for should administer the law unequally and unjustly. I wrote you at the time of the appointments of Exnicious and Mitchell, however, and told you how they were put over, and that I did not feel in a position to object, and probably would have accepted both. They were named, however, by a piece of sharp practice upon the part of Shortridge, acting, undoubtedly, with Benjamin and possibly McCabe, aided and abetted by the scoundrel, Blair, who is the Internal Revenue Collector, and who was only too glad to put over something for Shortridge's vote without my recommendation. I do hope, however, that Mitchell is able to clear his skirts and

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that he will not permit a fellow like Benjamin to get him into trouble.

I saw one game of the world series in New York. The day was perfect, the crowd interesting, and the coloring delightful The game from a scientific baseball standpoint was not a good one, but I enjoyed the afternoon immensely. Had it not been for the vote today upon the Panama Canal Tolls Bill I would have stayed over for yesterday's game, but I thought I should return for this vote. I will have to defer until next Saturday my regular weekly letter. I am sending you this note immediately upon my return, because of the wires received earlier in the week concerning the Poodle Dog incident.

With love,

Affectionately,

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN. GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR. ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C. FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, KY. RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. EDWIN S. BROUSSARD, LA R. A. BURR, CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 11, 1921.

Major Archibald M. Johnson, Attorney at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Arch:

We sent you night letter tonight concerning the most recent developments in the matter with Dick. Last Monday my conversation with Undersecretary of State Fletcher occurred. Immediately after its occurrence I made a memorandum of it. Enclosed herein is the memorandum. We did not at once wire you because Mother had written you from New York of a previous chat, and we wanted you to have her letter before the telegram of today. I don't know what Fletcher referred to in his conversation Monday. I have had something of a fright that it might be some rotten South American country, but we wont accept anything that is not equal to or better than the Greece appointment.

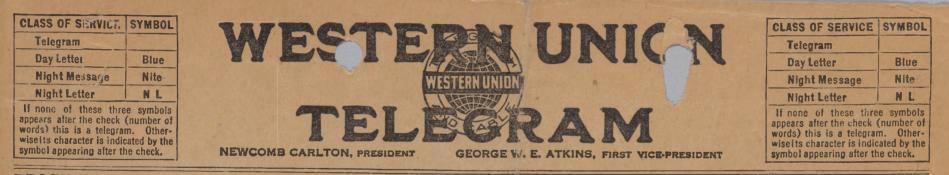
Affectionately,

Ma

#### Washington, October 10, 1921.

Just before 10:30 A.M. on this day, Monday, October 10, 1921, Undersecretary of State Fletcher wrung me up, and the following conversation occurred:

He asked if our friend Dick Tobin had had any business experience. I responded, that he had the very highest and fullest, that he was president of the largest savings institution in the State of California now, and the executive head too. He said, "That is fine. Does he speak Spanish?" I replied, "I don't know. I know he is a linguist." He said, "I know he speaks French, but I wanted to know if he spoke Spanish. I am asking you these questions because we may be able to offer him something better." I said I would be delighted at that, but we'll be satisfied with Greece. His answer was. "I think there will be no difficulty about Greece, but I am going to see the President within a day or two, and there may be something better that we can offer to him". I thanked him again, and the conversation ended.



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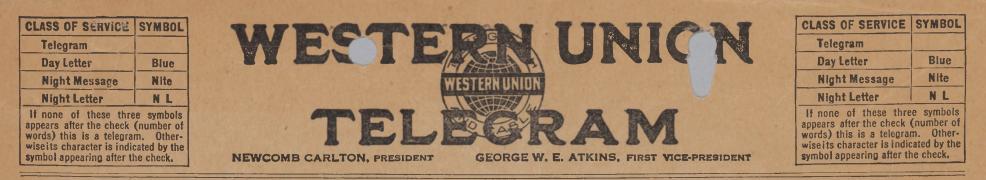
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ATTORNEY AT LAW MILLS BLDG SANFRANCISCO CALIF CRAMER HAS POSITION VETERANS BUREAU SANFRANCISCO FOR ATTORNEY

SALARY ABOUT THREE THOUSAND A YEAR HAVE WIRED JACK I WOULD BE GLAD IF SOME YOUNG DESERVING ATTORNEY OF OUR SORT COULD BE RECOMMENDED STOP MONDAY HAD TELEPHONE FROM HEADQUARTERS ASKING IF DICK HAD HAD BUSINESS EXPERIENCE AND WHETHER HE SPOKE SPANISH REPLIED FULLY ABOUT BUSINESS BUT DID NOT KNOW OF OTHER STOP HEADQUARTERS EXPLAINED QUESTIONS ASKED BECAUSE SOMETHING BETTER MIGHT BE OFFERED DONT KNOW WHAT WAS:



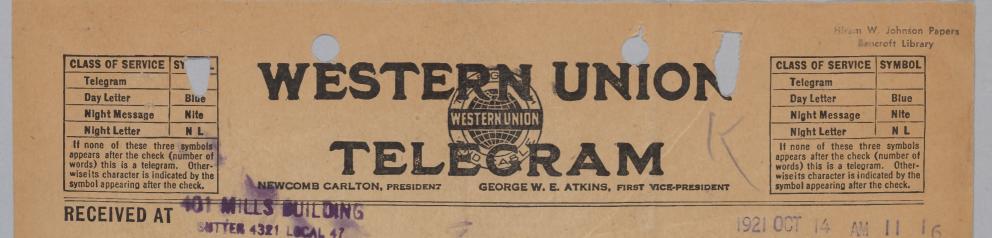
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HIRAM W JOHNSON:



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ATTORNEY AT LAW MILLS BLDG SANFRANCISCO CALIF

LAST NIGHT WHILE DINING WITH HIM PRESIDENT ADVISED ME HE WAS ABOUT TO APPOINT ALFRED HOLMAN AS A CALIFORNIAN FAMILIAR WITH WESTERN PROBLEMS UPON THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE DELEGATES TO THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE HE DESIRED SOME ONE WHO IS NOT PREJUDICED WHO WAS ABLE TO SEE ALL SIDES OF THE JAPANESE QUESTION AND WHO COULD SYMPATHETICALLY PRESENT IT STOP I BLUNTLY TOLD HIM HOLMAN WAS A LITTLE BROTHER OF

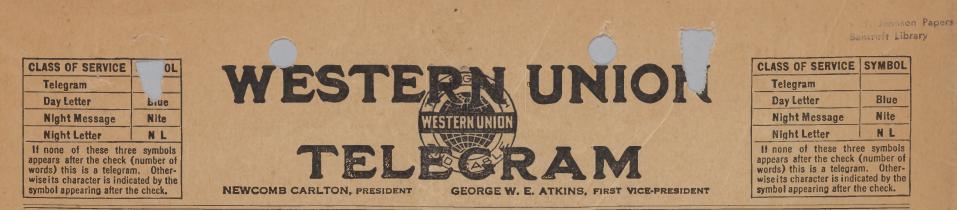


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THE RICH THAT IT WAS AN INSULT TO CALIFORNIA TO SELECT HIM AS CALIFORNIAS REPRESENTATIVE AND THAT HE OUGHT NOT TO BE APPOINTED STOP I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST SOME NAMES STOP I WOULD BE GLAD TO SUGGEST ALMOST ANYRODY TO DEFEAT HOLMAN BECAUSE OF HOLMANS UTTER UNFITNESS TO SPEAK FOR OUR REOPLE UPON ANY PUBLIC QUESTION STOP I WOULD TAKE KNOWLAND OF THE OAKLAND TRIBUNE OR ANY INDIVIDUAL OF THAT SORT STOP WOULD YOU AND ARCH TAKE UP THE MATTER VERY CONFIDENTIALLY WITH JO HNSTON JUDGE SULLIVAN CARLOS MCCLATCHY OR ANY OTHERS YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE AND SEE IF YOU CAN



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B49DA SHEET 3/37

1921 OCT 14 AM 11 16

HIT UPON NAMES WHO WOULD FITTINGLY REPRESENT OUR STATE STOP THIS MUST BE DONE IN STRICT CONFIDENCE STOP IF APPROPRIATE NAMES OCCUR TO YOU WIRE THEM TO ME WITHOUT FIRST SUGGESTING MATTER TO THE INDIVIDUALS YOU RECOMMEND

HIRAM W JOHNSON.

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN. GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR. ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C. FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, KY. RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. EDWIN S. BROUSSARD, LA R. A. BURR, CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 19, 1921.

Major Archibald M. Johnson, Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., Attorneys at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Boys:

This note is merely to explain to you why I have missed my usual letter to you, and to tell you that this week I will resume my usual chronicle.

Knox's death occupied us last week. Friday I attended the services here, and Saturday went with the Committee to Valley Forge. I left very early in the morning and did not return until late at night. The death was peculiarly shocking to your Mother and myself. While Knox and I disagreed on everything politically, there was, perhaps, a greater personal intimacy between us than between any two members upon the floor. I will write this week of my last conversation with him.

Affectionately,

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN. GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR. ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C. FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, KY. RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. EDWIN S. BROUSSARD, LA R. A. BURR, CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 20, 1921.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., Major Archibald M. Johnson, Attorneys at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Boys:

Merely that you may be kept advised, I enclose you copy of letter yesterday sent by me to President Harding concerning his contemplated appointment of Alfred Holman. In private conversation with the President, when he divulged to me that he was likely to appoint Holman on the Advisory Committee of the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments, I was extremely bitter, and told him that Holman was a little brother of the rich, that he represented nothing except as the flunkey of privilege, etc. My letter to him named but a few people, in order to give him an "out" in case he desired to take one. My opinion is, that he probably will select Holman, because Holman is of his type, and belongs to his clique. I did not wish, however, the selection to be made without recording myself as against it.

Affectionately,

Hon. Warren G. Harding, The White House.

Dear Mr. President:

Then I was with you the other night, you spoke to me of Alfred Holman, Editor and Proprietor of the San Francisco Argonaut, and the possibility of his selection as one of the Advisory Council for the Limitation of Armamente Conference next month. That I said to you then, upon reflection I confirm. Mr. Holman is, in no sense, a representative Californian, and would be probably one of the last men selected by Californians or Westerners to present their viewpoint. None would even think of consulting him upon any public question. His advice, instead of being requested or accepted by Californians, would be suspected and rejected. I say to you in this connection, in order that you may discount, if you desire, what I write, that Mr. Holman hates me very bitterly and I have for him the utmost contempt. His peculiar characteristics would make him siggularly obnoxious to the real men and women of the West.

I would not presume to write you in this fashion, nor make any suggestions at all in reference to the matter, or even in reference to Holman, unless you had invited an expression from me.

I take the liberty of suggesting to you the names of certain men, the selection of any one of whom would be welcomed in California, and in all the west, and who could judicially present, in statesmanlike fashion and with true vision, the world problems with which we of the west are in intimate touch.

1. <u>ex-Senator Frank P. Flint of Los Angeles.</u> I do not need to say to you who Sen tor Flint is, nor tell you anything about him. I am sure you have the same high opinion of him that I have.

2. Charles Frank Stern, a native of California, and at present a resident of the City of Los Angeles. Mr. Stern was a member of the State Board of Education, from that became the head of the Highway Commission of California, and did a job in connection with the roads from border to border that has met with universal approval. Subsequently, he became the Bank Commissioner of the State, and served with distinction in that office. Thereafter, he resigned, and is now Vice-president of the Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank, the largest bank in Southern California. He is a graduate of the University of California, and a man of culture and education. He is fully qualified in every respect. I think the Bank with which he is now connected is presided over by Mr. Henry M. Robinson, the right-hand man of Mr. Hoover in Southern California. 3. Judge . . Morrow. You probably know the Judge. He is one of the oldest of our Federal Judges, is still a member of the Federal Judiciary, where he has won the regard and respect of all classes. In the 80's he served in Congress. No man knows better far-Eastern questions, and none has a wider view.

-2-

4. Judge Matthew I. Sullivan. Judge Sullivan is a native of California, ex-Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and a practising attorney in San Francisco now, who has the respect of everybody. He has a fine ability, rare courage, and a thorough knowledge of the problems of the Pacific.

5. Frank H. Devlin. Mr. Devlin is at present a practising attorney in the City of San Francisco, was formerly a Judge upon the Superior Bench, and thereafter, a member of the Railroad Commission of California. He began his career from California in the U.S. Navy. He is thoroughly familiar with public questions and is a gentleman of the highest standing.

6. Joseph I. Knowland. Mr. Knowland is the Proprietor of the Oakland Tribune, one of the largest newspapers in California. He served several terms in Congress, and in 1916 was defeated by Mr. Fhelan in a three-cornered fight for the United States Senate. He is one of the old line Republicans of our State, a gentleman of ability and high standing, judicial in temperament, and a student of public affairs.

There are many others whose names I might present to you. The few I do suggest are among the outstanding figures in California and the West.

Will you pardon, please, this letter? I send it for the reason I have suggested, and also because I thought it my duty to do so. Of course, I do not need to say command me if, under any circumstances, I can be of service.

With very great respect, I am

Most sincerely yours,

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN. GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR. ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C. FRANK B. BRANDOGEE, CONN. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, KY. RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. EDWIN S. BROUSSARD, LA R. A. BURR, CLERK.

## Anited States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 21, 1921.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., Major Archibald M. Johnson, Attorneys at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Boys:

I received this week a letter from each of you, which, of course, Mother and I have greedily devoured.

Last week we were inexpressibly shocked by the sudden death of Knox. The Moores were dining with us that night. when Martin, Knox's secretary, rung me up, and told me that I was the first he had advised. Friday, of course, I attended the services here, and Saturday, journeyed to Valley Forge for the last rites. There was a peculiar intimacy between Knox and myself that had its very singular, but generally delightful phases. He was the representative of that which I abhorred, and politically, of course, we never could agree. He was the one man, however, with whom I was in political disagreement here, between whom and myself there was never resentment nor estrangement. He was fond of saying to your Mother that he was with me in everything except politics, and we often jokingly said that our votes offset each other. Knox was the one intimate personal tie I had with the Senate. With no other member have I been on such terms of intimate personal relations.

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I think there was a peculiar bond between us, some strange hidden chord, which the personality of each struck in the other. For a long time, the Senate will not be the same to me as it has been. We used to sit together, and indulge in our little intimate conversations and rather caustic criticism of our fellows, and our unsparing ridicule of their peculiarities. It's a dangerous thing to indulge in the ridicule of those with whom we're brought in daily contact, but each of us, repressing his natural desire when with others, gave full vent to it when by ourselves. Knox had a singularly charming personality. He was always very dignified, sometimes even to the point of absurdity; but his life had been so full, he had seen so much of individuals, his mind, naturally very keen, had been sharpened by constant contact, that when he cared to, he could be not only entertaining but even quite fascinating. Between us, there was, I think, a real friendship. He had, too, an affection even greater for your Mother. His secretary told me yesterday that whenever he was depressed or wretched, he wanted to come to our house, and particularly, he wanted to talk to Mother. She never forgot a birthday of his while we were here, and such little attentions appealed to him greatly. There were in Knox certain elements of greatness, but they were dulled by indifference and indolence. He rose just as high as that indifference and indolence permitted. I miss him very much. While his death was a shock to the Senate, I think the only ones whose affections were touched, and who really grieved, were your Mother

and myself. He died suddenly at 6:30 P.M. By 10 o'clock, Senators were snarling over his committee assigments, and his rooms here in the Capitol building. Next morning his death occupied the first column of the Washington Post, but the next two columns were devoted to speculation concerning his successor. I don't need to indulge in any reflections or any morbid philosophy over those things. Your minds, so like mine, will grasp their full significance, and yet forget it immediately in the daily struggle for ... existence. Knox leaves a widow, three sons, and a daughter. Mrs. Knox, I have always felt, never developed fully mentally. Perhaps her affliction, almost total deafness, has accentuated this apparent condition. His sons are utterly worthless and useless. They were a source of infinite trial to him, and what made it worse, was that when he attempted to discipline them at all, the Mother was always conspiring with them. I knew some of these details from what he said when some particularly atrocious act of theirs angered him A although he was always reticent about his own affairs. He endeavored to be generous to his family, and yet was thought

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by them to be niggardly. He has tied up his estate so they can only use its income. He returned from Europe Monday night. Tuesday afternoon I spent with him and chatted with him at greath length. He had two very bitter disappointments, and although he seldom mentioned them, knowing him as intimately as I did, I fully understood. He had expected Harding -4--

to make him Secretary of State. He really wished it. Harding seized upon an unguarded remark of Knox emanating from that vanity that is peculiar to all of us, that he did not care for any position, and gave as an excuse for declining to appoint Knox, that Knox did not want the job. Knox had got over that disappointment when the Disarmament Conference came along. He believed he was singularly fitted to deal with such a situation, and that he was a match in diplomacy, even for the astute minds of Europe. He told me Harding promised to make him a member of the Conference. He hated Root and had the utmost contempt for When Root and Lodge were selected, he felt that not on-Lodge. ly had he been overlooked, but that Harding had taken those inferior to him, and in that fashion, had not only refused him what he wished, but depreciated him in the eyes of his countrymen. His trip to Europe, undoubtedly, was taken that he might forget the slight he felt had been put upon him, and that he might not be where his disappointments should ever become known. He was so dignified and so very proud that he would have died before permitting the public generally to know that he ever felt disappointed, and that any one had been preferred to him. In our last conversation, he referred just incidentally to the appointments, but he told me one thing that very greatly interested me. While in England, he had learned through Harvey and others the attitude of Lloyd George towards our members of the Conference. George smiled at and poohpoohed the appointment of Underwood, saying he did not know anything

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about the subject of international affairs generally, and would be a mere cipher. He was cynical about Lodge, believed him to be a very old man, narrow, prejudiced, wholly partisan, without initiative, and who need not be reckoned with at all in the Conference. He was enthusiastic about Root, confidentially saying it was like Great Britain having another member on the Conference, and felt that Root would be the dependence of Great Britain in case of difference or disagreement. Strange to relate, he was suspicious and distrustful of Hughes, and while not actually fearing him, felt that he was the sole obstacle among the American Delegates to the success of what Great Britain desired. Friday night when dining with Harding, I told him something of this, and said it was the highest compliment that had been paid to the Secretary of State. Knox was a real "irreconcilable ". While I am very distrustful of Republicans of "party regularity" in what may transpire in our international relations, I thought Knox was the one man likely to follow his expressed views. Of course, Brandegee and Moses say they will, and McCormick rants about what he will do, but I have no confidence in their standing up when the time comes. I am so sorry Knox is gone. With him a large part of the charm of the Senate, for the moment, is gone too.

I wired you about Alfred Holman because I was so much startled that Harding had him in mind for appointment as adviser to the Conference Commission, and yet when I think of it, I ought to be neither surprised nor startled. Holman is simply his sort. The

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mention, however, was made by Harding so suddenly that I had not time for reflection and I contented myself with an outburst which while it could not be misunderstood, at times ran to denunciatory bitterness, and I fear had little weight. I described him to Harding as a little brother of the rich, a flunkey of privilege, whose appointment to speak for California would be an insult to California. Subsequently, as I advised you, I put my protest in writing. At any rate, the record is straight in this regard, so far as I am concerned. Harding has shown a disposition to be kindly and considerate, but just as I begin to soften, he will make some suggestion like that of Holman that rouses all my antagonism. You may not be aware that the Chamber of Commerce, and kindred commercial bodies made most bitter protests against McLaughlin. Not only did they obtain these protests from San Francisco, but from all over the State, Against them was my insistence on his appointment. He finally did as I desired, and he did it in the teeth of the opposition of all of those he knows are his friends. The moving cause, I think, was his "regularity", but, nevertheless, he did it, and I am not inclined to look too closely into his methods.

I made a speech on the Treaty the other day, which, doubtless, you have noticed. I did it in order to make plain that I was no less irreconcilable than I had ever been, and to serve notice that if an endeavor were made to put over a League, or a Reparations Commission, or a Versailles Treaty in the future I would be fighting

just as I had fought in the past. The speech was hastily dictated in the morning, and presented when the Senate convened at noon. It took but fifteen minutes in delivery, and I had the attention of the full Senate. It did not greatly appeal to me as an effort, but, apparently, struck a responsive chord with all of those individuals for whom I do not care. Of course, it .angered Borah, but he is simply impossible. He is playing a lone hand, and playing it well. I am doing substantially the same thing, but without his means of publicity; and because I. have been on the toboggan since last June, while he has constantly increased in prestige and influence, I am of little consequence now, and he is of very great importance. I thought, however, when Harding had gone right, it was the part of decency to say so. He has gone right on the League and on the Versailles Treaty, thus far, and therefore, I said so. If he goes wrong next month, or the succeeding months, as I suspect he will, I think the fact that I stood with him when he was right, will assist when I am against him when he is wrong.

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We're never going to get our house in order. Your Mother knows so much more about running a house properly than any of those other people I have seen, that she will not be content with butlers that are satisfactory to them. We get a man out every few days only to send him away. Neither Joe nor Mother will admit that Mori amounted to anything, yet while he and Joe were in command, is the only time since I have been in public life that the household

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was running smoothly. We move along haphazardly from now on. This is due in great degree to the fact that we are living in the country, but I have reached the conclusion it is due in greater degree to the fact that the men are incompetent, inefficient, and that your Mother is infinitely superior in maintaining things as they should be to those we come in contact with. I have been watching critically the dinners we have attended, and the service in the houses where we have gone, no matter how rich, your Mother would not tolerate for an instant. We'll wander along, therefore, in this somewhat uncomfortable way. I have despaired of having a smoothly run domestic establishment, and it's a matter of very deep regret to me. There are so many people coming here now that I would like, with or without notice, to carry out home, but this is beyond me, and I will have to say farewell to things of that sort.

I daily go over to the exercise room, taking the time, whether the Senate needs my distinguished and valuable services or not. It has done me some good, and yet I can't rid myself a of, vertigo, which I am glad to say has lessened, but which, nevertheless, is still with me. If I could get along without smoking, or drinking coffee, or eating anything at all for a few months, I am sure I would be very much better physically. I am however keeping pretty strict watch upon my meals now. I presume everything will come out all right. Mother feels none too good. I am anxious for us to get home for a little while, but yet there will be the care of a household, which we can't get in running order if we do come out. This world is just one damn thing after another.

Hiram W. Johnson Papers Bancroft Library

On Friday night when we were dining with Harding, I had a very intimate talk with the President, and I want to preserve in this letter to you one of his statements. We were talking of the Japanese question, and I was expressing to him my views that neither immigration, nor alien land laws such as ours could by any possibility be a matter for discussion at the Disarmament Conference. These I insisted were purely domestic questions, and no Nation worthy of the name could submit the decision of its domestic questions to any number of other nations. He agreed with me thoroughly, and said there was no intention whatever that our Japanese problems should be brought up at the Conference. In the course of his remarks then he said he was not apprehending so much difficulty from Japan as from Great Britain, although our relations with Japan immediately after he became President had been extremely difficult. During the time he had been in power he had been advised by Intelligence officers, and officers in the Navy that war with Japan was imminent, and they had asserted to him that we probably would have had war with Japan ere this, but for the calling of the Disarmament Conference. I expressed my utter surprise at this statement, but he reiterated it. Unfortunately, we were in the midst of this very matter when he was called out about 9:30 for an address, and we did not conclude upon the subject. I repeat, however, he stated positively that he had

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been advised that Japan intended war, and that we would probably have had war, but for the calling of the Conference.

There is nothing new at all in the Tobin matter. The President, and his private secretary, Christian, assure Mother whenever they see her that this is to be done for <u>her</u>, laying emphasis always upon <u>her</u>. They have spoken so often themselves voluntarily about it that I finally have come to believe that it will be done. I was skeptical for a long time because I know with what ease pleasant little flattering statements fall from the lips of the great, and how these statements may be exaggerated, but in this instance, with the statements of the Assistant Secretary of State, the President's secretary, and the President himself, I am constrained to believe there will be no doubt about some decent appointment being offered.

Jimmie Williams of the Boston Transcript and Dr. Ferguson were at dinner with us the night before last. Ferguson is here for the Conference to advise the Chinese Delegation. He told me that for the first time in his career in China he had interfered voluntarily in a matter with which his duties did not concern him, and that was in the contract of the Federal Co. He presented a memorandum to the President of China before his departure giving his reasons for advising the execution of the supplemental contract, and felt very much gratified to find subsequently that this was done. I wonder how the Company is getting on! It was because of Hughes' action in regard to this Company

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and because of the firm stand he apparently took that I gave him the praise I did in the little speech I made on the German Treaty the other day.

Mother and I send you all our love.

Affectionately,

71/

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HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN. HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF, CHAIRMAN. GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR. ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C. FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, KY. RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. EDWIN S. BROUSSARD, LA R. A. BURR, CLERK.

# Mited States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 22, 1921.

Major Archibald M. Johnson, Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., Attorneys at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Boys:

Herein is copy of letter received from the President in answer to my protest against Holman. Because of the receipt of this, I wired you as I did today. I presume it removes the possibility of this scrub Holman being selected to represent California.

Affectionately,

The White House

Washington

October 20, 1921

My dear Senator Johnson:

Thank you so much for your letter of October nineteenth.

After you spoke as you did concerning Alfred Holman, I never gave him another thought in connection with the Advisory delegation to the Conference on Limitation of Armaments. I think you know I would not appoint any man who is personally objectionable to you. Before the selections are made for the West I shall probably get in touch with you personally for some more intimate advice than that which is contained in your letter. I am glad to have you make manifest your friendly interest.

> Very sincerely, (signed) Warren G. Harding

Hon. Hiram W. Johnson United States Senate Washington, D.C. COPY

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HIRAM W JOHNSON JR

23 ATTY AT LAW MILLS BUILDING SANFRANCISCO CALIF PLEASE KEEP HOLLMAN MATTER ENTIRELY CONFIDENTIAL AM ADVISED THIS MORNING NO FUTHER DANGER BECAUSE OF MY PROTEST

HIRAM W JOHNSON:

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN. GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEÉR. ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C. FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, KY, RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. ED WIN S. BROUSSARD, LA. RAYMOND A. BURR, CLERK,

# Anited States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 27, 1921.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., Attorney at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Jack:

I cut out of the New York World of yesterday the enclosed article. I presume it was published in the local papers, and that you are familiar with it, but inasmuch as it concerns the Federal Company and the stand of Japan against you, I wanted you to see it. I was very much interested in your letter. I will keep it by me in case anything arises. Let me suggest to you, that Schwerin, in his name, write Senator Shortridge such a letter, or write Shortridge concerning the Federal Company, and ask him to be vigilant for the Company.

You may be in some danger at next month's Conference. God and the British only know what is going to be taken up there.

Affectionately,

### JAPAN STILL TO FIGHT **U. S. RADIO IN CHINA** Library

W. Johnson Papers

#### Federal Company's Station Rencroft garded as Infringement of Japanese Contract.

TOKIO, Oct. 22 (Associated Press) -Japan will continue its opposit on to the proposed establishment of radio stations in China by the Federal Telegraph Company, an American concern, on the grounds that it would constitute an infringement of a pre-vious contract between China and the Mitsui Company, a Japanese concern according to the morning newspapers

to-day. The Cabinet Council is said to have

to-day. The Cabinet Council is said to have decided to adhere at the Arms Con-gress to its policy, which was an-nounced last year at Washington dur-ing the Communications Conference. In effect, this policy was that Japan, while not objecting to America's con-tention not to recognize special prof-leges of any country over the control of communications in China and the mandated islands, would maintain the inportance of respecting the interests of established enterprises. The Chuagi Shogyo Shimpo to-day will be cabled to the Japanese dele-tation to the Arms Congress as ad-ditional instructions. The newspaper declares Japan is ready to recognize the principle of non-monopolistic con-rol of the wireless and cable stations on the Island of Yap, and that this whole district under mandatory rule. It alleges that the Government de-sires to support the establishment of the suggested joint Japanese-Ameri-an cable project, with a view to im-proving commercial relations, and that the Japanese delegation to Washington will work on this project.

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN, GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR. ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C. FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, KY, RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. EDWIN S. BROUSSARD, LA. BAYMOND A. BURR. CERK.

# United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 29, 1921.

Major Archibald M. Johnson, Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., Attorneys at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Boys:

We've had an interminable week of long sessions upon the Tax Bill. Nobody knows the subject thoroughly, and, apparently, there is no individual in the Senate, or out, who can provide an adequate scheme. We have run at haphazard, therefore, and will continue during this day fussing over amendments, which, after all, are of little consequence. The whole scheme presented is so rotten, so unjust, and discriminatory that I am looking with some sympathy upon any substitute.

During the week, and since a week ago yesterday, I've been almost hors de combat with an attack of lumbago. It has lamed my body, crippled my mind, and destroyed my usual placid disposition. I have regularly gone to my exercise room, however, have sat in the electric box with my head stuck out like a man in the stocks, and then I have had the masseur do his damndest. Today, I feel, for the first time, as if I were about to recover, and am looking forward next week to resuming my exercise. You both would be surprised to know how strictly I am following the instructions of the physician in diet, and with what regularity I endeavor to do the very little I can do to recover a physique and vitality long ago negligently dissipated.

Last Monday, the successor of Knox was sworn in. His name is Crow. He is one of Pennsylvania's political vultures. Whatever Knox's faults were, there was a peculiar pride and dignity about him that held him aloof from the Penrose kind of politics. I resent one of the crooked crew in his place. But what impressed your Mother and myself was that a delegation of Pennsylvanians came here with their Crow, filling the galleries, and vociferously applauding when he was sworn in. It was truly the survival of "le roi est mort, vive le roi! " I don't think there is anybody here now who ever thinks of Knox, except your Mother and myself. Perhaps this is the necessary consequence of an ever changing body like ours, and yet, the memory of one of his prominence ought to last a couple of weeks. Somebody asked me the other day if I remembered the message sent to me by Penrose during the last campaign, and I recalled it very vividly. On one occasion, Penrose sent for McSween and told him that he wished a message conveyed to me. He said "Tell Johnson, Knox and Johnson would be a very good ticket, and Knox is not a well man." Our tribe is so peculiarly constituted that I don't think there would be very much charm in being made President by death.

The President has just made a spectacular trip through the South. His speech upon the negro question has aroused considerable interest, although there has been publicly no great amount of frank comment. He did, I think, a rather bold thing, in discussing the subject in Alabama. From the political standpoint,

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I think it was an exceedingly clever thing. There is no hope for the Republican Party in the South, and will not be for some generations. The negro question is becoming more and more important in the North. Chicago, doubtless, will send a negro Congressman from one of its districts next year. New York City's negro population has vastly increased. Indiana and Ohio, as a result of the influx during the war, have had their negroes greatly augmented. The negro vote in New Jersey, Indiana, Ohio, and possibly Illinois and New York is sufficient to turn an election. They, of course, loudly endorsed what the President said. Southerners, generally, denounce it. Northerners, like myself, who have had their first intimate knowledge of the problem by residence in Washington and vicinity, have not a great deal of sympathy with it, although recognizing theoretically its logic.

Harding loves the limelight as few men have loved it. He has actually made those who come in contact with him believe that he is modest and unassuming. He certainly is unostentatious, but he is more greedy for applause, more avid for crowds than any man I have ever known. This arises, possibly, from the fact that during all of his political life he never aroused one particle of enthusiasm. He was never able to draw well, and never able to impress his hearers. He now finds himself by virtue of the office the great drawing card everywhere, whose every word is cheered to the echo, and he is finally surfeting himself in what all the rest of his life he had been denied. To most of us, the spectacle of his pilgrimmage

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to Atlantic City merely to be wheeled for a mile or more along the board-walk that a hundred thousand Jews might applaud him, was not only incomprehensible, but not without its humor. The fact is, he is always away on jaunts, or he is indulging in speeches or parties here. It's the Marion small town cheap showing that is uppermost in his daily life now, and yet, he is personally very presentable, and treats most of us with a consideration and courtesy, which we'd be less than human, if we did not appreciate. A case of this sort was the Holman incident. Holman is the boon companion of George Harvey, Nicholas Murray Butler, and the predatory crew of skunks who run the Republican Party and the Government. Of course, he was most highly regarded by the President. I have no doubt Harding's mind was made up to select him, and yet my outburst against him was sufficient to preclude his selection, and I believe upon the ground that Harding wrote, because he did not wish from our territory to take a man objectionable to me. This is in direct contradiction, of course, to the selection of an individual like Hoover, but the Hoover selection, undoubtedly, was a forced put with him, and at the time it was made, I really think he did not enjoy it very much more than I did. I believe now he is rather proud of having a part of him, and particularly under him men like Hoover, whom some think the greatest on earth.

I have been receiving some inside information of late concerning the projects of foreign countries in the Disarmament

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Conference. Suffice it to say for the moment that they are looking forward to something in the nature of an alliance with this country, or to an association not unlike the League of Nations we have defeated. Representations have been made to them, it is asserted to me, begging them to move slowly, that Wilson endeavored to take us precipitately into a League and was repudiated by our people, but that Hughes will ease us into it, and in reality accomplish the same result as Wilson. Of course, I am suspicious of what will occur next month, but what makes my heart sink is the fact that we probably will not be able to prevent anything, however infamous. We roused the people once on the League of Nations. I doubt if we could ever rouse them again. Particularly at this time when the press is so subservient and the sources of news so poisoned, I fear anything could be put over upon us. I am looking forward, my dear boys, to some difficult days, where in I shall be just as I have been in the past couple of years, and when I shall not hesitate to express myself as I did I tried to make this plain in under the Wilson Administration. the little talk that I made on the German Treaty. However, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof".

The little Dodge toy we bought has been a source of great pleasure to me. I drive in in the car, when it is possible, and drive out at night. The last two Sunday mornings, Mother very bravely entrusted herself to me, and we have ridden for a couple of hours in it. I'm far from a good driver, because I don't get

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practice enough in the traffic, but last Sunday I drove all over Washington, around the Mall and the Lincoln Memorial with your Mother. I no longer fear my ability to do what is essential, although I may do it awkwardly and slowly. The big car, they have been telling us, has done its work. I don't believe this is so, but the Cadillac shop here insists that without a very large expenditure upon it, it can not be made fit. We're using it constantly, however, and we think we can go through the Winter with it all right.

There has been a strange metamorphosis in our dogs. Spartan has a new lease of life. He has developed into a very active old man. He seems to boss Victor now, and singularly enough he seems to be quite as active as Victor. There was a time when Victor nearly killed him in two or three fights. Spartan, however, growls and wants to fight frequently, and Victor yields to him, although I suspect that some day the wolf in Victor will come uppermost and there will be little of Spartan left. The strangest thing about them is that Spartan is like a big bad brother. He takes Victor away with him now on fregular excursions. Victor never goes by himself, and if we keep Victor in, Spartan will wait until he comes out, and finally start him off on one of his trips. Generally, Victor will return before Spartan, although sometimes they come ambling back together. It is very interesting to watch them.

I have written you on several occasions that my expectation was to be home Christmas. In Jack's last letter to Mother, he

-6-

inquired when we intended to come out. I can't speak with absolute certainty, but I do expect to leave here at least early in December, and to spend Christmas in San Francisco.

With all our love,

Affectionately,

-7-

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN, GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR. ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C. FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, KY. RICHARD P. ERNST, KY. EDWIN S. BROUSSARD, LA. RAYMOND A. BURR, GLERK.

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Anited States Denate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

October 29, 1921.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., Attorney at law, Mills Building, San Francisco.

My dear Jack:

I am sending you herein copy of letter I have received today from Chas. S. Peery. The letter rather appealed to me. I would like to have your reflex of it.

Affectionately,

BODA

### CITY ATTORNEY San Francisco

### October 24th, 1921.

Honorable Hiram W. Johnson, U S Senator, Washington, D.C.

My dear Senator:

Just a few lines to remind you that it is much longer than a year since I campaigned with John D. Barry of the "Call" in your primary campaign and over a year since I was out all over this State in the National campaign. Therefore you will not think me presumptuous in regard to my appointment as Commissioner of Im-Your friends and the friends of Senator Shortridge at migration. Angel Island say very positively that Mr. Nagle, my opponent, is strongly supported by Mr. Boyce now acting Commissioner under Mr. White and in this they see the retention of Mr. Boyce in office. Mr. Boyce is the man they complain of, and they are very emphatic in their desire to have a change. I have nothing personally to say about Mr. Nagle but I have this to say that during all the years I have been following your banner in this State I have never heard of Mr. Nagle in any of your campaigns. He has been in Mr. Fickert's office and afterwards employed around Republican headquarters. He has the endorsement of the Republican County Committee while all my work has been done under the National and State Committees. Mr. Adams, Chairman of the Speakers' Committee says that I was the most active man in the campaign excepting perhaps J.J. Dwyer.

I have written this much because of the reports here that the County Committee's endorsement of Mr. Nagle has weakened my chances, notwithstanding the strong endorsements I have to you. I cannot believe it. I have no further chance for advancement in my present position and naturally as nearly every one in a position to judge, seemed agreed that I should be appointed Commissioner of Immigration, I have confidently hoped for that appointment.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

(Sgd) Chas. S. Peery