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KODAK Gray Scale



Kodak
LICENSED PRODUCT

A 1 2 3 4 5 6 **M** 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 **B** 17 18 19



HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN
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M. A. CONNOR, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

January 16, 1929

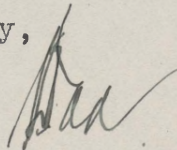
Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.
Attorney at Law
Mills Building
San Francisco, California.

My dear Jack:

I have just received my income tax blank. I can make out the statement here, but last year I included in it, of course, and will do so this year, the rentals received by Mother. Can you tell me what offsets the word "to these rentals" in the matter of taxes, et cetera. Of course Mother hasn't any statements, for I assume they are lost as soon as received. I do not wish any statement really, but simply the amount received and the amount I am entitled to deduct.

Pardon me for bothering you about this, but if you could send me anything from which I can write my ^{tax} ~~attached~~ statement in the regard mentioned, I would greatly appreciate it.

Hastily and affectionately,



EXPENSES re 857 GREEN STREET
1928

Madison & Burke (Taxes).....	\$315.93
J.M.Anderson.....	6.00
Madison & Burke Taxes 2nd Inst.....	255.51
Aff. Estate Keith (50¢ each mo.)...	6.00
S.F.BANK INTEREST.....	15.00
MADISON & BURKE (Taxes 1st Inst.)..	399.58
S.F.Bank Interest.....	15.00
TILLMAN ESTATE (5 Months at \$30. 7 Months at \$50.).....	500.00
	<hr/>
	\$1511.02

FROM KEITH ESTATE

12 Months at \$275.	\$3300.00
Expenses.....	<u>1511.02</u>
	\$1788.98

HIRAM W. JOHNSON
CHAIRMAN

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

January 22, 1929

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

My dear Jack:

Yesterday I received yours of 18th relating to the assessment on Mother's River Farms' stock. I think Dr. Dow's suggestion was more than kind. I want you to thank him for me, and express to him my warmest appreciation; and I do appreciate quite beyond expression his thoughtfulness. While I have been deeply touched by what you have written, I prefer that the matter be not done that way. I hate to let the stock go, for I have thought it might be rather a valuable asset for your Mother in case anything untoward should transpire. I am reluctant, too, to use the ready cash I have in the Donohoe, Kelly Bank, in payment of another assessment. I would like to leave the decision to you as to what ought to be done, but I realize this is not entirely fair; and that such decisions one must make for himself; and in rather hesitating fashion, therefore, I have concluded to do what is essential, and I enclose you herein my check on the Donohoe-Kelly Banking Company, to your order, for \$2585.00 in payment of the assessment.

You'll remember that you paid quite a large assessment at onetime upon this stock, and in January, 1928, I paid one of like amount with that we are now considering. It looks like sending good money after bad. I have been wondering just how

2.

many shares there were of the company, and just how much is realized by one of these assessments. Some day, at your convenience, write me.

I have not attempted to enter into any explanations in this note with you as to my desire not to accept the suggestion that has been made, and it is difficult to write at all concerning the matter without being misunderstood. Believe, me, my dear son, I am deeply grateful for the suggestion, and what I know was the kindness and affection behind it. My refusal to accept it is solely because of the strange and peculiar, and perhaps unfathomable temperament that is mine.

With love to all,

Affectionately,

Dad

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 31, 1929.

My dear dear son Arch:

In our time honored fashion, I'm writing this note of greeting for your birthday next Monday, endeavoring to mail it that it may reach you that day. Each year I write, I do so with increasing love. Although both of us are now old men, you in reality having outstripped me in actual age, I find myself growing more and more sentimental with the passing of time, and it is with difficulty I restrain myself from rather schoolgirlish utterances of affection.

Of course, I congratulate you on the day. In my pride, I congratulate myself that you are my son. I wish I were with you; but fate parts us these days and I can only send to you the ever increasing love of your mother and myself — a love your kindness, sweetness and devotion to us through a long life time has constantly added to.

Good luck! Best wishes!

The love of two fond and proud parents!

Your old Dad.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

P.S. Since Saturday last your Mother has been ill - really ill. A couple of days this week she has been confined strictly to her room, and of course, all the time to the house. She has had a bronchitis and terrible cold that have threatened much worse. I'm hoping she is better; but I have been greatly worried and am still because it is almost impossible to get her to care for herself at all. In the worst days this week, we succeeded I think in having her realize the necessity of caution; but now she is better, she no longer thinks so. I did not wire you and Jack, because I thought there wasn't sufficient seriousness to warrant it; but I can tell you, dear boy, the world was pretty lark for a couple of days because of her suffering. I think everything is all right now, provided she takes no chances.

Dad.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT.

RECEIVED AT

CAL. COML. UNION BLDG.

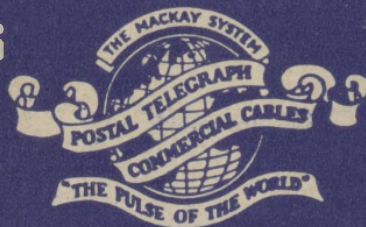
315 MONTGOMERY ST.

PHONE KEARNY 1000 LOCAL

STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

TELEGRAMS

TO ALL
AMERICA



CABLEGRAMS

TO ALL
THE WORLD

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BLUE	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
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LCO	DEFERRED
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WLT	WEEK END LETTER

F 12 SF WP 914AM 82 SUBFIX 81 WORD

Form 16 Dbl.

ST WASHINGTON DC FEB 4 1929

MAJOR ARCHIBALD M JOHNSON

ATTY AT LAW MILLS BLDG SANFRANCISCO CALIF

FELICITATIONS OF YOUR TWO FOND PARENTS ON THIS DAY YOU HAVE REASON
FOR CONGRATULATION BUT WE TOO AS HAPPENS TO FEW PARENTS CAN CONGRATULATE
OURSELVES AND WHILE ADMITTING ALL OF THE GOOD AND THE FINE THINGS ABOUT OUR
SON WE ARE BURSTING WITH PLEASURE AND PRIDE THAT HE IS OURS STOP HAVE A
GOOD TIME TODAY AND WHILE YOU ARE HAVING IT KEEP IN MIND THAT THE TWO
OLD FOLKS ARE THINKING OF YOU ALL OUR LOVE TO OUR DEAR SON

MOTHER AND DAD

POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT

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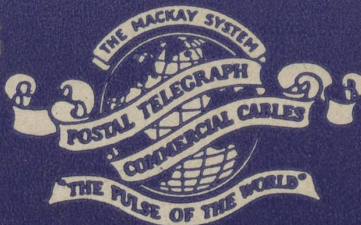
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F72SFMB2PM 20

Form 16 Dbl.

ST WASHINGTON DC FEB 8 1929

HIRAM W JOHNSON JR

ATTORNEY AT LAW MILLS BLDG SANFRANCISCO CALIF

I THINK IN BOX AT BANK IS A THOUSAND DOLLAR LIBERTY BOND WILL YOU PLEASE

OBTAIN SELL AND WIRE PROCEEDS

HIRAM W JOHNSON

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN
HENRY W. KEYES, N. H. WILLIAM H. KING, UTAH
FRANK B. WILLIS, OHIO WILLIAM J. HARRIS, GA.
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ARTHUR R. GOULD, ME. HUBERT D. STEPHENS, MISS.

M. A. CONNOR, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

February 11, 1929

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

My dear Arch:

Singularly enough I was present when the matter of horses that might be kept by officers in the army came up. I was there, because of the Sacramento River items, which constituted the toughest little contests I have had since I have been here. I was very glad to be of what little aid I could in having the senate bill carry the right to more than one horse. It probably would have been fatal to have said anything about polo, so the necessity was put upon other grounds. The Bill now goes to conference, and I think the senate amendment will be retained.

Affectionately,

Dan

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WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

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NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LCO = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Letter
WLT = Week-End Letter

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Received at 722 Market St., San Francisco, Calif., **ALWAYS OPEN**

AA43 20 GOVT=SN WASHINGTON DC 13 835A

1929 FEB 13 AM 6 07

MAJOR A M JOHNSON=

ATTY AT LAW MILLS BLDG SANFRANCISCO CALIF=

HAVE APPOINTED STILWELL TO WESTPOINT IT IS ABSOLUTELY

ESSENTIAL IN MY APPOINTMENT THAT THE APPOINTEE BE A RESIDENT

OF CALIFORNIA=

HIRAM W JOHNSON..

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN
HENRY W. KEYES, N. H. WILLIAM H. KING, UTAH
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JAMES E. WATSON, IND. HUBERT D. STEPHENS, MISS.
M. A. CONNOR, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

February 28, 1929

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

My dear Arch:

Your letter which was received this week made me feel badly. I am sorry you have had so much sickness, and then on top of it, to get your knee cracked, and for Martha to dislocate her shoulder. I do hope this note will find you all on the way to recovery. The world looks pretty dark under misfortune, such as this, and I can't tell you how much I sympathize with you. We're in a terrible state here endeavoring to move from our old house into another, which Mother is attempting to make over, and doing this at the close of a session, maintaining long hours, lengthy night sessions, and where everybody is wrought up to the highest pitch and in a state of irritable exhaustion. Add to this, the fever of a new inauguration in Washington, and perhaps from a different standpoint you may sympathize with my present ills.

We adjourn Monday next. For a brief time we'll be in extra session on Cabinet appointments, and the like, possibly a few days. If the extra session to be called by Hoover is called for the end of April, I shall try to

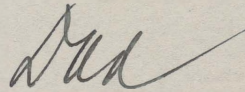
run out to California. If it is called for the early part of April I will not make the attempt. I want to come to San Francisco, and make my arrangements with Theodore, and if I can, get started in the work which it is absolutely essential I begin.

I am sending you this note on Thursday because by Saturday every member of the senate will be insane, and because I shall then be in one room, with workmen all about, ^{and} I will be worse than insane, and probably then, there will be no opportunity to write.

Our new address is 122 Maryland Avenue, Northeast, Washington, D.C.

Love to Martha and yourself from both of us.

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'Dad', written in dark ink.

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN
HENRY W. KEYES, N. H. WILLIAM H. KING, UTAH
DAVID A. REED, PA. WILLIAM J. HARRIS, GA.
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JAMES E. WATSON, IND. HUBERT D. STEPHENS, MISS.

M. A. CONNOR, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

March 1, 1929

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

My dear Jack:

Governor Pinchot leaves on a great adventure on a big sailing vessel. He is going to the Grand Cayman. In conversation with him I related the day we spent there. He asked me if I would give him a note to the British Resident or Governor. I don't remember the names, of course. Can you immediately give me the names, -Carl would have them in his diary if there is no other way to get them,- so that I may give the Governor little notes of introduction.

Hastily and affectionately,

Mad

Dr. Overton - Port Surgeon

Hutchings - Commissioner

Date - Arrived - April 1, 1925 - 10 P.M. ^{Inted}
- Departed - April 3, 1925 - 6 am _{Friday}

POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

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CHE25 48 GOVT

1929 MAR 5 AM 7 27

ST WASHINGTTN DC 5

HIRAM W JOHNSON JR

ATTORNEY ⁸³⁷ AT LAW MILLS BLDG SANFRANCISCO CALIF

YOUR NIGHTLETTER CONCERNING BROADCASTING JUST RECEIVED STOP I
REGRET PROFOUNDLY THAT SITUATION PREVENTS ME FROM
ACCEPTING PLEASE EXPRESS TO THOSE WHO INVITED ME MY DEEPEST
APPRECIATION OF THE INVITATION MY THANKS FOR IT AND HOW SORRY I AM
I CAN NOT DO AS SUGGESTED AM WRITING YOU TODAY
HIRAM W JOHNSON.

RECEIVED

STANDARD FORM NO. 64
INDICATED ON THE REVERSE

18 7 21

CHESS #R GOVT

ST WASHINGTON DC 2

HIRSH & JOHNSON JR

ATTORNEY AT LAW 1115 BLDG BARBARA STGO CALIF

YOUR RIGHTLETOR CONSENTING TO ORGANIZATIONS JUST REVER STOP

REGRET PROFOUNDLY THAT SITUATION PREVENTS ME FROM

ACCEPTING PLEASE EXPRESS TRUCE AND INVITED ME W DEEPEST

APPRECIATION OF THE INVITATION MY THANKS FOR KNOWING SORRY I AM

I CAN NOT DO AS SUGGESTED BY LETTER TODAY

HIRSH & JOHNSON

1929 MAR 5 AM 7 30

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN
HENRY W. KEYES, N. H. WILLIAM H. KING, UT.
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M. A. CONNOR, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

March 6, 1929

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

My dear Jack:

Thank you very much for your telegram about Grand Cayman. I wrote the letters as desired by Governor Pinchot and sent them to him today. He has a big sailing vessel with a Diesel engine in it. He expects to leave this month to be gone eight or nine months, and to cover the South Sea Islands. Mrs. Pinchot, his son, a doctor, a couple of guests, and a couple of scientists accompany them.

We have been intensely interested in what you said about the boys. That Hiram is growing into a young man is obvious from what you write. How interesting it will be to watch him now!

I wanted you to know how utterly impossible it is for Mother to write at present. I am sending you and Arch today a rough drawing of the three floors of our house. From them you probably will get a much better idea than my attempted description yesterday. Every bit of work is being mapped out and superintended by your Mother. She is literally making over every room in the house,

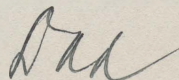
Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

and when I say making over, I mean building over. She has knocked out partitions, built in new doorways, and closed up others, and has reconstructed entirely the original plan of the inside of the establishment. We get up at seven o'clock in the morning, - sleeping now in the room designated as ours upon the second floor - get what breakfast Joe can give us, lunch at the Senate restaurant, and dine wherever we can and whatever time is convenient for Mother. The workmen arrive at seven thirty and they include carpenters, paper hangers, plumbers, the electrician, and steamfitters, and tomorrow, it is hoped to add, the masons to build a brick wall. We have about an hour together at night for the men under arrangements with her work over time, and Sundays. She is so worn and weary at night time that my heart aches for her. It is impossible to do anything however, or to have her save herself in the slightest degree. If we can get through the infernal thing without your Mother being sick I will be extremely thankful.

We do hope Miss Schow is all well again, and that the dear laddies keep their health.

With all our love,

Affectionately,



B Street

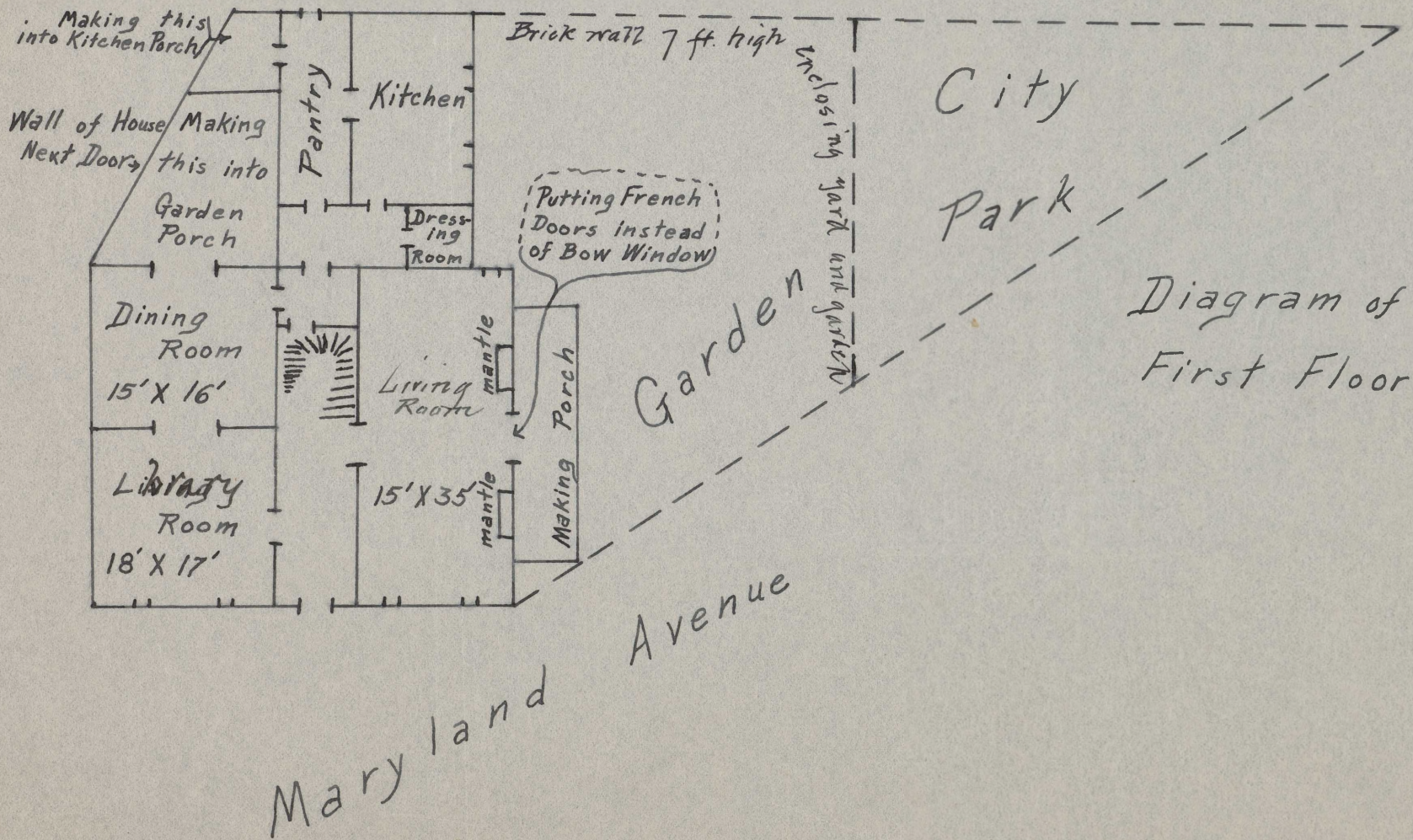
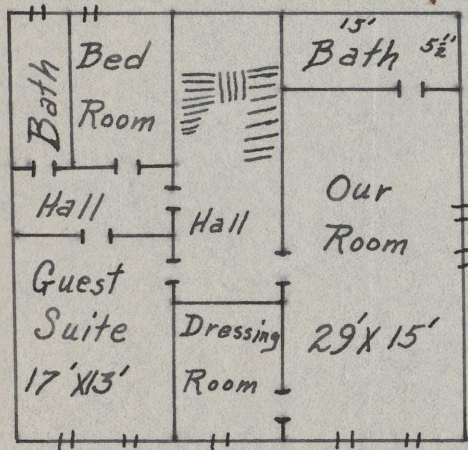
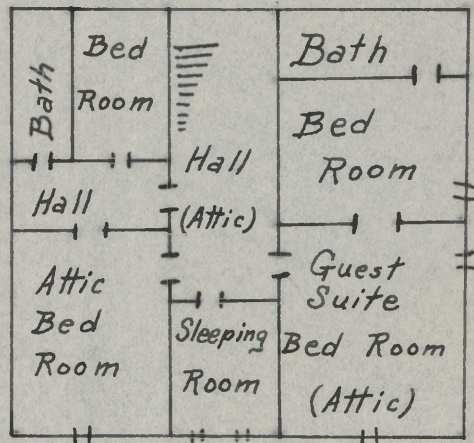


Diagram of
Second Floor



Maryland Avenue

Diagram of
Third Floor



Maryland Avenue



8

Hiram W. Johnson Papers
Bancroft Library

782

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN
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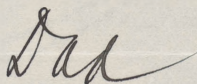
COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

March 16, 1929

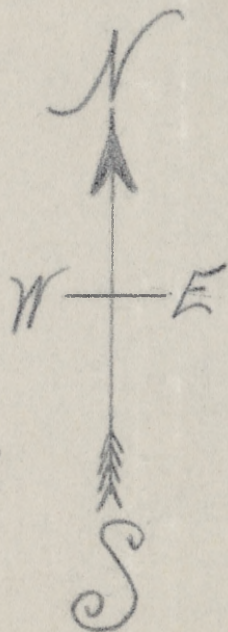
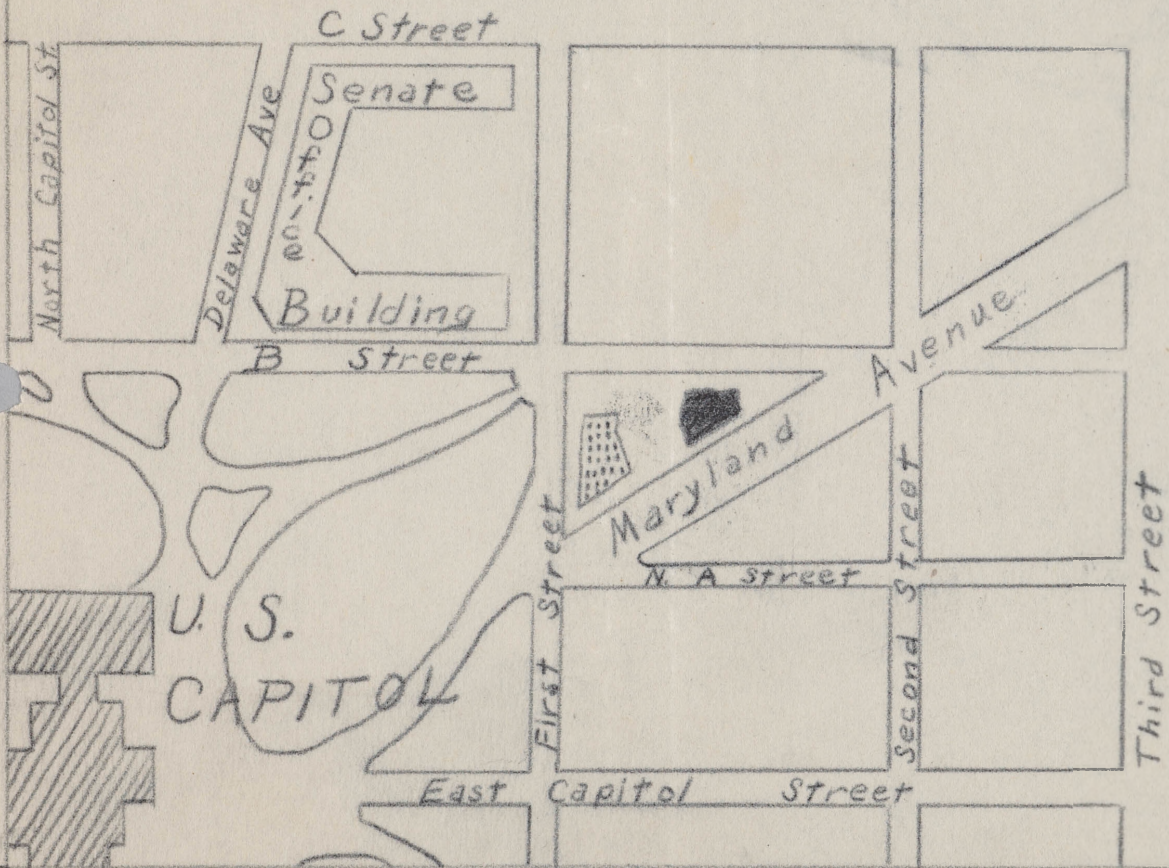
My dear Boys:

I am sending you two maps today showing the locations of our property and the squares adjoining. The large figure, one in red, and the other in blue, represent the proposed Supreme Court Building. I have marked the maps in the lower left hand corner "1" and "2" respectively. I am sending these so that you may, if you are interested, have them before you, when I write you next week in detail concerning our situation here, and the developments that have recently arisen, and gave rise to my note of the other day. The maps are sent rolled up in a regular mailing case. I am advising you of this fact, so that when you receive it in a roll you will know what it is.

Affectionately,

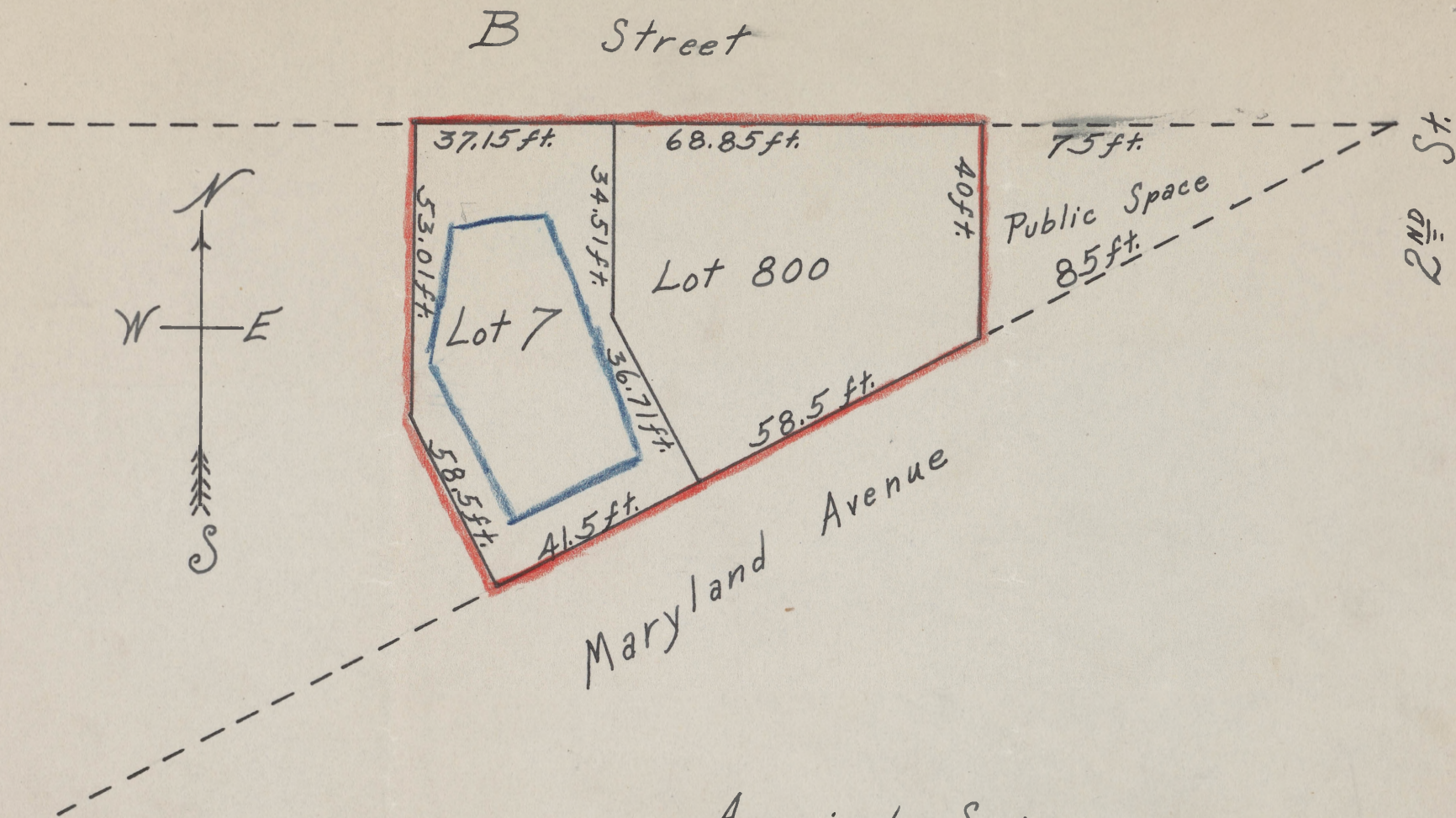


P:S: The maps are addressed to Jack.



Solid black section
indicates property
acquired by Senator
Hiram W. Johnson.

Section filled in
with small dots
indicates Methodist
Building.



Approximate Scale - 1" = 30'

Property purchased Lots 7 and 800
enclosed in red.

House enclosed in blue Lot 7.

House not drawn accurately or to scale.

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN
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M. A. CONNOR, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

March 20, 1929

My dear Sons:

Day before yesterday I sent you a long statement in regard to our troubles with our new home. I am sending you herein, merely that you may understand the situation, the history of the site for the Supreme Court Building from its inception. I shall not again write you about the matter in any detail, because, first, I don't want to unload my troubles, and secondly, constant reiteration of one's difficulties, however arising, are a nuisance and a bore. I am feeling better about the situation now. Smoot arrived yesterday, and has become a decided ally. My colleagues, with whom I have been quietly taking the matter up, are sympathetic, and the Methodists have afforded me a little ray of humor. They see a deep, dark conspiracy on the part of the Catholics and wets to destroy their cherished property, and they are in the fight with both feet. I am hoping to stifle the attempted appropriation of our block 726 in its initial stages, that is, first in the Supreme Court Building Commission itself, and if unsuccessful there, in the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. Today, for the first time it seems that with the very powerful aid of Smoot this may be accomplished. And now, I will dismiss the subject in my letters to you, with

2.

apologies for having taken up so much space and time in writing you. My excuse is that I have done nothing else since the blow fell on the 13th of March, and that since then your Mother and I have been really very greatly worried and concerned.

With our love to all,

Affectionately,

Dad

RESUME OF PROCEEDINGS FOR SELECTION AND
ACQUISITION OF SITE FOR SUPREME COURT BUILDING

May 25, 1926, An Act entitled "An Act to provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes" was approved and became a law.

On page one of this Act is contained the following:

"Provided, however, That the Secretary of the Treasury is also authorized to acquire a site for a building for the Supreme Court of the United States."

Section 6 of the Act provides that no lands for sites shall be acquired without prior approval of the Commission created by the Act of March 1, 1919.

The Act of March 1, 1919, created the Public Buildings Commission to be composed of two Senators to be appointed by the President of the Senate and two Members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker, who shall serve thereon only so long as they are Members of Congress, and the Architect of the Capitol, the officer in charge of public buildings and grounds, and the supervising architect, or the acting supervising architect of the Treasury during any vacancy in said office.

June 8, 1926, a letter signed by Justices Taft, Van Devanter, Butler, Sanford, and Stone, was addressed to Senator Smoot, and recommended the acquisition of a site

- 2 -

for the Supreme Court Building in the square or block

"north of the Library opposite the
Capitol grounds."

June 8, 1926, a letter signed by Mr. Justice Taft, and addressed to Colonel Grant urged Colonel Grant to proceed with the recommendations made in the letter to Senator Smoot.

November 17, 1926, the Public Buildings Commission duly passed a resolution, which in the minutes of the meeting appears in the following language:

"Upon motion of Mr. Elliott, a resolution was passed that the condemnation and purchase of property in Squares 727 and 728, bounded by Maryland Avenue, East Capitol Street, 1st and 2nd Streets, N. E., for the site of the new Supreme Court Building, be authorized."

Thereafter, on November 19, 1926, the Public Buildings Commission consisting then of Senators Reed Smoot and Claude Swanson, Representatives Fritz G. Lanham and Richard N. Elliott, Architect David Lynn, Supervising Architect of the Treasury James A. Wetmore, and Major U. S. Grant, 3rd, wrote Honorable Andrew W. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, and among other things stated:

"A resolution was passed that the condemnation and purchase of the property in squares 727 and 728, bounded by Maryland Avenue, East Capitol Street, 1st and 2nd Streets, N. E., for the site of the Supreme Court Building, be authorized."

This letter was signed "Reed Smoot, Chairman".

Thereafter proceedings for condemnation were ~~insti-~~

- 3 -

tuted in the District of Columbia, court cause docket number 1911, wherein was filed the letter of the Public Buildings Commission, and subsequently the request of the Secretary of the Treasury to the Attorney General to proceed in condemnation of the proposed two blocks 727 and 728.

December 5, 1928, a decree of award was given by the Court, from which nine owners appealed.

February 18, 1929, a jury on appeals made awards in the said nine instances.

The entire condemnation of blocks 727 and 728, and nothing else, has been consummated and the full amount of the payment of the property has been authorized by the congress. The last sum authorized was in the last deficiency bill just prior to the adjournment of congress, \$268,000. Full payment has been made for the said blocks 727 and 728 selected for the Supreme Court Building.

Among the papers in the case before the Court was a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to the Attorney General reciting that pursuant to authority in the Act of May, 1926, the Secretary of the Treasury had selected blocks 727 and 728, which selection had the approval of the Public Buildings Commission, and that the Secretary of the Treasury, having failed to acquire by purchase at a reasonable price, the Attorney General is requested to proceed with condemnation.

- 4 -

December 21, 1928, an Act of Congress was duly approved, entitled "An Act to provide for the submission to the Congress of preliminary plans and estimates of costs for the construction of a building for the Supreme Court of the United States".

In the first section of the Act a commission to be known as the "United States Supreme Court Building Commission," to be composed of the Chief Justice of the United States, an associate justice of the United States to be designated by the Supreme Court of the United States, the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds of the Senate, the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds of the House of Representatives, and the Architect of the Capitol. The Architect of the Capitol is designated as executive officer of the Commission.

Section 2 of the Act authorizes the commission to procure preliminary plans and estimates of costs for the construction, and the furnishing and equipping, of a suitable building, for the accommodation and exclusive use of the Supreme Court of the United States; such building to be erected upon the site heretofore acquired for that purpose.

In 1929 the Annual Report of the Public Buildings

- 5 -

Commission for the year 1928 was printed and upon page 7 appears the following:

"While studies and plans for the new building for the United States Supreme Court are not at this time available, a site for that building has been decided upon. The site chosen is on squares 727 and 728, bounded on the north by Maryland Avenue, on the south by East Capitol Street, on the east by Second Street, and on the west by First Street, N. E. The site was selected with future development of the section in mind.

"For acquisition of the property \$1,500,000 has been appropriated but appeals by property owners have, in the course of condemnation proceedings, been awarded in excess of that amount. A deficiency bill of \$268,741, for the excess in awards rendered up to the present time is now pending, and as there are still some additional appeals to be settled it is likely that the entire purchase will involve an even larger expenditure. In order to avoid further delay an attempt is being made to secure legislation to take care of awards as they are rendered without regard to the total cost.

"Without unusual further delays, the acquisition of the site should be completed before the end of the fiscal year 1929."

March 3, 1929, a meeting was held of the Supreme Court Commission, the following members being present: The Chief Justice, William H. Taft, Mr. Justice Van Devanter, Senator James A. Reed, Senator Henry W. Keyes, Representative Richard N. Elliott, Representative Fritz C. Lanham, and Mr. David Lynn. A resolution was adopted at this meeting authorizing Mr. Lynn to prepare a form of contract with Cass Gilbert, an architect of New York City, for the preparation of preliminary plans and estimates of cost and models for the Supreme Court Building.

- 6 -

and to submit the proposed contract to the Commission for action at its next meeting. The following resolution moved by the Chief Justice, and seconded by Justice Van Devanter was also carried:

"Resolved that Senator Reed and the Architect of the Capitol, constitute a committee to take into consideration the enlargement of the proposed Supreme Court lot, to include all the property bounded by Maryland Avenue, First Street, B and Second, which includes the property now occupied by the Methodist Building."

The first intimation or suggestion to any of those interested, save the Supreme Court Building Commission, that there was any thought whatsoever in any person's mind to acquire the property including the Methodist Building was March 12, 1929. This property referred to in the resolution quoted, adopted March 3, 1929, constitutes block 726, and this block in none of the proceedings has ever been referred to. Blocks 727 and 728 constitute the land selected for the Supreme Court Building site.

RESUME OF PROCEEDINGS FOR SELECTION AND
ACQUISITION OF SITE FOR SUPREME COURT BUILDING

May 25, 1926, An Act entitled "An Act to provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes" was approved and became a law.

On page one of this Act is contained the following:

"Provided, however, That the Secretary of the Treasury is also authorized to acquire a site for a building for the Supreme Court of the United States."

Section 6 of the Act provides that no lands for sites shall be acquired without prior approval of the Commission created by the Act of March 1, 1919.

The Act of March 1, 1919, created the Public Buildings Commission to be composed of two Senators to be appointed by the President of the Senate and two Members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker, who shall serve thereon only so long as they are Members of Congress, and the Architect of the Capitol, the officer in charge of public buildings and grounds, and the supervising architect, or the acting supervising architect of the Treasury during any vacancy in said office.

June 8, 1926, a letter signed by Justices Taft, Van Devanter, Butler, Sanford, and Stone, was addressed to Senator Smoot, and recommended the acquisition of a site

for the Supreme Court Building in the square or block

"north of the Library opposite the
Capitol grounds."

June 8, 1926, a letter signed by Mr. Justice Taft, and addressed to Colonel Grant urged Colonel Grant to proceed with the recommendations made in the letter to Senator Smoot.

November 17, 1926, the Public Buildings Commission duly passed a resolution, which in the minutes of the meeting appears in the following language:

"Upon motion of Mr. Elliott, a resolution was passed that the condemnation and purchase of property in Squares 727 and 728, bounded by Maryland Avenue, East Capitol Street, 1st and 2nd Streets, N. E., for the site of the new Supreme Court Building, be authorized."

Thereafter, on November 19, 1926, the Public Buildings Commission consisting then of Senators Reed Smoot and Claude Swanson, Representatives Fritz G. Lanham and Richard N. Elliott, Architect David Lynn, Supervising Architect of the Treasury James A. Wetmore, and Major U. S. Grant, 3rd, wrote Honorable Andrew W. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, and among other things stated:

"A resolution was passed that the condemnation and purchase of the property in squares 727 and 728, bounded by Maryland Avenue, East Capitol Street, 1st and 2nd Streets, N. E., for the site of the Supreme Court Building, be authorized."

This letter was signed "Reed Smoot, Chairman".

Thereafter proceedings for condemnation were insti-

tuted in the District of Columbia, court cause docket number 1911, wherein was filed the letter of the Public Buildings Commission, and subsequently the request of the Secretary of the Treasury to the Attorney General to proceed in condemnation of the proposed two blocks 727 and 728.

December 5, 1928, a decree of award was given by the Court, from which nine owners appealed.

February 18, 1929, a jury on appeals made awards in the said nine instances.

The entire condemnation of blocks 727 and 728, and nothing else, has been consummated and the full amount of the payment of the property has been authorized by the congress. The last sum authorized was in the last deficiency bill just prior to the adjournment of congress, \$268,000. Full payment has been made for the said blocks 727 and 728 selected for the Supreme Court Building.

Among the papers in the case before the Court was a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to the Attorney General reciting that pursuant to authority in the Act of May, 1926, the Secretary of the Treasury had selected blocks 727 and 728, which selection had the approval of the Public Buildings Commission, and that the Secretary of the Treasury, having failed to acquire by purchase at a reasonable price, the Attorney General is requested to proceed with condemnation.

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JAMES E. WATSON, IND. HUBERT D. STEPHENS, MISS.

M. A. CONNOR, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

March 20, 1929

My dear Boys:

I forgot in my previous letters to say to you that Dr. J.J.Hogan may call upon either one or both of you soon. He has just left here for Cincinnati, and from there will go back for a brief time. He has no other purpose in calling than to tell you of Mother and myself, and I wanted you to know that he had been more than kind to both of us in the past months. He has treated us professionally, but beyond that has looked out for the health of both of us constantly. He has done this without any suggestion of reward, and it is impossible for us to get him ever to take any recompense at all. We both feel very grateful to him, and we both learned to care very much for him. If he calls therefore I hope you will be able to see him for a few minutes and talk to him.

Affectionately,

Dad

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MOTHER AND DAD.

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M. A. CONNOR, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

April 3, 1929

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

My dear Jack:

I enclose you herein:

1. Promissory note executed by your Mother and myself to the San Francisco Bank, dated March 26, 1929, due one year after date for Five Thousand Dollars, with interest at 6% per annum, interest payable monthly in advance.
2. Mortgage executed by us to the Bank securing Five Thousand Dollars upon Mother's Vallejo Street lot, being ^{Fifty} a portion of ~~Vara~~ Lot number 618. This mortgage is acknowledged by us before Charles F. Pace, a Notary Public, and attached is the certificate of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia that Pace is a Notary.
3. Direction to the San Francisco Bank signed by both of us to pay to you the Five Thousand Dollars.

All of these are sent you because of Mother's insistence. I have been very loath to execute the documents, but with this I need not trouble you. Mother is most anxious that you should obtain the Five Thousand Dollars, deducting, I presume, the first month's interest, and then send to her.

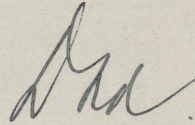
I more than appreciate your kindness in attending to these

2.

matters for us, and I know Mother does too, and we are both very grateful to you.

With love to the dear boys and yourself,

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'Dad', written in dark ink.

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN
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M. A. CONNOR, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

April 8, 1929

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

My dear Arch:

I am enclosing you a letter from an old friend, Oscar Rona, Justice of Peace, Passaic, N.J., asking for information concerning one Morris Weinberger, who died in San Francisco between 1890 and 1893, and was supposed to have left a large fortune. I presume this is one of the sort of inquiries we're so familiar with, but because Rona was one of my alternate delegates in 1920, I would like to give him a reply if I can.

Could you ask your Mr. Rabinowitz to look over the ^{probate} public register, and see if there is any such estate, or if you can ascertain whether there was any such man.

Affectionately,

Dad

LAW OFFICES OF
ARCHIBALD M. JOHNSON
AND
A. A. DELIGNE
MILLS BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO

MEMORANDUM FOR Mr. JOHNSON.

April 12th

1929.

SUBJECT MORRIS WEINBERGER.....

I can find no trace of Morris Weinberger. The probate records prior to 1906 have been burned.

Mr. Meyer H. Levey, secretary of the Federated Charities, who is an old-timer in San Francisco has never heard of any wealthy person of that name.

I inquired at the three Jewish cemeteries, Home of Peace, Hill of Eternity and Salem, and they had no record of any burial under that name.

I phoned Mr. Herman Weinberger, an attorney in San Francisco who stated he has no knowledge of any such person in his or any other family of the same name in this locality but had received similar inquiries recently.

Mr. Chloupek, attorney for the Jugo Slavian Counsels and the cemeteries also reported similar inquiries. Mr. Chloupek told me he had received such inquiries from China and from Prague and had made investigation but had found no such person.

L.J.R.

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April 6, 1929

Honorable Hiram Johnson
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Johnson:

I would indeed appreciate it if you could secure some information for me in San Francisco regarding a certain Morris Weinberger, who died in San Francisco between the years of 1890 and 1893 and leaving a huge fortune.

I have some inquiries from Europe from persons claiming relationship to the said deceased Weinberger.

Knowing the good connection that you have over there, I feel that it is the only way that I could secure this information.

Hoping you will do this favor for me, I am

Respectfully yours,
Oscar M. A. Rona
Oscar A. M. Rona
Justice of Peace
Passaic County, N. J.

P. S. If you do not remember me, I just wish to recall that I was the alternate delegate to the Republic National Convention from Passaic in 1920.

*Meyer & Levy - no
Home of Peace - no
Hall of Liberty - no
Salem -*

*Co cell -
Jugo Slavian
councils
with
chance for has
sounded*

*Co cell -
Chim*

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN
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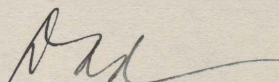
April 20, 1929

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

My dear Arch:

I have taken up with the Secretary of War the matter of the assignment of Captain William M. Chapmen, who is now at the Infantry School at Fort Banning, Georgia, to the 30th Infantry stationed at the Presidio, San Francisco, upon the completion of his term of instruction. Of course, I'll advise you just what action is taken by the Department.

Affectionately,



HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN
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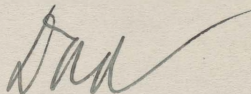
April 30, 1929

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

My dear Arch:

As I wrote you, I took up with the War Department the matter of Captain William McC. Chapman, and his assignment to the Presidio of San Francisco. I enclose to you herein copy of the response that has come to me from the War Department, which explains itself.

Affectionately,



AG 201 Chapman, William McC.
(4-20-29)

April 27, 1929

Honorable Hiram W. Johnson,
United States Senate.

My dear Senator Johnson:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 20, 1929, in behalf of Captain William McC. Chapman, Infantry, who is now a student at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, relative to his assignment to the 30th Infantry, with station at the Presidio of San Francisco, California.

Upon looking into this matter I find that Captain Chapman was on duty at the University of California, Berkeley, California, from 1923 to 1926, and, as the Army posts in California are considered very desirable stations and many applications are received from officers for assignment to duty within that state, it is the desire of the War Department to grant as many of these requests as the interests of the service warrant, and, in view of the fact that Captain Chapman has only recently been relieved from duty in California, I believe you will appreciate the force of the reasons for his not being given a reassignment to that state. He was selected for duty with the 24th Infantry, Fort Benning, Georgia, upon the urgent appeal of the Commandant at Fort Benning, who stated that his services are especially desired at that post.

In view of the above, I feel sure you will agree with me that favorable consideration cannot be given your request in this instance.

Very respectfully,

G. E. DEAN

Major General,
The Adjutant General