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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION



TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT

1921 NOV 1 AM 11 05

B89DA 212 BLUE 1/70

12

ST WASHINGTON DC 1057A 1

MAJOR ARCHIBALD M JOHNSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW MILLS BLDG SANFRANCISCO CALIF

YESTERDAY HE SAID WANTED CLEAR UP DIPLOMATIC MATTERS AND HAD DICK IN MIND STOP HE MENTIONED ARGENTINE AND PERU BOTH OF WHICH ARE IN FIRST CLASS DIPLOMATICALLY STOP HE THEN SAID FOR REAL PATRIOTIC SERVICE WHERE DIFFICULT SUBJECTS RELATING TO OIL CONCESSIONS AND THE LIKE AND DELICATE SITUATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES HAD TO BE DEALT WITH COLOMBIA WAS MOST IMPORTANT STOP COLOMBIA IS SECOND CLASS DIPLOMATICALLY STOP HE WOULD LIKE

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RECEIVED AT

1921 NOV 1 AM 11 05

B89DA SHEET 2/100

DICK FOR SERVICE TO BE PERFORMED TO GO TO COLOMBIA STOP
 ARGENTINE IS OF COURSE BEST OF SOUTHEAMERICAN COUNTRIES BUT WOULD
 REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE PRIVATE EXPENDITURE TO MAINTAIN STATION STOP
 AFTER HE HAD CONCLUDED I RESPONDED THAT WE WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO
 GREECE AND HE SAID IF WE DESIRED THAT HE WOULD HOLD IT FOR US BUT WOULD
 LIKE BECAUSE OF THE REAL SERVICE THAT MIGHT BE RENDERED AT ONCE TO SEND
 DICK TO BOGOTA COLOMBIA STOP THERE IS VAST DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
 COUNTRIES DIPLOMATICALLY STOP ARGENTINE AND GREECE ARE IN FIRST CLASS
 STOP COLOMBIA IS NOT STOP I PROMISED TO CONVEY

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM



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RECEIVED AT

1921 NOV 1 AM 11 06

B89DA SHEET 3/42

MESSAGE TO DICK AND DO SO THIS WAY STOP MY THOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH
HIM HAS BEEN GREECE ONLY STOP IF THIS IS HIS WISH I WILL MOST GRATEFULLY
DECLINE SOUTHAMERICA AND SAY WELL WAIT FOR GREECE STOP HAVE DICK WIRE
ME

HIRAM W JOHNSON.

Saturday, Nov. 5, 1926.

My dear boys:

My letters of this week must go by the board. We're meeting at ten and running nearly all night in a frantic endeavor to finish the tax bill. I have not attempted to stay in for the night sessions, and have conserved as best I could, what little energy I have. I've written you little of any indisposition of mine, because I've grown quite sensitive

upon the subject, and the natural
resulting depression makes me
wast to hide my ills. I'm glad
to say to you that I think, after
more than two and a half months,
I see daylight again. The
dizziness which has troubled me,
I believe is disappearing. We've
been endeavoring by a process
of elimination definitely to locate
the trouble and the cause, and
while I have never doubted
both were stomachic, there
has been no certainty. Well
enough of that. I'm coming

home just as soon as I can,
and I hope this will be about
December first. My mind
is fixed in a great longing
to be with you again, again to
sit in my own home, in my
own environment, with my
children and my grand children.

Etta Burdall, Mrs Esther
Darling, is staying with us
for a day or two. I haven't
talked with her for many
years, but my recollection of
her was quite vivid, and
I find she has not changed.

Her world has been one she herself
has created. It was in reality
a very drab world, but she has
filled it with Dukes and Earls and
noblemen and noblewomen, and
her imagination has made her
live a life of romance and
adventure. Ten years she spent
in a horrible wilderness at Nome,
yet she peopled that hole with the
good and the brave from every
part of the world, and created
for herself an atmosphere
sometimes of the Court and
then again of the artistic with
the most highly talented and cultured
by some strange freak of Providence

thrown together at this stepping
off place of civilization.

I'm writing while La Follette
is talking. What a pity the
man has so many atrocious
(that's quite the appropriate word)
characteristics! He's fundamen-
tally sound, an indefatigable
worker and of absolute honesty
and integrity. He carries little
weight here, and he was so
discredited during the war, I
don't think he gets far in the nation.

This tax bill is a rotten bill,
and I think I'll vote against
the whole dirty scheme.

Next week, as early as possible,
I'll write you at length. I want
to talk to you of the forthcoming
conference.

Goodbye temporarily.

All my love,

Dad.

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, CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

November 12, 1921

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

My dear Boys:

I can't write you today in detail, as I would wish, and I am sending you this note to say to you that I hope tomorrow to thump out on the machine some views to you. I have just this instant come from the opening meeting of the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments. It was exceedingly interesting, as were the exercises yesterday. Tomorrow, I hope to write you about them.

Mother and I all week have been feeling the shock of Bill Humphrey's death. One by one, our old friends are passing.

Hastily and affectionately,

Dad

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, CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

November 16, 1921.

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

My dear Boys:

It has run around quickly to Wednesday now before I find even the briefest time in which to write you my usual weekly chronicle. We have been living in an atmosphere, more artificial than usual, electrically charged with excitement, and made more or less intoxicating with hysteria. Of course, it has been intensely interesting; but, having gone through a period of this sort as the war ended, and having faced sentimental emotionalism with the making of the Versailles Treaty and the League of Nations, I think I have been able to keep my feet on the ground, and to think more clearly than the forgetting and forgiving ordinary on-looker. The Limitation of Armaments Conference, of course, obscures here everything else. In just a minute I will write you something of it.

Uncle Bill Humphrey's death was a shock to your Mother and myself, from which we have not at all recovered. Knox's sudden taking off touched us very deeply. Old Bill's passing brought to both of us so many tender memories that we really have been grievously affected. His faults and his defects were those which caused merely a smile; his loyalty and good characteristics made him greatly

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liked by those who knew and understood him. My recollections of him go back to when he used to visit our house during the infancy of you two boys. He had then energy, and a very engaging and presentable personality. You know that thereafter he went to San Francisco from Sacramento and after a very brief residence in San Francisco he suffered a stroke from which, apparently, he had fully recovered. But after this misfortune, he never was quite the same energetic Bill that he had been before.

This morning I received a cable from Mrs. Arlett and a telegram from Grace Arlett advising me that Arthur died on the 14th. Of course, we have been expecting Arthur's demise, but it doesn't make any difference how much you expect these things, they are always affecting. I confess that with these recent deaths there has come over me a peculiar feeling of depression that is very difficult to shake off. It makes me long the more to come home, and I am coming if it is within the realm of possibility. Singularly enough, your Mother does not want to come. She shrinks, I think, from coming to the house on the hill and is worried about the haphazard way in which we may run it during the brief time we are in San Francisco. She will, though, as usual, out of consideration for me, yield her own personal preference, and I think that by the first of December we'll be on our way. So far as I am concerned, I might just as well spend the next month or so in California, because of my lack of interest in what is proceeding on the floor. I have been compelled to leave in the middle of the afternoon dur-

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ing the past couple of months, and notwithstanding I have been greatly benefitted by my hour or so in the Senate Exercise Room and am quite myself again, physically, I feel the necessity for continuing the same course. Necessarily, this takes me from what is actually occurring, but my interest in the things that have been on has not been very keen anyway .

From the time that the Limitation of Armaments Conference was suggested, I have been demanding open sessions and publicity. At first, open sessions were scoffed at. It was asserted publicity was impossible, that nothing could be done in town meeting style, and that to attempt world activities in a circus ring would be absurd. Gradually, our insistence began to have its effect, and I think, in a degree, we broke down the old staid diplomacy which believed nothing could be accomplished except in secrecy. Last week, we had a dramatic scene in the Senate when Harrison brought up his resolution for publicity at the Conference. Lodge rather bitterly opposed it. Our side was silent. In an impromptu speech that was of little consequence in its words, but was uttered with all the fire and the vigor that I had, I took issue with Lodge and favored the resolution. Thereafter Lodge withdrew his opposition and the resolution passed. The demand which we have so vigorously made for publicity had really something to do with the dramatic speech of Hughes last Saturday. I have no doubt if we had been silent, the Conference would have proceeded in the old fashion; but while we have little or no influence with the powers that be, they

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are extremely watchful of what we say, and more than anxious to give us no ground for real complaint. I think it may safely be asserted, therefore, that we contributed our mite to what transpired on Saturday. I attended the opening day. I did this in order that I might look at the men of the world sitting around a table, and gather, if I could, the atmosphere of the meeting. There is nothing in mere human beings longer that impresses me. I do not think I feel, in the slightest degree, abashed in any man's presence, and I have lost long since any hero worship I may have had in my youth. I listened to Harding's speech. It was really a very good one, the delivery of which, none of us would have thought more than mediocre, and then with increasing interest, followed Hughes. There is no eloquence in Hughes. He has a good voice, a fine presence, and he talks with precision and clearness. He endeavored to make the most of what he knew was an epoch-making speech. When he made his first demand for action, all of us, who had expected nothing of the sort, were at once very alert, and then when he followed with a definite proposal for naval disarmament, the interest was intense. I dismissed the proposition at once, because I do not know enough of naval forces, or the technical aspect of fighting ships, to hazard an opinion. Of necessity, matters of this sort must be left to experts. I have a faint suspicion that Hughes' proposition was submitted to Great Britain and Japan before it was made, and indeed, I find, among those most familiar with world affairs, this view is general.

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If he did not consult Great Britain and Japan in advance, historically he did the most audacious thing since Danton. If he did consult them, nevertheless, he did one of the most clever things that has ever been done in world politics. I am not clear why we should ~~ask to~~ destroy tonnage equal to the aggregate tonnage we suggest should be destroyed by Great Britain and Japan. All this, doubtless, may be demonstrated in the future. But the open session, the frank avowal to the world at large, and the proposition publicly and directly made, all won my admiration. It may be part of a system of bunk carefully prepared. I feel however, that "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof", and that for what transpired on Saturday I can give unstinted praise - not to a definite, specific program, of scrapping or destruction, of which I know nothing, but to the face to face, direct action diplomacy. Today, however, there is an apparent return to the old methods. Yesterday, Balfour for Great Britain, and Kato for Japan, announced acceptance of Hughes' plan in principle and spirit. Just what they mean, we do not know, but we're all pretending that they have actually accepted what Hughes proposed, and that all that remains is to work out some immaterial details. You may rest assured if Great Britain accepts this proposition, Great Britain was not so surprised by it as the newspapers asserted, and you may be certain of another thing, that if Great Britain accepts, it is a proposition which gives Great Britain all the best of the situation. Balfour is a downy old bird, who is never troubled with conscientious scruples nor bound by the proprieties or conventions of honor-

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able dealing. Briand is clever and astute. He is playing the game as a follower of America because of France's love for America. Of course, he cares little about the Navy. He will care much for some of the subsequent proceedings, and will bear very careful scrutiny. I had some very peculiar thoughts as I watched these world figures. You know I have no confidence in them, and as I looked about the Board, I felt that just peoples had very little to hope from them. I looked then at the gathered Congress, for both the Senate and House of Representatives were present. I fear there is little to hope from those who now constitute the popular branch of our Government. Their greatest anxiety, apparently, was to rise and do homage. It was of some indifference to the members of Congress and the Senate to whom they did homage, so long as they showed their reverence for some human being. They bobbed up and down as each individual arose at the Council table, and cheered with practical unanimity all. When Balfour made his first speech, up they jumped in enthusiasm, and self-abasement, too. I was the only man in the Senate who remained seated. My recollection of the beginning of the war and the events immediately succeeding are too vivid. I recall Balfour and Viviani from the Vice-president's desk telling us how they were making war to preserve civilization, unselfishly, without thought of gain or profit, and I remembered how at the very time they were thus talking to us, their pockets were stuffed with secret treaties dividing up peoples and territory. How soon we forget'. Our people cheered this old hypocrite Saturday, and again

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yesterday, and I have heard no individual remark his duplicity and his double dealing with us in those fateful days of February, March, and April, 1917. I have no respect for that sort of individual, and I will show none.

I think the Conference is fairly on the road to success. Limitation of Armaments will not bring the millenium. It is well to keep in mind exact conditions, so that in our hysteria we may not drop into ^{abyssmal} despair hereafter. What we'll save if Hughes plan is carried out, according to the experts, as I understand them, will not exceed \$200,000,000.00 per year. What we'll destroy is of double that value. When you think that our expenditures are four billions and over, the amount of saving, 5%, will hardly be appreciable. I speak of saving because what may be done here will be done, not for the reasons you and I would do it, for humanity, and for the prevention of future wars, but what is done is done wholly as an economic proposition. The basic argument, which finally has prevailed is wholly material - to save money. The argument, of course, is sound, but there is a better and a higher argument for the limitation and ultimate destruction of armaments, and that is, the prevention of wars. This, of course, is mentioned, but the cold, calculating, cunning men, who sit at the Board today, aren't thinking in terms of saving human life, but only in terms of saving money.

The day before the Conference, your Mother and I went to Arlington and attended the ceremonies for the unknown soldier. The occasion was brilliant and impressive. Mother, I think, has written

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you fully about it, and I will not duplicate what she has said. I wonder if I am getting cynical in my old age! Immediately to the right of us, where we sat at Arlington, were the diplomats of the world, gaily colored uniforms, insignia of rank plastered all over out-sticking breasts, orders of nobility in vivid colors, etc. I looked them over, and I thought of the unknown in the casket, and the other unknowns, who were themere puppets of these decorated and bedizened creatures, who rule the world. The puzzling and perplexing thought kept twisting my mind of how some way could be devised to divert the homage from the unknown dead to the inarticulate and unknown living.

Last week, we attended a dinner given in honor of Stead, the editor of the London Times, and a Madame Rose, who is supposed to be the repository of more political secrets than any living woman. She has lived in every capital in Europe, and has grown old (I think she is now between 60 and 70) as correspondent and journalist and general carrier of diplomatic information. I had the honor of taking her into dinner and chatting with her a great part of the evening. I really found her quite delightful. Besides Stead and Madame Rose, there were many other international correspondents present, and for some reason, I was the only Senator. Over our cigars after dinner, they rather subjected me to a cross-examination which I enjoyed and I had a very delightful time answering when I chose, and parrying when I desired. Tonight, we expect to have two of the most famous French journalists, Millet and "Pertinax" at dinner. I am looking

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forward to a delightful evening. It has been not a bit flattering to find that these foreign correspondents had been very delighted to meet me and have been somewhat interested in me. Apparently, the toboggan upon which I have been sliding in America has not affected them.

Publicity is beyond me now, apparently. Jimmie Nourse is back here, and of course, is more than friendly, but it seems utterly impossible to get over anything in my behalf in California. He assures me that he sent the speech I made last week on publicity with appropriate comment, and yet in the San Francisco Examiner that came to me, the only story published was the Associated Press story, which, of course, buried me. It is thus in all that transpires here. However, it probably makes little difference.

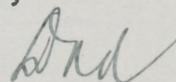
Some of the old League of Nations men are as keen as ever to get some kind of League of Nations out of this Conference. I do not trust Hughes in this direction, and I think he is the one man most to be feared. He has ability and he has astuteness, and a diabolical cunning. I am keenly watching him, and as I said on the German Treaty, our hope of preventing that which we fought against rests with Harding. In speaking of Harding, what a Child of Destiny he is! He has no more conception of what is transpiring than the "Man in the Moon", except, of course, generally. The pomp and display are all that he cares for. He plays his part well in the mummery. He reads the speeches which are written for him, and in fair voice delivers his platitudes and generalities. He is, of course, the residuary legatee of all that is done by the Conference. The be-

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ginning has made him as popular as Wilson was when first he went to Paris. His luck, in my opinion, and the strangely conservative nation we now have with its servile press will save him from Wilson's fate. Confidentially, those who are a part of the Administration were worried before this Conference. The inability to grasp domestic problems, to accomplish anything in the way of reconstruction, a wretched makeshift Tax Bill, a high-wall tariff, were seriously threatening the popularity of the President. All these are now forgotten, and our thoughtless, emotional, worshipful, people, probably the least independent in the world today, are united in acclaim for the President and the Administration. The only possibility which may affect them is the anti-climax, but I think they see this clearly and probably will avoid it.

With all our love,

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be "Dad".

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, CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

November 18, 1921

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

My dear Boys:

I am enclosing you letter I have this day written to Major Frank P. Doherty, who has been sort of representing me in Los Angeles. The letter was written for the purpose of preserving a conversation which just occurred. I send each of you copies, so that you may know just the proposition that was made to me, and my response. This proposition has been made to me on two other occasions, and answered in like fashion each time.

Affectionately,



November 18, 1921

Mr. Frank P. Doherty,
601 Merchants National Bank Bldg.,
Los Angeles, California

My dear Frank:

A gentleman named Leaf has just this instant left my office, and while my conversation with him is entirely fresh in my mind, at the very minute of his leaving, I am dictating it in brief substance to you. He started by saying that he was here in the interest of Mr. White for Collector of Internal Revenue, and added that he hoped the appointment of Mr. White could be made because it would reconcile the two groups in Los Angeles. At once I asked, what groups he meant, and he responded that he meant the group constituted of Mr. Chandler and his friends, and the group constituted of friends of mine. I told him then that a similar proposition had been made to me on one occasion for the appointment of White, and that it had been conveyed to me that if I were to appoint White, the Los Angeles Times would alter its course toward me. I then added that I would neither discuss nor debate such a suggestion; that I would not appoint any man for the Los Angeles Times upon the theory that the appointment would obtain for me either better treatment from the Times or surcease from its abuse and lying. I told him I thought the Times was the lowest, most disreputable, and indecent sheet

Mr. Frank P. Doherly - 2

published in all the world, that its proprietor was even worse, and that its correspondent in his indecency conceded he was paid to manufacture lies against me, and that he earned his money in doing so. I told him I preferred to be in open enmity with scoundrels of this sort, rather than on friendly terms with them. Leaf was extremely courteous, and said he had not come with the idea that he could buy me, but had thought it might be a good idea to have a better feeling, whereupon I again interrupted him, and told him the subject of the attitude of the Los Angeles Times was one about which I would not dicker, that I had endeavored to make myself sufficiently explicit, and again I said substantially what I have indicated, and much more to the same point. I stated that what I was saying was not in reference to his particular candidate, nor in reference to anybody or anything else, then the Times, Chandler, and Armstrong. As he was about to depart, I asked him what the attitude of my colleague was, and he told me my colleague had promised Mr. Chandler that he would recommend White for Collector of Internal Revenue, and that he (Leaf) had demanded from Senator Shortridge that he sign a recommendation of this sort, but Senator Shortridge had evaded him.

I am sending you this note merely for the preservation of what transpired.

Sincerely,

P:S: I understand Leaf is an associate in business with Chandler, an intimate friend of his, and an intimate friend of somebody named Brant, who is a part of Chandler's business and political schemes.

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, CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

November 19, 1921.

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

My dear Boys:

First, let me tell you my plans for coming to California. I think Congress will adjourn next Wednesday. While this is not certain, and those in charge of the Newberry case say it shall not be done, I have had sufficient experience here to believe that with the advent of Thanksgiving, there will be a very brief adjournment. We'll meet again on the fifth of December in regular session. If I could direct our movements, I would leave here the day after Thanksgiving. Your Mother says it is utterly impossible to get ready in time to do so. She is very loath to leave at all, and will do so only out of consideration for me. During the week following Thanksgiving will be the very earliest at which she will go with me, and I expect, some time during that week, probably about the middle of it, to prevail upon her to start for California. I hope to do this, whether we adjourn next week, or whether we do not. At any rate, I will keep you advised. My trouble in the matter arises wholly from Mother's indisposition to undertake the fatigue of the journey, and then maintain a house in San Francisco without appropriate assistance.

In my last letter I forget to talk to you about the election in New York City. It was really a remarkable result. Every paper in the City, with the exception of the two Hearst papers, and possibly the "Illustrated News", which took no active part, was for Curran, the Coalition candidate. Each day, they denounced, abused, and villified Hylan. They attacked him from every angle, and they made the most, of course, of Tammany, its disreputable past, and what they asserted, was its infamous present. Hylan had Governor Miller's action during the last Legislature, home rule, and a five-cent fare, upon which he kept harping. He finally made his opponent take substantially the position he took, but the election was like my fight with Bell in 1910. Bell took my position of opposition to the Southern Pacific finally, and tried to outdo me in the presentation of the evils of Southern Pacific control. The people simply did not believe him. And so it was in New York City, the people did not believe Mr. Curran backed by Mr. Taft, Mr. Hilles, the big bankers, and the traction magnates. They gave Hylan 417,000 majority. Nothing like it ever before has occurred. The result was refreshing. It revived all of our optimism in the people. It demonstrated what I used to say so often in New York City, that a job could be perpetrated before the Legislature, but it was a very different thing when the people came to pass upon it. Whether Hylan will keep his head in

his great success, I don't know. He has always been modest and unassuming. I have seen modest and unassuming men, however, elected by overwhelming majorities, who forgot their modesty, and whose attitude with success was one of strutting arrogance.

The Conference, of course, continues to hold interest here. It has reached now the stage of "old diplomacy" secrecy. How strange rulers never learn! Last Saturday's tremendous success for Hughes, and the great approval voiced him all over the world, were because he talked in the open, and frankly presented his proposal. Even Balfour, downy old bird that he is, deemed it necessary, thereafter, to speak in the open. Hughes with all of the advantage, with the world sentiment crystallized behind him, is now permitting secrecy to jeopardize the possibilities of success. I confess I am not enough of a naval expert to judge the proposal that he has made. I praise the manner of the proposal. It appealed to the dramatic in me, and it justified my insistent demand for publicity. I have given out a little statement today about the Conference, which, possibly, you'll read tomorrow morning. I have to depend upon the International News and the Universal Service, and sometimes, I can't even depend upon them. The Associated Press will carry little or nothing of mine, and it is with this Administration the same sycophantic, subservient, privilege-serving hypocrite that it was during the Wilson regime. It justifies its attitude of always going with the power upon the theory that only thus can it get news. In this connection, there

is an interesting little story. Mother and I lunched with Brisbane day before yesterday. It was quite an elaborate luncheon with possibly twenty present. He told us that he had spent part of the day before at the White House, and that Harding was the most puzzled, disgruntled, sore individual he had ever seen. The President had thought the reflex of last Saturday's proceedings would be devoted exclusively to him, and that the credit for undertaking disarmament in such a direct fashion, would all be his. Instead, he woke up Sunday morning to find that the world was praising Hughes, and that he really occupied a secondary position. He has become a pure Prima Donna, without any knowledge or conception of policies, but simply more eager for flattery than almost any individual I have ever known. Something of this trait of his, I think I wrote you once before. He had been grieving for several days, bitterly disappointed and angry. On the day that Brisbane called on him, he showed this, and thereupon, undertook to divert the sentiment which had naturally gravitated towards Hughes, and which had left him in a subordinate position. The Associated Press was called in and a story concocted about the "great idea", of how it was discovered by the President himself, and written in pencil upon the Mayflower. This pure figment the Associated Press carried all over the world. It's a mighty good indication of what sort of news agency it is, and the incident is interesting as illustrating the danger of favorites of

the king receiving too much applause.

The same sickening aspect of the case is observed now as during the progress of the Paris Conference. The sacred cows of journalism are all here. They are writing just like they wrote in France a couple of years ago. They have neither individuality, originality, nor independence. Just one man stands out among the journalists, and that is Brisbane. It required great intellectual courage for a man to write as he did in his first article published last Wednesday upon the proceedings. His was the only natural note in all the sycophantic slush. We may not agree with what he says, but he wrote freely and expressed himself with independence. I hope you have read all of his articles. They are well worth reading, because of their intrinsic literary merit, and they are more worth reading because written with the freedom that ought ever to characterize a journalist.

We had an interesting night this week at our home with the French correspondents, the proprietor of the Metropolitan Magazine, and Mr. and Mrs. Hard. The Frenchmen were really delightful. They believe the Conference is an immense triumph for Balfour and England. They are most suspicious of Great Britain. Their desire that we wish them well and regard them with affection is almost pathetic. They think that there has been some propaganda in this country which has made our people believe that they are militaristic and imperialistic, and they have tried so carefully to

remove such an impression. They could hardly succeed with me because of their army of over 800,000. But I could sympathize with their insistence that they needed to be strong, because of what had happened to them in the past and what they feared in the future. They were rather cynical about the outcome of the Conference. They were so nationalistic, so filled with patriotism for their own country, so anxious to aid it, that they struck a responsive chord with me. Finally, I said to them that I admired their affectionate allegiance to their own land, and their evident purpose to advance France's interest, but that they must accord to men like myself, the same privilege with the same affection for our country. They quite understood. On the other hand, Waiggin, the proprietor of the Metropolitan, an unnaturalized Englishman, constantly makes the pretense of doing the world good, but always with Great Britain dominant.

The good people who imagine that taxation will at once be appreciably reduced by disarmament will have a rather rude awakening. Our last Naval Bill carried an appropriation of \$410,000,000.00 with a like appropriation for the next five or six years, and with this appropriation, the 1916 program of the Navy can be fully carried out. Under the reduction proposed by Hughes, there are various estimates of how much we might save, running from one hundred and fifty million to two hundred and fifty million a year. At best, apparently, if Hughes' suggestion is adopted, we can not save more than two hundred million annually. We are required

to raise something like four billions. The percentage of reduction, therefore, would be about five. Indeed, the reduction in taxation, if the Hughes proposition be adopted, will be negligible. The answer to this is that it is the only place where there can be a saving, and that perhaps as time passes, the saving will become greater and greater. Perhaps this is so. At any rate, with my insufficient knowledge of the Navy and the technical questions involved, I am exceedingly careful to refrain from approving any particular plan. Each day that passes now lessens the possibility of accomplishment by the Conference. Each day that secrecy obtains will make more difficult results. In conversation with Lodge yesterday he was very certain that there would be good results, but at the same time, he said that the Japanese were acting very peculiarly, and knowing these inscrutable people as I think I do, I should not be at all surprised if they broke up the whole game upon some little question divorced from the big issue. On the other hand, our proposition has been so generous, and we sacrifice so much more than England or Japan, that I am unable to see why it is not instantly accepted.

I will write you again next week, and wire you of the possibility of departure.

With all my love,

Affectionately,

Dad

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM



NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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HIRAM W JOHNSON JR

2482

ATTY AT LAW MILLS BLDG SANFRANCISCO CALIF

1921 NOV 23 AM 2 56

YOUR WIRE JUST RELAYED TO ME AM HERE BECAUSE CASE IN HORRIBLE TANGLE
WHICH I AM TRYING TO STRAIGHTEN OUT HAVE TRANSPORTATION HOME FOR MONDAY
BUT WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO REMAIN WILL RETURN WASHINGTON TOMORROW NIGHT
AND TAKE UP YOUR MATTER WITH MCMURRAY EARLIEST MOMENT THIS WILL
PROBABLY BE FRIDAY BECAUSE OF THANKSGIVING

HIRAM W JOHNSON.

CLASS OF SERVICE	
Telegram	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	X

If no class of service is designated the message will be transmitted as a full-rate telegram.

COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

November 25, 1921

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

Have just had long interview with MacMurray STOP He is entirely sympathetic but not optimistic STOP He says the conduct of the Chinese Government has been disillusioning STOP They acted badly in the matter of the Chicago loan and when a fair proposition was subsequently made acted worse and in consequence China's credit is practically gone STOP Negotiations however are still pending and the matter may be ultimately arranged STOP Chinese bonds he says have been taken in this country very seldom and then more as a matter of sympathy and friendship than otherwise STOP If your contract provides for payments of the bonds out of the general revenues of the government, these revenues are pledged elsewhere and a speculative buyer or a conscientious adviser could not suggest the purchase of the bonds STOP In answer to the direct suggestion that one of many financial institutions might at the instance of the State Department immediately finance these bonds, he said he could not conscientiously at this particular time recommend this STOP He hopes for results from the Conference STOP Pending before the Conference now is the proposition to permit an increase of the five per cent customs dues now allowed China STOP This increase he believes will be granted STOP If granted and honestly administered the credit of China which is now gone will be put back on its feet and the bonds will then probably be on a solid basis STOP While the matter of customs dues is pending now he thinks it no use for Schwerin or you to come on STOP It might be later STOP

CLASS OF SERVICE	
Telegram	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	X

If no class of service is designated the message will be transmitted as a full-rate telegram.

COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

Everybody here particularly in State Department at high tension and his advice about not coming may have been because of this STOP I think you ought to canvass situation and decide this for yourselves STOP

His last words were for me to advise you to hang on, pussyfoot and to do everything possible to preserve your rights STOP I assured him of the pertinacity, perseverance, and fighting qualities of Schwerin and yourself and he said he wanted all of them exercised to the limit to hold on and out of the Conference might come something which will bring you success STOP I argue New York case Albany Tuesday STOP Hope to get away the end of next week All my plans went awry for I expected to leave for home Monday

HIRAM W. JOHNSON

CHARGE PERSONAL
NIGHT LETTER

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, CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

December 2, 1921.

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

My dear Boys:

I have just come from luncheon with the President.

I want to preserve our conversation upon one point, and therefore, while it is fresh in my mind, I'm dictating it to you for preservation. In order to introduce the subject, I told the President that while I was in Albany, sitting in the counsel room of the Court of Appeals, those who sat there with me awaiting their turn for argument, expressed very deep interest in the suggestion of the President for an Association of Nations. I explained to him also that I had received some communications because of my silence in the matter, insinuating that I was less firm than I had been against the League of Nations, and, under a Republican Administration, did not evince the same patriotic fervor for keeping our country out of entangling alliances that I had exhibited under a Democratic Administration. I told him that I was going to California, and there probably I would make some brief addresses. In those addresses I wanted to assure the people that not only had my attitude not changed, but that there was no danger of the President taking this country into a League of Nations, or into anything of like character. He said to me,

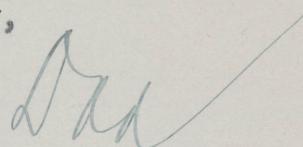
that I was at perfect liberty to do so, that he had no intention of entering a League of Nations of any sort, or doing anything of the kind that some papers had imputed to him. He had followed the press with a great deal of interest, and had received many communications himself. The whole matter had come about in a most unexpected and unfortunate fashion, so far as he was concerned. On one day when there were many correspondents before him, somebody suddenly asked the question about an Association of Nations, and, having in mind what he had said in that regard during the campaign, he feared that there was an endeavor to trap him into saying something at variance with his former utterances, and, therefore, in the most general, vague, fashion, he had replied to his interrogator that it would be most unfortunate if out of the present Conference others of like sort did not develop, and that he would be very glad to see the nations of the world meeting at Washington occasionally for the mere discussion of matters of interest to them. He did not go further than this. He said what was in his mind was not to permit the inference to be carried that he had changed from the position he had taken in the campaign. He assured me that in anything I said I could go just as far as I liked concerning a League or any Association of like character, and that he had no other view than the mere talking over by nations among themselves of problems that might be of interest or good to them. I told him I was delighted with what

-3-

he said, and while I did not intend to quote him, I wanted to make perfectly plain to those for whom I cared, and who cared for me, that my attitude was exactly the same as it had been during the past few years, and that the attitude of the Administration, in my opinion, was of like sort. He responded by saying "You may quote me. I am of record as a candidate. I am of record in my message to Congress, and I am of record in many instances upon this subject. I have no intention of involving this country."

This letter will probably reach you as I arrive. I am writing it because I have been uneasy and restless of late, and fearful, too. I am still uneasy, but I feel that with the assurance that has been given me, I can't give voice to any uneasiness.

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "H. W. Johnson", written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.