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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Wednesday, May 5, 1927.

My dear Jack:

I've been hoping to find time to write at length, but to now, it has been impossible. I'm writing this during an executive session, in the Senate while the discussion of the Lausanne (Turkish) treaty is on.

I want you to know how much I regret my delay, for really I enjoy talking to my ~~sons~~ <sup>sons</sup> ~~girls~~ the only way I have now, probably much more than they enjoy my letters.

I have never been so busy, and in addition, I undertook to make my joining the Navy a reality and on Monday delivered a nice naval address. Please read it. I had a copy of the program sent you by air mail so you might have it at an early date. The facts were most carefully compiled by the best experts. Because of the technical aspect of the speech, it was a most difficult task. I think the general verdict was most favorable. Something of our foreign policy and what

is happening here I'll write just as  
soon as possible.

Now then, thank you again for  
our fine Christmas and for your wires.  
Thank the laddie for me, too, again.

With love,

Dad.

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN  
HENRY W. KEYES, N. H.      WILLIAM H. KING, UTAH  
FRANK B. WILLIS, OHIO      WILLIAM J. HARRIS, GA.  
DAVID A. REED, PA.      PAT HARRISON, MISS.  
RICE W. MEANS, COLO.      ROYAL S. COPELAND, N. Y.  
GERALD P. NYE, N. DAK.      COLE L. BLEASE, S. C.

## United States Senate

W. H. KILLAM, CLERK

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

January 8, 1927

My dear Boys:

I was quite resolved that another Saturday should not pass without writing you in my usual fashion, so this afternoon I have had Miss Connor come to the senate chamber, and we're sitting in the reception room, where I am dictating this note. Notwithstanding the holidays, and the fact that we had a week without legislative sessions, I was tremendously engaged, and all the days slipped by leaving me but time for scanty acknowledgments for the happy Christmas you gave us, and for your thoughtfulness, kindness, and generosity. Mother has written you, doubtless, of the social engagements, which we filled during that period. Enough indeed, though but four in number, to make me feel that I'd become something of a butterfly flitting from boudoir to boudoir, and transmitted from the hard life of a legislator into that of a lotus eating dilettante. Moreover, during this period I prepared a speech upon the Navy and our seapower generally. This, because of its detail was a tough job for me, and I did not complete it until last Sunday, the day before delivery. Of course, I knew nothing of the technical aspect of the matter, the ships that had been ~~jet~~ down, the building, and the like, and have depended for this information upon Captain Dudley Knox, who, perhaps is the highest authority on neval affairs now living. I took his data as he gave it, weaving around it the generalities of the subject, and on Monday last launched my Philippic. Since I've been here I think there's been no readier ~~or~~ more cordial response to anything I have done.

2.

I sent you both copies of the proofs, and I send you both copy of the printed speech now. That I am entirely right both on my strictures and my facts, none can deny. It is my hope that in the senate we'll do something on the cruiser question affirmatively. Yesterday the House turned turtle, as usual when politics get to work. Many reasons are given why the votes promised to the cruiser program were changed upon the showdown, and some of the reasons are fairly interesting. The first of them is that the southern Democrats so taunted the Republicans as to anger many, who were prepared to go the route, and because of the taunts, these Republicans reversed their attitude. Another reason given is, and this is being whispered today, that Speaker Longworth descending from his dais to the floor advocating a real Navy, was assumed by the New Englanders to be casting his hat into the ring for 1928, and these New Englanders pledged to the cruiser program, reversed themselves in order that Longworth should not have won a victory over the President. Still a third reason given is, that old man Burton, now somewhere near eighty, by a sobbing <sup>though leaving us naked and defenseless</sup> speech, won votes enough to a peace program, /to turn the scale. A Congressman just told me that <sup>he</sup> night before Burton told Snell, one of the Republican leaders that he had just read Johnson's speech, it was unanswerable, and something must be done in accordance with it, and yet within twenty-four hours, Burton talked in another strain. I presume the time never will come when patriotism will over-ride partisanship in this country. It is a very sad thing, that when it is admitted we have a navy now inferior to both Great Britain and Japan, the hysteria of the "peace at any price" men and women, and our fear of criticism from those nations which

3.

have outbuilt us, prevent us from doing what prudence, and wisdom, and safety require. I wrote you once before I was in the Navy now. I am not only in the Navy now, but the pride of the Navy. And not only this, but I feel I have a very great claim upon the Navy, for did I not leave one big tooth in the Navy hospital?

My news of California and what has happened thus far in the new administration is very incomplete. The little I have indicates that Young in his appointments, at least, is following the progressive path. One of his first appointments was Snook, which I asked of him before my departure. I have asked no other individual, because I did not want to receive either a refusal, nor did I want to put myself in the position of assuming to dictate, a position which very speedily would be resented. I read Young's message and I can't greatly cavil at it. As I said to you before, he has an arithmetical mind. It is the business of government with which he is mostly interested. It was human beings and the soul of government that were engrossing to me. Time will tell whether he has any conception of both aspects. My guess would be, however, that the former dealing alone with figures, and budgets, will have greater charm for him than the imaginative and emotional. As he is, he will never quite comprehend the other side of government.

There is hell to pay in Central America. We are <sup>fomenting</sup> ~~provoking~~ hate with Latin America that will only be equaled by the rancor felt for us in Europe. What fools these people be, who, knowing that America is the outcast of the world, hated with an intensity that no other nation in all history has ever felt, richer than any other nation in the world has ever been, do not hold their head the higher

4.

in greater pride, prepare, ~~and~~ maintain their position, and protect their rights. We're going to <sup>solve</sup> ~~solve~~ ourselves, if ever there is a union of forces against us, into the discard nationally.

My troubles on the boulder dam legislation multiply. Hoover, in my opinion, is acting treacherously, and those of southern California, who are for the bill and most earnestly desire it, cling to the belief that results will be obtained by crawling to their enemies and depending upon them. The power of these enemies, however, is such, and the weakness of our friends so marked that if disaster comes, it will be laid doubtless at my door. 'Twas ever thus", and I do not complain. I will go on and do the best I can and take the consequences.

I wonder if you have noticed Hearst's attitude lately. First, he is for a world court with international law codified, just the reverse of what he has been preaching for years; then, he is for a newkind of league of nations formed by Hearst, quite the contrary to his previous position. But the crowning bit of humor is to read a signed editorial by him in all his publications upon the immorality of the stage, and the necessity for cleansing it. This out-Herods Herod. It goes Satan rebuking sin one better. I think the man has gone crazy, and certainly his publications, at least, here, have lost the semblance of editorial influence. I presume, however, they still have a very great power of publicity, but the views they expres carry no weight at all.

Fong is sick today, and we have kept him in bed. I am really worried about him, but perhaps his naturally strong constitution,

5.

will make him all right with twenty four hours of rest. The house we live in is beastly cold in winter, and there is no way wherein the halls in it may be heated. As I have said to you before, I wish we were out of it.

My love to Martha, and the kiddies, and to my dear boys.

Affectionately,

*Sam*

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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## United States Senate

W. H. KILLAM, CLERK

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

January 17, 1927

My dear Sons:

The last forty-eight hours have been the coldest of the winter. I have not minded it, particularly, because during the day there has been some sun. However, when the thermometer gets to ten, and below ten, it is pretty cold, and difficult to remain out long. I took Spartan for our walk yesterday, but I cut it pretty short.

I hadno opportunity to write you Saturday, and I have no time to write you as I wish today. We're up to our neck in all sorts of things here, domestic, foreign, and international.

There is going to be no war with Mexico as a great many people seem to think; but it is not unlikely there will be war within Mexico, that is, another revolution there. The present American situation arises from the policy adopted by this country in 1923 when we sold arms to Obregon. It was an infamous policy. Kellogg, weak, trembling, vacillating, inherited it from Hughes, and did only what his predecessors had done. The policy, when enunciated by Hughes was not only acquiesced in, but approved by all. Mine was the only voice that denounced it, and mine was a voice crying in the wilderness. Now, however, the Coolidge administration is not occupying the same position of absolutism that it had at the beginning of 1924, and those who were afraid to tackle a definite policy then, now make a great parade of their part in attacking that which in their cowardice they had once approved. That you may see I was some three years ahead of the Nation, I am enclosing you

2.

herein the remarks I made on Mexico in one of my speeches more than three years ago. I repeat to you, when Hughes announced this policy, every newspaper in the land, and every individual at least acquiesced, and most of them vociferously approved. The assault upon me for my attack was general and mighty pronounced. I have the same opinion of the policy now that I had then, but having gone into the infernal <sup>Chiriquia</sup> country, put our Marines there, and having undertaken to maintain ourselves as the dominant factor, in the nasty little place, if we withdraw, what prestige we have in Latin-America is gone, and unless some scheme <sup>agreed upon</sup> ~~be made to the contrary~~, to be ultimately upheld by our Marines, Mexico will assume the paramount position in the land adjacent to the Panama Canal, which we have heretofore held. The whole trouble arises from the fact that for the first time, Coolidge met a policy. He did not recognize it, for he knows nothing of policies, only of politics. I will try to write you more of this hereafter.

Affectionately,

*Dad*

P:S: I received your good letter last Friday. It was fine to have it, and Mother and I read it, of course, with the greatest interest. You don't know how we value such letters. I wrote Hiram a little note during Borah's philippic last week in the Senate in the hope that it would reach him on his birthday, and we wired him yesterday, too. What a wonderful thing that he is entering high school, and that he is now, as you put it, graduating from childhood into young manhood!

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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W. H. KILLAM, CLERK

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

January 17, 1927

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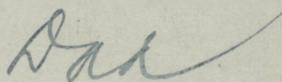
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Affectionately,



P:S: I have this morning yours of the 11th, and I was mighty glad to have it. I read what you say of Gianninni. I have written you heretofore of the Gianninni situation. I told you in my letters of Wood's letter to me, and of the fact that all of those gentlemen were for Wood for superintendent of banks. Of course, it seems to me obvious that Billy Williams can not be successful in the appointment of a superintendent, when his superior desires another, and that Gianninni is for Wood is apparently plain. Whata fine thing it would be if Gus could make it!

Major A.M.Johnson - 3

P:S: (continued)

I don't know anything about the matter except what I have written to you. You may have different facts, which give you another slant upon it entirely.

Speech in Cleveland

January 3,

1924

Apparently our Government drifts now one way and now another in its relation with Europe. The belief seems prevalent that we cannot have a policy unless it shall first be promulgated by some confederation, association, organization or league of foreign countries. We timidly advance a thought one day, and apparently do something diametrically contrary another. And only in the last few days this kaleidoscopic foreign policy of the nation maintained in such inviolable secrecy by the State Department, has taken another and a startling turn. The United States is furnishing arms and munitions to Obregon in Mexico to fight revolution there. It is done, as stated by the Secretary of State, "to maintain stability and order and constitutional procedure in the neighboring Republic." Our policy expressed now in so many words is that the United States frowns upon revolutions and will lend its mighty strength to maintain existing power upon this hemisphere. The merits of the contest raging in Mexico I don't know, and they are immaterial in this discussion. But, whatever the merits of the revolt in Mexico, I have no hesitation in saying our action is immoral if not illegal. What a departure from the policy America has ever pursued! What an anomalous and paradoxical position is ours today—we, who were born in revolution! The United States Government finally says now to the people inhabiting this continent, if you dare fight for what you may deem to be right, if you raise your hands against oppression or wrong, the most powerful nation in the world, its genesis, armed resistance, will come to the aid of those you think your oppressors, and will maintain existing power.

Without invidious intent, but as indicating a different philosophy of government, I have characterized the present administration as "reactionary." History has its parallel of our opposition to revolution and of what we have done in furnishing arms and munitions to Obregon. In the complete metamorphosis of an American policy, the administration has turned to historic old world reaction. A hundred years ago, there existed a league of nations in Europe—the Holy Alliance, which finally came under the control of the cunning and able master of secret diplomacy, Metternich of Austria. The aims of this League as expressed in words, were no less holy than the aims of those people who would today take us into Europe's controversies. Metternich, finally in absolute control of the League of Nations of that day, definitely announced its policy no different from the policy now announced by our Government. Revolution by a long suffering people in Piedmont, Metternich ruthlessly stamped out with the armed forces of his league. A profligate monarch of Spain who was driven from his throne by an indignant and outraged people, was restored again, by the league's army and was again because he was constituted authority, permitted to practice his exactions and cruelties, and it was all done upon the theory of maintaining the status quo. Today we follow the Metternich policy of over a century ago, and free America announces the doctrine that revolution will be put down with our arms, and constituted authority in neighboring nations will at all hazards be upheld.

I abhor war. I will go to any length and make any sacrifice to preclude future wars. I have fought those last five years in season and out, when I had few allies, and again when I had many, for a consistent policy for our country, which would preclude future wars. We who have been termed derisively "isolationists," who have been accused of lacking humanity, who have been denounced as without vision and wanting in love for our fellow kind, have been actuated by the sole motive of humanity's welfare. Today this country allies itself with war in Mexico. It does so through those who have talked eloquently of peace and of relieving humanity. Where are the leagues to enforce peace today, the organizations for outlawry of war, the individuals who talked, without understanding, of relieving the world's distress through a League of Nations' Court? Will they stand mute over this Mexican adventure that means a legacy of hostility and hatred for generations to come? Will they have this country party to a little war that is a reality, while pretending they desire to prevent future wars of their imagination? I will join with any association in this land, with any club, or organization, with any league or association, to protest against and to endeavor to prevent an American policy which makes us because we furnish the arms and munitions in reality a party to war.

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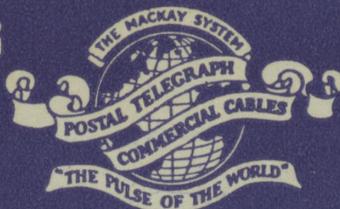
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FEAR GUS'S CANDIDACY SUPERINTENDENT MAY INTERFERE ATTORNEYSHIP UNLESS  
SOME UNDERSTANDING BEFORE APPOINTMENT SUPERINTENDENT I KNOW NOTHING  
EXCEPT WHAT WRITTEN YOU WILL GLADLY DO ANYTHING YOU SUGGEST BUT AWAIT  
ADVICES FROM YOU IF YOU ARE ENDEAVORING TO OBTAIN ATTORNEYSHIP WILLIAM  
SPRECKELS AND ALL OTHERS SHOULD IMMEDIATELY GO AFTER IT

HIRAM W JOHNSON

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# WESTERN UNION

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MAJOR ARCHIBALD M JOHNSON.

ATTY AT LAW MILLS BLDG SANFRANCISCO CALIF.

FRIDAY LAST WIRED YOU IMMEDIATELY AFTER RECEIPT OF YOURS

ABOUT WOOD APPOINTMENT ASKING DETAIL OF SITUATION OF

WHICH I HAD NO INFORMATION EXCEPT WHAT I HAVE WRITTEN YOU

STOP HAVING RECEIVED NO ANSWER FEAR EITHER YOU MAY BE

WILL OR HAVE NOT RECD MY WIRE LET ME KNOW LOVE.

HIRAM W JOHNSON.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Thursday, May 27, 1927,

My dear Arch:

In the Senate during debate, I'm sending this card apologizing for my lack of a weekly letter to you this week, and the possibility of a similar lapse next week. I'm overwhelmed and overwrought at present. Received your wires and am awaiting your letter. The appointment of Rosenshine shows McCabe in the saddle, determined that appointments hereafter shall be his rather than any other person's or group's.

We're well but cold. The session is tough and irritating, particularly the d — G — d — Boulder Dam which the Administration 'at the instance' of power companies is jockeying so there will be action at this session. The worst of it is that the power will be placed not where it belongs but upon me.

Affectionately

Dad

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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## United States Senate

W. H. KILLAM, CLERK

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

February 2, 1927

My dear Boys:

It looks very much as if the Boulder Dam Project has gone  
glimmering <sup>for this session.</sup> The reason is, the House Rules Committee thus far  
has declined to give Swing an opportunity to bring his Bill upon  
the floor of the Congress. A persistence in this attitude for a  
very brief time longer will make it impossible in the limited time  
that we have, to dispose of the measure. The blame for the sit-  
uation will, of course, be laid at my door, although just why, I'm  
unable to see. But knowing full well that the publicity <sup>is</sup> being all  
with those who detest me politically, I will be wholly at the mercy  
of those who have given lip service to the measure, but who have  
been doing everything in their power to thwart it.

The President has had some corking wallops here of late. Woods  
nominated for the Interstate Commerce Commission, was a personal  
appointment concerning which he even did me the honor to speak to me  
privately about, and yet, Woods was beaten by the Senate 28 to 49.  
Yesterday, upon our pitiful little program for the Navy, we beat him  
49 to 27. The so-called insurgent group, most of whom are pacifists,  
in the main voted for the President, too, upon this question.  
I doubt if there ever was a man in the White House who had so little  
influence with the Congress, and was so regularly defeated in every  
proposal he advanced. I know there never was a man in the White  
House who was so wobbly in policies, and apparently, had so little  
conception of what was transpiring.

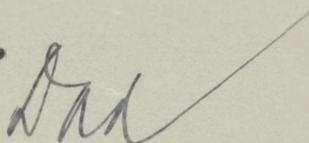
2.

I had intended to make another speech upon the cruisers yesterday, but when we found on counting noses that we had a very large majority, we thought it better to get the thing done, rather than risk the possibility of having some of our people pulled down.

Your Mother and I have kept fairly well. We're looking forward with different emotions to the end of this session, the 4th of March. It is my expectation in March to come to California and begin anew my life. I don't like to contemplate it, but I believe it necessary, and I will go at it as philosophically as I can. Your Mother does not like to face the situation, and I do not think she cares immediately to come to California after adjournment, but whether I am going to attempt to continue my political life, or attempt again to practice law, the necessity exists for me to be on the ground, and to indulge in the activity necessary for ~~the~~ success in either case. Undoubtedly, I shall have my usual difficulties in persuading your Mother, and I know that she will delay here just as long as she can, but I think you may look for me, at least, during March, unless, of course ( a most unlikely thing) an extra session should be called.

With all my love, in which Mother joins, to Martha and the kiddies,

Affectionately,



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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W. H. KILLAM, CLERK

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

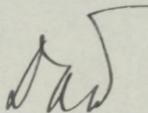
February 7, 1927

My dear Arch:

I have been sending you regularly the books that have come to me from Newbegins. I have not had any opportunity to make any comments concerning them. Of the two I send you today, one entitled "The Four Winds" has plenty of action, although of course, perfectly absurd. Do you know this gift of yours was one of the best that ever was made to me. Not only has it been delightful, and a constant source of entertainment, but it has saved me an immense amount of trouble in trying to get "Penny Dreadfuls" to amuse my few leisure moments. I skim these books very hastily generally late at night, and they have been a wonderful solace to me. I look forward each week to receipt of the new ones. While I was sending these two today I wanted to write you of this fact, and tell you what a bully present you made me.

My love to Martha and yourself,

Affectionately



HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN  
 HENRY W. KEYES, N. H. WILLIAM H. KING, UTAH  
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## United States Senate

W. H. KILLAM, CLERK

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

February 7, 1927.

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

My dear Jack:

First, let me thank you for your very prompt and full reply concerning E. Coke Hill. I had no other thought than to learn something about a judicial appointment that was charged to San Francisco. Nobody here seemed to know anything about it. Apparently, mystery envelops the naming of Hill. The Attorney General's office finally said it was done upon the suggestion of the Governor of Alaska, but admitted at the same time that they did not know anything about him. It seems that he has lived in Alaska from about 1900 to 1924, when he came to California, possibly Oakland, because of the death of his father, to settle his estate. Your second telegram was concise and complete, and gave me enough information, so that I do not feel I ought to hold him up.

I am enclosing you my tax statement blank. I am compelled to ask you to fill this out for me. My items of receipt are:

My salary check, one year - - - - -	\$10,000.00
Mileage - - - - -	1,292.80
(Against this mileage should be credited my traveling expenses about \$600.00)	
From Lissner in August - - - - -	912.50
From Lissner in January, 1927 - - - - -	500.00

There should also be credited ~~against~~ me 80.00

paid for stenographic services August and September, 1926.

2.

Just how to put the two Lissner items in I don't know, but because I have been so busy, and also so perplexed concerning the matter I have never done anything concerning the other items about which I wrote you. I have got the feeling that if I don't do something about them, some day they will return to plague me, and that I ought to present them in a separate statement of some kind. The property ~~item~~ is a separate **property** of your Mother. It could, however, be charged against me, or as our community property. At any rate, the two payments that were made in August and January I want to fix up some way, if you deem it appropriate, and I am leaving to you the way in which it ought to be done. The checks were payable to your Mother and were given to her, but of course, with us our funds are indiscriminately used, and I have no objection to having them charged to me.

In my income tax also should be charged against me the rental of our house. You have the account of this, and I presume, without very great difficulty, can insert it.

I don't know anything else to be stated in this tax statement. I am awfully sorry to bother you with the matter, but I'm perfectly mad here with things engrossing me, and in addition to that, I haven't sufficient data to do the job.

The receipts from Lissner in the income should be stated without description, I think, but you'll know how to do this much better than I will.

I hope during this week to write you a real letter.

Affectionately,

*Dad*

HIRAM W. JOHNSON, CALIF., CHAIRMAN  
HENRY W. KEYES, N. H.      WILLIAM H. KING, UTAH  
FRANK B. WILLIS, OHIO      WILLIAM J. HARRIS, GA.  
DAVID A. REED, PA.      PAT HARRISON, MISS.  
RICE W. MEANS, COLO.      ROYAL S. COPELAND, N. Y.  
GERALD P. NYE, N. DAK.      COLE. L. BLEASE, S. C.

## United States Senate

W. H. KILLAM, CLERK

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

February 11, 1927

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

My dear Arch:

I read with the utmost interest Stillwell's letter that you enclosed to me. I think it most interesting, and so interesting that I submitted it to a couple of my senatorial brethren who quite agreed with me. I wish I had at hand a man like Stillwell here in this Chinese muddle, I think he could be of infinite service. His has been a life of marvelous adventure, and I think he is now in the midst of the greatest adventure of all.

I am wondering if you have got your new house, and I am hoping that you will be as beautifully and pleasantly situated as you have been during the past year or so. Your Mother and I thought possibly you were at the Mark Hopkins Hotel, because of the difficulty in the delivery of our recent telegram, and the attempt made to deliver it at the Mark Hopkins Hotel. I don't know just what we'll do when we come out, whether your Mother will be satisfied if she comes out with me go to go the St. Francis, or whether she will wish to go to the Mark Hopkins. The fact is, because of her disinclination to come at all, I think I would rather she would remain here. Mother has not been at all well of late, because of a very severe cold. In addition to this, for more

Major Archibald M. Johnson - 2

than a month or more, she has been bothered with an ulcerated tooth that at different intervals swells her face dreadfully, and which she will not permit anybody to touch, or do anything for. Just now unfortunately she has both a cold and the bad tooth, and I feel extremely sorry for her constant suffering. I don't know what can be done, because she will not see a dentist. I think that she is hoping to bear this trouble until she can get to California.

We're in a horrible muddle here at present, a dozen different important measures crying for a hearing in the Senate. Naturally I am on guard with the Boulder Dam measure, against which there is of course most formidable opposition. The administration while pretending to be for the bill, has very securely bottled it up in the Rules Committee of the House, and the administration, with its usual cunning, in my opinion, will let it out of the Rules Committee just in time to pass it in the House before adjournment, when there is no time to pass it in the Senate, and then say it is the Senate's fault.

My love to Martha and yourself,

Affectionately,

*Bob*

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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## United States Senate

W. H. KILLAM, CLERK

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

February 11, 1927

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

My dear Jack:

You may not have understood my wire to you night before last concerning the license plates. It was sent because our chauffeur had been arrested on the Maryland highway, and Mother's car taken into custody. Upon the car were the old 1926 plates. After the arrest, I wired to learn something concerning the 1927 plates, and found from your reply that you had sent them by mail ten days ago. They have not arrived, and I am wondering if they are lost in the mail. However, in the interim I have got a District of Columbia tag, so the immediate necessity no longer exists. It was a dirty trick that the Maryland police officer played us, but <sup>the</sup> usual small town stuff of the petty official with a little brief power.

Your Mother and I have read with the utmost interest your letters about Hiram and his school, and his new attire. I am looking forward to seeing him. I have mentally said good-bye to the little grandson I knew, and I think he has passed forever into a youth/<sup>with</sup> whom I will have to begin all over again a new acquaintance and intimacy. It is almost impossible for me to realize that he is in high school. I do hope that I will last long enough to see him in college.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. 2.

I rather think I could live over with him some of the college days.

I read last night in the Examiner of your preliminary Yacht Club meeting. I observed from it that the election was to take place on Wednesday night. I presume it will be Monday before I will get the news in the press. I hope that Mr. Weaver and you were successful, but you'll have to combat with your beautiful yachts exactly what outstanding success combats in every human activity, the inferiority complex in the less fortunate.

I think the fate of the Boulder Dam Bill has been sealed for this session. The administration, while pretending to be for it, has very successfully bottled it up in the House Rules Committee. The cunning ones in the administration, in my opinion, have planned to let it out of the Rules Committee just in time for passage by the House of Representatives, and so it shall fail in the Senate. I am on the watch every minute in the Senate in the hope that we may do something, but with the difficulties I have heretofore explained to you, and the action of the House Rules Committee, it looks as if there is no possible chance.

What an age of bunk is this! Yesterday to the tune of the plaudits of the pacifists and the rotten press throughout this land, the President sends another disarmament message, with the full knowledge that no possible results can come in the directions that they ought to come. It is literally true that under the last disarmament conference we scrapped beautiful, completed battleships, and Great Britain scrapped blueprints.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson Jr. - 3

It is equally true that Britain now has many cruisers, the exact number you will find in the speech I made on the Navy, while we have very few. Britain therefore under a new disarmament conference would have to scrap actually built cruisers, while we scrap authorizations, and likewise is the situation with Japan. It is simply ridiculous to imagine, for an instant, that Britain and Japan will do any such thing. The real nub of this disarmament conference proposal is in the endeavor to put France in a hole. France maintains that her protection can come alone from submarines, and she does not want to limit her right to protect herself, because she sees but one way she can defend herself against a great maritime power like Great Britain. Great Britain wants to deprive her of her one weapon of defense, and therefore I venture the prediction, <sup>Britain</sup> ~~she~~ will make a pretense concerning cruisers and a tremendous outcry, aided by us, regarding submarines. However, Great Britain is all powerful in the press of this country, and her propaganda is most powerful, so we'll be not only joined to her program, but enthusiastically advocating ~~ing~~ it in the coming months.

Mother has not been at all well of late because of a very severe cold. In addition to this, for more than a month, she has been bothered with an ulcerated tooth that at different intervals swells her face dreadfully, and which she will not permit anybody to touch, or do anything for. Just now, unfortunately, she has both a cold and the bad tooth, and I feel extremely sorry for her constant suffering. I don't know what can be done, because she will not see a dentist. I think that she is hoping to bear this/<sup>trouble</sup>until she can get to California.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 4

Love to the boys and yourself,

Affectionately,

*Das*

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.

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

1448 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SUTTER 4321 LOCAL 106  
A294F DE 191 GOVT

WASHINGTON DC 652PM FEB 26 1927

HIRAM W JOHNSON JR

973 GREEN STREET

WE GOT AN AWFUL WALLOP TODAY BUT IT WAS ONE THAT IN THE TREMENDOUSLY  
COMPLEX SITUATION COULD NOT BE AVOIDED / STOP THE DRYS WERE AGAINST US  
BECAUSE THEY FEARED WE WOULD PREVENT THE PASSAGE OF THEIR MEASURE STOP  
THE WETS WERE AGAINST US BECAUSE THEY WERE AFRAID OF ANY CLOTURE AND  
WANTED TO BEAT THE DRY CLOTURE STOP THOSE WHO FAVORED THE PENDING BILLS  
AND SOME OF THEM ARE VERY IMPORTANT WERE AGAINST US BECAUSE THEY WANT  
THEIR PET MEASURES HEARD STOP MEN WHO WERE VERY STRONGLY ADVOCATES OF  
THE BILL LIKE THE PROGRESSIVES LAFOLLETTE NYE SHIPSTEAD BORAH JIM REED

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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## Received at

1448 VAN NESS AVENUE

AND OTHERS ARE CONSCIENTIOUSLY OPPOSED TO CLOTURE AND WOULD NOT VOTE FOR ANY CLOTURE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES SO WE WERE BEATEN BY A COMBINATION OF A VARIETY OF THINGS AND EVERY BREAK WAS AGAINST US STOP WE HAVE A MAJORITY IN MY OPINION FOR THE BILL AND ALTHOUGH WE HAVE BEEN DOUBLE CROSSED BY THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE POWER COMPANIES ARE FIGHTING US BITTERLY IT ULTIMATELY WILL PROBABLY PASS BUT NOTHING WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED THIS SESSION NOW STOP I HAVE HAS NO TIME TO WRITE STOP LOVE TO ALL OF YOU

DAD

453PM