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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



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December 13, 1933.

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

My dear Jack:

On my desk as I arrived today I found the following memorandum, which, among other things, was presented to me by Miss Connor:

"Mr. Tomasini, as you know, represents the Metropolitan Bridge Project. Congressman Lea has been working with Mr. Tomasini on this project. Mr. Lea knows Mr. Tomasini very well, and we have cooperated with Mr. Lea. After Mr. Lea left for California Tomasini's project was rejected on the ground that the traffic over the bridge would not justify the loan. Tomasini takes issue with the Board which rejected this project. He claims he is a traffic expert, has written books on the subject, and knows more about traffic than the Board which rejected his project, and he claims further the Board did not give him a satisfactory hearing, some of them running off to keep engagements in the afternoon. Secretary Ickes would not see Mr. Tomasini because he said the project was rejected by his Board, and there was nothing he could ask. Mr. Tomasini has filed an appeal with Secretary Ickes, and he asks to see you to get your advice. He has been here five months but will continue to remain here in the hope he can get the loan. The amount he asks is seventeen million. His attorney here is Colonel Brand, son-in-law of former Senator McCumber, a graduate of West Point and a regular Army man. Incidentally he showed me a wire from your son addressed to his attorney. It seems Mr. Tomasini got his attorney to take up with your son the matter of his employment legally AFTER they get this loan. The wire from your son, as I understand it, indicated he might accept if satisfactory arrangements could be made. If they can't get the full loan they will ask part to enable them to get the work started. I don't think he stands any chance of getting seventeen million, but I understand Mr. Lea may aid them in amending the application and will continue to fight for them. "

You asked me about Tomasini and I had not the slightest remembrance of him. I recall him now as being the

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representative here of the scheme for a bridge and tube across the north arm of the San Francisco Bay. I once told Mr. Lea, if he desired it, I would be very glad to follow him. I learned subsequently, as Miss Connor's memorandum states, this scheme was not viewed favorably by those in authority here. I am sending this by airmail at once, because of my absolute forgetfulness of the individual and of the scheme when you spoke to me about it.

Affectionately,

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN

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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

December 19, 1933.

HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, MINN.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

Yesterday I had a conference with Colonel Waite, in which I took up the Sausalito Yacht Harbor. I had before that requested Waite to go through the matter, and he had done so. I am repeating now merely what he said:

He thought the application had been hurriedly prepared, and it did not show the detail that was desired by the department. Some of those in the various divisions under him thought that ample security was not provided, and <sup>the application</sup> was lacking the detail as to earning capacity and possible income. The general facts with which I was familiar, location of the Yacht Harbor in San Francisco, caring for but one-fourth of the yachts of our Bay, the necessity for another harbor, the charges across the Bay at Sausalito, the work that could be done there, etc. I explained to him ~~the situation~~, showed him a map of the Bay, locations, and even a picture of the Kemah. He has never been in California, and like most of them here, has no conception of San Francisco Bay or of our State.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

I took it from his conversation, which was entirely friendly, that there has been no definite conclusion in respect to the application for Sausalito, and that he dug it out of the records at my request. I have not gone over the application at all, and so personally I know nothing about it. From what the Colonel said, if the necessity exists at all, I think the application ought to be amended, so that clearly it demonstrates the likely income in detail, and the absolute adequacy of the security. From your letter of the 16th received this morning and from your talk with me, I note that you are obtaining the appraisal of the Mayor of San Rafael. I will see that this is duly filed.

The San Francisco representatives, and a large number from Los Angeles are here on the projects of these two localities. All of these projects are public in character, I think it is the policy of the P. W. A. to postpone private activities until after the determination of the public projects. The real difficulty here has been to break down the unreasoning prejudice against allowing California anything more of any kind or character, and I can assure you this is no small task.

One thing has occurred to me in connection with your matter, and that is this:

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

Marin is in the congressional district of Lea. He is, in my opinion, one of the very best Congressmen we have. He is the dean of the California House Delegation, a Democrat, who stands high in Democratic circles. If there was any way to enlist his services, it would be of extreme value, and I think this ought not to be difficult, because his district has received mighty little from all of the activities of the Federal Government. Are there some of the Marin people who could get Lea interested?

I am writing you now solely about the one matter. I have just read with the greatest astonishment your letter of the 16th concerning the swiping of things at Archie's house. I will try to reply during the week to you. I am as busy as I was in San Francisco; indeed, more so, for the moment, but I have been hoping very shortly to get the California projects out of the way.

With love to all,

Affectionately,

*Dad*

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December 31, 1933.

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

My dear Jack:

Yesterday Tomasini called at the office and left a copy of your letter dated December 15 to him. I enclose the copy herein. I have not seen him, but I assume the purpose of leaving the copy of letter with Miss Connor was to demonstrate what he was doing in the employment of an attorney. To put it bluntly, apparently, the man, at his wit's ends, and in despair and broke, because of his failure before the authorities here, is seeking to enlist some kind of an effort on my part by suggesting your employment. Our opinions, in such circumstances, would be exactly the same.

The memorandum that I sent you which I found on my desk when I returned, written by Miss Connor, was, I think, illuminating. He wants to build a bridge over the Contra Costa side, and has had the active support of Congressman Lea. Congressman Lea, I think a very fine character. I told Lea on one occasion that I was very glad to follow him, and Miss Connor being aware of that, made an endorsement of a telegram Lea had written. This telegram with Miss Connor's endorsement in my name Tomasini had photographed and had circulated. This is, doubtless, what he sent you.

I am writing all this stuff to you because when first you asked me about Tomasini and his corporation, he and it had gone entirely out of my mind, and I told you in San Francisco I did not know anything about either, and unless there is something I do not now understand, I don't want to know anything about or touch either. I've written Lea asking him to call immediately after his return.

Hastily and affectionately,

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Sunday, December 31, 1933.

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

My dear Jack:

I wrote you very hastily yesterday that the committee had not approved Sausalito Yacht Harbor Project among those for California which have just been allowed. The meeting of the committee was held Thursday. A very great number of projects from different states were acted upon, and a large number from California were in the list. My understanding now is that some particular bureau of the P.W.A. did not include the Sausalito Yacht Harbor Project, and for that reason it was not presented with the others on last Thursday. After the approval of projects of this sort by the committee, they have to be approved by the President, and that approval I understand was forthcoming yesterday, Saturday. I have been utterly unable to obtain the details of the meeting or to learn just what projects were adopted. I had kept tab upon those from California including the Yacht Harbor, and after the meeting Thursday, Colonel Waite told me over the 'phone that Sausalito Harbor and Newport Beach Harbor had been adopted. He wrote me, however, the following day

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just the briefest note saying that Sausalito had not been included in the list. I have been trying since to get the information requisite to enable me to state to you just exactly what has deferred action, but yesterday, Saturday, today and tomorrow are all holidays here, and it has been quite impossible for me to obtain what I wish. I am sending this note to you as a little amplification of what I wrote you yesterday. I am really sorely disappointed, and I thought the matter would be all right. What irks me is the damn secretiveness of the Department, and this I am going to break through, if it be possible, and get the information essential in this particular matter.

When I was in San Francisco you said something very indefinitely one day about some firm here, who had the inside, and could furnish all the information desired of what was going on, and get whatever was necessary.

I don't think you even mentioned the firm. I think Pettit just in passing made reference, which, apparently he put no faith in. If there is anything more than the most indefinite sort of rumor, anything that you think has substance to it, please airmail me just what it is.

Mother has been under the weather since the day after Christmas, and not to be outdone I have been more or

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less so the last couple of days. Just terrible colds both of us have had, and the weather fluctuating between eight and twenty has made it worse. Today looks like a balmy day with the thermometer up to forty, and I hope we can both take a little ride.

Mother joins in love to both boys, Miss Schow, and much to yourself.

Affectionately,