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# KODAK Gray Scale



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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

September 27, 1941.

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

My dear Jack:

I received this morning yours of the 26th and was delighted to have it. Unfortunately I have been kept in the house since my return.

The matter you spoke to me about on the boat I have a most lively recollection of, and within the next few days I will endeavor to take it up. With Stimson Secretary of War, and Knox, Secretary of the Navy, I want to find an approach to the subject that is befitting. I am trying to think this out at present. Have you any suggestions to make? I don't want to spoil the whole thing, and for once in my life I will try to display a little diplomacy and tact.

Mother rang Ebright up in the wee small hours the other night, and subsequently did the same thing with Willcutts at San Diego. The result of the whole thing has been a most positive declaration of my being overweight, and having to take off a great many pounds, and subordinating everything in this direction to this end. It is reported to me that I am to keep off my feet, and do nothing at all for ten days, and generally play the part of an invalid, with but a few days to live. I don't understand it at all. I am trying to do the best I can in the matter of weight, and I am on a very drastic diet. I have reported on at the Naval Hospital, where everything was fine. I was tossed about from one side to another in a tremendous X-ray examination, and was told I was all right, but that I had to take off weight. The household is therefore devoting itself to the one desideratum. I repeat what I said in the beginning, I don't understand what it is all about. Please keep the story under your hat, for it would be unfortunate to have it become known.



Everything is hell here. The Jews, for the first time in the course of matters, have the upper hand, and in conjunction with the crooks in the legislature, and the worse than crooks in the press and radio, are trying to make mince meat of Lindbergh, and I fear they have partially succeeded.

Please keep me advised as to Philip.

With my love to all.

Affectionately,

*Sam.*



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CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

October 7, 1941.

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

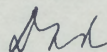
My dear Jack:

I have received a telegram from R.J. McGill, Campaign Director, 1222 Market Street, for John F. McGovern saying that he faces bitter opposition to re-election November 4 because candidates under leadership William Malone, Democratic Chairman, have accused McGovern of Party disloyalty because he supported me. I am asked by McGill to contact Scripps-Howard papers. I cannot do this because of the sickness at present of Roy Howard. I don't know where he is, and I have been told that he has had a nervous breakdown. I would like very much to assist McGovern if he is being punished for his sponsorship of my candidacy. Can you suggest anything I can do besides writing a few letters.

The telegram mentions that anti-Rossi forces in San Francisco have filed ticket against McGovern under the same leadership of Malone as well as because of my friendship for him.

Malone has apparently taken on the job of becoming "boss" of San Francisco. I don't like bosses anyway, and even if I were not particularly interested in McGovern I would resent his assumption of power. Please write me your views.

Affectionately,





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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

October 14, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

It was fine to have your last letter, and I thank you for it. You have seen since in the newspapers the vote that was taken yesterday. Under the circumstances, it was a very good vote indeed. I never had the slightest hope of success, although there was a time when our side was rather confidently claiming the result. It was not just "cricket" by the President to send his note of last night, and have it read as the last speech of the debate. Somebody should have replied to him, and he could not have caviled at this, because he was breaking all precedents and interfering with the deliberations of the legislative body. I recognize that it is more in the shadow than the substance that there are three distinct divisions of our government, but we love to prate of this, and when a flagrant case occurs, like yesterday, and one of the branches interfered with by another, we have always been quick to resent it. Here, we had the legislative branch, under a time rule,



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

and suddenly, at the conclusion of the entire debate, a letter from the President is read, that has the concurrence of the Secretary of State, that bears mightily upon the subject. This just was not "cricket", but do we expect anything else of this administration ?

I was glad to see that Philip is home again. I hope he is getting along well and in good shape.

I saw yesterday an article of Rowell, which made me very indignant. He lies most outrageously in this article, and he picks up a scrub like Downey and berates me with him. I recall what you said about the Chronicle receiving its funds, and I imagine a large part of them have been diverted to Rowell personally.

Well, we shall see what we shall see. I think we all will be in a precarious condition soon.

With my love, in which Mother joins to all the family, I am

Affectionately your Father,

*Hu*

P:S: I am trying to take up your personal matter, and hope to have some news for you in a day or two.



COPY

October 19, 1941.

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

My dear Jack:

I am not sending you a real letter today, but just a line to tell you we have felt the same as you did over the good news from Philip. We have done little else but wait for news from San Francisco about the boy. I confess there is a portion of it I don't understand, but there is a greater portion that is good news according to the doctors, and for this I am duly grateful. What a succession of knocks Philip has received! Maybe there're not over yet, but I am praying God the worst is passed.

Hiram has been waiting for action by the Supreme Court in the case he and Mr. Swigert came on for. Tomorrow the Court, doubtless, will proceed with the matter. From the little that I know of the case I don't see how it can be won, but this opinion, of course, is a shot-gun opinion and not worth much.



COPY

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson - 2

I wanted you to know Hiram is getting along all right here, and he probably will be able to proceed about his business tomorrow night. Whether this business will carry him into New York for some days, or whether he is sufficiently sick of the east to be heartily tired of it I don't know. I think I observe signs of restlessness. Give our love to Philip.

Affectionately,



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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

October 26, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

Up to yesterday afternoon I have been for a week engaged in executive sessions of the Foreign Relations Committee concerning Neutrality. Our sessions have been long, from ten o'clock in the morning until late in the afternoon, and they have been particularly tiring to me. As usual, the fight fell upon my shoulders entirely, and I could not leave the Committee for fear ( the fear may have been groundless ) someone of the majority would attempt some job. It is amazing the ease with which the fellows here, and the best of them, will " let George do it". I am like a fool, Although I have sworn to myself never to get into such a situation again, I was left with the necessity for the presentation of our testimony and being on guard. You have, doubtless, seen the results of the week's work. The majority switched from repeal of a single section of the Neutrality Act to practically the repeal of the entire Act. Upon this the vote was 12 to 11; and then, on their original proposition the vote was 13 to 10. If we can make as good a showing as this in the Senate I would be somewhat repaid for



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson. Jr. - 2

the labor, but we cannot hope to keep even half of that large percentage. The other side craftily carried executive sessions, which means everything behind closed doors, and with the members participating under pledge of secrecy. They were wise in this, although it was a dirty trick, so far as the people were concerned. It enabled the press, too, to cover up, which they very effectually did. Now, the scheme is to begin debate tomorrow morning and shove the thing through at the earliest possible moment, and this will be successful.

As you know Hiram has been with us. We all felt indignant that Sweigert did not give him an opportunity to appear before the Court. Perhaps there were reasons for this, but I could not learn what they were, and I thought of the hour that the Supreme Court gave them for oral argument it would have been no reflection upon Sweigert if he had given one-quarter of the odd hour to Hiram. He displayed in this particular all the traits of a "dutch hog", although I must say that I do not know his side of it, and he may have had some reasons that I am not familiar with. The boys are on their way home now.

I have been terribly concerned about Philip, and his second operation. By this time you ought to know all about it and its effects. Please let me hear from you.



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

With love to all your household, in which  
Mother joins, I am

Affectionately,

*M.H.*



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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

November 2, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

Your letter of October 31 was just received, and I answer it very briefly because I am so full of the fight here on the Neutrality Law. I am somewhat hampered in expressing myself fully about the law because I voted against it, - one of very few, and I spoke against it. I think, however, the law has by the President been given no chance to indicate its worth, and in the latter part of its existence has been smothered in reproaches, which took the place of loud and vociferous praises. However, this will make no difference in my attitude, because times have so changed, and the law demonstrated its value in keeping us out of war. The vote will be, in round numbers 40 to 50. It is the first time we have really approached a majority.

I had not seen General Hugh Johnson's characterization of the statement made by the President until I read your letter, and immediately I looked it up. Thank you for sending it to me. I want to get into this



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

contest verbally, although I know it will do no good,  
and in every way that I can. Your Mother is so fright-  
ened over <sup>any</sup> ~~my~~ presentation <sup>by me</sup> that it makes it very diffi-  
cult indeed.

I noted what you said about Philip. I think  
he is very foolish to go up in midwinter to Twain-Harte  
~~camp~~, and I agree thoroughly with everything you say  
about it. I am hoping that on second thought he will  
rule it out.

With my love to all, and much to yourself,  
I am

Affectionately,

*Don*



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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

November 8, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,  
973 Green Street,  
San Francisco, California

My dear Jack:

Well, our big fight is over and the result was, as I indicated to you a couple of weeks ago. The vote was tallied 51 to 37. The poverty of the Republican vote is shown by the actual count where there were 21 Republicans against the measure, and 6 for it. We received 15 Democratic votes, which was a very considerable number, particularly when you recall that the Administration, and every department of government, the bundles to Britain crew, and all the Anglophiles, were pulling and hauling, and doing everything they could, and, in some instances, were effective.

The night before the vote was taken I made my radio speech, and made a last appeal just before the vote. I wanted to do everything that I could, although I knew the task was hopeless.

This fellow Downey is just a damn scrub. Long ago he promised our crowd, and then the other day, when he returned here ( he is the greatest absentee in the Senate ) he made an excuse for turning turtle, that he



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

had seen a lot of people in California, and without exception, they were a unit in favor of the President's policy. Of course, I denied this instanter, and gave him something of a spanking, under which he remained quiet during the rest of the debate; but the amusing thing of his position was when the last vote was taken, - it was the principal vote - he failed to vote. An effort was made by some Democrats to hold up the bill until he could arrive, although none of them professed to know where he was, but this was unsuccessful, and Downey goes down to fame as the man who did not vote. He is just like a little mole, always burrowing under ground, but, thus far, I have been able to stop him by an immediate rebuke. Whether this course of conduct will continue, or whether he will screw up his courage enough to tackle me is a problem. I feel like hell over the result. I am old enough now to realize what war is, and I want none of it, if it can be avoided. I am not a pacifist but I will go to any reasonable lengths to adjust matters in dispute without war.

Hitler was mad to undertake the Russian adventure, and I do not see how Germany can withstand the losses in men and material. It is true that they have



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

whipped Russia, but such a silly undertaking, to my mind, when he had so much more important things to do. Just think of our country loaning Russia a billion dollars ! And lending it, without security, and hypocritically providing that it may be paid within five years. We'll never receive a penny of it, and there is not any expectation here that we will. It is a billion dollars filched from our taxpayers, and given to bloody Joe Stalin. Litivonov, now selected as the representative in Washington of that country, is a Jew, and is the man who made the original agreement with Roosevelt when he recognized Russia, and then broke that agreement. For a year or more he led this country by the nose, pretending that Russia was going to pay the debt that was due from it to our country, and then finally was recalled home. It looks as if hypocrisy has triumphed, and deceit and misrepresentation are the policy of our government.

I was glad to be able to see the vote in San Francisco in the recent election from your letter. I was very sorry for young McGowan, but, as I look back on it now, there was nothing that I could do that would have been of any help to him. San Francisco has a new boss,



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 4

and so long as this Administration continues, I presume the voters will be responsive to him. I don't understand Ickes' actions, but he is like the rest of this Administration, unpredictable. I was really surprised at the extent of the vote upon the bonds. I thought there might be hope of carrying what <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ termed revenue bonds requiring only a majority. I can't for the life of me see what the City can do now.

Mother and I were greatly heartened to read the latest on Philip. His little fits of temper can be excused because he has been so long confined, and I don't care a rap what they are, or against what he inveighs.

I am very tired today with the end of this fight. I quoted Horatio at the Bridge in the last appeal that I made, and I meant it. This was done sometime during the evening when we had sat all day without anything to eat, and it was very difficult for me to keep from being very bitter. I only did so because so many on our side were so certain of a very close vote. It is strange how men should let the wish be father to the thought in a matter of this sort. I never



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. -5

could make them believe the vote would be substantially as it was, and I finally reached the conclusion that men must have a vast deal of experience with that sort of thing to be able to reach a fairly accurate conclusion.

I am writing this on Saturday because I feel as if I want to sleep all Sunday. I am hoping to feel myself again tomorrow.

With love, in which your Mother joins, to  
Hiram, Philip, Miss Schow, and yourself, I am

Affectionately,

*Dad*



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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

November 16, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

I received this morning your letter of November 14. I was particularly anxious, and so was your Mother, to learn of Philip's condition. I read with a great deal of surprise what you said about the thyroid. I know so darn little about it that I am not fit to write about this. When you were a child, and I was a child, there was not any such thing, except physiologically, as the thyroid gland. The first experience that I had with it was with a physician of some fame in New York City, who was the brother or the brother-in-law of Congressman Kent from California. Some little sickness in New York at one time caused me to go to a physician, and this gentleman was recommended. He was a very able man, and his specialty was the thyroid. Inasmuch as he did not touch mine or have anything to do with it, I did not pay any attention to his specialty. But that is the one experience that I have had. I presume you are entirely accurate in stating that if one has a thyroid that measures " - 28" or one that does not measure " - 82 ", or one that shows a disposition to kick up a row whenever the opportunity presents itself, we would have to do



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

something about it. At any rate, I hope to God that they'll cure it up rapidly. I do hope that you will prevail upon Philip to stay at home for a while until he is on the road to rapid recovery.

I can't get over the recent defeat because of the nearness of success. I did not believe at any time that they had the votes they claimed, but the last couple of days would indicate that they had, and it took all the force of the administration to pull down eight or ten votes. I have become more indignant as I think of the way in which they did it. But nobody shares my feelings in this regard. I have reached the conclusion that I am a damned old crank. The procedure of the House makes me violently indignant, and I ask daily why somebody did not attack it. The fellows look at me peculiarly as if I were going crazy, and those who answer say - why, you could not attack the President - but I want to know why not when your country is at stake, and he is guilty of the dirtiest sort of breach. However, it is done now. We'll be fighting the whole war soon, and I can not for the life of me understand why we should. This is apart from our detestation of Hitler and his methods. Why this peace-loving country, ostensibly at peace, should now undertake the burden of the whole war, is beyond me. I will probably say so soon, and then watch the



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

tableau develop.

There is great excitement around here about strike legislation, putting the government into the strikers' position. John L. Lewis reminds me somewhat of Hitler. He is bound to be whipped in fighting the government, just like Hitler's attempt to conquer Russia in the few days that remained to him of fair weather, and he is bound to have the worst of it. Then there'll be another great victory for the President. He says with a great show of force and pretended indignation that he never would have the government insist upon a closed shop in any industry. And how we applaud. Good God, the government the last seven years has done nothing else but insist on just that thing and no one arises to say so. I presume our hesitancy in saying so results from the peculiar situation in which we find ourselves, in which no man can afford to fight the government, and if he attempts it, he is bound to be whipped.

Well, I have gone well-nigh crazy the last few weeks. I have seen so plainly that the real issue was war, or no war, and however the matter may be camouflaged we're bound to be in it. I have had no patience with the people, who have insisted like Rowell that the situation means nothing of the sort.



Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 4

You know what you told me about the Chronicle. I think Rowell has sticky fingers, and I would say so if I could prove it, but being without the proof I dare not make the charge. It hurts me dreadfully to think how we have gradually shoved our country into war, and of the horrors and bloodshed that will result. Fortunately, we are striking Hitler when he is weakest, and I do not look for a long war, or for a very fierce one.

With my love to all, in which Mother joins, I am

Affectionately,





WALTER F. GEORGE, GA., CHAIRMAN  
ROBERT F. WAGNER, N. Y.  
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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

December 3, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

I received Monday your last letter. I was delighted with Frere's improvement, but, like you, I fear his going to Twain-Hart. In some way we ought to induce him to give up this fantastic trip until he is in better shape. Can not the doctors do this, or are they utterly without influence with him? I suggest that you try all of the doctors, and particularly the one who would be most likely to have the most influence with him. If you like, I will write to ~~him~~, gently but firmly, trying to explain to him the folly of what he contemplates.

I was sorry to note in another part of your letter that you thought Doctor Hogan had failed of late. I was resting easy, feeling that he had weathered the recent difficulty that he had, and was all right again; but I gather from both your letter and Hiram's that he is far from being all right again.

We lost one of our Senators the other day. He was a strange little man, but what I admired about him was that he had "guts"; and, as I said in commenting upon his life, so rare was this quality among legislators that when one who possessed ~~them~~ passed away, it marked an epoch.

Old Glass, who is really non compos mentis now, is chairman of the appropriations committee. Adams was practically the deputy, who did all the work. He tried to keep down the awful expenditures we are making, and as often as not, voted against them. The last night of our fight on the neutrality bill, he stood up and voted "no" ( the bill came before us on amending it ), and it was a bold thing for him to do. He was a Democrat from Colorado. His vote, it was obvious, would not be decisive nor affect the result. He knew this, and though he was at the beginning of the roll call, he voted a loud "NO". This was a time that tried men's



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souls, where every blandishment and every corrupt art were used in obtaining votes, and the Democrats who stood up against this, had to be of pretty stern mold.

I think that we'll go to Florida within a week or two. I don't feel that the weather requires it, because the weather has been singularly pleasant here. The mornings open with the thermometer less than 40 degrees, and then it goes up gradually through the 50's, and the sun shines; but this is but a fleeting weathery show. At any time, we are likely to get it cold as Iceland, and both your Mother and I wish to be out of here as much as possible during that time. We won't be able to stay there long, and I am a little fearful that I will miss voting on the anti-strike bill. Of course, I can pair, but that never seems to me like a vote given by one's self. The President, after spending seven years in an endeavor to unionize everybody and berating poor people who would not join the union, holds up his hands in horror now, and says that he never would use the power of government to dictate whether a man should join a union. We all know this is the rankest hypocrisy, and that he has continuously, and oftentimes cruelly, done the very reverse. He gets away with it, however, and there is none here to call him or the press of the country. Don't be surprised if I should vote in a way you don't believe on this subject.

I read the account of the Stanford-California football game last Saturday. Strange to say, there was quite a bit of space given to it in the eastern papers. All of them commented upon the fact that while California could not win the Rose Bowl, it, however, succeeded in keeping Stanford out of it. I can't just see the Oregon team beating practically all of the west coast teams and winning the coveted place.

With all my love to Hiram, Philip, and Miss Schow,  
I am

Affectionately,

*Hu*

P:S: Mother has reminded me of the pact that exists among us that there shall be no Christmas gifts. She is going to observe this fully and completely, and wanted me to advise you and the others in California of this fact. I take it we all will observe the agreement we have made heretofore.



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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

December 13, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,  
973 Green Street,  
San Francisco, California.

My dear Jack:

Events have moved so swiftly the past week that it is almost impossible to record them, and the usual method of recording events is denied us. The newspapers don't pretend now to print the news, - they print either what is handed out to them, or what they know will be satisfactory to the different departments of government. As time goes on, this state will grow worse, and I don't know where we can look for any of the news at all. The English have taken practical control of our government, and though this would be denied, it is nevertheless the fact. We are now followers of Winston Churchill, and our government takes huge pleasure out of this role, and literally wallows in its appointed place.

The Japanese played our State Department and the President for a couple of suckers until they could get ready to strike, and then, as ever, they struck treacherously. To think that we were wholly unprepared for the blow is to add merely to its gravity. The one thing that we know here that we learned in the Naval Committee of the Senate under the



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most potent promise of not disclosing, is that the extent of the damage done by the Japanese has never been published, and is the worst disaster we have ever suffered. It practically swept us, for the moment, from the Pacific Ocean, and leaves us in a precarious and dangerous situation. If what Admiral Stark asserted to the chairman of the Naval Committee of the Senate is true, and he related it the morning following the attack, we have suffered a severe blow at one full sweep, which denudes us of our Navy at Pearl Harbor and which cannot be repaired within a year. Not content with sinking our large warships, the Japanese went down the line with the cruisers, and then with the smaller boats, and then, for good measure, took in the dry docks. We were like so many ducks on the pond, and all they had to do was to swoop down upon us, and remove us. Now, the question has arisen repeatedly here as to who was to blame. The consensus of opinion seems to be that the Navy was criminally negligent, and this opinion has grown. Knox, the blatant impersonator of Bombastes Furioso has, - and I will give him credit for it - flown over to Honolulu to see what has hit us. In one of his numerous boastful speeches just the day before this thing occurred, he told how ready we were, how we could whip the world, and how proud we could be of our Navy. Knox, however, is not to blame. He has probably done



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the best he could. He did not know anything about the Navy or anything about what was required for the Navy before he was pitchforked into office as a political appointee, and a political appointee he has been, all the time making perfectly silly speeches, and strutting his brief time on the national stage. My prophecy is that he will strut off now, but I am not by any means sure of this. Roosevelt has the manner of clinging to incompetents and dead ones, and perhaps he will cling to Knox like he does to old Stimson. Roosevelt steadfastly declines<sup>to</sup> tell the facts of Pearl Harbor. He has almost assaulted the men of the Navy who wanted to do so. There are certain newspapers who know, of course what happened, but we're in a war time psychology now, and none will publish it. Roosevelt has even declared that the casualty lists shall not be published. He fears what they will show, and he places his prohibition upon giving information to the enemy.

I was somewhat surprised at Germany and Italy declaring war upon us, although we have been guilty of many breaches of peace, and have given the greatest causes for war that, under international law, can be given. Still I did not think they would declare war. A little incident in



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which I participated here will show you the condition of the Congress and its sycophancy. The day before the declarations of war by Germany and Italy I had stopped a hearing upon another AEF. I could only stop it for one day, and it had gone over until the following day under my objection. When the war was declared it swept everything else out of the way, and I was compelled either to have this new AEF carry with but one dissenting vote, or to withdraw my objection to it. I recognized that war had changed the situation, and that in the one case we ought not prepare an expeditionary force for Europe; but, in the other case with war declared against us and an alert enemy, it might be necessary to go to various places really in defense; so I withdrew my objection for an AEF, expressed my regret that anybody thought it necessary to send over another, and permitted the Resolution to pass with practical unanimity; but the day before, when I had made my objection I would not have had ten votes with me in the Senate; and the day after when war was declared, I did not have a single damned vote. This was a small personal experience. It was commented upon when first objection was made, but passed over, so far as I saw, latterly.

Of course, with our country at war, we want to see it win, and every one of us will do what little we can to promote the cause. The trouble with so many of our



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people is they believe this means we must assent to everything that is suggested to us by all of those in power; that we must permit ourselves to be deprived of our civil liberties, and must have no minds of our own. I won't subscribe to this doctrine, but it is amazing to find so many of the people here have that attitude.

Those who know claim that this will be a long war. I doubt this. I think it will be fast and furious for a time, and then it will begin to crumble. Of course there is always in the shadow Joe Stalin. He may play the game as he thinks to his advantage, and do anything at any time. I don't think the war ought to last any five or ten years as our experts claim. We may be certain of one thing, however. It will last long enough to demolish our internal economy; and we'll find at its conclusion little value to our money and less to our properties. Now, those of us who don't possess much can look forward with equanimity to this result, but these damned fool business men who are on the top of the world at present making weapons of destruction will have their rude awakening.


I was feeling pretty good at Hiram's situation, but with the expansion sought in the Selective Service Act and the innumerable suggestions for raising an immense Army I have begun to worry.



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I had tickets today for Miami but we had to  
surrender them. We have others now for Tuesday next.  
I am not at all certain we can go then. I will notify  
you, of course.

With my love , in which Mother joins, I am  
Affectionately,

 Dad