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KODAK Gray Scale



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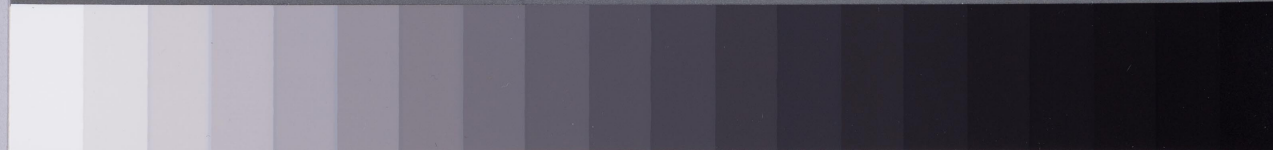
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United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS.

September 4, 1918.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
Mills Building,
San Francisco.

My dear Jack:

I duly received your letter written Wednesday, August 28th, in which very justly you do quite a bit of laughing at me in the recent campaign. I can tell you, young man, however, that the returns do not justify your sarcastic references. Stephens, as I gather from the newspapers that I receive now, when all the returns are in, will probably have twenty five thousand plurality. No mere statement of mine could have overcome this result. I'd have ^{had} to do exactly what I told you would have been necessary - come to California and make the campaign. In addition, if you'll look over my letters you'll see how I reiterated to you the necessity for Rolph having in San Francisco and the Bay Counties a majority which I think I stated, in the light of the returns, with almost absolute accuracy. It was obvious to me that he could not get over the State, and equally obvious that the big Counties of the San Joaquin Valley, which he didn't know and which didn't know him, would give

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

him a complete drubbing. It has turned out, I think, just as I foresaw.

Yesterday I gave the Examiner a statement on Carnahan. I gave it with the distinct agreement that it should be carried exactly as written. I enclose you a copy of that statement. I wired McCabe about the removal of Carnahan as follows:

"Have just received wires that Chronicle which is now mouthpiece of Stephens accuses the whole Johnson organization treason to Stephens and that Carnahan's resignation has been demanded. If Carnahan's resignation demanded would advise him to refuse to give it. I will greatly appreciate facts. "

I received today from McCabe his reply as follows:

"YOUR WIRE DATED AUGUST THIRTY FIRST WAS NOT DELIVERED AT MY OFFICE UNTIL AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER SECOND AND WAS THIS MORNING OPENED AND PHONED TO ME HERE I DO NOT BELIEVE CHRONICLE CAN BE FAIRLY DESIGNATED AS SPOKESMAN FOR STEPHENS ANY MORE THAN THE OAKLAND TRIBUNE OR FRANK JORDAN CAN BE FAIRLY CALLED THE SPOKESMEN OF ROLPH MY INFORMATION AND MY BEST JUDGMENT IS THAT THE CHRONICLE IS SUPPORTING STEPHENS NOT BECAUSE THEY LIKE HIM BUT BECAUSE THEY HATE ROLPH AND PICKED STEPHENS AS THE STRONGEST MAN TO BEAT HIM WITH THE STORY IN THE CHRONICLE WAS NOT THAT JOHNSON ORGANIZATION WAS TRAITOR TO STEPHENS BUT HAD SUPPORTED ROLPH MY ATTENTION WAS NOT CALLED TO STORY UNTIL AFTERNOON AND TOO LATE FOR AFTERNOON PAPERS I TOOK STORY UP WITH SEVERAL JOHNSON MEN WHO HAD SUPPORTED STEPHENS AND THE MAJORITY JUDGMENT WAS THAT IN VIEW OF THE WIDELY PUBLISHED ADVERTISEMENTS AND NEWS STORIES LISTING LEADING JOHNSON MEN IN EVERY COMMUNITY AS SUPPORTING STEPHENS A LIST HEADED BY ARTHUR ARLETT CHESTER ROWELL FRANK DEVLIN ET ALI THAT THE STORY WOULD BE PROPERLY REGARDED AS ANOTHER CHRONICLE LIE I KNEW

"NOTHING CONCERNING THE CARNAHAN MATTER UNTIL I READ HIS STATEMENT AND RESIGNATION IN SUNDAY'S EXAMINER IF STEPHENS APPOINTS A MAN OF ABILITY AND INTEGRITY IN CARNAHAN'S PLACE I THINK HIS ACTION WILL BE POPULARLY JUSTIFIED SO FAR AS I AM PERSONALLY CONCERNED ON THE ONLY OCCASION THE MATTER WAS EVER DISCUSSED WITH ME BY ANYONE CONNECTED WITH STEPHENS I ADVISED AGAINST REMOVING CARNAHAN BUT ONLY AS MATTER OF TACTICS NOT OF PRINCIPLE I CONFESS I CANNOT BE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT ANYONE HOLDING A POSITION AT THE PLEASURE OF ANOTHER TRYING FIRST TO SUPPLANT HIM AND FAILING IN THAT THEN TRYING TO BEAT HIM BOTH THESE THINGS ARE OF COURSE HIS PRIVILEGE ESPECIALLY IF THE MAN DID NOT APPOINT HIM BUT ONLY IN MY JUDGMENT AFTER HE HAS FILED HIS RESIGNATION PLEASE DO NOT GET WRONG SLANT ON WHAT IS HAPPENING IN CALIFORNIA YOUR FRIENDS HERE ARE JUST AS DEVOTED TO YOU AND THE THINGS YOU STAND FOR AS THEY EVER WERE OF COURSE LACKING YOUR LEADERSHIP AND FIRM CONTROL PERSONAL INTEREST AND SELFISH MOTIVES ARE CROPPING OUT MORE AND MORE BUT IN RECENT FIGHT THIS WAS SURELY NOT ALL ON ONE SIDE PLEASE ASSEMBLE ALL THE FACTS BEFORE YOU REACH CONCLUSION BEST TO ALL"

I send you these things that you may have the record before you. It is very difficult to comment on what transpires, three thousand miles away, and for that reason generally I refrain.

I hope you'll see Arch. I did not know that he was on his way to California until he wired me from Colorado that he had started. I knew he was going to try to get leave, but I did not think he would get one. I hope he'll have a good time because he has had a pretty tough time in the past.

With love to all,

Affectionately,



Carnahan brilliantly performed the duties of a ^{most} difficult task

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

The Blue Sky law is one of our most valuable laws; the Commissioner is an official of as great importance as almost any other in the State. Injurious to affect either the law or the office strikes fundamentally at the State. The office is too big and too serious to be either generally the football of politics, or to be within the category of those petty offices subject to personal reprisals under the ordinary patronage rules of the political game. There is nothing of a confidential relation between this office and that of Governor; indeed, it has been administered separately and distinctly.

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never in conjunction with or in any manner related to the Governor's office. When the Blue Sky Law was first enacted, there were certain interests in Los Angeles who wished to control the appointment of the Commissioner. Carnahan was appointed ^{by me} in opposition to them, because of his high attainments and his fearlessness. His conduct of the office has won the admiration, respect and commendation of all. His removal is a blow to efficient public service and a sad loss to the State of California.

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CARALYN B. SHELTON, CLERK.
SHELDON S. JONES, ASSISTANT CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS.

September 7, 1918.

Mrs. Amy Johnson,
Care of P. E. Bowles, Esq.,
The Pines,
Union and Macadam Sts.,
Oakland, California.

*This letter never received as
Mrs. Amy Johnson died
on September 7, 1918*

My dear Daughter:

It was just bully to have your telegram congratulating me on my birthday and adding the congratulations of your Father and your Mother. Although I have reached the ripe old age which in the very nature of things is taking me on the downward road, I can't feel much older than I did ten or twenty years ago. I have a little less desire for exertion perhaps, and not so great a mental agility, but I can enjoy the same petty things, laugh as heartily at the little humorous occurrences, and get mad, almost as quickly, as I could a quarter of a century ago. A year ago on my birthday we went to what is called the "Dower House", an old colonial structure where dinner was served in celebration of the event. We had with us then just Senator Knox and poor Paul Herriott. I thought we would celebrate it in like fashion this year, and so we had dinner at our own colonial mansion with just Senator and Mrs. Knox as our guests. We really had a wonderful dinner, and a delightful evening, but I thought repeatedly of the

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changes that had occurred in the past year, and in reality in the past few years. I longed to have one of our old dinner parties when we had all the family together, and then played cards like children afterwards. I am promising myself when we come to California we'll take hold of you and have some of those old times again.

We've had a slight flurry this week in the Senate over the so-called "slacker raid" in New York. Occasionally I have adverted in writing you to the peculiar psychology of war. I have tried to say something now and then about militarism, and how it was the same the world over. There is something about war, with its force and its brutality, its exultation and exaltation, its strange unthinking hysteria that causes men to act in a fashion foreign to their natures, and which in calm moments would be impossible. The other day our Government conceived the idea of rounding up the slackers in New York and in Jersey. Thereupon, soldiers, and sailors, marines, and an unofficial organization called "The National Protective Society" took into custody, variously estimated, forty to seventy thousand men; tore some individuals from their places of business; dragged others from their feminine companions in theatres; and, at the point of the bayonet, marched yet more from trains, busses, depots and the streets, imprisoned them in armories and in jails; restrained them for many hours without food, and all for the purpose of obtaining

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one per cent of the number restrained, who were supposed to be guilty of offenses against the draft. No such abuse of authority, and no such trampling upon the rights of innocent citizens have ever before occurred in the Republic. How far we have traveled the road of Prussianism is demonstrated by the justification of the wanton act in a part of the press, and its glorification by certain individuals on the floor of the Senate. Those of us who vigorously protested will doubtless be classified as defenders of slackers, but I made up my mind, and I so said, that hereafter when any terrorism was attempted or militarism ran rampant I was at least going to voice my denunciation. Simply that you may understand something of what transpired I am appending to this note a copy of the remarks that I made upon the subject, which have attracted widespread attention in the east, and have brought down upon my devoted head some disagreeable comments. The same sort of thing has transpired as in other instances where I have voiced a protest, and that is, quite a number of letters have come to me which the writers are afraid to sign, but which are wholly commendatory of my course. If you'll take a concrete example like this you'll understand the outrage that was committed: Suppose it were known that in the City of Oakland there were three thieves and the authorities desired to apprehend them; and suppose that in order to apprehend them every

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man in Oakland was put in jail. I presume under such circumstances there would be little approval of this course. And yet those in charge of this raid took the position, in which very many acquiesced, that if the imprisonment of seventy thousand innocent men had enabled the Government to find one slacker, the act of the authorities would be vindicated. Of course, no man who believes in liberty can for one moment tolerate such a pronouncement. As one newspaper remarked, it was an instance of "little Prussianism". As I see it, however, it is simply one of the indications of how we have transmuted our Government and our people, and of how we have left in the dim past our democracy.

There is a feeling of real elation at the War Department. They could tell us little this morning that has not appeared in the press; but the counter offensive we have maintained with the Allies has gradually made itself felt until March, who is conservative in his utterances, now believes that ^{the} offensive will never again be lost during the war. He expects, as doubtless you have read, that the Germans will be pushed back to the old Hindenberg line within a brief period, and he expects, too, that the offensive will continue in pushing them beyond that line then. During the week it has been repeatedly stated in the press that Lens has been captured by the Allies. We were told this is an error. This capture,

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however, is eagerly looked for. Upon the maps today they drew for us the region of the coal mines of France, and even extended the lines far beyond the boundaries of France. If Lens can be taken and the country adjacent thereto, as March expressed it, France can be kept warm this winter. During past winters there has been an insufficiency of coal there because these rich coal deposits have been in the possession of the Germans. If Lens and its vicinity can now be captured, not only will it keep France warm, for the first time during the wintry weather of the war, but it will solve many problems of coal transportation for us as well. The most important, therefore, of the operations at present, those which would result in the greatest advantages to the Allies and be the most disadvantageous to the Germans are immediately concerned with these coal lands. The City of Lens itself is of little consequence, but the coal of extraordinary importance. A year or more ago there were many jokes in the papers about the English taking Lens, and I remember Jack and I used to talk about the fights around it, and how disgusted we were when with the various reports that came, finally it would develop that the Germans still held that territory. If, therefore, you read within the new few days that this important coal centre has been taken you may

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feel that the Allies have struck a real body blow at the Germans. Our men in France are gradually being gathered under their own command, and gradually being withdrawn from the British and French, with whom quite a considerable part have in the past been brigaded. The number now brigaded with the English is about ninety six thousand, and with the French the number is negligible. Undoubtedly the pride and ambition of the American commanders are striving for a real American army under American command. I am very glad of this. We endeavored to ascertain something about the Russian situation, but, apparently, there was little desire to give us information upon this subject. It was asserted, however, that we have sent to Vladivostock only four thousand men. The celebrated Siberian railroad - the only means of transportation across that great country - it was stated is now in the hands of the Allies.

Last night, the interminable Agricultural Bill was concluded in the Senate. The Waterpower Bill will probably come up next week, and if it should be speedily disposed of we'll have little to do until the Revenue Bill comes to us. I had a conversation with Simmons, chairman of the Finance Committee having in charge this Revenue Bill this morning, and he stated his expectation was that the Committee would have more than a month of hearings, and that the Bill will not be reported to the Senate until the middle of October. This will

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mean some derangement of the plans Mother and I have had about coming to California, but I do not think we will delay our coming beyond the first day of November. I do not expect, when once I am in California, to return for the short session early in December, but my hope is to remain in California until after Christmas. There was a tremendous lot of talk about prohibition, What was erroneously and hypocritically called "war-time prohibition " was injected into the Agricultural Bill - a provision prohibiting the sale of liquors after July first, 1919. The President this morning, after insisting upon this date of July first, 1919, issued an edict prohibiting the manufacture of beer with the end of this year. He is a most astonishing man, and can do the most inconsistent things. To suggest his inconsistencies or to criticize his astonishing actions is apparently, however, immediately seized upon as an evidence of disloyalty of the subject. I say "subject" advisedly now.

Our weather is beginning to turn. I think we'll have little or no hot weather in the days to come. I have heard so much about the autumns that I am rather curiously watching the trees where we live. I want to observe the transition from the vivid green to the beautiful browns and reds. I have never spent any part of October in the east. We left last year, if you remember, about the first, and last year

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was really my first year away from my native State. More and more I love our country home. I am beginning to doubt whether we ^{can} ~~could~~ stay there during all of the winter, but I have made up my mind that if there is a part of the time when it will be next to impossible to live there and come daily into Washington, I'll go into one of the hotels here, and with fair philosophy spend a few weeks of that sort of thing, with the prospect always before me of getting back into the country.

I presume that you have seen Arch. I was delighted that he had his opportunity to go to California. I hope that it will relieve him of some of the depression that I know rested upon him, and will enable him to return to his work refreshed, with mind clarified, and resolved to go at it with his old spirit. We really feel a great relief that he is in this country, and very, very thankful that he has come through his adventure unscathed.

May your improvement speedily continue. I've been very glad to learn of it of late.

Give my love to your Mother and your Father.

Most affectionately,

