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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

October 5, 1936.

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

My dear Jack:

I received your letter this morning, and read it with the greatest interest. I felt as you did about the two Roosevelt speeches. He surpassed himself at Syracuse. He was not at his best at Pittsburgh. Al Smith's speech was a wail, but I got a couple of laughs out of it as he spoke of LaGuardia's Democracy, and said if he were a Democrat, he, Smith, was a Chinaman with his head shaved. There was literally very little to the speech. I read Frick's letter to me of two years ago with the greatest of interest. He was a prophet. What this Administration will try to do is to take us into the League of Nations, or some equivalent of it. It is an international administration. Roosevelt, in talking about bringing here the King of England, Mussolini, Hitler, and the other rulers, in the interest of peace, was afflicted with delusions of grandeur. I am afraid of what he will do to this Country in the next four years.

The Republicans in this campaign are simply rotten.

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They don't know where they are at, and they are constantly blundering. I feel, like Smith said, that they haven't the chance of a Chinaman with his haircut in the election. I have done nothing, and I don't feel equal to doing anything. I realize this is a horrible state to be in, and that after the election I will be neither fish nor flesh nor fowl. Perhaps I will pick up in the next two weeks and feel like fighting again.

It is hard to realize that Philip will be 21 this month. I don't know what to make of the boys, they have grown so rapidly, and I imagine they have grown beyond me. They are dear boys and you can well be proud of them. I am very proud that they are my grandsons.

With love to them, Miss Schow, and much to yourself, I am

Affectionately,

Dad

COPY

October 5, 1936.

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

Dear Sonny:

You have not heard from me for the last two or three days, because I have not been well enough, and Miss Connor has been very busy with some work for your Father, so I have just left things go, knowing you would understand. Please do not mention to your Father I am not feeling very well, because I don't want to have him worried in any way. He is really getting along very well, but my nerves are shot, and I have to keep such a bold front on all the time that I guess it accentuates the situation. I so enjoyed your letter, You are a nice sweet baby to send it along. Of course, I could fight with you over and over about your "narrow-mindedness" about Roosevelt. The situation that presents itself to me is not the man at all, but the Country. In your letter to your Father this morning, you gave to him an instance of Roosevelt duplicity and his private aims. I am not for Landon, I am voting to lessen, if possible, the strangle that this man has upon us and the Country. He does not keep his promises, he does not

COPY

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tell the truth, and he has surrounding him a pack of shoeing advisers. He wants to be the saviour not only of this Country, but of all the World, and I, therefore, knowing what he has done in the past, will not be responsible for what he may do in the future. I think poor Landon and his crew are to be pitied, but I think that Landon is sincere, and at least it would keep us in the next four years out of the trap, and the situation where we are going into now. So that's that.

Now about Frere. I will write him a little note in a day or two, but he may be evasive, and I am going to be in the same situation as I am now. I wish there was some way that he could make up his mind on something. The day is very sacred to me, and I do want to give him something that will be a reminder of it in every way.

I will have to close this note, as your Father needs Miss Connor, and I will write you again sometime during the week. Thank Miss Schow for her letter. Tell her it was sweet of her to write me such a lovely long letter. I miss you not going on your boat as much as you do, because in my mind I have been with you all the time.

COPY

Evidently you did not listen to the ball game
yesterday. We did, and it looks like Yanks to me,
and I am sorry.

My love to you, the boys, and Miss Schow,

Lovingly,

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EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Sunday, October 11, 1936.

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

My dear Jack:

First, as to your Mother. I am satisfied her arm is getting better. I am equally satisfied that she will never get more than fifty per cent of the use of her arm. To accomplish this, it is necessary for her to continue going to the doctor for an indefinite period of time. She goes regularly now, and they subject the arm to various lights and various exercises. I think your Mother is beginning to suffer the aftermath of the shock she has undergone. She is troubled with nervous indigestion and sleeplessness which keep her constantly on edge. Dr. O'Malley is doing everything he can think of for her, but without any great result at present. It leaves the situation, so far as she is concerned, in bad shape, but we are hoping that time will do for her what is necessary.

So far as I am concerned, I am about as well as I will ever be, and I am going ahead on that theory very soon. I have lost twenty-five pounds, spend from eleven to twelve in the morning at the hospital, and in the afternoon, we drive to the Mall, where I try to walk a mile. I am satisfied that I am better, but equally satisfied that I will never reach the limit of recovery.

I am restless and uneasy about the political situation. I would like to be a part of it, but I feel I can not be, and I will probably maintain this attitude. I don't like the idea of playing the part of a man who is dead, but I think it is the only part I can play. Dr. O'Malley thinks so, and he is a very strong Roosevelt man. It may be that it makes no difference I have dropped so completely out of everything. Roosevelt is certain to be re-elected. The Republicans are unable to conduct an effective campaign against him, and although Landon showed some plans and ideas in his last speech delivered at Chicago on the budget, he is no match on the stump for his opponent.

It was delightful to read what you said about your boat and the glorious time you have had on it. I have been

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thinking about how happy you should be and how you should rejoice in your two boys, even though they display at times boyish proclivities.

With my love to the boys, Miss Schow, and much to yourself,

Affectionately,

Dad

P:S: Miss Connor, of course, signs this for me .

ROYAL S. COPELAND, N. Y., CHAIRMAN
DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA. CHARLES L. McNARY, G.
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

October 17, 1936.

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

My dear Jack:

If I were to write you of what is in everybody's mind here, it would be wholly politics. I see so few people that I gather my views entirely from the press, and not from personal contact. If I were to write you of our daily doings, it would be a monotonous thing. The last couple of days I have had a little setback, but I am improved now, and I am O. K. What would our language do without that expression? A gland of mine among the lymphatic glands in the neck suddenly went on a rampage, and swelled up until I thought I had a boil in my neck. There was nothing to do about it, and we concluded it would go down, which it is now gradually doing. At the same time I had an inflammation of the colon that was extremely painful for a very brief period, but that is now practically gone. It is simply the case of the old Ford, the first model, with no new parts to replace the worn-out old ones. Mother is suffering from some nervous trouble which covered her with little blisters. The Doctors say it is due to her trouble, and there

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is nothing serious about it, although it is inconvenient. Like all old people, our ills have become an all-important subject. I am trying to get out of this mood as best I can, but it is rather difficult.

You are going to have a chance to see Landon. From all accounts, he is a very good fellow, but he does not know what it is all about. All of those who know him speak in the highest terms of him, but in the language of Senator Guffey, of Pennsylvania, who has become a big man in the present administration, he is "the dumb cluck from Kansas". I don't know, however, if he is not preferable to such a man as Guffey. Roosevelt has about him the damndest set of ~~high~~-binders I ever saw. At least the other side assumed the appearance of respectability. Politics have changed. A Democratic candidate for President should not have done what Roosevelt has done. He went into Minnesota and there simply submerged the Democratic Party in order to get the support of the Farm-Labor Party. It was a beastly thing to do, and the sole motive of it was personal political fortunes. However, I suppose the other side is equally as bad.

Last night I listened in to Hoover at Philadelphia. I have to admit he is the only man that makes any speech in this campaign. He is so intensely hated, however,

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that he could not do any good under any circumstance, but the picture he drew last night of Roosevelt, and his leaders, we all know to be correct, and there has been nobody on the Republican side to expose it.

Just think of Phil being twenty one! There is no use saying I can not realize it, but it seems incredible. He has a great future ahead of him, and like his brother, I think will distinguish himself.

With my love to the boys, and Miss Schow, and much to yourself,

Affectionately,

Dad

P:S: Mrs. Johnson asks me to send you the Kent article, and I enclose the article by Gould Lincoln, which refers to you.

COPY

October 22, 1936.

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

Sonny Boy:

Your letter came this morning, and I certainly was glad to get it. I am sorry that you think I should not have purchased Frere a ring, but I would not have one boy, and particularly Frere, think our love for him was any less than that for Hiram. The only thing that worries me about it is that it is in a gold mounting instead of platinum, and that Frere may not like it, so please insist on him sending it back if he does not like it, as I can readily return it to the jeweler and obtain something else in its place. I had Miss Connor write Miss Schow to open the package and wrap the ring as a gift. I had left the ring unwrapped as I wanted you to open it and see it, but I put into the package the ribbon, seals, and paper to wrap it as a gift. Of course, Smartie must have it his own way, even though you are "nigh under fifty".

I am so glad you got Frere the watch. After all, it will be something distinctly his, and not something someone else has used.

I am sorry to have to tell you that your Father has been ill. The first thing that happened was that a gland on the right hand side of his face became swollen. The Doctors thought it was just a cold, and then, on Monday night, he suffered severe pains in his abdomen. The Doctors said that he had intestinal flu. We have done everything for him that we can, and I am quite sure he is much better today. He has left the bed, and gone over to the chaise lounge to sit in the sun as I dictate this letter. He gave me quite a scare, though, Jack, and being so ner-

vous, I was just about ready to give up and be a driveling coward. I have just had all I want of trouble and miserableness, and I don't want any more.

Your Father is entirely too thin, and I think was just in fit condition to take anything that was going around. He himself thinks he is not being sufficiently nourished. You see he has lost 28 pounds, and I am anxious for him to regain his strength and be able to get about without being exhausted after any little exertion. I wired Dr. Ebright and he told me to add some sugar and starches to his diet, as he thought also your Father was losing too fast. I really felt very much worried about him, but I now think that he will be all right in a short time.

I have lots to tell you about Jack Neylan, but it will keep. Keep your eye on that boy. There is nothing new here with us. I will keep you advised about Dad. I do hope you will have a wonderful holiday. Of course, we will be thinking of you all the time. Do give Frere lots of love and tell him we are thinking of him with the greatest affection.

Of course, if you are a "white man" you will vote as I am doing, but, being a "Smartie", I suppose you won't.

All my love to you and the family,

Devotedly,

ROYAL S. COPELAND, N. Y., CHAIRMAN

DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA.
MORRIS SHEPPARD, TEX.
JOSIAH WILLIAM BAILEY, N. C.
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GRACE MC ELDOWNEY, CLERK
ROGER WILLIAMSON, ASST. CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

October 24, 1936.

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

My dear Jack:

Last night at 10:15 your Mother and I and Joe drank a toast to you and to your dear boys, particularly Philip. He wired a very pretty telegram to his Grandmother and myself this morning and we were tickled to death to receive it.

The last four days I have been in bed here, not with anything particularly difficult, but with what the Doctors designate as Colitis, an inflammation of the Colon. Apart from its disagreeableness, it is all right. I have done nothing but read the newspapers during that period, from all sections of the Country. I think the presidential contest is over. I look to see Roosevelt win about as he won from Hoover, perhaps not ^{with} of the same electoral vote, but nearly so. I sent my absent voter's ballot yesterday, and voted for him, although with many misgivings. I have been wondering about Landon's visit to California. Did you hear anything about it, or was it a perfectly useless trip, as I imagined it to be. I was surprised to read the portions of your letter which indicated that I had

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made, or was going to make, a statement for him. Of course, there was nothing in this. He is a very nice fellow, but he is utterly unable to put his thoughts, if he has any, in an attractive or sequential form. I don't think the next week can change the trend that is on here in the East.

With love to the boys, Miss Schow, and a great deal to yourself, dear boy, I am

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'H.W.J.' or similar, written in a cursive style.

COPY

October 30, 1936.

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

My dear Sonny:

It was good to have your letter, although it was just full of misunderstandings. How in the world do you expect your Father to come out to California when he has just had this sick spell for over a week, and which has left him exceedingly limpy. It seems to me that I have fretted more about this sick spell than I did about the other, because he seemed to have nothing to come back on. I must say, however, today, for the first time, he is better, and I do hope that with good nourishing food I can get him in shape again soon. It is my opinion that this whole thing has been caused by over-diet, which left him so weak that he could not resist anything that was going about. It is not good, I am sure, at his age, or mine, or even yours, to diet too strenuously, and he had lost 28 pounds, which is far too much. People seem to go crazy about diet. Of course, I have been nagging for quite some time, but it has been all charged up to nagging, and nothing has been done, and then all of a sudden he realized himself that he had gone just a little too far. We are trying to feed him up, and get him back to where he should be.

I do not note in your letter that you said anything about getting the carpenter to fix the front steps. Won't you please do that for your Mother, like a good boy?

That was a stupid present to send Hiram, because he has so many pens, but I went up to Camalier's and went over everything he had, and could find nothing that was new except those little cameras, and I did not want to send one to him after having sent you one. The only reason I sent the pen to Hiram was that I did not want to have the little honeybug sitting there without anything. I had a sweet letter from him today. I do hope that Frere is not

stupid enough to keep that ring if he does not like it and just say that it is lovely because he thinks he should say so. I still have time to exchange it, if he does not like it. I hate to talk so much about it, but you people seem to think you should accept anything I send, whether you like it or not, and sometimes I am wrong. I have had no time this year to go through the shops.

Well, I knocked your vote into a cocked hat, because I sent my vote out for Landon. If you see what I see here you would have done the same thing. I don't care what fellows are backing him, they can't be as bad as those backing Roosevelt, and cannot resort to any such doings as they flagrantly do. I suppose it is six of one and half a dozen of another, but I am willing to take a chance on somebody new to get their grip off this country. This is the last spout from me, but I say it most sincerely, knowing things as I do here.

I have had some worries some days and nights, but so far the arm is better.

All my love,

Devotedly,

ROYAL S. COPELAND, N. Y., CHAIRMAN
DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA.
MORRIS SHEPPARD, TEX.
JOSIAH WILLIAM BAILEY, N. C.
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ROGER WILLIAMSON, ASST. CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

November 2, 1936.

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

My dear Jack:

I received this morning your letter. I believe as you do about the campaign, and have so believed for a long time. Roosevelt will win by an overwhelming majority. I am fearful of Franck Havenner. Of course, I am not able to speak intelligently of his campaign, but I know his temperament, and I imagine he has been content with Roosevelt polls, which won't mean much in his fight. I observe that the San Francisco papers are for Mrs. Kahn, and the people who call at the office here are pretty well divided as to whether he will be successful, and that if so, it will be a very close fight. Well, here's hoping that he wins, but if he wins, it will be the Roosevelt push shoving inertia over the line.

I am reading everything that I can about the strike. I observe this fellow Bridges is now in control and practically runs the San Francisco labor union. It bodes ill for San Francisco. The national Government can be relied upon to back him, as Miss Perkins has thus far. It is this sort of thing that makes me feel uncertain of Roosevelt. There are too damned many Bridges, John L. Lewises, Dubinskys,

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and Zaritskys and others in this fight. You can imagine my feeling at home here, utterly incapacitated, with a fear pressing me that never again can I participate in a real political struggle. Five months have passed now. Your Mother, unfortunately, has been afflicted with an attack of nervous indigestion of late. It is a shame that this should come on her with her other ills. However, I will quit "beefing" and devote myself to getting well.

With love to the boys, Miss Schow, and lots to you, I am

Affectionately,

Dad

Sunday, November 9, 1936.

Sonny Boy:

First, this must be a very short note because I really have not much time. You see, Dad is still ailing, and the problem is to get this strength back. I again insert, whether you believe it or not, that he got too low in weight, and that is what brought this on. He had no resistance. Of course, you will not believe this because you are one of those cranks on diet, but, nevertheless, it is true. As I have said before, his age will not permit of the same strict diet you take for yourself. I became so worried that I wire Dr. Ebright, and he told me to add a few things to his diet, which I have done. Dr. O'Malley agreed with him, and so we are now trying to build him up to a certain point, so he can have something to grip to. Whatever I am doing, I am doing under the doctor's instructions, so that I share the responsibility. Dr. Hogan arrived on Thursday, and maybe you don't think I was glad to see him. He is such a comfort, and I am sure he is going to be of great aid in getting your father's strength back. Hogan says he will be East for a couple of weeks, so that will help some. It has been pretty tough trying to see ahead as O'M with all his good qualities, has no imagination whatever.

I am awfully glad Mrs. Klauser has had the stairs fixed, but by no means am I glad she is paying for it, and I ask you to please send me a bill for the same immediately. I want it done awfully well, so that there will be no chance of accident, so if more should be done, have her go ahead and have it done.

I am so stunned over the election that it is almost impossible for me to say anything. I think it is the most terrible thing that has happened to this country since 1776. If this man were no egoist, and was not afflicted with "delusions of grandeur", there would be some hope, but with this backing, he is going to outdo Mussolini, Hitler, and Stalin. This sounds very crazy to you, I know, but you don't know him as we do, nor do you know the state of things here. I was not against him

because he was Roosevelt. I was against him because of this very situation. Watch him now. You should see the adulation of his friends and enemies because he has won.

I am enclosing you an article from the AMERICAN MERCURY for NOVEMBER, by Channing Pollock, entitled "America Doesn't give a Damn". Please read it, and have the boys read it. I think this article tells the tale in many respects. It is not anti-Roosevelt, so it will not offend your Roosevelt sensitiveness. I am deeply distressed over this whole situation, so far as my country is concerned, because I think the majority of people who voted for Roosevelt were not Americans, but rather pseudo-Americans. They voted by their pocket, because they had a job or something else that looked attractive to them. No use of my wailing about it, but I do. I belong to the MODEL T. I still believe in the government of the people for the people and by the people, which I must admit is pretty old fashioned now. I have no faith in this man. Being a dictator now, he will soon be a king. This sounds crazy, too, but I better not go on, because I get too "het up".

Your description of Neylan was exquisite. I have read, and re-read it enjoying it more each time.

Now, as go going to California, Florida, or New York, let me say your father is not in any condition to go anywhere as he is yet entirely too weak. If he gets stronger we'll try to do something.

You never told me whether the gossip of George Bowles was correct or not.

I do hope this finds you and the family well. All my love to the boys, Miss Schow, and lots to yourself.

Affectionately,

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Washington, Nov. 10, 1936.

My dear Dick:

Yesterday I received your letter of 6th. I'm writing you this because Connor is sick and I can't dictate. The result of the election was amazing. Of course generally it was supposed to have been Roosevelt, but the extent of the rout of the Republicans none foresaw.

I was amused at Hyman. Of course he thought the fact he had voted at Sacramento and elsewhere would show in the tabulated vote. It was only four to one in Sacramento, and I imagine he can't comprehend it. However, he is no worse than many others.

And now will come the test of the President. He loves the dramatic. His mentality is so restless it has to have something new daily. He has delusions of grandeur which make him dissatisfied with dealing with domestic problems alone, and which will constantly urge a wider field. Like Wilson he'll see himself the arbiter of the world. With his power and the vote he has received, the views of men like myself will receive scant attention. I've indicated ^{how very}

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

briefly what I expect the next year to develop. I'm going to be very lonely and very poorly equipped for the job. I don't look forward with very great interest to the part I shall play. However, we can let that take care of itself, if only I'm able to play any part such as I have in days gone by.

How good it was Frank Havenner was elected! He was a lucky man. He could only ^{have} won in the landslide.

It's too difficult to write. I wanted you to hear from me in answer to yours of 6th and so wrote this note.

Love to the boys and Miss Selma, much to yourself.

Affectionately,

Dad.

ROYAL S. COPELAND, N. Y., CHAIRMAN
DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA.
MORRIS SHEPPARD, TEX.
JOSIAH WILLIAM BAILEY, N. C.
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GRACE MCELLOWNEY, CLERK
ROGER WILLIAMSON, ASST. CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

Sunday, November 15, 1936.

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

My dear Jack:

Dr. Hogan arrived during the week and he has been as busy as a bird dog ever since. He is so anxious to be of service and does so many things that I feel extremely grateful to him. I imagine O'Malley wishes he was in hell. Everybody is agreed now that I was given too fast a diet, and that reduction from 200 to 173 had played havoc with me. It is a couple of weeks since they said the bars were down, and since I have been eating everything, and I am still at the same low weight. The doctors here think they have discovered a wonderful new drug called -

AMINOACETIC ACID MERCK
(GLYCOCOLL)

I have been put upon it, and it is expected to build up my muscles. I have been nine days feeding on it, and it may have done me some good. When you get the time, ask Ebright what he thinks of this.

I know your Mother's arm has improved, but what she wishes to do with it cannot be done as yet.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

They claim it will take many months, and then she will have 70% of the use of it, but she has a good deal less than 50% at present.

During the week the doctors will tell me whether we can go to California, and if he says we can, I shall come out for a couple of weeks. Mother thinks it is nonsense to take so long a trip for such a short time. It is possible we may go to Florida instead, or we may go to Bermuda in order to get a little change before the session meets.

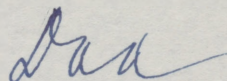
I think that Roosevelt during this next session will give free rein to his imagination. There will be nobody to stop him, and but a few to protest. All sorts of experiments we may see, some of which will give us the cold shivers. He will really feel that he has been given a mandate by the people to do as he pleases, and there will be enough people in Congress anxious to truckle to him, that will enable him to do just as he desires. When you think that of the Senators, the leader of the Republican Party, McNary, was in secret conferences with him whenever necessary during the past,

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson. Jr. - 3

and that Borah started a campaign for the Presidency under agreement with him, which, by the way, he carried out; and that Norris is so infatuated with his TVA and Electrification of homes, that he regards Roosevelt as a god, you will see there is mighty little left to stop anything he wishes to do.

My love to the boys, Miss Schow, and lots to yourself,

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dad", written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

Saturday, November 21, 1936.

to be sick. I can do nothing with her, and she is unable

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
Attorney at law,
Mills Building, I really don't I really don't
San Francisco, California
though I was thinking of going to Florida for a few weeks.

My dear Jack:

This, because the weather here is now winter, and because

I forgot to say anything to you about our
Florida seems the only place where we could get the sun.

change of chauffeurs. We have an excellent man, none too
We have had one little spell this week when the thermometer
bright, but thoroughly willing and anxious to be working
Got down to 19. Today is fine, but the Weather Bureau
all the time. The change is very welcome.

reminds us that late in the afternoon another cold spell

On one occasion when you and I were riding
is coming of several days' duration. I would go to Florida

with Erling driving, you called my attention to the fact
if your mother is in condition to go. She is today moving

he did not change gears often enough, and said something
rooms in the house, and selected this period as one to put

to the effect it was detrimental to the car. I wonder if
in an old burner in the house, and is passing over this,

you remember it. The new man is not a very good driver,
although I think it is going to be far superior to the coal

modeler and he has had long years of experience, and he seldom
burner. The Chinese boys are really like Hell, perhaps,

shifts gears. Let me know what you told me about that.

because they have not had the six months or so when we were
You said something about the agencies cautioning us always

in California, and everything that Mother does in cleaning
about shifting gears, I think. I wanted to be sure of what

the house - she selected this time of all others for that
you said before I did anything in regard to it.

purpose - they object to. I am fearful that she is going to

The last week I have felt a very great im-
make herself sick worrying over the little, miserable things

provement, and it is the first time that I have had this
she has undertaken here, and that could be left alone. So,

feeling since June. I want to go away for a brief period.

this Saturday, finds me rejoicing in my own improvement, but
Of course, I want to come to San Francisco. Mother is very

worrying much more about your mother. We have had Dean Lewis
bitterly opposed to this, because she thinks I would immedi-

ately run into trouble. I am alarmed this day about your

mother. I don't like to say it, but I think she is going to

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

Saturday, November 21, 1936

to be sick. I can do nothing with her, and she is unable to prepare to do any place for any time without a great deal of preparation. I really don't know what to do, although I was thinking of going to Florida for a few weeks.

This, because the weather here is now winter, and because

Florida seems the only place where we could get the sun.

We have had one little spell this week when the thermometer got down to 19. Today is fine, but the Weather Bureau

reminds us that late in the afternoon another cold spell

is coming of several days' duration. I would go to Florida

if your Mother is in condition to go. She is today moving

rooms in the house, and selected this period as one to put

in an oil burner in the house, and is fussing over this,

although I think it is going to be far superior to the coal

burner. The Chinese boys are acting like Hell, perhaps,

because they have not had the six months or so when we were

in California, and everything that Mother does in cleaning

the house, - she selected this time of all others for that

purpose - they object to. I am fearful that she is going to

make herself sick worrying over the little, miserable things

she has undertaken here, and that could be left alone. So,

this Saturday, finds me rejoicing in my own improvement, but

worrying much more about your Mother. We have had Dean Lewis

November 30, 1936.

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

My dear Jack:

I received this morning your letter of the 27th.

Like you, I felt an unusual thrill in our telephonic conversation of Thursday night. It was only at dinner time that day that I resolved to ring you up. We then had your wire and I could envisage the boys, Harry, and Bill, and a great longing came over me. It was mighty fine, although we had a little difficulty in getting you, but all of that was forgotten in hearing your voices.

We'll probably go to Florida this week. It was impossible to get accommodations on the Streamliner train to California. The trains run once in six days, and seem to be extremely popular. Your Mother, I presume, had written you about this. There were other reasons your Mother had about my coming to California, and while I don't think they were particularly good, they were sufficient for her. Of course, we must remember that she is feeling the shock yet of her accident; in fact, I think all her incidental disorders are caused by that fact. The length of the journey makes a great difference, too. It is true that it has been shortened to California, but it has been shortened only a day. The trip

is two days and two nights from Chicago, and of course,
 a day and night from here. Florida's trip is a day and a
 night. It takes practically twenty-four hours. The other
 objections of Mother about coming into California I don't
 know how valid they are, but since June last have been
 brought in contact with practically nobody, and Mother has
 been in the same seclusion. However, we have probably made
 up our minds, and the end of this week ought to see us in
 Florida. Of course, I will write you what I do. With love
 to the boys, Miss Schow, and a great deal to yourself,

Affectionately,

We'll probably go to Florida this week. It was
 impossible to get accommodations on the streamliner train to
 California. The train runs once in six days, and seem to be
 extremely popular. Your father, I presume, had written you
 about this. There are other reasons your Mother had about
 my coming to California, and while I don't think they were
 particularly good, they were sufficient for her. Of course,
 we must remember that she is feeling the shock yet of her
 accident; in fact, I think all her incidental disorders are
 caused by that fact. The length of the journey makes a great
 difference, too. It is true that it has been shortened to
 California, but it has been shortened only a day. The trip

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

over from Johns Hopkins the other night, and he said her arm would gradually become better, but it would require some months yet - exactly what Dr. Hall said. Don't in writing me say anything about Mother's condition, because, of course, she reads your letters to me, and I would not wish her to know that I have written you as I have.

This letter is probably a doleful one, but it reflects my feelings today, and you'll pardon it, please.

With my love to the boys, Miss Schow, and yourself, I am

Affectionately yours,

COPY

December 3, 1936.

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

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I have just come from the Union Station where the Senator and Mrs. Johnson left on the Atlantic Coast Line at three o'clock for Miami Beach. They are due there tomorrow at four o'clock. It was a long train, and a considerable walk to their compartments so that the Senator was quite fatigued when he got on the train. Every hotel at the beach has been trying to get them to stop with them, so I think they will go first to the Tower Hotel. The dining room there will not be open until the 10th of December, and they were doubtful about their meals, although the Manager has assured them he will take care of their meals. Joseph, the chauffeur, drove the car down yesterday. The distance is 1200 miles, and he figured on making it in three days, so he should be there and at the train to meet them. Just as soon as we commenced making reservations and the rumor got out the Senator might go to Florida, the Governor of Florida wired welcome to him, as did also the President of the Miami Chamber of Commerce, and the Presidents of the two roads running into Florida (Seaboard, and Atlantic Coast Line offered to put on an extra car to

COPY

December 3, 1936

take care of reservations for the Senator any day he cared
to go. We were told Miami Beach was the warmest place there
now, and the weather here has been so cold and disagreeable
that the Senator was anxious to be somewhere where he could
be out in the sun. I am hopeful that the trip may fully re-
store the Senator's strength.

With the regards of the office,

Sincerely yours,

COPY

Sunday, December 20, 1936.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
Mills Bldg.,
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I have just returned from a brief visit to Florida, where I spent much time with the Senator and Mrs. Johnson. They are located at the Tower Apartment Hotel, Collins Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida. This hotel was built, and only finished in December 1935 by a young Mr. Clarke. He is a millionaire, and the hotel is his hobby. The hotel is the very last hotel on the beach. The Senator has an exquisite suite. His room is on the tip of the Atlantic Ocean, where he can view nothing but the Ocean and the sky. Mrs. Johnson asks me to tell you that this hotel is to hotels what the "Cord" is to the automobile, and that its furnishings must have been taken from "Esquire". Your Mother is quite enraptured with the suite, and knowing her famed artistic ability, you will know that the suite is well equipped, if she O.K.'s it. They have bed room, with all windows, right on the tip of the ocean, living room, with exquisite equipment, including a triple graded light, marvelous bath and shower, with electric heater built into the wall, kitchenette with electric and gas stoves, frigidaire, dishes, silver, et cetera. They have a dining room, but this has been let as a concession to a Frenchman, and they do not eat there, because Mrs. Johnson says they charge a dollar for three sticks of asparagus.

Their hotel is 10 1/2 miles from the centre of the City of Miami, approximately eight miles from the commencement of the beach, terminal of bus, trolleys, and taxicabs. If Mrs. Johnson had not the foresight to send their car and chauffeur down there, they would have been in a pretty plight for transportation. Three miles from their hotel is an exclusive shopping centre of about six blocks. The New York shops have come there, and Mrs. J. rather enjoys them. Their nearest eating place is two miles from their hotel. The season does not really start until the latter part of December or the first of January, so gradually new eating places will be opened.

The first day I saw the Senator down there he did not look well. He had a wicked trip south because he went before the regular season started, and despite the offers

of the President of the Road to give him a special car, etc., his trip was not pleasant. It was so bumpy he could not read, and so hot it was uncomfortable, with the result he was all fagged out when he reached the Beach, December 10th the time I went down, their season started, and they ran a Seaboard Special, which is the train I want to Senator to return on. It is air conditioned, smooth road, superb service, connecting compartments, and everything that goes for comfort.

However, he was there only a short time when he was able to take a swim. Here's their schedule. About ten they take a swim, then station the beach, then have lunch. Mrs. Johnson fixed the Senator's lunch, and she and I went to town for our lunch and a tour of the shops; then back, more time on the beach, then for dinner, and a marvelous drive. Miami Beach is a garden spot. The foliage and exotic flowers are luxurious. There are driveways along the ocean front, through Coconut Grove, where the date palm trees form an archway, the hotels and homes are mostly white, with their high walls, and sides and roofs covered with the most beautiful flowers. The Senator and Mrs. Johnson love the place. The temperature averages 70 degrees, and the water is warm all day long. The hotel is restricted and exclusive. Young Mr. Clarke just pleaded with them to come here, and I think they made a wise choice. Of course, their visit lends prestige to the hotel, and the little Miami News carried an editorial congratulating the City of having the Senator as its guest.

The place is just ideal for the Senator at this time. There is only a selected group of people at the hotel, no night life, just rest.

Of course the Senator and Mrs. Johnson will remain there for Christmas. She asks that you keep your promise regarding "no Christmas", and to ask you and Miss Schow please to send no flowers, because of the abundance of flowers there. I forgot to say their suite is furnished fresh flowers each day.

I wire and write them each day, and frequently I telephone Mrs. Johnson. I want them to stay there until after inauguration. Little is doing here in the early days of the Congress. We meet January 5th. Inauguration takes place January 20th, so you know no business is going to be transacted until after the inauguration, and the City is wild in its plans, so I would like them to be away from the hubbub and confusion. If you agree with me, when you write them, urge them to stay. Mrs. Johnson wants to, but you know how restless the Senator gets.

COPY

Frank Doherty is here with us. He has to be home for Christmas, but plans to return early in January. He says he has never been to Florida, and if the Senator is there when he returns in January, he will fly down just to say "hello" to him.

I think this tells you all the news I know at the moment, and as I frequently hear from the Senator and Mrs. Johnson I will keep you advised.

Our regards,

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Senator Hiram W. Johnson