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EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Sunday, May 2, 1937.

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

My dear Jack:

I have received your letter regarding your conversation with Cutler and Wright. I think you did just right. However, my views upon the subject are not particularly fixed, nor particularly good, and I would be entirely satisfied with any decision that you made, of course.

I don't know whether you can ascertain how much George Creel is receiving or not. If you could, I would like to know it. Cutler and Creel are very intimate, so you will get no information from that source. If there is any other way that you could ascertain I would like you to do so, although I don't want to know so badly as to kick up any row, or cause any talk. Creel, of course, has backed McAdoo into the picture. Of course, he has not done anything and does not intend to do anything, but he'll share the honors subsequently.

There is nothing to write you this week. Congress is marking time. We had a break in the Court fight with three Senators who are upon the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.-2

They will prevent the bill being favorably reported by the Committee. I do not think this will, however, affect the final result. The great danger now is in some compromise which will give the President two or three appointments. This would be as bad as the original bill.

I have been very much interested in what DeValera has done with the Irish. They are great friends and fighters for liberty except when it concerns themselves and those they don't like. DeValera has got a constitution purely Fascist, and a government that is a dictatorship. With a wave of his hand he abolished the senate that did some things he did not like, and would not do some things that he wanted done, and he has even in his new constitution taken hold of the freedom of the press. Great are the Irish !

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

Affectionately,

Dad

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

May 7, 1937.

HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, MINN.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

Friday has come again. The weeks pass so quickly that I can not keep tab on them any more, and I presume during the rest of my life, that they will go more quickly still. We received your various letters during the week. We both have been very sorry for Miss Schow, and hope that the doctors will not find it necessary to operate upon her. The poor woman! She has had a difficult time of it, and I know how she must feel in bed with the management of the house constantly on her mind. We're all alike, and although the world moves just the same whether we are on hand to direct its movements or not, we feel an abiding certainty that in our absence things can not go right, and that it is an absolute necessity we should be about.

I met Creel concerning the Exposition on a couple of occasions, but of course, he has had nothing to say in respect to your employment, nor has Cutler. I will endeavor to pass their Bill, as is my duty, but these very

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

slick individuals will grab the prominence and publicity. I don't know that I care for this, but I think that your treatment gives a fair idea of their measure.

The Court matter is still the sole topic of conversation here, and until it is out of the way, we are transacting very little business, and will transact very little. The Congress is talking economy, and so is the President. Neither means it. The President's scheme by which appropriations should be reduced 15%, this put in a revolving fund, with the power in him to allocate it as he sees fit, is simply another indication of his reach for power. His Re-organization scheme, that would permit him to do practically as he pleases with the various departments of government, and removes all checks, is but another part, and when he shall annex the Court his work will be done. I do not believe any man living could resist the power that will then be accorded him. This is on the theory that he is not seeking dictatorship, but I think the theory is not justified by the fact. There is going to be hell to pay in this country within two years, and I think the most fortunate ones will be those who have nothing. No government can withstand forever paying two dollars out and taking one dollar in. Even the President is beginning to see this and

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson. Jr. - 3

to worry about it.

Give my love to the boys and to Miss Schow.

Affectionately,

Ann.

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., C. AN
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WALLACE H. WHITE, JR., MAINE

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

May 11, 1937

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

I ran across a snag today in the Exposition resolution, and I thought you would like to know the detail. I have written you heretofore that the President notified Creel and Cutler that he would give \$3,000,000 to New York and \$1,750,000 to San Francisco. I insisted, therefore, that our bill should be for \$1,750,000, saying it would be a matter of bad faith to ask more knowing the President's views. The temptation was strong to ask more because New York had put in a bill for \$5,000,000 and passed it in that fashion.

Our bill was on the Calendar today. I was going to take it up by Unanimous Consent in a fashion that we have here, and which I think I could have got away with. The thought occurred to me that I would speak to Robinson so that he would not be taken by surprise. Accordingly, I did so, and he said he was very glad I did because he had a note from the President instructing him to hold the New York appropriation to one and a half million and ours to a million dollars. He said the President would take some method by veto or otherwise to cut down the New York appropriation. So I let the matter ride for a day or two until we could ascertain exactly what would be done.

With love in which your Mother joins to Miss Schow,
the boys, and yourself,

Affectionately,

Da

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN

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EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

May 11, 1937.

Dear Sonny Boy:

I don't know why you were so good as to send me those beautiful flowers. I am telling you truthfully the house was filled with them. Every way I turned I saw nothing but beautiful flowers. Hurrah! Hurrah! They were all as fresh as could be. It was pretty sweet of you and I do appreciate it. It is mighty nice to be remembered by "Mummie's" honeybug, but I must admit I cringe when I see these florists getting richer and richer. Do you know a poor florist? I have never heard of one, and we poor boobs get gyped every time we buy roses. So you must have been gyped plenty; nevertheless, you gave both of us a great deal of joy.

We have had a rather tough week. Your father received a letter from Jack Neylan about Bert Meek which upset both of us beyond words. It just seems too terrible to be true. I am having the part of Jack Neylan's letter relating to Bert copied and enclose it to you herein, so you will understand. You'll see from his letter it should be kept very confidential. Bert to us is very dear, and to have anything like this happen to him, is just too terrible. Your father has grieved very much over the whole thing.

There is nothing new happening with us. I am very glad that your father has not made his radio Court speech as yet. It would just mean he would have to make another later, and I don't want him to do that.

I am terribly distressed about Miss Schow. I wish you would write me what the doctors say and what they decide to do. Being wholly ignorant of what has happened, from the inquiries I have made of the doctors here, as usual I get varying opinions. But I am convinced she had better take it as easy as she can, and let it absorb by itself. Do give her lots of love. You don't realize how fond I am of her and how very much she means to me.

Here's a good one on McAdoo. You know he paws everyone he comes in contact with, man, woman, or child. This Mr. Jackson gave a dinner at Hollywood to a lot of Senators, and he had all of the movie stars, and so to be very nice he asked the different Senators what partners they desired. McAdoo, it seems asked for Jeannette McDonald. After dinner was over, Mr. Jackson claimed his dance with Miss McDonald. She was very

quiet at first, and he then asked her what was the trouble. She said, "Why did you not tell me I was to sit next to Senator McAdoo. He said, "What has that got to do with it, he's a United States Senator, what do you want? She said, "It's not that, but if I knew I was to sit next to him, I would have put mouse traps on my garters". Everyone is having a great laugh over the whole thing, as pawing seems to be the best thing they do.

Let me say this to you confidentially. I never was so proud in my life as I was in you when you refused to take that employment. I just tingled all over with pride. Your Dad of course told me about it and we both were delighted. They make me sick. The rumor around here is, - I don't know whether your father has told you of it or not, that Cutler has lost his peacock feather until he sobers up and may be for good. That may explain some of it.

I would like to send Hiram some little thing for his room. Can you find me something in San Francisco, just something that he really wants.

It is so hard for me to get a letter written in this blank office, that if I ask them to write two letters they fall over dead. Tell Miss Schow that little jacket I sent her is for her to wear in bed and make her put it on. You would think it cost a million dollars. I wish I could think of something to send her, she is so sweet. Do thank Miss Schow for me, won't you.

All my love to you, Miss Schow, and the boys,

Devotedly,

Mother

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

May 12, 1937.

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

My dear Jack:

I have just this minute received yours of May 10th, enclosing copy of note you received from Cutler from Sacramento. You ask me what attitude I would like you to take. I have no desire that you take any particular attitude, as I have tried to make plain to you in my letters. I think thus far you have maintained yourself in dignified fashion. You are a practicing lawyer, and your services are legitimately for hire, but by reason of particular circumstances you neither require nor desire any sop, and you have made this plain. As I understand your position you are ready to accept employment at a reasonable figure, but a reasonable figure has not been offered you. Whatever you do will be satisfactory to me. My connection with the Exposition will probably be ended within this week. I will pass their bill and get them the amount that the President will allow, and I take it after this there will not be anything else for me to do.

Hastily and affectionately,

and

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CLERK
JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, ARK.
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

May 17, 1937.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

Yesterday I had no opportunity to write you as usually I do on Sunday, so I am letting this be a stop-gap letter on Monday.

I received your letter of the 14th yesterday. We are still having our difficulties over the appropriation to be made by the Federal Government to the San Francisco Exposition. I explained the very singular conduct of the President to you in a previous letter, and since his return I have been waiting for Mr. Creel to see him and advise me definitely. This was to be done before this noon, but it hasn't been. I remember the early days, when Mr. Cutler was here, and he boasted that here was an exposition that neither asked nor wanted Federal money. This position of independence apparently was very soon forgotten, and I was amazed to read that the State had appropriated \$5,000,000. At any other time than this it would be a pretty stiff proposition to give the peoples' money to these expositions, but it is doubly so when we think that our budget isn't balanced, and of the crisis which is bound to come in our

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finances. However, the money is being wasted in every conceivable way on every conceivable thing, and it may be just as well to waste it on an exposition.

I dictated this far when Mr. Creel came in. He says the President now is talking very indefinitely to him about giving San Francisco two-thirds as much as he gives New York. Creel said that he told him that he was going to veto the New York bill for five millions. He asked me, through Creel, to pass our bill on the Calendar and this noon I did so.

I am glad you are going to have Hiram at home with you. Philip's roving disposition he will overcome in time, and settle down, but I presume during the period that he is afflicted makes it pretty difficult for you.

Tomorrow is a great day on the court bill, although the Committee may not in one or two days get to actual voting. I was pretty indignant at the remarks of Farley, and this morning I went upstairs with the idea in my mind of referring to them and referring to the attitude of the Senate respecting such remarks. Fortunately, I went to see the two Senators to whom he referred, O'Mahoney and McCarran, and while I found that he had strengthened their resolve, neither of them wanted anything said about him or his remarks. They were the ones primarily interested and they

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had shown a pretty high courage in opposing the court bill, and so, without their consent, I didn't want to sail into Mr. Farley.

Your Mother and I are getting on fairly well. I am a little on edge all the time, and I can't sleep, but this, I am told, is not unnatural, under the circumstances. Mother's arm does not improve vastly, but I am hoping that it will. The doctor promises some improvement but do you realize it is more than eleven months since we both had our trouble, and it seems a thousand years ago.

With love to the boys and Miss Schow,

Affectionately,

Ada

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., C. MAN
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

May 21, 1937.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

In the matter of the Exposition of New York, and the Bill, which I explained to you, was passed by the New York people so blithely, the President, as Robinson told me he would do, vetoed it. I enclose you copy of the veto message. You'll observe it was vetoed on two grounds; first, that the amount was excessive, and secondly that it was unconstitutional. We all had a laugh over the second ground for the veto, and it demonstrated how ready the President was to resort to the unconstitutionality of a statute when it suited his purpose.

The matter is now resting until he makes up his mind how much he is going to give New York and ourselves. There isn't any doubt that as Creel reported, he agreed to \$1,750,000 for California. The reports furnished our Committee on the California Bill from three different departments stated that fact. Creel has been very much up in the air as to what he would do now. I am resting serenely.

I am not resting serenely, however, on the Court fight. Notwithstanding all the blatherskiting indulged in by the President and those surrounding him, that he never would compromise, and that the Bill had to be passed as it is written, he is engaged now in trying his damndest to get recruits to a plan for an increase of the Court by two. And strangely enough I am a little afraid he will succeed in this. There are some men upstairs who are anxious to crawl out in any way that they can, and the specious arguments that are made are numberless. Again, the men on the Democratic side (and we have had to let them be in charge of it because of the overwhelming Democratic majority) have little knowledge of human beings and of how to take polls. Two of them I had in the office yesterday, and each day I talk to others. I found they would count, because they had men on the increase of six, as having them surely on an increase of two. The vote would be very close upon an increase of six, and we could not afford to lose many on this thieving compromise scheme.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

I happen to know, however, of at least three who would be for the lesser number. My colleagues, with whom I have talked, although in the forefront of the fight, never knew that fact.

The resignation of Vandevanter was, I think, most unfortunate from one angle, and perhaps fortunate from another. You remember when the Bill permitting retirement on full salary was before the Senate, I angrily exclaimed it was a lure and a bait, and I would have very little respect for any judge who would take it. I presume I ought not to quarrel with Vandevanter because he is seventy-eight years old, and has been sick, and undoubtedly, he would have retired this year anyway, but as I have remarked before, I would have died on the bench before I would retire at this time. The President will name Robinson as his successor. They have worked up an almost unanimous senate in his behalf, the last few days. His own state and certain others will endorse him. Of course, he is the negation of the President's asseverations for he is sixty-five years of age, and the President's whole point was he wanted younger men. I am sick at heart over the whole situation here, and although I know how useless it is to kick, I can not help, at least privately, indulging occasionally in convulsive kicking.

Give my love to the boys and Miss Schow, in which Mother joins,

Affectionately,

H.W.J.

MAY 19, 1937

Hiram W. Johnson Papers
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STEPHEN EALLY
Assistant Secretary to the President

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

I return herewith, without my approval, House Joint Resolution 304, entitled "Joint Resolution Authorizing Federal participation in the New York World's Fair 1939."

The disapproval on my part springs from two causes.

The first reason is the amount of the appropriation. I have been fully advised of the importance of the World's Fair and celebration to be held in the City of New York during the year 1939. I have given full support and encouragement to the plans for holding this Exposition. Nevertheless, in view of the efforts of the Congress and the Administration to bring Federal expenditures within the scope of Federal revenues as rapidly as possible, I am compelled to conclude that the sum of \$5,000,000, proposed to be appropriated by the Federal Government, is excessive. Consultation with Executive Departments leads me to believe that a sum definitely smaller would be sufficient to provide adequate representation of the Federal Government at the World's Fair in New York City in 1939.

The second reason is equally compelling. The Joint Resolution establishes a Commission to be known as the United States New York World's Fair Commission, to be composed of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Labor, the Chairman and the ranking majority and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Commerce of the United States Senate, the two United States Senators from the State of New York and the Chairman and the ranking majority and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives. It is proposed that this Commission shall appoint a Commissioner General and that the latter shall appoint two assistants, with the approval of the Commission. The Commission shall prescribe the duties of the Commissioner General, delegate powers and functions to him, appoint clerks, etc., fix their salaries, purchase materials, contract for labor and services, and in general conduct, either directly or by delegation, all of the administrative functions of the Government of the United States in the expenditure of the appropriation authorized.

In other words, the Commission composed in greater part of members of the two Houses of the Congress is specifically given complete administrative authority for the expenditure of public funds.

I have consulted with the Attorney General of the United States and am advised by him as follows:

"In my opinion those provisions of the Joint Resolution establishing a Commission composed largely of members of the Congress and authorizing them to appoint a United States Commissioner General and two Assistant Commissioners for the New York World's Fair, and also providing for the expenditure of the appropriation made by the Resolution and for the administration of the Resolution generally amount to an unconstitutional invasion of the province of the executive."

I shall be glad at any time to furnish a copy of the complete opinion of the Attorney General to the Congress.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

THE WHITE HOUSE,
May 19, 1937.

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIR
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

May 29, 1937.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

I suppose by this time Frere has reached Jackson's Hole, Wyoming, and is appropriately attired as Nick of the woods or "Deadwood Dick". I hope he has a bully time. From the couple of people I spoke to about Jackson's Hole, after the initial one of O'Mahoney, they were all agreed it was a most beautiful spot, where it would be possible for him to have a glorious time.

I hope that your Canadian scheme will turn out gloriously. If I can do anything to foster it, let me know. I will interview the people, if occasion warrants, that you mentioned, to receive your statements of the matter with absolute credence. Raskob has been having rather a tough time in his tax case. You may have observed it in the press. He and DuPont, by interchange of credits, may have been wholly within the law, but ethically were far from it.

The President pursuing his old tactics is filling the Congress so full of work now that he hopes to distract their attention from his Court Scheme, and suddenly,

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson. Jr. - 2

he will pull a fast one. It would seem that he had done enough for labor, but with his limitation of hours and minimum wage he is attacking a subject now that is an extremely difficult one, and because of the difference in localities in this country and their varying interests, it is almost impossible to accomplish. It ought to require a year's study of perfectly disinterested economists, not a couple of weeks investigation by a blatherskite committee. Wallace of the Agricultural Department is going to fit this country into a production straight-jacket, which will be an example for all the world. The reorganization scheme is of extraordinary importance, by which the President takes unto himself the few powers that he now hasn't. Taken all in all, we are marching along that road that I have referred to before, but which few people see and few people care about. Roosevelt has won practically his objectives. In the Supreme Court fight, there is left only the shell of a principle, but the shell is worth fighting for, so that if there be a hereafter to this Nation, we'll preserve a part of the independence of the court of last resort.

I want to do something on your Mother's birthday for her. I don't know what to do. In philosophical fashion,

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson. Jr. - 3

and not whining at all, it may be the last birthday of hers that we'll be together. Can you suggest to me anything that I can do. Is there anything you have heard her express a desire for that I could give her. I don't mind the cost, but I am absolutely "up a tree" what to do. If you have any ideas, send them on, please.

Dr. Hogan left yesterday for home. He has been in the hospital two months. He has recovered from the coronary thrombosis that afflicted him, and the doctors think he has fully recovered, but he is required to exercise the utmost care in the future, and not undergo any exertion at all. We called on him a number of times at the hospital, and he was all right, and was looking forward to his departure for home. He is a dear little fellow, but each one of these attacks leaves him with a little less reserve.

I presume because you said they graduated, Hiram and Philip received their sheepskins. I am very glad that this is so. I suppose that Hiram is now preparing himself for the bar examination, and has not concluded just what he will do.

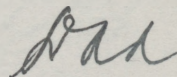
Suddenly we burst into summer here, and the past week we have had the weather of which you know. Each day closes with a thunder storm, which relieves us for a few minutes, and then afterwards leaves us worse than we were

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 4

before. I have trotted out my thin clothes and am wearing them. I hate to contemplate another summer here, although it seems as if we must. I am doing as little as possible, but I can't keep from worrying about that little.

With my love, in which Mother joins, to Miss Schow,
the boys, and yourself,

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'H. W. Johnson, Jr.', written in a cursive style.

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIR
JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, ARK.
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WALLACE H. WHITE, JR., MAINE

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

June 5, 1937.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

We have had summer the past two weeks, and it seems to have come to stay. It is an old story of extremely high temperature, humidity, and thunder storms, and I've begun to feel ragged already. This is not from doing anything because I am refraining from attempting anything as much as I can. It comes from the general cussedness of the climate, which is enough to kill any man. I can see you now demanding that we feel your neck, and see how you sweat. Well, this is just exactly the situation we are in at present.

You were very good to write me about a gift for your Mother, but before I got your letter I found that she wanted above all things a coat, and I think I prevailed upon her to let me get a decent one for her. This would make it impossible for me to obtain the other gift you speak of. I judge from your description that they are very beautiful and would have been a very appropriate gift. I don't see how you could have had your Fiesta in San Francisco successfully without any hotels open. As I understand it, the strike is still on. The hotels have not the

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

aid required to be running, and yet, San Francisco seemed to have had a really great celebration. How do you account for it? I think Labor has been given so much by this Administration that it has grown arrogant and cruel. There was a happy medium which might be struck, but when every board is pro-labor, and when Labor is left to its own devices, as it is in the present situation, there is bound to come a time when even Labor will crack, or it will continue on its high-handed course and ultimately govern us. I look for the latter, although the excesses may turn sentiment against it.

The President occupies a contemptible position in the Court fight, and some of the Senators a position no less contemptible. He says "no compromise", repeating it continuously, and then sends Joe Robinson around begging and pleading in the name of the President with Senators for a compromise on two judges. He is engaged in saving his face now, and the worst of it is, I think he will do so. It was a funny scene that he presented the other evening. It was Hah; Hah; Hah; as he laughed at the Congress sweating in hot weather, and then snarled at the Supreme Court because it followed its custom of many years standing, and adjourned until October. He said the Court did not help the Government, when it might have remained in session and rendered decisions in all of the cases that are now pending in the

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

lower Courts; in other words, they might by rendering decisions immediately decide his way. This indicated the Dictator complex. It is but a step from his petulance and irritation of the Court, if he could get any sort of qualified consent from the legislative department, to the destruction of it entirely. And I think he has just this in mind.

I think he has revived interest in the Court fight. It was sagging in a terrible way that had men like myself feeling very doubtful.

I do hope that Miss Schow is all right, and that you are entirely in error in thinking she broke one of the small bones in her leg. Tell me about Hiram now. Did he go immediately to the bar examinations, or is there a period of waiting? How long will Philip be in Wyoming, and does he still cling to his China trip?

My love to all of you, in which Mother joins.

Affectionately,

Dad

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

June 12, 1937.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

Yesterday, our celebration of Mother's birthday was rendered most enjoyable by your beautiful gift and that of the boys, and the messages from all of you and Miss Schow. We received late in the afternoon a telegram from Philip at Pinedale, Wyoming. I tried to have Mother have a little celebration in the evening, for which I would invite about ten people, but she finally concluded she would have just two, the Lowrys, and I think, perhaps, she was wise. We had a delightful evening, and of course, a good dinner. We were happy to be together, and sorry our loved ones were not with us.

We may go to Atlantic City Monday for a week's stay. The weather has been depressing and debilitating, and I think both of us have felt it. I will wire you Monday if we go. The battle on the Court will begin, probably, the week after next, and I want to be in as good condition as I can, so that I may do my part. The President, after insisting that he would not compromise has been snooping around for a week to get a compromise on two additional judges. He has brought to bear all his influence and power,

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson. Jr. - 2

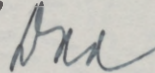
and, of course, you know what that means. Gradually, the idea is becoming prevalent among the opposition, or among a great portion of them, that the only way to beat him is to filibuster, and I am not sure but what that is right. If anything were wanting to make me doubt my idea that he seeks dictatorship, the bills that he has thrown at us in the last few days would convince me of it. His re-organization bill is a certain step, and a long step in that direction, while his wages and hours bill places all industry in the hands of one of his commissions. Some day, when you have the time, read Mussolini's march on Rome, and how he reached there when all industrial plants had been taken over by the workers, and how he issued his ultimatum, and then the captains of industry begged him to take over the plants, and in response to their request, he did it. Then came his dictatorship. There is something analogous in the situation today. The President laughs in his air-cooled office at the strike~~s~~ and the puny efforts of the few in Congress in regard to them, and as he hah! hah! hah's he waits, I think, for the industrialists to beg him to intervene. And, by the way, how is the hotel strike in San Francisco? Are the hotels doing business?

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

It's a hell of a thing that Hiram has to study now for the bar examinations after seven years' work. I resent it bitterly, but I suppose there is no getting out of it. I hate to contemplate the possibility of his being "cinched" by a lot of damn scrubs there.

With love to all,

Affectionately,

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

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN
JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, ARK.
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

June 23, 1937.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

We returned, as we wired you, Monday night. We had a week at Atlantic City, but the least said of it the better. It was not wholly unenjoyable, but the weather was poor, and Mother was worried about the Israelites, who seemed to infest that resort in ever-increasing numbers, and our particular hotel, the Ritz-Carlton almost exclusively. I did not go in the water once, so you may know I did not consider the weather propitious. However, we got away from the grind here, and perhaps that was of benefit to us. I am back now on the job, although not doing much personally.

Interest here centers on the outing to be given by the Democrats which the President is to attend. It is to be a three-day affair, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of this week, and Sunday of next, ^{at a} pleasantly situated Club house on the Chesapeake. It is supposed that the President, while there, will convert enough Democrats to enable him to win the Court fight. I doubt if this be so, but I confess I am worried because of the

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson. Jr. - 2

closeness of the vote. However, I am striving to keep from worrying, and I am endeavoring to refrain from the intense feeling that I have always had on pending matters. It is very difficult these days.

I think one of the most outrageous things that has ever occurred was Governor Earle's order and the sending of troops into Johnstown to take men from their work, and by force, to prevent others from returning to work. This is the Constitution and Bill of Rights upside down, and is but a step in the direction of the Dictatorship of which I have spoken to you repeatedly. The Governor of Ohio has followed in the footsteps of the Governor of Pennsylvania, and the men who are striking, throw up their hands, and say the strike is won, and all of this was not against ~~the~~ strike-breakers or scabs, but against regular employees of the steel companies. It is hard for me to keep silent under the circumstances. And yet, I suppose that all of those with whom I have fought in the past in California, and who have consistently been my friends, would be on the other side. It is a terrible situation that we witness now in our strike-torn country, and it is due, I am sorry to say, to one man.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson. Jr. - 3

I will write you again during the week.
Give my love to Philip and Hiram, and remember me to
Miss Schow.

Affectionately,

Dad

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

July 10, 1937

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

Last week, as Mother wrote you, I was laid up. It was nothing serious, but something which will require a considerable period of time to eliminate from my system. It is disagreeable to contemplate, but that is all.

This week we were pitchforked into the Court fight, and it is now on, and according to the plan, it will be on indefinitely. While hoping for the best, I have little hope of a successful filibuster. I know how men tire, and though these men, - The Democrats I mean - have with a pertinacity that is admirable, fought this infamous Court scheme, ~~and~~ I imagine that one by one they will be broken down. There is not quite enough in the Republican side to accomplish anything. We're in a horrible hot spell here. If it were not for the fact that the Chamber is air-cooled, we simply could not stand it in this sort of weather. The effect of the air-cooling is almost overcome by the enormous crowds in the galleries daily.

I am sorry I have not written you as usual, but you can imagine the urge to write letters is not present when you are lying in bed, and so I have missed it for a week.

With all my love in which Mother joins to the boys, Miss Schow, and yourself, I am

Affectionately your father,

Hiram W. Johnson

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

July 14, 1937

HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, MINN.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

We have passed the Exposition Bill in both Houses, and it has been signed by the President. The Bill, as passed by me in the Senate, was amended in the House to provide for a Commission to be composed of three Congressmen to be appointed by the Speaker, and three Senators to be appointed by the Presiding Officer of the Senate. These are in addition to the Commissioner and his deputy to be appointed by the President, and they have no duties really, except they are supposed to exercise general supervision over the money appropriated by the Government.

When the Bill came over from the House, after I had passed it in the Senate, it contained the provisions I have mentioned, which my Bill did not contain. When the Bill thus came over I asked Creel, and Cutler, who was here, what their desire was, and I saw Cutler personally. He said he wanted the Bill passed as the House had amended it. This, I think, was because both Creel and Cutler wished McAdoo to be one of the Commissioners, and of course, myself as one.

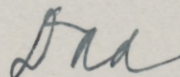
Mr. Hiram W. Johnson. Jr. - 2

Creel, however, was looking out for McAdoo and wanting the prominence for him.

Now, the object of this long explanation is to tell you that unless your situation has changed, I shall decline a Commissionership, and shall see that I am not appointed, and let Mr. McAdoo, and others whom they wish, be appointed by the Senate.

Send me a night letter upon receipt of this letter.

Hastily and affectionately yours,



KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN

JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, ARK.
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HUGO L. BLACK, ALA.
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

July 17, 1937

HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, MINN.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

First, let me say that copies of the claim of Bunn against the Russian Government have not been received. This, so that you will know about your letter of July 14.

Creel and Cutler, the first named in reality, have been attending to the Exposition matters here. Creel is interested in having McAdoo a Commissioner, one of those serving without pay, who'll have some little duties in connection with the Exposition, all of which would be subservient to the Presidential Commission. Creel is to be appointed the Presidential Commissioner at \$10,000 with the right of appointment, as I understand it, of a deputy at \$7500.00., I did not care to be a Commissioner with McAdoo, nor did I care to be a Commissioner with any of the others. I want you to know that Creel has really worked hard here for the Exposition, and has been Cutler's right-hand man in California. I have no fault to find with him at all. I simply don't care for the appointment under the circumstances. This is the reason I wrote you as I did.

2.

This has been a busy week, notwithstanding we have done little or nothing. The death of Robinson was tragic. He was a man of force and power, not a student, nor profound. He was rather the ideal leader for Roosevelt. He would accept any orders on anything and carry them through. He was in a singularly fortunate position this year, because of the number of new men who came in on the tidal wave, and who had little hope of success originally. These men, pitchforked into a position of prominence and power, without knowledge of policies or statecraft, necessarily took their orders and were proud of being just "rubber stamp" men. They will soon reach a position of mental eminence when they, themselves, will be assured a grateful country selected them because of their merits.

They certainly gave Robinson a great send-off, and his untimely taking off led everybody to be charitable concerning him. He was not a great man, but he was just the man for the times, just the man to carry out the orders of the President.

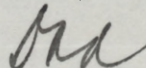
The Court fight goes on here. The President wrote a letter, which you have doubtless seen, which was untrue in its statements and unjustified in its implications. He is losing his balance. If he continues thus

3.

we may be saved a dictatorship in this country.

With my love, in which Mother joins, to the
children, Miss Schow, and yourself,

Affectionately,

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

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Sunday, July 18, 1937.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

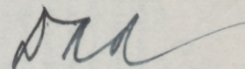
I received yours of July 16 this, today, Sunday. Your telegram, of course, reached me as I advised you in my letter of yesterday. I have the feeling that this Exposition has degenerated into a personally conducted enterprise of Mr. Creel and Mr. Cutler. I have no objection to this at all, but I don't want to be tied to it in any way. Of course, Creel will "declare in" his friend McAdoo, and McAdoo, Creel, and Cutler will be the Exposition. Creel will come with the prestige of the National Commission in charge of \$1,500,000 of finances .

It seems to have seeped out here that certain people in California have taken charge of the Exposition, and Cutler has been deprived of his peacock feather. I don't know how true this is, nor how true is the story that Creel will insist upon his regaining his lost eminence and power, but the thing with me was simply this, - that I did not care to be (although they will take pains to protect everybody) a representative of the Government of the United States in any enterprise which would be managed, operated, and conducted

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson. Jr. - 2

and manipulated by William Gibbs McAdoo and George Creel.

Hastily and affectionately yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'W. G. McAdoo', written in a cursive style.

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN
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WALLACE H. WHITE, JR., MAINE

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

July 24, 1937

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

Of course, the great news of the week has been the Court fight. The ranks of the President's scheme began to crumble, and then with the self delivery of the eight freshman Senators, the process was completed. Robinson's death, of course, contributed to it. Immediately afterwards, Garner was in command, and I think he was very glad to have the matter out of the way. When old Logan made the motion day before yesterday to re-commit the bill, I was determined he should disclose sufficiently, and make it perfectly plain the Supreme Court Bill was out, and I queried him until he said that it was, and then I made the ejaculation that has been quoted all over the country. The trouble now is that the recalcitrant Senators will want to get back into the fold, and Roosevelt is smart enough to take them, apparently without malice. The new bill relating to the inferior judiciary ought not to present any very great objections. As a defeat for Roosevelt, this was a sockdolager. The part of the press that fawns upon him has tried to minimize it, but they are unable to do so. It is a major defeat.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr., - 2

His majority is so great in both Houses that it will make little difference in his program, but it makes a very great difference in his personal relations with the men who were compelled to do the job.

I suppose Hiram told you that he wrote me concerning his desire to enlist in the aviation service. I wrote him as strongly as I could my views. He wrote me an excellent letter, and with the views he expressed, save the conclusion, I was in deep sympathy. I could understand his feelings in relations to the bar, and his desire to get as far from it as he could, but I think that he made a mistake in selecting the method of accomplishing what he desired. There's nothing that he could derive from it, except a temporary surcease of what he is doing, and that he can accomplish in a dozen different ways. I hope to have some more information upon this subject within a day or so, and I shall awrite him again.

Up to yesterday we have been engrossed with the Court fight here, and even though I had to take a back seat because of the politics ^of the situation, I think you know how intensely interested I become in such a matter, and I was more than intensely interested in this. I had the feeling that we were getting perilously near to dictatorship, and we are yet near it, but stopping Roosevelt's appropriation of the Court saves us for the time being.

With my love, in which Mother joins, to the boys,
Miss Schow, and yourself, I am

Affectionately yours,

Dad

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIR
JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, ARK.
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HUGO L. BLACK, ALA.
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Sunday, August 1, 1937

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

I received this morning your letter of July 30. I was glad to read that the hotel strike had been settled. I presume that in two or three weeks we will be getting ready to come home. I don't think it will take longer than this, and everybody will be glad to contribute to an early adjournment. I say to you, confidentially, and I wish you would not write or speak of it, that I come home with a great deal of misgiving. I get interested in things here, and it is difficult for me to keep out of them, and yet, when I get in, I suffer the consequences afterwards. I don't know how I can keep up any work in the law with this, and yet it is only the income that Theodore has been kind enough to send me, that has enabled me to get through the past couple of years. I have been absent since a year ago last December. What a time from active business! I will get back about the first of September. Something will be expected of me, of course, during the following few months. Well, we'll have to take things as they come, and do the best we can.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

Yesterday we passed the hours and wages bill. It was a victory for the Administration. I voted against it, because I made up my mind I never again would give unlimited powers to an undisclosed board. I would be very glad to make a minimum wage, and prescribe hours, but to leave it to a board in Washington would be one more way of turning over the economic life of the country to the President for him to exercise at his own sweet will. I decline to do this. The Southerners fought unsuccessfully, but it was rather an amusing part of the fight.

I have received a second letter from Hiram, that is well written and rather persuasive. The more I think, however, of the matter, the more confirmed am I in my judgment he ought not to become a member of the aviation school. Mother is going to write him.

I think the idea of Philip going to China at this time is on a par with Hiram's desire to enter the aviation school. What in the name of God are the boys thinking of! Let him go to London, or Paris, or parts of Europe. Let him go down the Riviera and see what is reputed to be one of the most beautiful spots in the world. Let him travel even in South America, where the Argentine has developed wonderfully, and Brazil has progressed. Let him stay out of China at the present time. The Japs are going to take what they want there, and all the nations of the earth are going to

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

stand by with bowed heads, not daring even to invoke a treaty.

We're all looking forward to getting out of here, and I hope when I write you the end of this week, I may know when we'll adjourn.

With love to the boys and Miss Schow, in which Mother joins,

Affectionately yours,

H.W.J.

P:S: The ejaculation in which I indulged in a tense and crowded Senate Chamber ^{on the Court fight} has run all over the country, and it is remarkable the number of people who have written me concerning it. I don't believe a two-hour speech would have caught the attention like this one exclamation.

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

August 14, 1937.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

Things have moved swiftly this week, and we're in a turmoil over the appointment of Senator Black to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court caused by Judge Van Devanter's retirement. The thing was going through in record time, under the tenuous custom that permits at once without delay, or without reference to a committee, the confirmation of a Senator, when I objected. This required the nomination to be sent to the Judiciary Committee. This will do no good, so far as the confirmation is concerned, but, at least, it will permit fifteen or so members, who are opposed, to register their votes against the confirmation. The appointment was about the worst that could be made. Black is a witch-burner. He is not without certain ability, and doubtless, leads a decent life, but he is totally unfitted to be a Justice of the Supreme Court, or to be a Judge, in any event. Many of the Democrats who made the fight against the Court will vote for him upon the theory that thus they are getting back into the favor of the President, and in atonement for past faults. They are utterly mistaken in this view, for the President will never forgive them for the bitter defeat of

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

major importance that he suffered on his Supreme Court Bill. He bears malice, as he has distinctly demonstrated in past minor matters. I can't blame these Democrats, except so far as I blame any official for a lack of independence. They certainly stood the storm of abuse and the bludgeoning of the President like men, and it was they who won the victory. It makes me sad, however, to think of our system which permits men to reach real heights of statesmanship and then yield to the temptations of power upon a matter only of second importance to that wherein they fought so valiantly.

I am most anxious to come home now. I am having the same difficulty that I always have on getting started. It looks as if I would be able to come in about three weeks from now, and I want to come upon the Streamline train.

I feel very sad over Uncle Matt's death, although his age and his illness made it inevitable. Thank you very much indeed for getting the flowers for us. Be sure to have the florist send his bill here, or if you paid it, let me know the amount so I can send it. I can imagine what his funeral was, and how little he would have cared for it.

Mother and I had really a good time in thinking of the surprise of our telephonic message. That it might be a surprise is the reason we wrote you nothing concerning it. It was her idea first, and I seized upon it with eagerness.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

It was mighty good to hear your voice. How the day brought back recollections to me! I am glad you had a good day, and a good time.

With love to the boys, Miss Schow, and yourself, in which Mother joins, I am

Affectionately your father,

Dad

COPY

November 24, 1937.

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

My dear Jack:

We arrived Saturday morning. Our ride on the Forty-Miner to Chicago was most pleasant, the best train I have ever been on. Mother and I both enjoyed it, partly because of the reservations that we had, and partly because of the excellence of the train. We took the Pennsylvania out of Chicago to Washington. During the night your Mother, in some way, slept upon the sciatic nerve, and next morning, she felt it, and was quite lame. We did not notice it so much for a day or two, but it kept getting worse, until, I think yesterday, it probably reached its worse point and almost incapacitated her. Inquiry of the doctors disclosed it was not an unusual ailment, and that there was no cure for it except time. It might take a week, or it might take a month to get well. Mother is condemned during that period to enforced idleness at home, and you can imagine how very difficult it is for her to bear this. I am extremely sorry for her.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

Hiram was here and met us Saturday morning, and was with us until Sunday evening, when he went to take delivery of his car at Detroit, and then proceed upon his peregrinations. He wired us he was on his way to Toronto, and I know he expects to be at the Army-Navy game this Saturday in Philadelphia; and then he will be here a couple of days, and then go down to the tip of Florida. He seemed in excellent health and excellent spirits.

I received your wire about the game, and will be glad to send you a chapeau, although I don't know why. It was good that California won. I hope they will be successful in the Rose Bowl.

Things are at sixes and sevens here, and we are lost without our car, which will not arrive probably until Saturday.

I trust everything is well with you. Mother joins in love to Miss Schow, Philip and yourself.

Affectionately,

I am extremely sorry for her.

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

December 3, 1937

HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, MINN.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

This morning I received your letter of November 29 enclosing copy of your Brief filed with the National Labor Relations Board in the matter of the California Wool Scouring Company, et cetera. I thank you very much for sending me this Brief. Some day, it will come in handy when I am talking upon this lousy Board.

I came over to the office this morning for the purpose of writing you, and found your letter. I had not anything particularly to say, but I wanted you to hear from us.

Your Mother is better, very much better. She suffered the tortures of the damned with her leg, but the last three days it has improved rapidly. She is by no means well yet, but the improvement in it has rejoiced me. I spent yesterday morning at the Naval Hospital being checked up. The records show me to be very much better than I was when I left here. There is room for improvement yet, but the progress made is certainly splendid.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

Your Mother and I are toying with the idea of going again to Florida for the Christmas holidays. It costs so damned much that we are doubtful about it, and then probably the brief period we could stay would not repay us for the expense. However, we are thinking of the matter.

Hiram and his friend returned last Sunday, and were with us until Monday night. They left on the boat for Norfolk. He was in good health and good spirits. He probably will tell you I talked to him on Monday rather seriously and severely about his examinations, and the necessity for preparation. I told both boys that it might be their minds were not on the race, and that this was their difficulty in the examinations. They did not know just what I meant, though, and so I let it pass.

We have been fiddling along with the Farm Bill ever since we have been back. There was not the slightest necessity for calling us into special session. It was simply the anxiety of the man in the White House to be doing something, and then, when he set us at a perfectly useless task, he chased off fishing. The weather here has not been unpleasant, but the past few days it has got extremely cold.

My love, in which Mother joins, to Miss Schow, Philip, and yourself.

Affectionately,

Dad

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Sunday, December 12, 1937.

HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, MINN.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

I am somewhat worried about you, because I have had no word from you since your letter of December 3rd, and that related wholly to the claim of HERSCHEL G. BUN against the Russian Government. In that letter you said, you were forwarding me documents in the BUN claim, but, as Miss Connor wrote you under date of December 10, they had not then arrived, and they have not now, the 12th, arrived. I hope that you have not been sick, and that your eyes have fully recovered from the ailment with which they were afflicted. I looked for a letter today from you because, oftentimes, your letters arrive Sunday, but none came.

Our papers contain more or less accounts of the floods in northern California. They state the rainfall has been torrential; that the Sacramento River has had to be diverted into the bypass; that Downieville in the mountains, and Chico in the Valley, have been flooded, and generally, that they have been having a tough time in northern California. Has the rainfall extended to San Francisco? If so, I am

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. -2

wondering what is the effect upon the little house that used to be ours. Have you heard anything about it, or about the Tillmans in connection with it? I'd really very greatly appreciate it if you could ascertain anything about the attitude of these people.

I think perhaps we made a mistake in dealing with Cutler and the Exposition. The small sum that he offered you was ridiculous, but as I read your statement of how rotten business was, perhaps we might better have swallowed our pride and taken it. I fear, however, it would not have been continued long, even if you had accepted it. The fact that he has never spoken to ^{you} ~~me~~ about it, or explained to me his attitude, I think is evidence of the situation that scarcely could be ignored. You might take it up with him, if you care to, and see what he has to say. The pittance would be of value in payment of rent, at least. I am not advising this course, but I think in dealing with people sometimes I am too stiff-necked, and too likely to show them that I don't give a d... for them, or for the world. So, I am a poor hand at giving advice, and a poor hand to tell anybody what to do.

When I wrote you last, I thought that your Mother's leg was getting better. But after that letter, there was a return of the excruciating agony that she suffered, and finally I prevailed upon her to go to see Dr. Hall, the physician who

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

attended to her broken shoulder. He made a very careful examination with the result that he said the large ligament of the leg had been injured, that it was causing the pain, and the alleviation of the pain was a question of time. He bound up and taped the leg, and since then, Mother has felt a little better, but the bandaging of the leg has been of considerable annoyance. On Tuesday, she goes to have it re-bandaged, and the doctor's dictum then will determine whether we'll try to take a vacation of ten days or two weeks during the holidays. I thought, at first, the acute suffering Mother has had to undertake the past week, put in the discard any trip to Florida, but she is very keen to take it, but has agreed she will be guided by Dr. Hall's word on Tuesday. I can not understand how the injury occurred, but the fact that it did occur is undoubted. It has been just hell on your Mother, particularly the past week. She is so active that to be incapacitated with a bad leg, is almost as bad as any injury that could occur to her.

The weather has been beastly cold here. During the day the sun has shone, and Washingtonians think that the weather is fine, but yesterday, for instance, the thermometer did not get above 30 beginning in the morning with about 20. It is no place for old Californians.

I will be very glad when Hiram reaches home. The story of the rains and the floods makes bad reading for an automobilist. On his schedule he has only three days more.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 4

I hope he arrives without difficulty.

With my love to you, Miss Schow, and the boys,
in which Mother joins, I am

Affectionately yours,

Dad

KEY PITTMAN, NEV., CHAIRMAN

PAT HARRISON, MISS.
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

December 18, 1937.

HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, MINN.

EDWARD J. TRENWITH, CLERK
JAMES A. WHITE, ASST. CLERK

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

My dear Jack:

I was greatly relieved and rejoiced to learn from the telegram from Hiram this morning that he had arrived home safely. The accounts of the floods in California were very discouraging, and I was not certain that he could get down to Sacramento ~~and~~ through North Sacramento and through Yolo County. I am sure you were very glad to see him. He is a remarkable boy. Indeed, both boys are remarkable and I think they will go far. We ought not to be too severe with them because of the vagaries of youth, and we ought to try to be understanding with them. Both of them, of course, will go off half-cocked, temporarily. There is not the urge in them to plod along as the rest of us were compelled to do by early marriages.

We expect to leave tomorrow for Miami Beach. We will be there at the Shormede. I expect to stay there as long as we can, which will be about two weeks. I take this trip upon the express orders of the physicians here concerning your Mother. She has really a very disagreeable trouble in the large

- 2 -

ligament of her leg. When the doctors reached the conclusion that the injury was to this large ligament, I thought I could see ahead a very long and dreary time in its cure, and since their diagnosis this has become apparent. I have not said so to her, but I think the doctors have minimized the fact that she is likely to be afflicted with this injury to her leg from some months, and that its cure will be extremely slow. It seems a terrible affliction for Mother to have on top of the injury to her shoulder. Dr. Willcuts and Dr. Hall (the Doctor who treated her shoulder) both agree that the sunshine of Florida, if we hit the sunshine down there, will be able to do what medical science has not accomplished.

We got rid of the lousy Farm Bill last night. I voted against it, and I think that time will justify my vote. It is a regimentation of farmers, a control of them, with the largesse of the State, and a determination to do what I never could subscribe to, scarcity. Twenty-nine members of the Senate braved the displeasure of the Administration and voted against the bill, and some ~~who~~, on collateral issues, like the McAdoo substitute, tried in different ways to beat it, but they did not dare openly to oppose it.

I hope I have good reports to send you of our trip South. I will wire you tomorrow when we are ready to start.

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

Affectionately,

Sam