Berlin, Germany, December 27, 1932.

Dear Bernard:

Thanks so much for your letter of December 21. I am sorry you got the impression that we were going to Paris and that that interfered with your coming here because we were hoping that you might come here. We decided to remain here for several reasons, some of them financial and then, too, I felt that I would be able to get a little rest which I felt I needed. We had a very quiet, but pleasant Christmas.

You have since had my letter with regard to the Club's telegram and I can only repeat that I appreciate more than I can say what you did. I had some letters this morning from home which showed that the incident really made quite a fuss over there and I think some people's reputations are going to suffer very much, but apparently we have got out of it splendidly over here. After all, a certain amount of the truth does trickle through in the end and there is some encouragement in that.

I am glad to have the information you gave me about our friend. Antwerp has had in him her best Burgomaster for many years and time will give him proper credit. This I am sure is only a temporary eclipse because in spite of what may be said of him he is really a patriot and the ideas which he holds are in the interests of his country. He will probably have to suffer the temporary eclipse which is a part of the career of any man in politics but I feel confident that he is going
going to come through and that in a few years from now he is going to definitely guide the policies of Belgium and make her fit into a European picture which I feel sure is in process of being painted. The first broad strokes of the picture are being given in these days and the details will be slowly filled in and I am sure that our friend is going to be one of the artists who will have a major part in the painting of this picture. He is a man of real intelligence and while he is interested in his personal fortunes he is only being human in that. The data which you give is very interesting and some time when you have anything of interest in this connection I will be glad to have you drop me a line, for I am very anxious to keep in touch with the Belgian situation.

I will take Marion your letter at noon to read and I note the delicate touch and distinction with regard to the good wishes for me, but as you have a rival or two in my wife's affection I will try to restrain my jealousy and can only join with you in your good judgment. If you did not come to see us over Christmas because of some report that we were going to Paris I am certainly sorry because we had no real notion of going to Paris at all. We had only played with the idea early in December. We shall probably not be leaving Berlin until Easter and our plans are now to spend a couple of weeks in Belgium at Easter time, but some of it we shall spend, certainly the Easter holiday itself, at the Chateau d'Ardennes. Probably we could have a party down there. That would be splendid.

May the New Year bring us all more money in the bank and more capital value to the few bits of paper that we still hold.

Cordially and faithfully yours,