January 5, 1939.

Mr. Welles
PA/D
Mr. Dunn
Eu
Mr. Moffat

The appended item over the ticker from Berlin is quite interesting in the sense that it shows the stupidity in some respects of the German press services and of high German officials when it comes to matters affecting this country. It is quite obvious that this sort of thing is given out over there in order not only to influence opinion in this country but to bring pressure on our Government. Knowing the mentality and tactics of some of the men in high place in Germany, I am confident that this sort of thing is put out really with the thought that it might intimidate or influence the President with respect to what he said in his message to Congress. Ludicrous as such a thought seems to us, I think we must bear in mind that these men do not really realize how stupid such action or belief on their part is.

G. S. Messersmith.