

74
Berlin, Germany, December 16, 1932.

Dear Mr. Alberti;

I appreciate more than I can say your letter which has just reached me and in spite of the unpleasantness which this Einstein incident has caused me it has at least the good feature of having shown me once again how precious really are one's friends. To me friendships are the finest thing one can accumulate in this world and my friends have certainly stood by me in this matter. I am delighted that you all in the name of the Club sent a telegram to the Secretary for all this helps to correct the very bad impression which had been caused by the publicity from here and from America. I attach little blame to Mr. Einstein, but just between ourselves I fear that Mrs. Einstein was very indiscreet, to put it kindly, in what she said to the press, and the newspaper men here who are usually so correct got off wrong on this story and now they are of course sorry about it and some heads may fall yet although I personally have no feeling in the matter. The Secretary's statement was very nice and Lippmann's article in the New York Herald Tribune of December 14 which is in the Paris Herald of the same date, partly covers the situation, but not altogether. A man of his standing and character should have been more generous because he knows that there is nothing in it at all now, but he has not been able to come across altogether. He clears me but shifts responsibility to the Department and to my other people here in Berlin when as a matter of fact Einstein was treated not only with every

courtesy

courtesy and consideration, but with that special consideration which one would accord to a man of his international reputation. It is in some ways quite inexplicable how this thing happened and it shows what can happen when the press goes off wrong, but I suppose most of the damage has been corrected. In any event I appreciate what you all did at Antwerp. I sent Avegno the telegram which the Secretary sent me and the telegram which the Berlin Clubs and organizations sent to the Secretary.

We enjoyed very much seeing Mrs. Alberti and only wish we had seen more of her. We have been so rushed recently that I have not yet been able to go to the clinic to see Yvonne, but Marion keeps in touch with her. This Einstein business and the consequent telegrams and letters, etc. have taken a good part of my time and will, because I am receiving many letters from home most of which have to be answered, and all this in addition to really important work that I have not been able to touch. I hope you will all have a very pleasant Christmas and that the New Year will be filled with all manner of good things for you all.

Always cordially and sincerely yours,

A true copy of
the signed original.

