

8/14/42

.48.75, later

Dear Al,

After speaking to you I called Senator Murray's office. I was told the piece had been sent, but by mail rather than by wire, so it'll be in your hands with this.

All the Army people with whom I had to speak to make dates for next week were gone for the rest of this week, so that'll have to wait until at least Monday.

At the Public Health Service my contact was gone for the afternoon. He is supposed to call me in the morning. I discovered the reason he hadn't called me today was because he hadn't had an answer from the doctor.

I'm sorry you don't like the Sabath story I suggested. I think it can be a honey. It's a real Horatio Alger piece: from immigrant boy to record-setting Congressman. Also, there will be an election in Chicago in the first week of November, and there are lots of people who vote, read, and are in Democratic politics in the second largest city in this country.

I'm glad you are pleased with the symposium. We were very fortunate, getting such a good lineup. Frankly, if I were to sit down and say I want the best guys for this, these are the guys I'd have selected. They are all solid liberals, all prominent, well-known legislators.

I was supposed to give you a statement bringing us up to date. Well, according to our understanding I'm not to charge you for work that isn't completed unless it has come to an impasse, so I think it would be only fair to let some of the things hang fire until the stories are done or definitely out.

Expenses for this week are: telephone, \$1.55; cabs, \$4.05; stamps, \$0.74; typing (manuscript on training story and statements for symposium) \$1.50;

total, \$7.84.

SA/AF/S

In addition, I spent quite some time on the thus far unsuccessful Army Generals story. To refresh your recollection under our agreement

if you pay me for my time now it is to be deducted subsequently if there is a story. Well, frankly and just between us, I don't think you can at this time afford to pay me for the actual time I consumed, so

suppose you just pay me \$25.00 for it at this time, with the understanding that it be deducted from the story money if there is a story, and with the further understanding that if everything goes as we all hope

we can make allowances at that time. That will bring the total to

\$32.84. In addition there are the things I did this week, the Army story and the symposium. You asked me on Monday to report the time these consumed, but I don't think they can be paid for on a time basis.

I spent the week, solid, including night work, on them. The symposium

I realize, you can't pay me what it is worth, but pay me what you can and I don't think we'll fight.

I was serious when I suggested you bring Helen with you, and make your trip soon. Lil thanks you for the lobster dinner and sends regards. Also please thank Frances for her note. Please tell her I'm sorry I couldn't acknowledge it sooner.

Yours,

Harold Weisberg

Express for this week are: telephone, \$1.35; cabs, \$4.00; ...