

December 2, 1942.

Dear Harold,

How come we received no answer to the last letter I wrote you? At any rate, here are some new developments. Helen and I are definitely out of Picture Scoop. However, the other day, I was informed that they are getting out a fourth issue. They tell me there is no new editor and that they are doing all the editing themselves. The purpose of the fourth issue is to salvage all the material on hand and keep it on the stands for four or five months to cut down losses. They also hope to get an entry, retrieve their money now on deposit, and possibly continue (tho I doubt they will). The poor boys couldnt possibly afford to keep us on for a few more weeks so that everything could be settled.

At any rate, I am enclosing herewith carbon copy of a letter I today sent the boys. For your information, the fourth issue is to be printed on very cheap stock; the idea being to cut down expenses, take advantage of big name bylines. I told them today, per phone, of the need for submitting copy for approval and they seemed surprised. To protect your contacts who gave you bylines, and others, I think something should be done. If I fail to get an answer from them I'll let you know.

It occurs to me that Sabbath and others would look foolish were their articles to be published now. Some of Sabbath's suggestions have already been incorporated in Congressional acts.

Do you think something should be done? And another thing: should they ask you to get final OKs on articles, insist on your fees and don't make them ten dollars per diem. Frankly, I think the boys are full of baloney and have a damn sight more dough than they are willing to admit.

As for the entry: I firmly believe that they want to do nothing more than get out a fourth issue and quit, or get an entry on the strength of their cry that they are a war magazine and then sell out to some sucker. If you do anything for them, weigh every move, because I don't want you going around using your contacts, saying its a war effort mag, and then have you look ridiculous a few weeks later.

Do you think it advisable that I write Barnes, Mercy and others in the war department telling them of my severance with the mag or did you already tell them? I don't want the boys to trade on whatever reputation I have acquired.

Let me have your reactions to this letter.

Regards from Helen and me to you and Lil.

Cordially,

