

7/6/42

Sunday.

Dear Harold,

I'm still laid low with that awful attack of sunburn which has kept me in bed for about a week. As a result, I am typing this at home. So if I ramble a bit or make loads of mistakes, don't be aggravated.

Re: the Morgenthau article, don't feel that I am not grateful. I feel you did a swell job in getting a byline. The only difficulty is that the article is nothing more than an appeal to buy bonds, and makes us look a bit ludicrous to run such a yarn in a magazine. True, McNutt had very little to say, (that was original). Yet, he had a provocative title, and the body copy contained facts that were interesting and some anecdotes and incidents illustrative of several points.

I believe that if you can add a bit to the Morgenthau article along those lines, we will at least have an article which will not be a mere appeal. Not having ever spoken to Chuck or knowing how far M. will go, it is very difficult for me to make very many suggestions. But I can make a few:

Helen just entered to make these suggestions: what would possibly happen to our economy if people did not make last years things do. If I have some money isn't it better to keep it in circulation because the goods manufactured must be sold anyway? Refute this idea. Stress the necessity too of long range thinking on the part of Americans. Think in terms of peace and security after the war. By putting away money in terms of bonds we not only help the government now, but we save for the day when we can buy due to the fact that after the war industries must be recreated for consumer goods and bonds can be redeemed if necessary for the purchase.

ts The way M. presents the 8 billion dollar tax is a bit silly. He says the very least we can ask of the American people. I would say it is a large figure and stupendous but nothing to compare with the tragedy that will befall America if people don't cooperate. It is better to buy bonds than to be taxed completely or have it taken away from you as do the fascist countries.

What sort of goods should people buy? What is his advice? What shouldn't we buy. If we don't buy are we hurting the industries manufacturing consumer goods?

How much worth of bonds to buy and why? *Show what national income is & why 10% of salary will cover.*

Another point which is important is this: do people realize that it costs the government a dollar a day for every person in the United States. Therefore if we buy bonds we shouldn't feel we are doing anything for the government, the government is doing plenty for us.

Can anything go in about inflation?

On page 4 he speaks of the quota for May and then July. Since the mag will hit the stands about Sept. 15, see if we can come up to a better date.

These are some of the suggestions. But essentially, what I would like you to do is to get some more facts into the yarn so that it has the feeling of an article rather than a mere appeal. My SUGGESTIONS ARE NOT TO BE TAKEN AS MANDATORY. YOU MAKE SOME YOURSELF TO MEET OUR OBJECTIVE. OR YOU CAN ELIMINATE MINE AND USE YOURS. ESSENTIALLY I'D LIKE A LITTLE MORE MEAT. GOOD LUCK.

On page two he says: "we create a pressure on prices etc. Isn't that covered by price fixing?"

Harold: it would be terrific, and I mean terrific, if you could get a few paragraphs amplifying what is said in the paragraph before the last on page five. M. says: "Millions in this country today are quietly establishing a reserve..... against unemployment and want." Boy but if that could be amplified by giving a picture of what MAY happen and how bonds purchase now would not only help the war effort but prevent trouble later on. terrific.....

after the war

Hal: as I type I am beginning to feel that you may think I am ungrateful for what you did. I'm not. I am merely trying to better the article and please don't blame me. If you can, swell. If not, (and I hope it won't be not) I'll love you all the same.

I am enclosing herewith correspondence with Parran re: syphilis and prostitution. Frankly, I'm interested primarily in prostitution if it can be done in a dignified manner.

This article was originally suggested by a doctor who wanted to write it, At his suggestion I wrote to Parran. But on further reflection what the hell do I need the doctor. You can do a better job.

See Vonderlehr and get a good angle. I wouldn't want the keynote to be syphilis because its a hell of a drab angle. What I DO WANT IS LOADS OF ANECDOTES, STORIES, AND THE HELL WITH TWO MANY PICTURES. FURTHERMORE, IT WILL BE O.K TO TALK OF PROSTITUTION PARTICULARLY IF WE GET VONDERLEHRS BY*LINE OR WE CAN SAY IN OUR BODY COPY THAT WE HAVE PREPARED THE ARTICLE IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. DEP'T OF HEALTH. Essentially, the yarn should not be drab, but have plenty of interesting stories to hold reader interest. I'd give it plenty of space. AND I WANT THE ARTICLE FOR THE THIRD ISSUE IF YOU CAN GET OMSE GOOD PICTURES SWELL. Find out about byline or if we can say they cooperated. And find out what angles there are for a story with a very good provocative cover title.

If you are in doubt about what I want here, call me.

In this weeks issue of Life there is an article about ways to spread tales helpful to the enemy.

I'd like agriculture piece, ^{prostitution} syphilis, and the army piece for the third issue by the end of this month.

*and
Case
histories*

and stories

About the army piece.....call Lietenant Schubert. My name is Whyman. You are my correspondent.

Article is to show conclusively that American generals are not arm chair boobs. They go out and fight. Schubert told me the army would love such an article. They'll give you data. MUST HAVE PLENTY OF ANECDOTES RE: PRESENT SITUATION, NOT INCIDENTS THAT HAPPENED SEVEN YEARS AGO. DIG THEM UP.

For example. Schubert told me that one general goes in tanks, one runs around on a horse, one goes up in an airplane to direct army games etc. That's the stuff I want. Must have specific stories not mere generalities. If not, article will stink.

Tell Schubert the pictures he sent me are of captains and colonels. I want generals. Besides those he sent are very static. If he hasn't any on hand, can he get me through a request of the war department, such pictures as will be illustrative. Need the pictures by August 5th latest.

Will write again on Monday. Tomorrow. *them*

Keep me posted.

Keep up good work.

al. *Pat*

Held U.S. Information service building for a few days.

Can you get Litvenoff for third. If not how about some yarn by Wallace? Boy am I askng for a lot. I know.