

10/29/71

Dear Phil,

The story in your World-Herald on the new case is the usual over-simplification. It accurately reports an inaccuracy with which I do not sore you, partly because yesterday was one of 22 hours + an- two days ago there was one an hour earlier, so I'm tired and using part of this pm. to catch up on mail. I'm repaging the first two parts of a just-about-completed three-part work I think has little prospect and is perhaps one of the noisiest in our history.

The enclosure was sent me by a friend. I hope it will interest you.

My interest in Seftoff is simple. I know he was a friend of yours or Shaw's. In his since-underground, own-kind-of Establishment sheet he has been inveighing against the New York Times, as regular for that set, and he has refused to pay any attention to what he perhaps has sent serious literary mind in some years, the obscenity practiced upon it via a violent partisan, "one-lapian. Once it is to have been open-and-shut libel.

I have a general familiarity with offset. If you have switched to it, you might want to consider switching from hot type to one of the machine today available. It's been a series. The social effects of standard means of type is to make any commercial artist today can order you.

I hear there are printers in the SW, Arizona in particular, that will, when you ask up the least costly. I don't recall anything about the USA setup, but it was once the world's cheapest, and they are used to American typesetting.

Kind as it seems, publishers often do not serve self-interest. They use many decisions in the concertina illusion they will work when they can't. I don't really think this was reading, partly because it wasn't necessary. His one business is a new high-tech.

I think in the near future I'll be in L.O., again. I'm still looking for a job, but I'm looking forward to it. It is something I've done at a time when I'd rather be doing other things.

There isn't anybody I can trust a really want to see happen, either. I'm out from spirit & time is normal, soundly the seas with it. Surely in a 12-factor. We'll be let a turning to L.O.

Best to you both,



# Steppenwolf

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A JOURNAL OF POETRY AND OPINION

editor Philip Boatright

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associate Miss Jean Shannon

Dear Hal,

Sorry to be such a poor correspondent... but have been hard pressed at hospital and with trying to start production of Steppen #5. New printer, very likely photo offset this time - rather than now too expensive letter press. But everything still unresolved - no printer yet contracted, either.

Speaking of printers/publishers - I was sorry to hear of your experience re: FRAME-UP. But you know, Hal, the thing I can't seem to really grasp is why? I mean, isn't it in a publisher's interest to try his best to sell a title he himself has brought out? Weird as hell, experienced like one you had - and it happens to other writers as well. I don't get it.

Amused that you picked up the bit of testimony by pub. of Omaha World-Herald. Listen, my friend, the W-H still thinks Warren Harding

is alive & well in Washington ..... (Among the locals here, the paper is always called "The Weir-Herald" — and so it is.) the only daily in Omaha, as you perhaps know. Sure, we get the news ... or some of it... or some kinds ... or....

Hentoff? A New Yorker so far as I know, but I've never met him. White, but prides himself (or seems to) on his emotional rapport with blacks — especially jazz musicians. Long time writer (critic) on contemporary jazz — now writes an occasional novel, I believe, and also a kind of hip (?) social commentator. I know him only by reputation... a bit too noisey for my personal taste. But what's his beef with you?

"Ochie" riddle Hill opaque to us — but I now think you are probably right in believing K.T. did not author it. And for same reason you give.

Must go, more later —  
take care of yourself,

Rei/(& Jean)