

Charles Kuhn, Librarian
Hood College
Rosemont Ave.,
Frederick, Md 21701

10/30/95

Dear Charles,

Reminded of Hood's interest in justice this year, I asked Jerry if he thought you'd like the hearings and reports of the Senate Civil Liberties Committee of the 1950s that I edited and published. He said he'd pick them up when he can.

I began as a committee investigator, prepared its first hearing and then was made its editor. I was a brash, hardworking kid and as a result got special favors from the older men who were the Senate's printing clerk and at the Government Printing Office, which did all the printing. So, these hearings are buckram bound, with gold lettering. They are bound in six volumes, ~~three~~ five of which are much thicker than the thickest of the Warren Commission's volumes.

There is in them what I think could be useful in ~~theses~~ ^{theses} and honors papers.

What is so little known today, about justice during that Great Depression ~~case~~ and about that era itself.

Thinking about this it seemed to me that if there is any interest in it there could be seminars like those with Jerry's classes for which I would want nothing. The only thing I'd want is that if they are desired they be during the days.

When I give these volumes to Jerry I'll mention this to him and we can go into the possible subjects.

There would also be considerable social interest, I think.

One of the least credible to people today would I believe be the hearings we held on "Bloody Harlan" county, Kentucky. But it is all completely factual and when a federal prosecution followed the Department of Justice borrowed me from the Senate for it. There were more than 60 corporation and deputized gun-thug defendants and the coal corporation fixed the jury although it was sequestered and shielded by the U.S. Marshals! Who, as a sidelight you may find interesting, did not trust either the FBI agents on that case or the head of the department's Criminal Division who was in charge. So they told the clerk of the court, who shared their lack of trust, and he told me, trusting me. When I reported this to the division chief in charge, Brian McMahon, later father of the Atomic Energy Act and he did not believe it I returned to my Senate job.

Those coal operators also fixed a jury in Washington in one of those cases in which I was a prosecution witness.

Justice.

I think there could be a fine and very worthwhile honors paper based on the transcripts of the James Earl Ray evidentiary

Best,
Harold
Harold Weisberg

hearing for which I was the investigator. They have never been used. It was before the federal district court in Memphis.