

Dear Art,

3/9/73.

Thanks for forwarding my letter to Al Wirin. While I don't think he'll do or try to do anything about the plagiarism, maybe for old times' sake he'll try to get the money for me. My limited experience with the owners of the underground press is that they are their own kinds of exploiters, Kunkin being no exception.

Al was a Labor Board lawyer loaned to the Senate Committee for which I worked to help with our investigation of anti-labor activities. He worked, I think, in the NLRB Phila office. Somehow, the union wound up with some of his investigation of RMA. If the details are now unclear in my mind, the fact of some kind of non-fatal retaliation is part of it. Or, he leaked. Probably morally proper actions. I often find myself wondering of people with such ~~fast~~ capabilities when young change more than one normally changes with the years. (I'm a conspicuous exception!)

The Freep debt is one of the smaller sums owed us. If I weren't sure that Al had to be retired or semi-retired I'd have asked him to undertake larger collections. However, I have found another Calif. lawyer friend of the past who says he'll try. I have also located another lawyer friend from the same committee and he is undertaking a similar effort in your home town.

The anti-labor Neanderthals went after most of us. This Boston lawyer had a rougher time than average, not nearly what I had, so I rather imagine that he adheres to the same or similar principles. As a young man, he was as decent as he was bright. Lawyers have it easier than mere mortals when they are so attacked.

This fellow is undertaking to locate New York counsel for me. His first try led to a negative from a name that somehow sounds familiar so I took a half day off to encapsulate the five (count them diary!) potentially profitable cases there. The NY lawyer also showed a knowledge of publishing, which prompted me to risk wasting that much time, too. But if you want to know how tiny a part that Freep bill is, I think we'd have little trouble showing at least \$50,000 plus interest owed us, not counting reasonable additions from such things as non-performance on contracts. (Remember your own resentment when OGD would not send me around? They arranged no single promo, tried to kill those I'd arranged, yet told me they had a p.r. outfit working on the book. One of the first promos would have had a good chance of getting me jailed in Memphis, but they fixed it after I ~~xxxx~~ made all the preliminary arrangements.)

Heard yesterday that Lane and Freed are in your area working on a movie or movie script, allegedly non-fiction. Lane is incapable of that, which is too bad, ~~xxx~~ because he can be able. Trumbo's, which was known to my source only as a work of planned fiction, does give me two concerns. I have a great respect for this man and his early work, to which Lil and I were addicted. I would hate him to blemish it with a trashy thing that may be his last. And, of course, I am concerned about the harm a bad job even of fiction can do. I can easily imagine him falling under the influence of the nuts, as I think you also feared. He has not replied to my letter, which is a disappointment, but is not unique. I did not know he had this in the work when I wrote. It was in the back of my mind but was not explicit in the letter. It is odd that announcement followed his receipt of the letter, tho. I understand from another source that it is a low-budget job in which Burt Lancaster has agreed to work for scale. If you hear anything, I'll be interested, of course. Frankly, I know of nobody from whom Trumbo can get dependable guidance or fact out there and many from whom he can expect the opposite, with no basis for forming his own opinion.

Never having seen any of the sex flicks, not even a smoker film in my youth, I can't have an opinion on the suits vs. Deep Throat out there. The decision against it in New York was somewhat literary. Generally, I am against all censorship. However, having reached 60, I have also learned that there are seemingly innocent things that can be very hurtful to the young. In N.C., for example, almost all the boys seduced by homosexuals wound up in serious trouble and probably all scarred for life. With this the fate in N.C., I can imagine what it is in most of the rest of the country. At the same time, especially in a sick society like ours, I can also visualize some of these flicks serving socially-useful purposes, whether or not they qualify as art or a form of expression. I'm just ignorant of their content or of that of the new literature dealing with it. Perhaps I

memo from

ART KEVIN

3/6/73

HAROLD:

YOUR WIRIN LETTER HAS BEEN FORWARDED. FYI,
HI S ADDRESS IS: 2622 GLENDOWER AVE. L.A.
TEL: (213) NO 2 6186. I DO HOPE HE CAN DO
SOMETHING TO HELP COLLECT THAT LOOT OWED
YOU BY THE FREEP...I DIDN'T REALIZE YOUR
LIVES HAD BEEN SO CLOSE...

LOOK SLIKE WE'RE HAVING ANOTHER CENSORSHIP
BINGE OUT HERE. THE PIX "DEEP THROAT" HAS BEEN
CITED FOR OBSCENITY, AS HAS (IN ORANGE COUNTY)
THE UNDERGROUND PAPER, THE L.A. STAR, WHICH BY
THE WAY IS PUBLISHED BY PAUL EBERLE,WHO AT ONE
TIME WAS KUNKIN'S EDITOR AT THE FREEP. BOTH HAVE
HEARINGS SKEDDED WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE OF
WEEKS...THAT'S KOOKY-CALIFORNIA, RIGHT?
BEST TO YOU,



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