

Dear Dave Fagin,

4/28/75

When I got to New York Thursday for that conference I had pneumonia. By the time of my press conference the next day my fever was 102°. I could not make the speech I'd written for the benefit of those who think rightness lays in "going" for the "commercial draw." (What whore isn't a "commercial draw?") I had to be helped home from the railroad station. And today I learned that I also have pleurisy.

Your age and inexperience, which is a partial justification of engaging in what will result in a personal promotion for Mark Lane and more troubles in establishing truth - if not provide still more opportunities for still another in the recent chain of new whitewashes - is what prompts me to take time and weary myself still further with unsolicited advice from an older man.

It is never responsible to dabble in political matters and on basic issues without knowing beyond reasonable doubt what you can do, what harm can follow, whether or not you may without so intending engage in the irresponsible, immoral or unethical.

If you had the slightest familiarity with the field you would know of Mark that if you assume he did his own original work (which he did not) he hasn't done any work since then. If you read the papers you know he claims to have been doing this work for 11 years. Does this not trouble you? If you go back over old papers you will see that he has always said what would make a buck without regard for the consequences. The Freep is a good place to start.

Sure he can travel with ease. He has commercialized this business as no real whore every played Johns. He is going around now palming off the work of others as his own. If you elect to be part of that, that is between you and your conscience.

Among decent people Mark is not of good repute. Whatever he says can be utterly destroyed the way the government works in these matters, behind the scenes. He has been that utterly unprincipled in his personal behavior and his public statements. If you build any kind of conference around Mark simply because you have no money what you are really doing is promoting him, the one man of means who picked up his chips and copped out for greener fields once he could no longer commercialize Garrison.

There is nothing you can now do. This letter will make no difference in your meeting if it gets there before the meeting is over. I take the time because you are young, because I have no reason to believe you intend other than the best, and because if you are going to do anything like this again or engage in activity following your meeting you ought have some inkling of what you fail to even begin to think about.

If there were not people like me who, without means, have kept working for all these years while the Marks have been living it up, there'd be nothing for the Mark's to steal and promote themselves on all over again.

Whatever happens to and with my work, it is my first interest. I can't waste time with those who jump first and look back later. If I could, this illness will set me back that much more in the constructive things I try to do, those of which the Marks can't tell you without confessing being crooks.

Besides, my activities will be too restricted for the immediate future.

I am sending you the book despite your taking a discount when none is justified. I expect you to send me the balance. We had to raise the price of the three earlier White-was books because of increased costs and because they are nearing exhaustion. We are putting the money aside in an escrow account in the hope of being able to give a printer enough as a down payment for reprinting. The fact is that we have had to charge for press copies and do. (I have no income and my wife's for the rest of this year will be but \$100 a month.) So, the balance you will owe is \$15.50.

Just so you'll know, one of my trips to California was to get Liebel off Mark's back. This is one of Mark's resentments. I abandoned my second book to do this at the importuning of Mrk's L.A. friends. Liebeler called Mark a liar, Mark said he'd sue, and Liebeler kept asking Mark in public "when?" The one foolproof suit is Liebeler's. Naturally Mark never sued. Nor did I get back a penny of my expenses. One of Mark's friends was decent enough to put me up and drive me around. However, if I'd not gone, this would not have been necessary and I could have gotten my second book out. If that performance with Liebeler, when I finally caught up with him - he fled that time - was my worst Liebeler has been silent since. Sincerely,