

Copy to Bill

11/15/66

Dear Hal,

The ill wind department is making things work out. I have to make an early-morning trip to Washington airport this a.m. which should get this letter to you faster than usual.

The University of Wisconsin picked the early part of that week, the people in L.A. are currently without funds, so with any kind of luck I can be in San Francisco the 14th and through the 16th. It is possible I can be there the night of the 13th or early morning the 14th, possible even earlier. Here's the story:

Wisconsin wants my speech for the 12th., they'd like me for at least a full day and a seminar. "open to all students", which can be that day, the day before or the day after. After the speech they also want a bull session.

As I got home last night I had a phone call from WBBM, Chicago, where I appeared by phone several weeks ago while Penn and Lane were in the studio. They are doing to phone bit this Thursday afternoon, to follow again on a nighttime program. Meanwhile, they also want me live. Having no publisher to pay my freight, I asked them about the time I'm at Wisconsin. I said fine. Meanwhile, your Merriman Smith thing had excellent timing. Saturday night, before the story appeared (it did not in Washington) I wrote the vice-president of UPI, through whom I had in May worked out the release of the film used in the Esquire story released today and to whom on earlier occasions written in protest of their error and bias, as I had also offered to help them. I challenged Smith to debate at the National Press Club on any subject - his story, my book, the work of the Commission or any combination of his choosing! When WBBM asked me about Smith's story I told them this. They will ask him to appear, live, and debate me.

In order to accommodate them, I said I'd leave Wisconsin, if at all possible, the morning of the 13th<sup>d</sup> and be in Chicago that day. I presume planes make this possible. I also told him that if Smith cannot make it that day, I'll make it the 11th. If they cannot get Smith they'll try Liebelier.

There will be a little overlapping between the fare I will get from Wisconsin and from you. With your permission, I'll use that to make it possible to get to LA, where Bill thinks he can make some radio and TV appearances for me. I'll come home from L.A. This really brings the LA thing too close to Xmas, but there is nothing we can do about that.

There is another advantage. By that time my new book will be out or so close I can use some of its content, if necessary to make the program jump.

So I can make it the 16th, and I think it is safe to say the 14th and the 15th. If the Chicago thing works out early, that is, if I should go there from Wisconsin, I'll try and squeeze Wisconsin in a long, hard day and possibly can make it the morning of the 13th. Figure my fare at the cheapest rate and that should be all I need. It is not essential, but it would be helpful to have that in advance for we are without funds except what belongs to the printer! We can, of course, tough that. Other good things portend that I'll tell you about when I see you. I hope WBBM makes it Smith or nothing, and that we can save Liebelier for Calif. Again, I'd like to be able to do a few things to excite interest in it by radio and by phone in advance.

Unless I heard otherwise from you immediately, I'll assume this is okay with you for it exactly fits your phone conversation of a couple of days ago.

I should leave SF the morning of the 17th to be on TV in LA that night, which is being arranged for a syndicated program, which means a big audience

Sincerely,