

DEC 12 1974

Dear Jim,

12/9/74

Before I forget, I found 18yd nylon ribbons today @ \$2.60, tax included. Thought of asking specifically when I had to take Lil's t'writer in for oiling and cleaning.

Thought you might be interested in another insight into the conditions under which we have to handle the Ray case "arguments." We received 7Opp of the State's case on Monday the second. Our response has to be there by the 13th. We have to allow two days in transit. I've just finished my notes on it for Jim. In normal terms this is 7 working days only. Quite a hardship. More so when you know that the whole State Memorandum is the worst collection of deliberate lies I have ever seen in a court document. I still find it hard to believe that a lawyer would run this much risk. Just suppose there is an honest judge who gets uptight?

And, of course, one of the problems with lies is that one never knows which can influence a judge who can't know all the facts or what is true. This means the only safe way if to address them all, impossible. Were it, length alone would give offense.

So, we are back with Bud's original sin of not tackling this headon when I wanted him to and even when he found out that when I did it in my own, non-legal way it reached the judge, who commented on it in chiding Haile.

In my experience there is no other way one can possibly hope to contend with this kind of corruption. If it doesn't always work, nothing else does and it does on occasion. Witness my headon with Rankin and Silbert in the last suit and the fact of delivery.

But these conditions: I've been working as much daily on this as a lawyer would, despite the other things I've had to do. And because I got it and Jim's at the same time, I haven't been able to look at Jim's. So, if there is a defect, there now won't be time to catch it. Unless the clerk interprets the delivery date as that of postmark, an argument I've suggested Jim make. Like IRS. If this is accepted, I'll be able to read and make a few hasty notes. After returning from DC tomorrow.

The orders are holding up at a steady pace. Not overwhelming but accumulation is encouraging. I'll have to find more shows to do elsewhere, however. Dozen today, but today's mail covers two days of mailings. No Sunday mail delivery.

As further commentary on what constitutes justice, to meet this kind of deadline a lawyer can't do anything else. He has to devote himself exclusively to a single case. How many defendants can begin to afford just a solid week of a lawyer's time at lawyer's rates? At a minimum, with my work free, this would cost over \$2,000 for just the time, not past work or the work it required to be able to do anything with this paper. It means that for most defendants there just can't be justice.

I presume you will clip Waldron's story, which appeared in the Saturday Times. I did not know about it until today. But don't copy it for me yet. I may get one elsewhere. If I don't I'll ask.

Haven't been able to read papers but in skimming the Post today I noticed Charles Seib is associate editor/ombudsman. This means he is no longer managing editor of the Star. I presume the new owners did it.

Hope you beat the real rainy season with all your work. I haven't beaten the cold or the rain. I'm still waiting for the roofer and when finally I could get to enough wood to cut the chain saw had been made inoperative in servicing.

Best,

