

PSF Earle Looker - Nanine Joseph

Subject File

Box 1 157

PSF

~~Lesker Joseph~~

CABLE ADDRESS: NANJOSEF

Namine Joseph

File

200 WEST 54TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

November 16th, 1932

Dear Miss LeHand:

Mr. Howe called me last night and asked me to see if I can stop *Cosmopolitan* and *Liberty* from bothering the Governor. I am exceedingly sorry that he's been worried by these two conflicting things, but when I called *Liberty* to try to straighten out the mess, they were really exceedingly nasty, said they had already talked to the Governor twice and didn't see why they should talk to me, since except for the matter of settling price, they had done everything direct. Unfortunately that was true, and I do wish that they never had gotten in on that at the beginning, for if I had handled the whole thing I could have seen to it that the dates didn't conflict — now it's a little late.

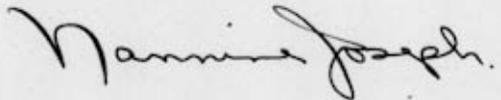
The only thing that I can suggest is that in the case of either *Cosmopolitan* or *Liberty* attempting to reach the Governor, you, or whoever takes the call, inform them that they must talk to his agent, and then I'll fight it out at this end...There's no reason in the world why he should be bothered.

This Jay Franklin mix-up has been rather difficult. Had he not insisted, however, (I think you should know the situation) on the change in title in *Cosmopolitan* they could have rushed the presses and at least gotten out at the same time as the *Liberty* article, and there wouldn't have been so much bad feeling, but with the title changed, and the presses having to stop and rerun, everything is held up. The only way that I could think of to help it along was to insist that *Liberty* send proof, which of course needs to be done anyhow as we have found over and over again. They were very snippy about it, but finally said yes — proof was being sent to the Governor as soon as it's ready. This seems very curious to me because if the magazine is to be ready for issue on December 1st, the proof should be ready now. I have never known them not to have proof at least five weeks ahead — and here it is less than a week! If the proof isn't completely satisfactory in every way, they shouldn't be allowed to release — not matter what it means. After

all Cosmopolitan stopped the presses, and they're a monthly and much bigger issues, to change the title. And Liberty is doing something curious - when they do not seem to have proof now. I couldn't do as good a job as I would have liked to in trying to straighten out the mess, because I had so little information and was working a bit in the dark...I am sorry.

The telephone number above is safe between nine-fifteen and five, week days, and until twelve noon on Saturdays. Other times, my personal listed wire is Circle 7-1130, which goes through the switchboard of the apartment house, but I think it's safer to give you my personal unlisted 'phone, which ordinarily only my very closest personal friends have, and on which usually any business conversation, when my friends happen to be clients as well, is taboo. But I feel it's safer to use the unlisted wire for the Governor, and if you care to call me on that during hours when I'm not in the office - the number is Circle 7-2729, and I don't mind how late at night you use it, for I'm a "night owl", and am seldom in bed much before two, and often not before three, when piles of manuscripts need revision. Also by calling this number - unless I'm actually at home myself, you will not get an answer, whereas you might get the house 'phone and find me out, which would do you no good, as I wouldn't trust the switchboard operator to get a message straight.

Yours sincerely,



NJ:SA
Miss Marguerite LeHand

P.S. Mr. Howe asked me to report to you in detail.

PSF: Looker - Joseph

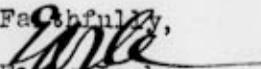
381 01 1111
NOV 13 1933

November 13, 1933.

Dear Missy:

Will you please give the enclosed note to the President - and tell him that you've waited for the moment when he is most likely to enjoy the sufferings of another author. Or, for fear that such a moment will never arrive, will you give it to him anyway. . .

Faithfully,


Esrie Looker

PSF Looker - Joseph

November 13, 1933.

Dear Mr. President:

You might be amused to know I have taken a fine sock in the jaw from the New York Herald Tribune in the character, I'd like to think, of whipping boy for you. Walter Millis, who is violently anti-you, says of the American Way: "Mr. L's laudatory volume..wholly loyal to the President... sufficiently reveals Mr. L's admiration for his subject." Even Simeon (That name has a suggestive sound) Strunsky, in the New York Times Book Review says: "He is an admirer of the President; frequently an apologist when the need arises, and he writes with a degree of animation..that may occasionally carry him beyond the limits of evidence."

Other comments I won't quote; I suffer so much under them. (And once I said that Franklin Roosevelt has a thick skin!) The point is that I get it in the neck for being loyal to you, and I'll probably get it in the neck for my criticism. Hah! That is not a laugh. Whatever pain I may have given you I get plenty in return. This is, I believe, poetic justice!

Faithfully,

Joseph

FDR-MD

PSF

Locker - Joseph

Personal

At Warm Springs, Georgia,
November 21, 1933.

Dear Marie:

"Tah! Tah!" and again "Tah!" said
the duck laughing.

However, being a Practical Business
Man, I suggest stirring up Foreign Contro-
versy over your Opus. This will sell a
million copies.

Yours in misery,

Marie Locker, Esq.,
202 Elm Street,
Northampton, Mass.