AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO

Jerry Ray
1982 Charlee
St. Louis, Mo
ZIP CODE 63118

SEP 21 PM 1968

VIA AIR MAIL

Mr James E. Ray
Shelby County Jail
Memphis, Tenn

Percy Reginy Laurel m.

Harry Kelly – Mem. ?

Percy Stanfield – Mem ?

sept 24, 68.

Dear Jimmy:

I received your letter yesterday morning and talked to stoner aber the phone a few hours after receiving your letter
I cant tell you every word he told me as unlike our other conversation this one was long, he talked for at least Fifteen minutes
Hes very much interested in your welfare and he said everything he does for you will be for nothing as he doesnt want a cent. I am not going to say very much concerning our conversation as he said that he had just sent a letter to you asking you to ask the Judge for permission to visit you. so you will probably get that letter before this one. He did seem kind of unhappy about Hule writing that book on account of his past Books and his stand on Race Relations. He also thought it would be a good ideal

for

if you took the stand. He figures on visiting you sept 27. He also said it was against the law for him to advise you on legal matters being you have a lawyer.
The Reason he didnt write to you sooner was because he was in Kentucky.
Ill call Foreman up monday and if I get hold of him then Ill write you the same day, if not Ill keep calling and will let you know as soon as I talk to him personally I hope Foreman agrees to see you and his advice would mean a lot.
like I said in my last letter if anything comes up where you wont to see Jack or I about anything just let us know, also if you wont us to see Hones, Perry or Stoner and they cant make it up here then we could meet them in Memphis. Ill close for now, will write again just as soon as I talk to Foreman. Coral & Jack are okay.
as ever Brother Jerry Ray.

Three years ago the co-ed editor of a student newspaper at the University of Oregon was hauled into court and abused by the local district attorney and a judge because she wouldn't name the students who had given her information she published in the newspaper.

She had published a story quoting the unidentified students about the use of marijuana on the campus. The district attorney was going through the motion of checking out this evil and demanded Annette Buchanan break the confidence of her sources of information.

When she correctly refused, a judge said she was in contempt of court and fined her $300—without a jury trial.

The state supreme court upheld the conviction.

Miss Buchanan appealed to the United States Supreme Court—which has released a whole string of defiant witnesses who had been cited for contempt by congressional investigating committees.

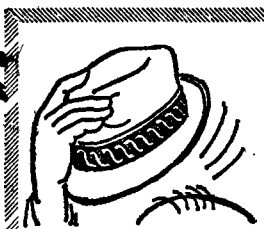
In a bundle of major decisions handed down by the court several weeks ago there was a simple order refusing even to hear the Buchanan case. It went unnoticed by us at the time, to our regret.

The Supreme Court gave no reason for not hearing this case. But it strikes us as just the kind the court should have heard —and reversed. Because this court, more than any other, has been adamantly protective of the rights of individuals in cases covering freedom of speech, freedom of the press, the right to due process of law, the right to counsel in criminal proceedings.

Miss Buchanan committed no offense. She simply published information the district attorney, or his investigators, could have had by a little diligent inquiry. In refusing to name names, she merely was maintaining the integrity of herself and her paper; if she hadn't promised to withhold names she never would have acquired the information. In logical and reasonable fashion she was exercising the constitutional guarantee of a free press.

The district attorney and the local judge, in an action all out of proportion to the usefulness of the names she withheld, asked this young lady to violate her word, shrivel her conscience and disavow her constitutional privilege.

We are sorry the Supreme Court decided, for whatever reason, not to examine the case.



A Tip of the Hat ...

. . . to Frank V. Ragsdale for the 13 years of service he has given the public as a member of the Memphis Transit Authority Board—

And for his willingness to continue this service without the $5,000 salary he has previously drawn.

In view of Ragsdale's decision, Mayor Loeb says he will recommend Ragsdale's appointment tomorrow for another three-year term as MTA president.

The mayor is trying to carry out his pledge to get all members of special city boards and commissions to serve without pay, as an economy measure. Loeb has shown his good faith by giving up a yearly expense account of $5,000 to which he is entitled.

If he can get good and able citizens to serve on the city boards without pay, the city government can certainly use the money.

At any event, in giving up his salary, Col. Ragsdale has given the strongest kind of confirmation to his statement that "pay in any amount has never been the reason I have been active in public service."

He is an outstanding example of the many citizens who have served, and are serving, on the vital boards out of a sense of duty to the community.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: "Peace won by compromise is usually a short-lived achievement." — WINFIELD SCOTT, American general, 1786-1866.

Fingerprint Ruling Due

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14. — The United States Supreme Court said that it would hear this term arguments on whether fingerprints taken from a Meridian, Miss., Negro convicted in 1966 at age 14 of criminally assaulting an 86-year-old white woman were obtained illegally. The court said its consideration in the case against John Davis would be limited to whether the fingerprints introduced at the trial violated the defendant's rights under the constitutional ban on unreasonable searches and seizures.

Agnew Is Critical Of Attorney General

TOLEDO, Ohio, Sept. 30. — (AP) — Promising greater use of wiretapping to combat crime, Gov. Spiro T. Agnew Monday criticized Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark for prohibiting its use by federal law enforcement agencies.

Speaking at a rally in downtown Toledo, the Republican vice presidential nominee said Clark's solution to crime in the streets apparently "is to widen the sidewalks.

"We must replace Mr. Clark, who specializes in complacency and sel` congratulation," he said.

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