

*Thanks  
Lamar Trotti  
sent  
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*Moviemen*

LAMAR TROTTI

October 20, 1947

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Mr. Harold E. Stassen,  
707 Pioneer Building,  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota.

Dear Mr. Stassen:

It was a great pleasure and privilege to meet you at Eddie Knopf's house out here. I have followed you and your career with a great deal of interest, and it is my great hope that you will be nominated.

When I did the picture 'Wilson' one of the things that impressed me most about the man was his political boldness. Later I had the privilege of writing the screenplay of 'One World' based on Mr. Willkie's book - a picture which we finally decided not to make, largely because Mr. Willkie himself didn't want to go through with it after he had withdrawn from the race. In doing that I saw a great deal of Mr. Willkie, both here and in New York, and I found the same qualities in him that I think I find in you.

Best wishes - and good luck.

Sincerely yours,

*Lamar Trotti*

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October 3rd  
1947

Dear Mr. Stassen:

Mr. Knopf left for San Francisco this morning,  
but before leaving asked me to send you the names  
of those with whom you met yesterday at his house:

Charles Brackett - Paramount producer -  
winner of the 1945 Academy Award with the  
picture "The Lost Week-end".

Address: 10601 Bellagio Road, Bel-Air,  
Los Angeles 24, California

Gene Fowler - Author "Father Goose", "Good Night  
Sweet Prince", "The Great Mouthpiece", etc. etc.

Address: 472 North Barrington  
Los Angeles 24, California

Mackinlay Kantor - Author of "Romance of Rosy  
Ridge", "Best Years of our Lives", "Long Remember",  
etc. etc. (Mr. Knopf believes Mr. Kantor will be  
in New York when you are there and if so - will  
get in touch with you with reference to a New York  
organization similar to the one here.)

Address: Rossmore Manor Hotel  
615 North Rossmore, Los Angeles, California

Anthony Veiller - Writer of many screen successes.  
Currently writing screenplay of "State of the Union".

Address: 9931 Durant Drive,  
Beverly Hills, California

LOEW'S INCORPORATED  
STUDIOS

NO. 2, H. E. S.

Joseph Siström - Producer at Universal-International.

Address: 1117 Tower Road  
Beverly Hills, California

Lamar Trotti - Writer of many successful screenplays,  
including "Woodrow Wilson".

Address: 812 Birchwood Drive  
Los Angeles, California

✓ Dudley Nichols - Producer and writer. Among his credits  
Academy Award winner - "The Informer". Also has just  
produced and written screenplay for Eugene O'Neill's  
"Mourning Becomes Electra".

Address: 504 South Plymouth  
Los Angeles, California

Alvin M. Josephy, Jr. - Marine Corps Combat Correspondent.  
Former political broadcaster at Mutual. Author of "The  
Long and the Short and the Tall". Currently screen  
writer at MGM.

Address: 722 Twenty-first Place, Santa Monica, California

Nicholas Muray - Photographer.

Address: 150 South Rockingham  
Los Angeles 24, California

Richard Breen - Writer Paramount Studios. Formerly radio  
writer.

Address: 4518 Tobias Avenue  
Sherman Oaks, California

Thomas Wood - Publicity Department - Paramount Studios.

Address: 3615 Berry Drive  
North Hollywood, California

Trust this information will be helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,

*Debra L. Knopf*  
Secretary to Mr. Knopf

Mr. Harold E. Stassen  
707 Pioneer Building  
St. Paul 1, MinneSota

Guest List  
Dinner - Metro-Goldwyn-  
Mayer Studios  
October 1st, 1947

✓ Pandro Berman - 606 Mountain Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
✓ Lee Bowman - 435 Georgina, Santa Monica, California  
✓ Charles Brackett - 10601 Bellagio Road, Bel-Air, Los Angeles 24, California  
Richard Carrington - c/o The Los Angeles Examiner, Los Angeles, California  
J. J. Cohn - 907 North Bedford Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
Donald D. Davis  
Myron Fox - 1320 South Westlake, Los Angeles, California  
Henry Ginsberg - 918 North Whittier Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
Cornwall Jackson - J. Walter Thompson Co. 1549 North Vine Street, Hollywood, Cal.  
Dr. Eddie Jones - Sixth and Grand Streets, Los Angeles, California  
Sam Katz - 1700 Lexington Road, Beverly Hills, California  
Atwater Kent - 801 Bel-Air Road, Los Angeles 24, California  
Al Lichtman - 704 North Palm Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
Mervyn Le Roy - 332 St. Cloud Road, Bel-Air, Los Angeles 24, California  
Tom Lewis - 280 Carolwood Drive, Los Angeles 24, California  
E. J. Mannix - 516 North Linden Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
James McGuinness - 911 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
Adolph Menjou - 722 North Bedford, Beverly Hills, California  
Robert Montgomery - 10430 Bellagio Road, Bel-Air, Los Angeles 24, California  
✓ J. Stanley Mullin - 458 South Spring Street, Los Angeles 13, California  
George Murphy - 911 North Bedford Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
Kyle Palmer - c/o The Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, California  
Walter Pidgeon - 710 North Walden Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
Peter Rathvon - 9955 Beverly Grove Drive, Beverly Hills, California

Judge Lester Roth - 520 South Irving Place, Los Angeles, California  
✓ David Saunders - 458 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, California  
✓ David Selznick - 1400 Tower Grove Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
Mendl Silverberg - 802 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
L. K. Sidney - 1140 Tower Road, Beverly Hills, California  
Howard Strickling - 5230 Louise Avenue, Encino, California  
Ben Thau - 1245 Coldwater Canyon, Beverly Hills, California  
Spencer Tracy - 5508 Whiteoak, Van Nuys, California  
Lawrence A. Weingarten - 613 North Canon Drive, Beverly Hills, California  
Dr. John C. Wilson - 1136 West Sixth Street, Los Angeles, California  
Sam Wood - 424 South Irving, Los Angeles, California  
Whitney Bolton - c/o The Selznick Studio, 9336 Washington Blvd., Culver City, Cal.  
Paul MacNamara - c/o The Selznick Studio, 9336 Washington Blvd., Culver City, Cal.  
Sam Briskin - 1416 Havenhurst, Hollywood, California

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October 6, 1947

Mr. Edwin H. Knopf,  
M-G-M Pictures  
Culver City, California

Dear Eddie:

You are an able chairman, a stimulating  
companion, and a delightful host.

Thanks a lot for the remarkable start you  
have made on our special committee. Will  
be in touch with you as developments occur.

I returned home to find some good news from  
New England and the South in new support to  
Republican organizations.

Sincere regards,

HES db

~~Memo Arrest~~

Pandro Berman - Very important producer at MGM

Lee Bowman - Actor - Very active Republican circles

Charles Brackett

Richard Carrington - Head of Hearst's interests locally

J. J. Cohn - Executive producer MGM

Donald D. Davis

Myron Fox

~~Al Friedman~~

Henry Ginsberg - Vice President and Executive Chief - Paramount Studio

~~Wm. Goetz~~ - Executive head of Universal Pictures. L. B.'s son-in-law

Cornwall Jackson - J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency. Former  
confidential secretary - Rupert Hughes. Active  
Republican

Dr. Eddie Jones

Sam Katz - Vice President - MGM

Atwater Kent - Former radio manufacturer. Millionaire. Very possible  
source large contribution

Edwin H. Knopf

Al Lichtman - Executive Vice President - MGM

~~Ben Lindheimer~~ - Chicago Industrialist - Close friend of L. B.

Mervyn Le Roy - One of the four or five top directors in Hollywood.  
Loud-mouthed.

Tom Lewis - Associated with Young & Rubicam

E. J. Mannix - Chief Executive and General Manager - MGM

James McGuinness

Adolph Menjou - Actor - loud-mouthed. Very anti-New Deal

Robert Montgomery - You know

~~Chas. Morrison~~

J. Stanley Mullin

George Murphy - You know

Kyle Palmer - You know

Walter Pidgeon - Actor - Intelligent - Valuable

Peter Rathvon - Executive Chief - RKO Pictures - who incidentally for one reason or another declined to meet either Hoover or Taft

Judge Lester Roth

David Saunders

David Selznick - You know

Mendl Silverberg - Very important attorney. Always in forefront of community drives. Great influence with Jewish community. Life long Republican

L. K. Sidney - MGM Executive

Howard Strickling - Head of all MGM publicity and L. B.'s personal contact man

Ben Thau - Vice President - MGM

Spencer Tracy - Actor

Larry Weingarten - Editorial Executive MGM. New-Dealish

Ralph Wheelwright - Strickling's assistant

Dr. John C. Wilson - Eminent Orthopedist. Politically minded Republican

Sam Wood

~~Major John Zanft~~ - Intimate friend of L. B.

Whitney Bolton - Publicity Department - Selznick Studios

Paul MacNamara - " " " "

Sam Briskin



September 20th  
1947

Dear Governor Stassen:

I have not written you since your visit here as I know how copious your correspondence is and didn't wish to add to it unless I had something of importance to tell you. Now I believe I have.

Several weeks ago L. B. gave a dinner for Hoover. Mr. Hoover, as you no doubt have observed, has become a benign old man, not without humor, and made what might be called a "nice" impression on all those present. Shortly thereafter I went to L. B. and spoke about a dinner for you. He told me that he would be glad to spend some time with you, but as far as the dinner was concerned - he could not commit himself due to the fact that his brother, Jerry, was so very ill. Now Jerry is very ill, incurably, but nevertheless a short time after he announced that he, L. B., was giving a dinner for Senator Taft on Monday, September fifteenth. This upset me as Jerry had not taken a turn for the better and I learned through Kay Koverman that Hoover had whispered "Taft" in L. B.'s ear.

I was invited to the dinner and of course attended. L. B. introduced the Senator as one would introduce one's own favorite candidate. Mr. Taft made a very bad impression on those present. The general reaction was, whereas Taft was a hard working and able public servant who knew his subjects very well, the subjects were too few. When asked what he thought about the British ad valorem tax on American films confiscating seventy-five per cent of future imports his answer was that he didn't know very much about it beyond that which he had read in the papers. However he did take that opportunity to berate England generally and in reference to Palestine in particular, but one felt he was making a rather direct appeal to that thirty per cent of his listeners

NO. 2, H. E. S.

who were Jewish. Then someone asked Mr. Taft a question about foreign affairs. He admitted he didn't know very much about foreign affairs either - that he relied pretty much on Mr. Vandenberg for his information. Many questions were asked, very few answered, and the meeting became duller and duller. When it was over Mr. Mayer thanked him very much, but one could feel that the farewell had none of the warmth or enthusiasm of the hail.

When we rose from the table L. B. literally elbowed his way through the guests, made a bee-line for me, put his arm about my shoulder and whispered - "When does your boy get here?" I told him you were to be here the first of October and he said - "Let's give him a dinner." I hope you will forgive the lengthiness of the foregoing but somehow it seemed significant enough to pass on to you.

Under separate cover I am sending you three mimeographed statements by Eric Johnston which might help you to understand the point of view of our industry in relation to exports generally and the British tax in particular. I know that there is much to be said on the British side and of course you will make up your own mind as to how you feel about this particular issue, but unquestionably you will be asked about it at the L. B. dinner and if you would like further information I will be happy to supply it.

I know, too, that you will make a fine impression when queried on foreign affairs and, all things considered, I don't think anything more helpful to the cause could have occurred than the Taft dinner as most of the same people will be there. Incidentally the crowd at the L. B. dinner will be a fairly conservative lot, although there will be a sprinkling of former New Dealers present.

I think if you could plan to talk for something between twenty and thirty minutes and then answer questions it would be most effective, although of course if there is more that you wish to say and want to talk longer I know that everyone present would enjoy hearing you as much as I would.

For the session that is to take place with the writers on the following day, I hope to have with us some really high-powered, intelligent, and experienced people who will be prepared to serve you in whichever ways you think would be to your best advantage.

NO. 3, H. E. S.

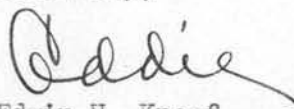
One thing more. No doubt you have heard of the formation of the VIPs (Veterans in Politics). The Los Angeles Branch has just been formed and my nephew is very active within that organization. He was a Master Sergeant in the Third Division of the Marine Corps and was in the first wave at both Guam and Iwo. At their initial meeting last Thursday only twenty-eight veterans were present, but Ed Shattuck thought it important enough to be there and so did Dockweiler and several of the local political brass. At one point in the meeting someone asked how many Democrats and how many Republicans were present. A count of hands showed that there were eight Democrats and five Republicans. Somewhat puzzled someone asked where the other fifteen stood. At that point my nephew rose to state that he was a registered Democrat who is now working for Stassen and hence could not raise his hand as either a Democrat or a Republican. Instantly eight others chimed in that they were Stassen men, too, and felt as my nephew did.

Next week they are having a meeting at which they expect about two hundred. The purpose of the organization is to free the members of the Legion, the A. V. C., Veterans of Foreign Wars, etc. from the "No Politics" pledge which is more or less implicit in their activities within their present Veterans' organizations. I'll talk this over with Dave and Stan, but it seems to me that it might be important for you to meet with this group for an hour or so.

I'm sure I don't have to tell you that anything I can do to be of service will be done with cheerful dispatch. I look forward with great pleasure to seeing you and meeting Mr. Davis on October first.

With all good wishes always -

Sincerely,

  
Edwin H. Knopf

Hon. Harold E. Stassen  
707 Pioneer Building  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

From MOTION PICTURE EXPORT ASSOCIATION, INC.  
546 Fifth Avenue  
New York 18, N. Y.

*gm km*

Eric Johnston, President, announced this afternoon (8) that members of the Motion Picture Export Association, Inc., met today in New York on the British tax situation and voted to discontinue immediately shipments of American feature films and short subjects to England. The cessation of delivery of American films will continue indefinitely, Mr. Johnston announced.

The member companies of the Export Association are Columbia Pictures International Corporation, Loew's International Corporation, Paramount International Films, Inc., RKO Radio Pictures, Inc., Twentieth Century-Fox International Corporation, United Artists Corporation, Universal International Films, Inc., and Warner Bros. Pictures International Corporation.

From MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.  
28 West 44th Street  
New York 18, N. Y.  
Tom Waller, Director of Information  
Bryant 9-4000

Eric Johnston, as President of the Motion Picture Association of America, after presiding at a meeting in New York of the organization's Board of Directors today (8), issued the following statement:

"The British government has just authorized the imposition of an import tax which confiscates 75 per cent of the earnings on future imports of the American film industry in Britain. This tax in effect strangles American film shipments to England.

"If the British do not want American pictures, that's one thing. If they do, they shouldn't expect to get a dollar's worth of films for a quarter. And that is exactly what the tax will do.

"This tax was imposed at a time when the American industry, conscious of Britain's dollar crisis, had voluntarily suggested measures of a practical nature to help at once the drain on British exchange. Our members desired to meet the British halfway by offering to block, during the crisis, a substantial share of the earnings of the American film companies in Britain.

"This proposal was submitted to responsible British cabinet ministers, prior to the announcement of the government's action. It would have benefited all and injured none.

"American films are an important part of the total British

economy. Five dollars out of every six earned by American films remain in Britain in the form of British taxes, British profits and British wages.

"No American industry has cooperated more wholeheartedly and understandingly with the British in time of trouble than our motion picture industry. We demonstrated this in numerous ways from the very day war was declared in 1939 up to the present moment. For three and a half years after the war began we supplied an undiminished, uninterrupted flow of entertainment to British civilians and the British Services and cheerfully agreed to the blocking of millions of dollars.

"Instead of following the successful wartime experience of mutual cooperation, the British government has adopted a form of confiscatory tax on earnings in the guise of customs duty on new films. This tax reverses the whole trend of our international agreements with Britain. We believe it violates both the spirit and the letter of the Double Taxation Treaty, the British-American Reciprocal Trade Agreement of 1938 and the present British Loan Agreement.

"Moreover, the tax deals a severe blow to those who have held such high hopes of an early settlement of the world's economic problems through international agreements and cooperation. The British may have set in motion a chain reaction which could blast the hope of all trade revival around the world. Only a greater exchange of more and more goods and services will get Britain out of its crisis. It is not by confiscatory measures, directed against a great and friendly industry that Britain will be helped along the road to recovery."

September 24, 1947

Mr. Edwin H. Knopf,  
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures  
Culver City, California

Dear Mr. Knopf:

This will acknowledge receipt of your  
letter of September 20th addressed to  
Governor Stassen.

It will be called to his personal atten-  
tion when he returns to the office on the  
26th.

Yours very truly,

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Secretary



METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES

CULVER CITY  
CALIFORNIA

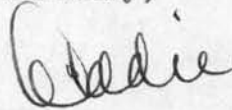
September 26th  
1947

Dear Governor Stassen:

Thought you might like to have this. Anything you might quote from it would, I know, be tremendously flattering to L. B.

I look forward to meeting you at the plane and have arranged to put my car and driver at your disposal during your visit here. I think our plans are well made and it is the sincere hope of the committee that you will find your visit to have been well worthwhile.

Sincerely,



Edwin H. Knopf

Hon. Harold E. Stassen  
707 Pioneer Building  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Enc.

October 11, 1947

Mr. Lee Bowman  
435 Georgina  
Santa Monica, California

Dear Mr. Bowman:

I very much appreciated the opportunity of seeing you personally at the dinner at Metro-Goldwyn Mayer Studios last week.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable occasion and the many courtesies and generous hospitality will be long remembered.

Best regards to you and I will hope to see you again in the not too distant future.

Sincerely,

HES vc

October 11, 1947

Mr. Pandro Berman  
606 Mountain Drive  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Mr. Berman:

It was a distinct pleasure to see you personally and to have dinner with you and the other distinguished guests at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios last week.

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit and will continue to have pleasant memories of the generous hospitality that was accorded me.

Best regards, and I will look forward to seeing you personally again.

Sincerely,

HES vc

October 11, 1947

Mr. Joseph Siström  
1117 Tower Road  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Mr. Siström:

I enjoyed the opportunity of seeing you personally at Eddie Knopf's home last week.

My visit was a very pleasant one and will be long remembered for the friendliness and interest on the part of all whom I met.

I will look forward to further contact with you during the coming months.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

HES vc

October 11, 1947

Mr. Lamar Trotti  
813 Birchwood Drive  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Trotti:

I enjoyed the opportunity of seeing you personally at Eddie Knopf's home last week.

My visit was a very pleasant one and will be long remembered for the friendliness and interest on the part of all whom I met.

Best regards, and I will look forward to future contact with you during the coming months.

HES vc

Sincerely,

October 11, 1947

Mr. Thomas Wood  
3615 Berry Drive  
North Hollywood, California

Dear Mr. Wood:

It was a pleasure to see you personally at  
Eddie Knopf's home last week and to meet  
with the splendid group of guests assembled.

I thoroughly enjoyed the stimulating dis-  
cussion and will look forward to further  
contact during the coming months.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

HES vc

October 11, 1947

Mr. Richard Breen  
4518 Tobias Avenue  
Sherman Oaks, California

Dear Mr. Breen:

I enjoyed the opportunity of seeing you personally at Eddie Knopf's home last week.

The discussion was stimulating and helpful as we go into the next few months of campaigning.

Best regards, and I will look forward to further contact with you during the coming months.

Sincerely,

HES vc

October 11, 1947

Mr. Nicholas Muray  
150 South Rockingham  
Los Angeles, 24, California

Dear Mr. Muray:

It was a pleasure to see you personally at  
Eddie Knopf's home last week.

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit with the  
splendid group of guests assembled, and will  
look forward to further contact with you  
during the coming months.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

HES vc

October 11, 1947

Mr. Alvin M. Josephy Jr.  
722 Twenty-first Place  
Santa Monica, California

Dear Mr. Josephy:

It was a pleasure to see you personally at  
Eddie Knopf's home last week.

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit with the  
splendid group of guests assembled, and  
I will look forward to future opportunities  
when I can meet with you again.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

HES vc



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