

UPTON SINCLAIR
PASADENA
CALIFORNIA

September 29, 1919

My dear Justice Brandeis:

I am writing a book about American Journalism, concerning which I enclose a circular. I shall take the liberty of sending a copy of this book to you. I know that you have had illuminating experiences with dishonest Journalism, and I know that you realize that it is a dangerous social force. I wonder if you will be willing to write me anything about your experiences, to be used either over your signature or without, as you direct. If you wish to write anything without being mentioned as the source of my information, you may rely absolutely upon my word so to use it.

My particular reason for writing to you is a statement made by the editor of the "Boston Common" to the effect that when you were fighting the United Shoe Machinery Co., a Boston paper published an elaborate fabrication to the effect that you were organizing a rival corporation, capitalized at fifty million dollars. The editor of the "Common", Mr. Levy L. Richard, did not state the name of this newspaper. I am sure that you will know it, and I will greatly appreciate it if you will give me the information. I need it by return mail, because my book is going to the printer.

I also have some statements about your fight against the Gas Trust in Boston, and the boycotting of your argument by the newspapers. I will appreciate anything that you might tell me on this subject.

Sincerely,

Upton Sinclair