

London Feb 25th 36.

Dear George.

Thanks so much for your letter and your work which I also received. I read the latter immediately and found it in every way a better written book than your BLOOD, IRON, AND PROFIT. That does not mean that the other was bad. It had most informative material. But it was not as well written as your Sawdust Caesar. And your data is simply overwhelming. I congratulate you my dear. The Fascist together with their tin god must love you as the Communists love me. I really cannot blame them. For your work is the first critical analysis of the crooked way of Mussolini's ascendancy to power. And the historic data it contains *is such that* nothing the damned fascists can or will say can refute it. *m*

Dear old scout, you say you were shocked that I could even for a moment "harbor a suspicion against me". I did not suspect you. If I had thought you capable of a crooked ~~and~~ act I should not have bothered writing you at all. I was simply puzzled about the mix up. After all, Angelica is not the type to charge anyone lightly with any dishonest act. Nor to believe anything lightly. Now, I happened to read the letter of Fenner Brockway who was representing her with Golancz<sup>a</sup>. And F.B wrote that in as much as your book contained identical material as Angelica's he could not accept her MSS for publication. I can see now that Golancz must have referred to the chapter you credit Angelica with having written specially for your book. After all, it is really not important how much you have used of the material ~~you~~ she gave you. It is that you have used it at all, and that you credited her with having written it expressly for your book. I suppose that is the objection that decided Golancz against handling



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the the rest of her material about Mussolini. It is a very un-  
fortunate mixup and I am frightfully sorry this happened.

On reading your book I find that you have certainly  
given credit to Angelica and also a very fine tribute. But you will  
admit my dear that taking out 300 words of her MSS, or the material  
she gave you has impaired the chances of sale of the article?

You say you had asked A.B. for the right to use part of her mat-  
erial in return for the article you wrote for her? A letter  
from Angelica tells me she has never given you that right. I  
must conclude therefore that you simply did not understand her, or  
that she did not understand you. Surely there must be some way  
of straightening out this muddle. Won't you please try?

I assure you, if Angelica were not so poor and so  
helpless in practical matters I would not have written you in the  
first place. But no one knows her condition as well as I. And it  
is for this reason that I hope you will see your way clear of  
letting her have some money. It really does not matter whether  
you used three hundred or three thousand words of her material.  
The fact that you have taken any at all, and that you have stated  
that she has written a chapter expressly for your book has detracted  
from the value of the original article. You should reimburse her  
for that. At least that is my opinion.

I hope your book has had a great sale. It deserves  
to sell in hundreds of thousand copies. You bet if I speak of  
MUSSOLINI, HITLER AND STALIN again as I probably will I shall  
speak of your book. I consider it a splendid piece of work.

I am finishing here the first week in April and  
am then returning to France. Sasha has undergone an operation. He  
is in the hospital in Nice now. He is improving and may soon be  
permitted to go to his apt. Unfortunately he will need another  
operation, even less grave than the first, but also resulting in  
considerable suffering. I will be in Nice by the time he needs to  
undergo that. In May we will go to Bon Esprit. It maybe for the  
last summer as we will have to sell the place. It will be a wrench  
but cannot be helped. Maybe you would buy it if your new book  
brings in some real money.

I asked you about our mutual friends Lee and  
Virginia, and how is Miriam Lerner and Don and his lady. Now be  
a dear and write me, since they do not. And get rid of the idea  
that I meant to hurt you.

Greetings to the bunch and have a drink  
to our old friendship. Give Gilbert my best.  
Affectionately.

*Emma*