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Harold Shapero, Esquire  
Counsellor at Law  
40 Wall Street  
New York 5, New York

*Hiss*

Dear Mr. Shapero:

I was in Tennessee when your letter of June 25 and copy of Mr. Stryker's book on Erskine arrived. Please accept my thanks at this late hour, and also please thank Mr. Stryker for autographing the book.

My out-of-pocket expenses -- railroad fare; hotel, meals and incidentals -- for June 22 and 23 in New York on the Hiss case amounted to approximately \$35.00. I did not keep an itemized account.

There will be no fee. When we were making our last ditch fight against restrictive covenants in the United States Supreme Court, Alger Hiss filed a brief amicus on behalf of the American Association for the United Nations. It is as little as I can do to acknowledge his co-operation and try to reciprocate.

I believe my presence in the witness room throughout Wednesday, the 22nd, helped steady the witnesses who had never been through such an experience.

My only regret is that I could not stay around and watch Mr. Stryker work. But I had an NAACP Legal Defense Conference uptown Thursday afternoon, and in addition I felt my impact on the case would be sharper if I confined myself to the narrow role of a strictly disinterested witness. Maybe I shall have a chance in some other case to witness Mr. Stryker's advocacy. I hope so.

Best wishes from the entire office. We are pulling for you.

Yours sincerely,

*Charles H. Houston*

Charles Explore Houston