

Ford Motor Company

3000 SCHAEFER ROAD
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

August 12, 1955

Mr. William Springer
6065 Franklin Road
Birmingham
Michigan

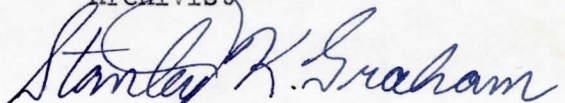
Dear Mr. Springer:

Mr. Ruddell mentioned to me his telephone conversation with you and the fact that you would like to acquire a copy of the Dearborn Independent for February, 1925 or February, 1926.

The only copy of the Dearborn Independent available is the bound file copy that is among our records. If you wish to have me check for the article you are seeking, I can do that and have it photostated, but there are no copies available of the issue in which that article might appear.

Yours very truly,

For: Henry E. Edmunds
Archivist



By: Stanley K. Graham
Reference Section

August 17, 1955

Dear Mr. Graham:

I am interested only in the originals of the Independent, therefore, take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely for your kind cooperation.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM SPRINGER

Stanley K. Graham
Reference Section
Ford Archives
3000 Schaefer Road
Dearborn, Michigan

August 26, 1955

Dear Mr. Graham:

Back in the twenties, Fred L. Black, while on the Dearborn Independent, did a lot of research for the late Henry Ford in connection with the alleged escape of J. Wilkes Booth, the assassin of Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. Black's assignment took him to many places in search of truth and sworn affidavits, in an effort to expose for once and all-time the Booth escape myth, in which Mr. Ford was vitally interested at that time.

Findings of Mr. Black's investigation were published serially in seven issues of the Independent. I am interested to know if the original manuscript with the documentary affidavits are in the Archives, or elsewhere.

The articles were not copyrighted, nor was the Dearborn Independent, and I was informed that since the sale of the Independent, the rights of all articles reverted to original contributors.

When Mr. Ford disposed of his Independent, the transaction, I am told, included only the masthead, but not any other assets due to absence of copyrights.

If you can find anything in the Archives in connection with this matter, let me have a detailed report at your earliest convenience.

As ever yours,

WILLIAM SPRINGER

Stanley K. Graham
Reference Section
Ford Archives
3000 Schaeffer Road
Dearborn, Michigan

September 23, 1955

Dear Mr. Graham:

I am still awaiting a
reply to my letter of August 26, 1955.

My interest in the
matter, as I pointed out, lies strictly
in the fact that I am an ardent student,
and therefore, solicit the courtesy of
your cooperation.

Thanking you, I remain

As ever yours,

WILLIAM SPRINGER
6065 Franklin Road
Wing Lake
Birmingham, Michigan

STANLEY K. GRAHAM, ESQ.
Reference Section
Ford Archives
3000 Schaeffer Road
Dearborn, Michigan

October 3, 1955

Dear Mr. Edmunds:

I attach hereto my letters of August 26 and September 23, 1955, respectively, to Stanley K. Graham, which are self-explanatory. I am perplexed at Mr. Graham's reluctance in replying to my interest in the subject matter, unless the mail has fallen into disinterested hands, or perhaps he may have been ill, or absent from his office.

I will appreciate the courtesy of your attention in this matter, and thanking you, I remain

As ever yours,

WILLIAM SPRINGER
6065 Franklin Road
Wing Lake
Birmingham, Michigan

H. E. EDMUNDS, DIRECTOR
The Ford Archives
19200 Michigan Avenue
Dearborn, Michigan

Ford Motor Company

3000 SCHAEFER ROAD
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

October 3, 1955

Mr. William Springer
6065 Franklin Road
Wing Lake
Birmingham, Michigan

Dear Mr. Springer:

I shall be most happy to provide you the information you have requested.

I have not written before this because I would prefer to check exhaustively in our files rather than to base our answer on a superficial search. You shall hear from me shortly.

Sincerely,



Stanley K. Graham
Reference Section
Archives