

Writers War Board

Rex Stout
122 East 42nd Street
New York, New York

Turned in:

- May 13 War With Russia? (#20)
Unconditional Surrender (#12)
- May 17 Dewey's Record in Office (#3)
This Is An Economical War (#7)
- May 19 The War, not the Administration, Rationed Gas (#15)
Why More Young People Vote Democratic
Than Republican (#17)
Don't Swap Horses in Midstream (#26)
- May 23 The Republicans - Fair Weather Friends of the
Negro (#13)
Where Are the Bureaucrats? (#5)
Labor Survey of 12 Years (#1)
Farmers and the Democratic Party (#9)
Veterans: Promises and Performance (#14)
- May 24 If the Republicans Win (#6)
Campaign of hate, mud, and intolerance (#8)
Soldier Vote (#36)
Dewey and the Anti-Discrimination Committee (#4)

Betty gave these to Joe

R E X S T O U T
55 EAST 86th STREET
NEW YORK CITY

May 16th, 1944

to: Betty Wilson
from: Rex Stout
date: 5-16-44

Here's #3, done by Arnold Beichman,
and if you ask me, it's darn good.

R E X S T O U T
55 EAST 86th STREET
NEW YORK CITY

May 16th, 1944

To: Betty Wilson
From: Rex Stout
Date: 5-16-44

Here is #7; for your information done
by George Soule.

R E X S T O U T
55 EAST 86th STREET
NEW YORK CITY

May 9th, 1944

Miss Betty Wilson,
Room 605,
1026 17th Street,
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Miss Wilson:

Here's the script for #12. It was done by Sigrid Schultz, but that is off the record. As you may know, she wrote the book, GERMANY WILL TRY IT AGAIN.

The script is pretty scrappy. Do you think we should make clean copies here before sending them to you? If you want a revise or rewrite job done on this, return it as we have no copy.

Yours,



RS/mw
Enc.

This seemed to me entirely
useless,

Beyond the obvious reasons, -
(the unnecessarily impassioned
defense of Russia, style, etc.,)
there may be the other
possibility that the whole
prospect of a future war should
the die-hards get into office -
include Great Britain as well
as Russia. There's been plenty
of press speculation on the
tender state of relations in
some spheres (air, postwar
trade, etc)

I could round it up and angle it
it you thought the above could
deal with: United into Divided
Nations.

In addition to the new working
titles suggested by Stout, here
are several possibilities which
occurred to me:

1. Whom Do You Want to Represent
You at the Peace Table -
Dewey or Roosevelt?
2. Hoover and Dewey. Smear
Herbert all over Thomas. Anore
little digging ought to turn
up more than the immediately
evident connections.
3. A whole speech on the Republican
steering committee in the
Senate. Doesn't it include

Taft, Vandenberg, Bushfield,
Danaher, Wherry, White, Prooks,
Bridges, and isn't this a
bloodcurdling lineup in itself?

(Wasn't thinking of this for
delivery on the floor of ~~the~~
Congress, but as part of
campaign somewhere)

4. Roosevelt's New Bill of Rights.

Too much neglected. Think it's
a whole speech by itself.

Betty

Memorandum to: Betty Wilson

From: Rex Stout

Date: May 8th, 1944

Re: #20

Herewith is script #20. We have no copy of it to keep. I just told PP on the phone that it was written by a well-known radio commentator, and that it is quite possible that it reads so much like a jerky radio script that he will think it not usable, but that I would send it on anyway and let the decision be made by him, not us. He can do one of 4 things:

(a) Have it worked into shape there; (b) return it to us with instructions for revision; (c) use it as it is with minor changes, or (d) tell us it stinks and we'll have to try again.

I told PP on the phone that we shall follow this policy, of sending on to him anything that is not manifestly unusable, with the understanding that he will be brief and blunt with his reactions. If he thinks a piece is tenth-rate, he is under no circumstances to pretend that he thinks it is only ninth-rate.

Mrs. Salisbury
Mr. Porter

May 9, 1944

I would appreciate your sending Elizabeth V. Wilson, Room 605, 1026-17th Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C., a check in the amount of \$41.93, covering expenses incurred for the Committee in connection with a ~~research~~ project. I attach hereto an itemized statement covering this total.

May 2, 1944

Mr. Rex Stout
Chanin Building
122 East 42nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Rex:

I assume by now that you and Betty Wilson have gotten lined up on the liaison research project. I think we must bear in mind that when Congress gets rolling on towards recess, there will be a legislative jam, and that the sooner we get copy, the better we will be able to get the stuff in the record and have the reprints made for the bound copies of the campaign handbook as we discussed.

However, that is not what I am writing you about specifically. You may recall the enthusiasm that was expressed over Quentin Reynolds' performance at the Jackson Day Dinner. Any number of people have requested that copies of his remarks be made available. I am, therefore, wondering if you could have someone check to ascertain:

- (1) Will Reynolds make a fifteen-minute recording of these remarks?
- (2) To what extent would he be available for Democratic speeches at State conventions, money-raising dinners, etc?

Personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Paul A. Porter
Director of Publicity

P.S. I was intrigued with your West Virginia experience and should like to know more about it when I see you.

Charge to the account of DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE

\$

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WESTERN UNION

1206

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
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Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Home 56 E. 86th

WASHINGTON, D. C. APRIL 28, 1944

FOR VICTORY
BUY
WAR BONDS
TODAY

REX STOUT
CHANIN BUILDING
122 EAST 42nd
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

ELIZABETH WILSON WILL ARRIVE YOUR OFFICE TWO PM MONDAY.

ADVISE IF INCONVENIENT.

PAUL A. PORTER

Some of the people who have signed
the Pledge for Peace

Louis Adamic	Roswell G. Ham
Franklin P. Adams	Pres., Mt. Holyoke College
J. Donald Adams	Oscar Hammerstein, II
Samuel Hopkins Adams	Gabriel Heatter
Mortimer J. Adler	Hamilton Holt
Frederick Lewis Allen	Pres., Rollins College
Dr. Henry A. Atkinson	Dr. Douglas Horton
Frank Aydelotte	Lewis W. Jones
Eunice Fuller Barnard	Pres., Bennington College
S. N. Behrman	George S. Kaufman
Robert Benchley	Foster Kennedy, M.D.
William Rose Benét	Judge Dorothy Kenyon
Irving Berlin	Freda Kirchwey
George Biddle	Lewis E. Lawes
Walter D. Binger	Dr. Henry Goddard Leach
George Boas	Judge Calvert Magruder
Johns Hopkins University	Pauline Mandigo
Louis Bromfield	John P. Marquand
Lewis Browne	Rev. Wm. Pierson Merrill
Katharine Brush	Bishop Francis J. McConnell
Pearl S. Buck	Edna St. Vincent Millay
Thornton W. Burgess	Lewis Mumford
Walter B. Cannon	Orson D. Munn
Harvard University	Abraham Myerson, M.D.
Eddie Cantor	Frank B. Noyes
O. C. Carmichael	Rt. Rev. G. Ashton Oldham
Chanc., Vanderbilt Univ.	Harry Overstreet
Morse Cartwright	College of City of New York
Zachariah Chafee, Jr.	Marion E. Park
Harvard University	Alice T. L. Parsons
Harry Woodburn Chase	F. D. Patterson
Chanc., New York Univ.	Pres., Tuskegee Inst.
Mary Ellen Chase	Donald Culross Peattie
Robert C. Clothier	Houston Peterson
Pres., Rutgers Univ.	Rt. Rev. William P. Remington
Royal Cortissoz	Henry Morton Robinson
Thomas Craven	Ruth Bryan Owen Rohde
Bing Crosby	Gaetano Salvemini
Carl Crow	M. Lincoln Schuster
Walter Damrosch	Whitney North Seymour
Jay N. Darling	Spyros P. Skouras
Dr. Henry Darlington	Rev. Ralph W. Sockman
Charles H. Davis	Johannes Steele
Mrs. Dwight Davis	Mark Starr
Herbert Davis	Adela Rogers St. Johns
Pres., Smith College	Raymond Swing
Owen Davis	C. Mildred Thompson
Kate T. Davison	Dean, Vassar College
Victor E. Devereux	James Thurber
Ruth Draper	Lawrence Tibbett
Stephen Duggan	Louis Untermeyer
Walter D. Edmonds	E. B. White
Marshall Field	Ernest H. Wilkins
Sidney B. Fay	Pres., Oberlin College
Harvard University	Gluyas Williams
Janet Flanner	Wythe Williams
Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick	James Waterman Wise
Frank P. Graham	W. W. Waymack
Pres., Univ. of No. Carolina	Mary Woolley
John Temple Graves	Quincy Wright

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Copies of this leaflet will be sent on request by
WRITERS' WAR BOARD, 122 East 42nd Street,
New York 17, N. Y.

Reproduced from the FDR Presidential Library

Is this where You stand



You can find out in 48 seconds. That is the
reading time for the statement printed within.

A PLEDGE FOR PEACE may strike in your heart and your mind the same instant and grateful response that it has already struck in so many others. If you find within it promise of a world you want to see emerge from this war, then your obligation to sign the Pledge is of the same order as your obligation to vote on election day. The number of signatures will weigh with legislators considering postwar international agreements. The absence of your signature will in a very real sense constitute a vote against the Pledge. That is why you are being asked — now and anxiously — *is this where you stand?*

A Pledge for Peace was conceived in the belief that many Americans are far ahead of their Congress in their thinking on post-war problems. It has been made public as an instrument for expressing the opinions of many citizens to their representatives in the government. It is not a detailed plan for world organization. Such a plan must wait for acknowledgement by the people that they recognize their obligations as members of the human race. This Pledge is such acknowledgement.

WHAT IT TAKES TO SIGN THIS PLEDGE

A *Pledge for Peace* is not the first statement of post-war aims calling for some form of world cooperation. It is not so easy to sign as are many of the others. It is not couched in vague and comfortable generalities which commit one to no more than a dreamy desire for a getting together of nations and an amicable working out of international problems through the exercise of mutual trust.

A *Pledge for Peace* requires of its signers a solemn conviction that our world cannot survive as a group of completely separate nations bound only by occasional polite diplomatic conversations. It requires the further conviction that the basic interests of one nation and another are not unlike those of Arizona and New Jersey, and that eventually nations must be politically bound to each other with ties approximating those which now bind our States. Above all, it requires the conviction that nations must relinquish the right to make war on other nations, precisely as Pennsylvania has relinquished the right to make war on Delaware. And, as a corollary, it requires an understanding that, should any nation or group of nations attempt to secede from their union, the other nations must act with the same farsighted firmness with which Lincoln acted in 1861.

These are not trite and casual concepts to which one can carelessly put his name. It takes something to sign them. Intelligence, for one thing. And an understanding of history. And the capacity to look creatively and realistically into the future.

The Pledge appears on the opposite page. If you believe in its principles, sign it and send it, so that your vote as a world citizen may be added to the great weight of those already cast.

A Pledge for Peace

Mindful that I am a citizen of a great country created 160 years ago by the union of thirteen divided and quarrelling colonies; and convinced that the world of today holds as much wisdom as did that of the Founding Fathers, I declare myself for these propositions:

ONE, that to save myself, my children, and my fellow-beings from inevitable destruction in future world wars, a world organization shall be formed;

TWO, that this world organization shall in the beginning consist of the United Nations and such neutral countries as may be admitted by them;

THREE, that the Axis powers, their allies and their sympathizers, shall have the status of territories on probation until the world organization shall admit them to membership;

FOUR, that no member nation may at any time or for any reason, secede from the world organization;

FIVE, that each member nation of the world organization shall give up forever the sovereign right to commit acts of war against other nations;

SIX, that the authority of the world organization shall be made effective and irresistible by the establishment of an international police force;

SEVEN, that a primary goal of the world organization shall be the gradual abolition of economic and political imperialism throughout the world; and

EIGHT, that it shall be the first duty of the world organization not merely to destroy the military power of the Germans and Japanese, but to formulate and carry into execution whatever measures may be deemed necessary to prevent them from preparing for a third world war of conquest.

Solemnly aware that the acceptance of these propositions involves the creation in myself of a loyalty to the human race along with, but not conflicting with, my loyalty to my own country, I do hereby set my hand, and pledge the allegiance of my heart.

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

DATE.....

Mail to your Senator or Representative