

My dear Nixon:

Your letter is a surprise.

You ask "What are the Equities?" There are none; there is no need for any.

These are the facts:

I started the N.C.R.A.

I asked if the I.O. could "see its advantage" in printing 50,000 pamphlets of 10,000 words for its use?

You answer by telegraph "Yes"; by letter "Yes."

Sicknes delays preparation of manuscript, when it is sent, I say ~~is effect~~. Being after Jan 1st and 12,000. words instead of 10,000, I will only hold you to original agreement but ~~would~~ will postpone to 5,000, instead of 50,000. If you ~~do~~ do not feel like doing ~~so~~ do this let me know what you will do.

I hear nothing and the 25,000, are printed. Now, you ~~intend~~ <sup>seem to think</sup> ~~are ought~~ that we are to pay for them. I raise no objection; I merely want to understand how you come to entertain that idea. Such a notion never entered my head until the receipt of your letter.

I told you I intended sell part to raise money  
to pay the postage on the rest ~~that is to distribute them~~  
~~so we have done~~  
~~This was necessary as it would require \$175 for postage alone~~  
~~I can think of no explanation of your view~~  
~~& let alone the circulation of labor.~~  
~~except that you must have misunderstood~~

this or forgotten our former correspondence. Of course, if we were sure of selling even half the number of envelopes it would be ~~the cost of writing~~, but I never expected to sell more than enough to keep the thing in operation and ~~thereafter in this~~ pay for the continuing circulation.

I start the Nat. Cat. R. C. making the I. O. through the Bystander, its organ. It is approaching a registered membership of 100,000. It has evidently come to stay. All it does is of material advantage only to the I. O. Its canvassers are canvassers for it — interested canvassers, too.

It not only circulates your advertisements but is based and centered on matter in your columns. It goes where the I. O. is not taken. Parties interested in it take subscribe. It pays its own postage; does its own work; asks the paper to assume no responsibility. What is such an agency worth to the paper?

I only know what its effect has been by the letters we receive. I do know that hundreds of them are actively pushing it for the sake of the Association. I have no doubt that it has brought you ten weekly subscribers you would not have got if the Association had not been started for every dollar the pamphlets cost. I judge this from our letters which average about 600 a week on the matter. A great many speak of having just subscribed on account of the N.C.R.A. Of course, I cannot speak with absolute certainty; but I have no doubt that by comparing our rolls with your subscription lists these facts would be well established. In short, I doubt if any newspaper ever did \$1,000. of advertising that brought the actual net advantage you have received by through the organization of the National C.R.A.

It has been published in the Age, Standard and in more than 50,000 documents sent from here, that the publication was a gratuity and as it is labelled "Published by the Inter Ocean"; the inference is pretty plain.

Yet if you say the Association ~~must~~  
should pay for the pamphlets - pay it is.  
That is all there is of it. I will consume the  
fund of the Association and make necessary some  
explanation but that is my end of the matter.

Of course, you understand that what I  
have said in the Bystander about the matter is  
literally true. I receive nothing directly or in =  
directly. It requires three clerks one of whom  
is paid; the other two give their services. Only  
printing, stationery and postage are expenses.  
Every dollar has been by voluntary subscrip =  
tion - no one having been asked for a cent,  
except that I did ask you to print the pam =  
phlets. It is spreading in every direction and  
is a matter of intense interest to its mem =  
bers. I could not state the value of such ad =  
vertising "but I think anyone would say it  
is worth much more than \$224.00

Of course, many of our members are  
old subscribers. All of the first ones were.

But there are many instances in which there  
was perhaps but one subscriber in the town who  
got up a list of members and a number of  
others subscribed for the I.O. Very many of  
those who write to us now are such as have  
subscribed because of the Association. The  
work has been so great that you have  
probably hardly noticed it and very prob-  
ably have attributed it to other causes.