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March 8, 1944

Mr. James T. Farrell, Chairman,
Civil Rights Defense Committee,
160 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Farrell:

I have always felt that the defense of civil liberties in the United States must be a prime concern of all who are interested in a democratic nation. The Smith "Gag" Act of 1940 is, in my opinion, a direct violation of these liberties and all possible steps should be taken to have it declared unconstitutional.

It is for this reason that I am especially interested in the case of the eighteen defendants convicted in Minneapolis under this act. The refusal of the Supreme Court to hear an appeal from this conviction and the imprisonment of the defendants must be protested.

I am glad to add my personal support to the committee in its endeavor to seek a reversal of the conviction and a hearing before the Supreme Court to test the validity of the act. I shall be glad to do whatever I can to help further knowledge and information concerning this case.

Sincerely yours,
Robert Parker
Robert Parker
Area Director

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