

✓
Dance
Mr. Estes:
In your interest.
Note part marked "Ha Ha"

Bob
Maybe we should
hire him!

December 22, 1970

Dear Dr. Howard:

Thanks so much for taking time to respond to my efforts on the recent Bold Ones. I'm sorry to report that the Movie of the Week, which progressed to the script stage, has been shelved for the immediate future, but with the advent of more legislation and public acceptance, it could be exhumed one day.

There has been a rather startling amount of response from various quarters since the show aired. Universal steered the local calls to me and the rest to Joe Donovan, up at the Santa Clara Medical Society. Joe, as you doubtless know, was an early prime mover in putting service men together with possible employers and in spearheading the recent California Law 2109 which clears the way for "legitimate" P.A.'s in our over-crowded state.

I admit to being rather pleased with myself when the Gasoline Alley notion caught fire in Mr. Moores' creative mind. Ironically, the local paper cancelled the strip a month ago and I (together with Mr. Moores' son-in-law, a local insurance man) put together a mini-demonstration, to no avail, I'm afraid.

Ha Ha

The profit-and-loss aspect of my venture into the para-medical picture was disastrous, what with the cost of flying to outlying spots to research the actual rural needs and the hours spent in operating rooms and on the phone to patient physicians -- hence my absence at your recent conclave. However, I appreciate your including me on the list of those to receive the record of what went on. Incidentally, I spoke to Dr. Richard Smith of the Medex Program several days ago to ask if his darkest fears about the show had been realized and he sighed heavily, and reported that they were. As you may know, he's turning out illegal graduates

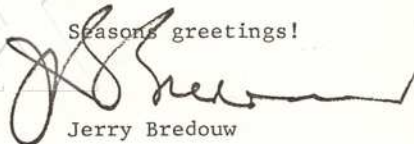
Ha Ha
Ha Ha

at the moment, due to a slipup in the State Legislature which failed to pass a necessary bill recently. He was quite apprehensive in recent months, at the idea of my showing a dramatic situation stemming from a well-intentioned medic plying his skills in a rural area. Even my explanation that a program such as Duke's and his own would "save the day" failed to assuage his foreboding. His present position is that I may have torpedoed his whole program up there, but I think he may be dramatizing a bit himself.

I think, next to the responses of leaders like yourself, and from parents of servicemen who called, asking for guidance, the most heart-warming moment came when a girl sociology major called the next day to ask how I got the idea, etc. After ten minutes of "rapping", she became silent, then a bit tearful at the notion that, as she put it.."it just shows that, no matter what the kids say, by golly, one person CAN do something in this country.." At the age of 51, it was pretty heady stuff to be suddenly embraced as one of the truly committed.

Again, thanks for writing -- and if my 18 months of labor to become a minor expert in the field can be utilized further, let me hear from you.

Season's greetings!


Jerry Bredouw

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