May
25th
1926

Mr W K Edmunds, Manager
Ford Motor Company
Memphis Tenn

Dear Mr Edmunds:

Back in December 1923 a man died in your city by the name of Finis L Bates. He lived at 1224 Harbert Avenue. He was an alleged authority for a lot of myths dealing with John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of Abraham Lincoln, and exhibited the body of a man whom he claimed was Booth. On the advertising accompanying this exhibit, he claimed to have been ex-Attorney General of Tennessee. My impression is that at some time or other he was a county attorney.

Without disclosing our interest in the matter, will you get whatever information you can covering this man's life? The attorneys for the Branch may be able to tell you whether or not he had any basis for the statement that he was at one time an Attorney-General for the state.

We understand the mummy possessed by this man has been sold or leased by his widow for further exhibition purposes. Can you learn whether or not this is true? You are possibly familiar with the articles we had on the subject in the Dearborn Independent.

Very truly yours

THE DEARBORN PUBLISHING CO

F L Black

FLB/L