Let's [illegible] letter

of Nov 4 from H K McCann

11/26

November 26, 1940

Mr James R McCarthy
405 East 54th St
New York N Y

Dear Jim:

I am returning the second draft with some suggestions.

P. 4 — I would suggest changing associate to assistant. I had no editorial title.

Par. 3 — I find one of the editions of the Bates book was published by the Retail Druggist's Journal, Detroit. There is no designation as to where the other was published.

P. 5 — You have the chapters of my research. Check Armstrong to find if your 1900 date for the New York Herald is correct.

Par. 2 — As low as 5¢ admission was charged to see the body.

Par. 4 — No letters were received demanding that the Bates book be published.

P. 6 — Because of what is said later, on page 9, about laying away the material as of no timely interest, you had better end the sentence with "himself."

P. 7 — Better check chapter on Armstrong. I doubt whether you could say he confessed he was Booth unless his apparent acquiescence could be construed as a confession. I do not remember whether apoplexy was the cause of his death. I know it was stated that he took an overdose of morphine.

P. 8 — Bates' book mentions that John St. Helen and David George were one and the same person. You imply that the book was about St Helen as Booth. Nothing is known of St Helen's death. He left Granbury, Texas, in 1878 and disappeared. His confession to Bates was oral and none of it was written down until Bates brought out a book in 1907.

James R McCarthy November 26, 1940

P. 9 I did not find that St Helen and George were two different individuals. I could find no connection between the two, and do not believe that they were the same man but I doubt that I could prove it.

I fear the statement that all the material was laid away as being of no timely interest lets down the introduction that this was sufficiently interesting to cause many people to write letters.

* * * *

I haven't gone into detail about the various things questioned. You can easily check and correct them since you have my manuscript.

Your article is interestingly written. I hope that when it is published it doesn't bring another avalanche of letters down on my head.

Sincerely,

F L Black

FLB EGH
Enc

BB

405 East 54th Street,
NY City

November 23, 1940.

Dear Fred:

Attached is the second draft. This time I'll have to insist that you rush it back with corrections and suggestions as soon as possible, as I've already sent on to Esquire a copy of it for their informal study and suggestions. It is running a little too long so don't suggest any additions---I'd rather get suggestions on deletions!

Best,

Sincerely,

James Remington McCarthy