

7 Wellington Terrace,
Brookline, Mass.

October 11, 1923.

Mr. Worthington,
Clerk of Court,
Dedham, Massachusetts.

My dear Mr. Worthington:

In reference to our conversation last Saturday as to why Sacco and Vanzetti were so terrorized when picked up by the police and questioned "Are you a radical? Are you a Communist? Are you an Anarchist?" at the police station, and further why they refused to explain to the District Attorney the business that took them to West Bridgewater and Brockton and to give the names of fellow Italians, will you read the marked passages on pages one to eight and page twenty-one.

I am sure that you will be shocked at the statements to which you are referred - but please remember that they are made over the signatures of Dean Pound and Professor Chaffee of the Harvard Law School and other persons of equal standing. I personally knew of these terrible deeds by agents of the Department of Justice soon after they were perpetrated, as I attended the hearings held before a Federal Judge in the Federal Courtrooms and I heard the facts both testified to by the aliens who had suffered by them and in parts confessed to by the government's agents. And if you say that these aliens presumably exaggerated their mal-treatment, - you may be sure that they told a none the less lurid tale to their fellows who made no allowance for possible exaggerations.

The Judge ruled all reference to these facts out of court; but the defendants felt ^{that} in so doing he was ruling out facts which could be proved by documents of the highest authority and which completely disproved the "consciousness of guilt" which played so large a part in the conviction of the defendants.

Very truly yours,

Elizabeth G. Swaney

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