

Hollywood, Calif.,
April 28, 1943.

Dear Mr. Garlin:

Your booklet, *The Truth About Reader's Digest*, reached me today, and interested and will continue to interest me very much. I bought the magazine monthly—chiefly for its scientific digests—up to and including the first half of 1942. From about that time on I began to hear from friends of mine complaints concerning its anti-Soviet and pro-Fascist articles. Generally speaking I did not look at any of its material other than that relating to Science, but subsequent to that, and since there are ample sources of scientific data, I dropped it.

Just now, from reading your booklet, I gather the publication's true attitude and import. It is all so fascinatingly sly, and to my way of thinking, criminal—since plainly it labors to belittle our chief and most valuable ally, and to forward the desires of the capitalistic group in this country that seeks—and has sought from the very beginning—to establish money-plenty and money-authority for the few as opposed to poverty and slavery for the masses here as elsewhere on earth. How I despise their mentally stupid and wholly material standards, particularly since this in the day when the need for scarcity for any is gone and plenty for all is here. The pity of it is that they are mentally so thick—putting matter—show, clothes, houses—all material junk, before mind—the mind of a Shelley, for instance, or a Poe or Spencer or a Jefferson or Lincoln.

But, alas, it has to be fought out and will be. The children of the world will not always starve on five cent school lunches while the money-dunces gorge and show off from day to day and year to year.

Very truly,

THEODORE DREISER