

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Book Publisher Explains

World
Journal
Tribune
1-16-67

In the first sentence of your leading article "Jackie Comes Off Her Pedestal," you referred to the "enormous sums of money that are going to be made by Manchester, his publishers and Look."

As you know, we are the publishers of William Manchester's book "The Death of a President." As you should also know, we are not going to make "enormous sums of money."

On the contrary, when we accepted the Kennedy family's request to publish this book, it was clear that this would not be treated as an ordinary commercial publishing venture. Instead of the publisher and the author receiving the usual proceeds from the Harper publication, it was agreed that the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library would receive a substantial share of these proceeds.

Accordingly, the Harper share above costs and taxes, from all sources, including the Book-of-the-Month Club and paperback can only be 6 per cent on net receipts from the first 100,000 copies sold of the hardbound edition, regardless of how many copies are sold of any edition. Similarly, the Library receives a substantial portion of what would otherwise have gone to the author.

Please promptly correct the misstatement that you have made and make it plain that we undertook this work not to make an "enormous sum of money" but in memory of a great man and to enable the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library to receive a very substantial share of the proceeds.

CASS CANFIELD
Harper & Row Publishers,
Incorporated
Manhattan



Next Step

It is a great relief to view the conductors and stationmen of our transit system wearing their spiffy new uniforms.

Would it now be apropos for the powers that be to spiff up the trains and stations with a really good cleaning?

SIDNEY SAMPSON
Queens

Park Complex

In Marvin Sleeper's recent article about the proposed police precinct-riding stable complex in Central Park Arthur Rosenblatt of the parks department is quoted as saying it is "ridiculous" to think that the ulterior motive in building the new precinct is to provide an indoor polo field. If polo is not intended, why does the program call for space to house an office of the U.S. Polo Association?

Rosenblatt also says: "The need for the police precinct and stable for the police department's 250 horses is critical." I agree that there is critical need for new stables, but it cannot be demonstrated that there is either precedent or necessity for putting them in Central Park. The only element in the complex which belongs in the park is the 22nd precinct station

house. All the rest, including stables for 150 riding horses, have no valid claim to inclusion in the park.

As Commissioner Hoving said only last May: "The time has come to hold the line on further construction in Central Park, no matter how attractive it may appear at first." Amen!

RICHARDEDES HARRISON
Manhattan

Jarring Word

Many words have been written and spoken about the President's State of the Union speech. I shall not add to this plethora, except to ask why, when a man has achieved the pinnacle of honor in his job, he can not learn to pronounce the word "government"? When it reaches the listeners' ears as "gover-a-munt" it has an abrasive quality and makes one wonder if the President's advisers are deaf—or are they afraid to tell him?

HOPE SPARGER
Ridgewood, N.J.

Enlightening

Many thanks to Liz Smith for her wonderfully enlightening series. Her unbiased portrayal of Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy in relation to the controversial book will endear the late President's wife to all clear-thinking and compassionate people. The story shows Jackie Kennedy as a human being having faults with which all of us are endowed and which mankind must learn to control.

HERMAN JANSON
Brooklyn

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