

May 24, 1944

Mr. Vincent Salandria
 2226 Delancey Place
 Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Mr. Salandria,

Your encouraging and friendly note is of a kind I could have used more of lately, and I do thank you for it. Because you have worked in the same field and because we used some of the same material differently, I would like to hear from you after you have read the book.

As you will note, it was finished in mid-February 1944, except for a few small additions suggested by the very helpful Sylvia Hughes.

You may be interested in knowing that the first copies of the Epstein book are out. I had a brief glance at a proof copy today. In Washington, Viking was offering it to bookstores for June delivery last Monday, whether or not earlier.

If he did not tell you at the time, it was I who told Stephen Barber of the London Sunday Telegraph about your writing. Some copies you sent him, he sent to England. He has been very kind and most most helpful to me.

We have, as yet, arranged no distribution outside the Washington area. In Washington we do have a commercial distributor here. I have written to a number of the smaller magazines asking if they'd advertising the book to be compensated by either a commission on each order or by selling it for the bookstore's profit. To date I have not had a single acceptance, and only a few have responded, one rather un pleasantly. Your last sentence expresses a hope we sure would like to see happen, for we had to borrow the down payment for the printer and the balance is due in a month and we do not have it!

Thank you for your interest and order, which I'll mail in Washington early in the morning and save a day. If any other order, we'll mail the same day, but we live in the country, with one incoming and one outgoing mail daily, so the books we mail after mail time today will not go out until mail time tomorrow, and they will then not leave the area until tomorrow night! Not all the country, as you can see, has yet reached the 20th century! But when I go to Washington, which has been almost daily lately, I'll mail my orders there.

I have personally delivered copies to the correspondents for both the Bulletin and the Inquirer.

P.S. And we are letting bookstores have the book at normal discounts for hard-back and on consignment. The 10 I approached took 748 copies. The one I have been able to check is doing very well with them.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Hopkins