SOL RABKIN
315 LEXINGTON AVENUE • SUITE 900
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10016
MURRAY HILL 9-7400

March 23, 1966

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Coq d'Or Farm
Hyattstown, Maryland 20734

Dear Harold:

This is to acknowledge with thanks your letters of March 13 and 14.

First the information about your friends in Philadelphia is gratefully received but comes too late. Nancy quit her teaching job because she found working conditions impossible. She had from 12 to 20 children in a remedial arithmetic class. Remedial arithmetic needs personal attention to each child. She also had six classes during the day plus a building assignment and so had no free period whatsoever. Also she found herself getting very much involved with the children and becoming more and more furious at her inability to really work at improving the fundamental roots of the problems with which the children were faced. So she left.

Now she is back home living with us and is working in a small publishing firm which puts out trots and review outlines. She is learning much about the business and is meanwhile earning some money while awaiting the oncome of next September when she'll begin to take courses for her master's.

The information about the book is both heartening and disappointing. It's good to know that your rejection slips are so encouraging. I read with great interest the copy of the letter you received from Peter Clark of Farrar, Straus & Giroux, Inc. It's good to learn also that the book is still under consideration at Norton's. My reaction to the Fleet offer is that you should tell them to go to hell. Why should you have to guarantee a sale that will return them publication costs. Also the information about the New England publisher is exciting.

With respect to the information about Ivan, all I can say is that we have waited before initiating action against him until we can get your book published. This is a necessary prerequisite to any attempt

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to prove damages. If he should contend that the book is one which is not publishable, we are unable to answer that contention unless we can show that the book was published and that the delay resulted in damage to you aside from the additional expenses you had to incur. After all, the letters of agreement between you and Ivan are not absolute commitments to publish. Always such commitments are subject to the judgment of the publisher with respect to the publishability and saleability of the book.

Why is it that whenever you move into a new and exciting project such as this you seem to take hold of a bear by the tail?

Give my regards to Lil and our best wishes for her good health.

Sincerely,

Sol

Sol Rabkin

SR:mef