31 May 1972

HW:

A wild and probably far-fetched idea has occurred to us, that the man who sent you the Zuckerkandl card just conceivably could be the writer of the "Can Mr. Weisberg Translate" note. There is a certain air of "I know something you don't" about both that is difficult to dismiss. We know nothing of Zuckerkandl's promoter except what little you've indicated (and an earlier note on him you asked to have returned to you). Howevr it appears he is able to indulge a not inconsiderable capacity for fancy when he feels like it.

We have only a Xerox copy of the original note about the Constable from Barnstable, so a comparison of the two typewriters is inconclusive. There appear to be certain essential differences in the two type faces, but one would have to compare virgin originals to be sure, and Xerox can produce tricky effects. However the two faces are VERY similar in many respects. That of course proves nothing, as the writer of the Constable note probably used a machine which never could be identified with him. He used a separate machine to address the envelope, so we know he's the careful type.

Anyway, you might consider whether a new candidate for literary honors has turned up.

jdw31may72

See also 5/31/72