

4/18/71

Dear Bud and Jim,

Bernabei has responded to my inquiries about scopes and lenses with his usual thoroughness, not completely in accord with what I had learned from my local gunshop and believed from my own experience and, in fact, not entirely consistently with what he provided from Bausch and Lomb on Telescopic Sights. This says (p.11):

"Furthermore, by correct adjustment of eyepiece, you can correct for what are technically known as "spherical defects" of vision - nearsightedness or farsightedness." This same paragraph also emphasizes at a later point, "correctly adjusted to the eye", which I take to be confirmation of my point. I read the first quote to mean that the scope requires individual adjustment to the "spherical defect". I do not mean and Dick also says this does not mean an unadjusted scope cannot be used by a nearsighted man. But it does slow him down, for he has to move his head backward and forward to begin with.

On another subject, Sprague has written me about doing an article for Berkeley. I will not, nor do I want anyone else to with my book's contents. If Berkeley wants to use space for this purpose, a proper review of the book can accomplish all legitimate purposes. He said something similar to you, suggesting that Flammondé practise his old craft, etc.

With all there is in this book, and with all the shit that others spread, I would be apprehensive of any other approach as I would wonder at its motive. Abridged versions of the Publisher's Weekly and Saturday Review reviews ought be adequate.

I did not think of discussing this with Dick last night. What time we had together and in relative private I thought it more important to use for others purposes, of which I informed Jim.

It was a good party. We enjoyed it, even if it meant we didn't get to bed until 4:30. We were glad to see everyone, but especially Mary, who we haven't seen since last summer.

Best,