

Dear Lasse Larsen,

ZZZZZ 4/1/91

I drop everything to express my sincere appreciation for the book "Escape in Denmark." I am quite pleased to have it and will begin reading it in the morning.

But first you need not apologize for your English. It is perfect in your letter as is your typing, with a single typo, a "c" for an "s" in "Shocking."

I don't recall what if anything I said that could have led you to send me this welcome book but in the event I did not mention it, Olaf Seidenfaden was a dear friend of ours. As I recall what he told my wife and me many years ago it is that his uncle, then ~~Denmark~~ Copenhagen's chief of police, more or less organized the rescue of Denmark's Jews. By which he meant has at the least a leading role in that great and dangerous humanitarianism.

As I open the first pages I notice a favorable comment attributed to the Wilmington News. In my youth I worked for that paper. It then was known as the Morning News to distinguish it from the evening sister paper.

One of my best friends then was the son of expatriot Danes and if I recall correctly, political refugees, perhaps because they were anti-royalist. The name was Borup. James was the only son of a wonderful couple whose faces I still see clearly after more than 60 years but whose names I do not recall. Living with them was a nephew named Lorenz, known as "Duke," the only first name I recall. Mr. Borup was an engineer who had, as again I think I recall correctly, ~~and~~ helped Mergenthaler invent the linotype machine.

I mention these names in the event ~~as~~ they mean anything to you.

It is a fine inscription and an appropriate one that in time will also remind students in the fine local small college where all I have will be a permanent free archive of a well-turned expression by a great American. I have, alas, lived such experiences as the country did simultaneously and since the beginning of my work.

From the time those who founded our country enunciated and enacted those great principles you refer to those opposed to them, meaning those of power and influence who wanted more power, more influence and greater wealth, have whittled away at them.

I begin each morning by a program of limited walking, limited because my capabilities are limited. I walk until I must rest and then - read. I repeat this for usually 1 1/2 hours or more. I prefer ^asmall book for the resting, which is now usually in my car but in bad weather is inside a shopping mall not far away. So the small size makes the fine gift even handier.

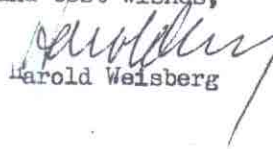
With regard to the difficulties and hardships mentioned in the preface, you may be interested in knowing that Dell, having rejected the book three times, came to me to reprint it in that format. And, despite all, it was possible for me to bring the book out myself when I was broke and in debt. This is to say that for those who are determined self-publishing is possible, if the least attractive and successful publishing.

Our principles remain at least on paper what they were and they are good principles but the practise has changed so much!

There were also official improprieties for which I do not take time but as you can see we've survived them, too.

I also appreciate your letter very much.

Thanks and best wishes,


Harold Weisberg

Publisher Harold Weisberg
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Dear Harold Weisberg.

Dragør 20/3-91

Just to inform you that I have just received the books I ordered from you, and I thank you for this and your kind dedication. On a first glance on the volumes, I can see that there will be a lot of reading for me, which I look very much forward too.

To give you some preliminary comments on your, as I see it, excellent work, I can tell you that after reading the "Preface" on the first volume, I was in a kind of chock and disbelief. I have always believed that United States was a country, where a free press and free speech for every man, which is included in your constitution in the "Bill of Rights", was essential for the Government and the press in your country, as well as publishers. But after reading about your great efforts for getting your books published, I must say that my admiration for U.S.A. is getting a little bit shaken.

As I believe that you are interested in history, I found among my old books a story from the German occupation of Denmark. Please accept it as a small souvenir from me.

I hope I am still free to write to you, if I have some comments regarding your books.

Yours sincerely

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P.S. Please excuse me if my english is not always correct.