

Book Publisher 'Glad' to Settle On Look Terms

TWO VIEWS OF THE CASE:

*Larry Van Gelder—Page 14; Jimmy Breslin
on Page 25.*

By JOHN MOLLESON

World Journal Tribune Staff

Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy was within sight of total victory today in her battle to withhold passages she considers personal from William Manchester's book "The Death of a President."

The chief counsel for Harper & Row, which plans to publish a 300,000-word hard-cover edition on April 7, said today the firm "will be very glad to settle the controversy along the lines of Mrs. Kennedy's out-of-court agreement with Look Magazine last night.

One of the highest officials at Look termed yesterday's settlement a total capitulation to Mrs. Kennedy.

Shortly after Look reached accord on an 80,000-word, four-part serialization of the book to start in its Jan. 21 issue, which hits the newstands on Jan. 10, Edward S. Greenbaum, Harper & Row's attorney, said:

"Harper & Row will be very glad to make a similar arrangement with Mrs. Kennedy."

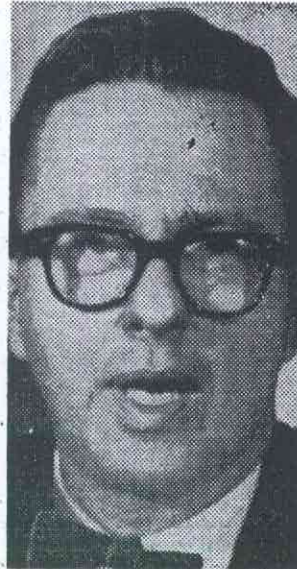
REQUEST CONFERENCE

The publishing firm's officials requested a conference today with former Federal Judge Simon H. Rifkind, Mrs. Kennedy's attorney.

Rifkind said of Greenbaum's peace offer: "I'm glad to hear that. It shows he's interested in reaching an agreement."

The atmosphere for final settlement was eased when Harper & Row and Manchester—the remaining defendants in Mrs. Kennedy's Supreme Court suit to block publication of the book—were given a day's delay for the filing of legal answers to her injunction petition.

Another hopeful sign was a statement by Gardner Cowles, editorial chairman of Look, that Cass Canfield, chairman of Harper & Row, took part in some of the talks that led to the Look agreement and was



Associated Press Photo

WILLIAM ATTWOOD

"extremely helpful in the discussion concerning the serialization."

Cowles said the disputed passages amounted to some 1,600 words out of the total 80,000 words Look will serialize.

Sources close to the Kennedys said the 1,600 controversial words were deleted.

"These changes . . . in no way affected the historical accuracy or completeness of Mr. Manchester's manuscript," Cowles said. "They concern only the passages to which Mrs. Kennedy objected on personal grounds."

Mrs. Kennedy's first-round

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A Total Victory for Jackie

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victory was announced shortly before midnight last night, ending a six-hour vigil of reporters gathered in the office of her attorney at 575 Madison Ave. Both sides said they were satisfied with the way things turned out, but they were clearly exhausted by the intense negotiation.

In a statement released to reporters, Mrs. Kennedy said Look had agreed to remove or modify all passages relating to and her children.

"These paragraphs were the sole reasons for the initiation of her legal action," the statement said.

"We are satisfied with the outcome of the discussion," Cowles continued.

"Mr. Manchester's book is a report of great value and meaning for all Americans. I am glad this dispute is behind us and that there has been no

censorship of history . . . Mr. Manchester's superb job of reporting remains intact."

DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

Although members of the Kennedy family chose Manchester to be the sole historian who would have access to their versions of John F. Kennedy's assassination, Mrs. Kennedy's statement expressed disagreement with the manuscript's treatment of history.

"I have been told there are historical inaccuracies and unfair references in this book. That they have been written is unfortunate," Mrs. Kennedy said.

"However, it was clear before bringing this suit that historical judgements, even if inaccurate, could not properly be suppressed by a court of law. In time, history will deal fairly and justly with this period," she stated.

That portion of her state-

ment alone was enclosed in quotation marks and included the personal pronoun. Presumably it refers to passages in the book which are reported to describe antagonisms between the Kennedys in their hours of grief and President Johnson.

In those words, Mrs. Kennedy disassociated the Kennedys from Manchester's interpretation of all the events in the story of the assassination, and removed any suggestion that Manchester's book is an "authorized" history.

NO APPROVAL

"Neither Mrs. Kennedy nor Sen. Robert F. Kennedy has in any way approved or endorsed the material in the Look articles . . . The author, William Manchester, and the publisher of Look magazine have assumed complete and sole responsibility," she said.

"Since every passage of a personal nature under contention for several months was either deleted by Look or changed to her satisfaction, Mrs. Kennedy has withdrawn her suit," the statement said.

A disclaimer that any member of the Kennedy family "has in any way approved or endorsed material appearing in Look's serialization" was also voiced by Cowles.

Sources close to Mrs. Kennedy said the deleted material came mainly from the 10-hour

tape-recorded interview given by Mrs. Kennedy to Manchester—"the private thoughts and reactions of Mrs. Kennedy and her children."

12 DISPUTED PASSAGES

In all, 12 passages were said to have been in dispute. Many of the changes were worked out in the last 48 hours, in meetings at Look magazine offices, 488 Madison Ave. participants included Richard N. Goodwin, former aide of President Kennedy and Johnson, John Siegenthaler, editor of the Nashville Tennessean, and Judge Rifkind — representing Mrs. Kennedy.

Representatives for Look included Cowles, William Attwood, editor-in-chief of Look, and members of his staff, and Judge David Peck, Cowles' attorney.

Mrs. Kennedy did not take part in the talks, but she was informed of the progress. So, presumably, was Manchester, whose words were at stake in the negotiation.

Kennedy sources described the negotiations as "friendly" though they required a great deal of "patience." Often the discussion centered on "the best way and the gentlest way to remove passages without disrupting the flow of the manuscript," the sources said. But "nothing objectionable to Mrs. Kennedy was left in."