

Dear Dennis,

1/7/96

When your welcome letter of the 3rd came yesterday I thought I'd relax the rest of the day with the football playoffs and respond when I awakened this morning. But instead, as in the recent past, I returned to what I am writing about Mark Brown and his Treason in Dallas. I was chugging along well when suddenly I realized that a few pages had flipped over and I had to go over the last I'd done and make insertions. After doing that, recognizing the many current stresses, I decided to let that wait until the morning when at least physically I should be a little fresher. Perhaps soon I'll return to the writing, probably again until the football games go on.

We are about a third of the way into a major blizzard and I have a few new medical concerns. The prediction for us is up to 30" and the wind is 25-30 mph. I looked at TV for a while and they made, not a single station, any reference to drifting. While the wind seems to be circling, most of it is from the direction of the road. I can visualize for the morning heavy drifting in the lane and with the daytime temperature only 10 there will be little or no melting. In addition, by the time the county make repeated trips to clear the road the end of the lane will be packed with the high piles from the road and that also will confine us. I know of nobody near here who has the kind of snow blower that will require. So, I'm uneasy.

Tuesday I went to the dentist because there was a slight pressure pain in a tooth when I chewed on it. I have to premedicate two hours before he sees me and makes any examination and six hours after that doze. I'd forgotten until it happened but after many trouble-free years in doing this with Erythromycin last time I thought I'd begun to react to it. He then told me wait and see next time and he forgot, too. So, the next day I was nauseous with my stomach and bowels upset. He changed the form of that medication to a slow-release and told me to take it with meals rather than before them. That seems to be working but it has upset all my routines. I have to eat now four times a day and not one of those times, <sup>is</sup> mealtime for me. I've still four or five days of that, five if we cannot include the two doses he told me to skip as ~~not~~ counting.

Meanwhile, with all that disconcerting on Wednesday, I forgot to take my Coumadin that day. That threw the protime off so the dosage was increased. So, now I'm faced with not having the test tomorrow, maybe not on Tuesday, and I know what I'll have to do to avoid the possibility of hemorrhaging, reduce the dosage. That can make it too low.

I don't think that is why I skipped those few pages. I think I'd removed the weight from them and forgot to replace it and it just happened. But if my stomach settles down with this weather I should make good time on it tomorrow and the next day at least. The book is so bad it is not easy to describe how bad without seeming to be excessive. In fact I'm already skipping many criticisms I'd noted on the pages. And he

a history PhD who told me he'd been an FBI agent,

This is a very powdery, dry snow. That is bad for ~~the~~ drifts but good for not losing power. ~~If~~ we do not lose it we should be OK.

I'd kept the boxed reprint you sent in the box and exactly as you had it. I looked through it once and found Deck's note about the other disk. I'll package it and mail it when I can. I plan to do the packaging today, to one of the games.

I understand what you say about Deck and originals but I'm an old fogey who believes that <sup>just</sup> only the original original is the original and all else is copies. I still cannot understand why she refused <sup>to</sup> provide the original original and caused all this extra work and trouble. And waste of time.

You say it has been many years since you had a winter like this one. And it is just beginning. What we are getting may visit you, too. It is coming from the south.

At this point Dave phoned. He is about finished his revision of his paper for the Indians. It is about 300 pages. Should make an important and worthwhile book.

The <sup>writer</sup> type ribbon I ordered is to be in the store tomorrow. It might as well be in Zanzibar. They no longer stock them around here.

Glad you said you'd be home for 15 days. I'll send the printout to your home.

And now back to Mark Brown.

Thanks for your good wishes. I suppose that with all that's wrong with me I'm doing about as well as I could hope. Lil's major problem is a hip that needs replacing and she has not decided on that. At 83 it is no easy decision. I'd hoped she would have had it done immediately and would now be enjoying the benefit of it. I think she may have in mind having it done after the tax season. I hope so. A fall for her could be disastrous.

I hope you both have a good year ahead and

A neighbor who has a blade for his pickup came <sup>thanks,</sup> and plowed the lane. That should help when this is <sup>Hard</sup> over because the depth on the lane will not be a great. But from the looks of my car, through the office window, we then had much more snow. He'd cleaned it off and although it is protected in the carport there is <sup>quite</sup> a bit on the trunk again. With luck a blade should be able to clear it enough. I'd feared I'd need a professional, snowblower and do not know of one nearby.

DENNIS & NANCY MACDONALD  
188 MILFORD STREET  
MANCHESTER, NH 03102  
(603)644-5835

January 3, 1996

Harold Weisberg  
7627 Old Receiver Road  
Frederick, MD. 21702

Dear Harold:

Finally — some good news from the word processing front! The diskettes from Carol Deck that you recently forwarded to me appear to contain the complete versions of the chapters that were fragments on the original diskettes that she sent.

There was a problem on two of the larger diskettes, but I believe that I was nonetheless able to recover the text from them using a disk utility program. I will make copies of all and send them all back to you.

Carol Deck is in some sense correct in stating that there are not "original disks." It is not an uncommon practice to have the revised file replace the original on the diskette. However, Carol did have several versions of the same material. This also is not uncommon. Especially when one is doing the work on more than one computer — as many of us do, having computers at work and at home. It is often the case that we "load" the computerized files onto the computer's hard disk since most programs work better that way and copy them back to diskette only for transporting them back and forth between home and work.

At this point, I am afraid that you need to send back to us the chapters that I indicated were not complete so that we can make the corrections and print out the updated versions. I believe that these are: Preface, Chapter 2, Chapter 4, Chapter 5, Chapter 11, Chapter 16 and 16a, Chapter 19, and Chapter 17. If it is easier to return the entire package that I sent, that would be fine. But, I really only need the sections indicated above.

I am currently enjoying a couple weeks off from teaching. We return to classes on the 15th of January.

We were clobbered by another snow storm today. We seem to have gotten about a foot of fresh snow. It's been many years since we've had a winter like this!

Hope all is well with you both.

Best wishes for the new year!

Sincerely,



Dennis