

10/26/95

Dear Bill,

After you and Joe left I finished the letter I'd started as soon as you had this typewriter unboxed. I now have much to catch up on and day after tomorrow and the day after that friends are coming. But I want to give you this sample of how I'm making out with this Olympia because it is encouraging! I can use it and I think with more use will do better with it. So thank you very much!!!

I did find the backspacer when I got to thinking and realized that I'd seen it and that it is obvious. I found out how to change the touch and have it at the point that requires least pressure and that made a real difference. I think I see how to change the margins but I'll not do that for a while. I did set a tab and know how that works. I do not see how to change the ribbon setting, from this to stencil to red but do not anticipate having to know that so I'm not going to try to figure that out. I think I see where to change from single space and soon will try that. I just want to give you a sample of how it is to begin with to include when we send the books. I think it will get better with more use and experience with it. On the left side as you face the keyboard are two stainless or plated gadgets, the one closer to the back seeming to be what is pressed down for some purpose and in front of that what is hooked behind a clearly visible hook. When you see your friend from whom you got this will you please ask him what they are for? I may want to know sometime. And thank him for what seems to be a first-class job of going over it. It looks like a new machine!

Tried the change in spacing and it works as I thought it would.

There are so many things I've done mechanically for so many years and so many millions of words it will take me some time to get to where I can go faster with this machine but it is clear that I can use it and it is the first of many I've tried that I can. I do appreciate your thoughtfulness very much and thank you for it!

I intend doing what I said yesterday, using this for short letters and little by little get more used to it and what it requires, like a change in touch and learning where the few things I'll use are, meaning learning to use them mechanically, like the back spacer. Doing what I did on the Hermes has me hit the tab key instead.

We are glad you came, glad to have met you and Bill and again thank you for your thoughtfulness and your kindnesses.

I'm glad, too, that you took time to make copies of some of those records.

Most people never get to see them and have no way of learning what can be learned from them.

It may not be easy to read the ms. when you get to that but I think that you'll get enough out of it, especially if you read Post Mortem first.

Now before getting to work and switching to what I can use much, much faster I'll get to know it a bit better writing to Hal Verb to tell him what to expect.

Again thanks and our best to you all.

I've just learned by accident ^{how} not to clear the tabs! I did not intend that. Until I find how to loosen the paper to remove it I can just roll it out.

Harold