

Clayton Ogilvie
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2/1/98

Dear Clay,

The further I get into the Crown manuscript the more I realize that it is an extraordinarily nasty thing to try to read. I write to apologize and to thank you again and to explain, if I didn't. There are a number of causes.

Beginning with how bad my typing and writing are. For more than 20 years I've been to keep my legs up, horizontal, whenever possible when not on them. For the past two years keeping my left foot as high as my heart was added. It is an awkward position, especially for typing. Makes it worse. And I read and correct with the copy of a clipboard that I hold in my left hand and write on with my right. Can't use a desk as people do. Now ~~the~~ typewriter ribbons are not used much. The largest office supply store in town, part of one of the largest national chains, does not have them. I'd been getting them from a store that ordered them when I ordered them and for several years their wholesaler had only stale ribbons that had begun to dry out. It was not until this store closed that I was forced to try going downtown again and lo! where it had always been a problem, could I park and then could that be close enough to that store I'd used for years, I saw the terrible revolution that killed the downtown: plenty of parking, nobody there!

That was not the original rough draft. It was not a good copy that the man who said he'd do the retyping made for himself and then sent me when I told him I'd not gotten what he said he sent. I think I did explain that. He had it punched and in a notebook, thus those holes.

Please let me know ^{when} ~~can~~ you think you'll be finished what you are retyping so I can get this there by then but not before then to clutter you up. And if you've any appreciable part of the second manuscript retyped, please send that so I can read and correct it as soon as that is possible.

I had no idea the copy was as poor as it is or I'd certainly have told you.

I'm sorry it was so difficult and I am ever more appreciative because it was so much more difficult and I suspect disagreeable.

Many thanks and best wishes,

Harold