

1/21/37

Dear Dave,

Only the fact that my mother lives next door to Nat Rosbrow keeps me from writing Ed and telling him he is the most miserable wretch I have de lth with. I'd appreciate it if, when you see him, you tell him, quietly and firmly. You can do it without passion, which I cannot.

He returned copies of WHITEHEAD when he got the Dell book, just throwing them into a box that was too large. All were unsalesble when we got them (and we are still selling them as are the wholesalers, one of whom had an order for 200 two weeks ago). I'll gave him full credit for them but told him (thinking he should know) that with a box so much too large all the books were ruined.

Yesterday he returned 15 copies of WHITEHEAD II. This time he didn't use too large a box. He just jammed it so full of extre and unnecessary stuffing that he ruined the books on each end every one of them! So these, too, are entirely unsalesble. And accompanying it was this note: "I cannot be sure the return will suit you when it is time to send them back. So to be sure, you take them now, and we wont have to worry".

When I think that because I was away on a speaking trip and my wife spent all the hours she did, ruining her hands making packages so some of the store that had done okay with the first book could have them, and that she went to this trouble for him so he could hav them to begin with and not have to get them from a wholesaler (and he could have the benefit of the additional discount), + really boil that a man who is so entirely without responsibility can go so far out of his way to hurt those who tried to help him.

What the hell did he expect when he just tossed the books into too large a box? If he handles books, he knows they cannot be shipped that way. He wasn't entitled to any refund because he returned nothing salesble. So then he ruins another 15!

Can wonder the wholesalers are such skunks. How can they survive if they have to deal with men like him unless they cheat to begin with!

We've been so busy I haven't been able to catch up on anything. I haven't even been able to find out how many we sent you. When you can, please let us know and we can save that much work.

The Dell book became their sixth best seller in its first month, before they did any advertising. They've arranged by a single appearance for me. I debated that bastard Louis Nizer on WOR Thursday in a four-hour special to be repeated some night soon. Now Dell is advertising and by the time they give me an accounting in April we'll have a little money coming to us.

My best to you all. Hope we can see you soon. Have a good year.

Sincerely,