

4/12/71

Dear Jim,

The three enclosures with your 4/8 are helpful because nobody else sent them to me and I am glad to have them as a matter of record.

This is the first Time the book section of the Times has acknowledged publication of any of my books. The record of the set confrontation with Foreman may be deceptive, for it is likely they didn't tell him, but it does constitute proof that he ~~app~~ agreed to appear on the station. And how interesting the downplay of the confrontation with Huie and Dwyer, in a show that was edited by close to ~~há~~^{LF}, with the only promos of which I know of Huie libelling me, worse, out of any context.

As you know by now, I am truly delighted with the Sony. I expect to see Oreste Pena soon, possibly at the Washington of Ba;timore airport, and will take it then. There was no yellow switch in the package, and I'll soon be writing Sony about that and to make inquiry about some of the extras. One of the questions I'll want to know is whether the external mike increases the range of what can be picked up, another is the cost of the footswitch, another is the availability of adapter plugs, so that, for example, I might use my (very good) Concord mikes as the external one, or the extra with my Voice of Music cassette machine, added by accident once when the machine was repaired. And I know that when I have the \$\$\$, I'll be getting the patchcords, for direct dubbing and for pickup from radio, TV, which I now do, when I do it, with a mike.

I have to write an unpleasant letter to the publishers about money today. I've not gotten my "advance", asked again last week for at least enough to pay the interest at the bank, was promised this much, and since have had only silence. I am going to have to make a decision pretty soon, and I suspect it will be to let them carry the weight of the book that to date I've been carrying. I haven't had a single word from them on ads or promos, I've asked repeatedly for their plans for this, and have had no word. I made it clear to begin with that this would be intolerable, and I will now also have to make it clear that I expect them to begin to abide by the contract (of which they have yet to return my copy!).

Glad to hear of Hal. I'll write him as soon as I can.

Today, for the first/ time, really, in almost a year, I feel genuine physical tiredness. I planted three more trees in shale yesterday, meaning both pick and shovel, dug up topsoil, carted it and copious buckets of water in, resulting in all-over ache, even in the chest. It is good for me, but right now I don't feel like it is.

Perhaps it is a waste of time to write such letters as that I did about Barkham's finkery. Perhaps I ought take more time preparing them. But experience tells me these never become good guys and then can and often do become silent ones. And, there is always the chance the syndicate will distribute my denunciation. Certainly if, as I hear, it is The Saturday Review there ought be some chance. I used to know about Barkham years ago, but I've forgotten. Somehow I have the notion that he is black.

Thanks again,

