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December 11, 1964

Re: Gabriella Mistral

Dear Madame Bradley,

I am most grateful for your prompt and detailed response to my letter of November 13 concerning the French-language edition of Mistral poems. I can see from the photostats sent that Gabriella indeed gave Mathilde Pomes permission not only to translate the poetry but also to handle the contract negotiations with a publisher. I note that her letter confirming this arrangement does not mention anything about a division of revenue, but I cannot believe that Mlle. Pomes constructed this in good faith as an indication that all monies derived from a publication of the author's work should go to her in full.

I gather from your letter that there exists but one volume of poems which Mlle. Pomes translated; even if it did not sell too well, there must have been royalties, statements and payments, and there were presumably also subsidiary uses and payments. Neither the author nor her estate ever shared in any of this revenue, nor were they ever informed of sales, receipts, etc.

I note that the contract between Mathilde Pomes and Stock stipulates that the rights reverted if their edition remained out of print for more than a year, and I am wondering whether the Stock edition was continuously in print since it was published sometime in 1946. In any case I gather that Stock are still representing the rights since I am told that they have already granted permission to Romaldi for the publication of the poems within the Romaldi series of Nobel Prize winners. Would you kindly check whether this information is accurate and whether, if it is, we can get information regarding the terms and can persuade Stock to withhold payments to Mlle. Pomes until we have cleared up this curious situation.

Your comments regarding the Romaldi project give me food for thought since I have a feeling that you are not entirely enthusiastic about it. I have just been asked to give approval for a Romaldi plan to publish Mistral poems in the German language within the scope of this same project, and if you have any information which should be useful in this connection, I would greatly appreciate knowing about it.

I had not been aware of the Callinard edition of Mistral poems, translated by Roger Callinard; perhaps Miss Doris Dana, the executrix of the Mistral estate, has some further information on this. Miss Dana is in South America until January, and upon her return to New York I shall take up this matter and the question of what we might do to come to a retroactive settlement with Mlle. Pomes.

Sincerely,

Joan Daves/rn
cc: Doris Dana

Madame William Aspenwall Bradley

[Carta] 1964 Dec. 11, [EE.UU.] [a] Madame Bradley
[manuscrito] Joan Daves.

AUTORÍA

Daves, Joan

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