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October 12, 1971

Mrs. Helen Glannon
Adult Services Librarian
The Bryant Library
Paper Mill Road
Roslyn, N. Y. 11576

Dear Mrs. Glannon:

In assigning books for review it is our policy to consider the potential reviewer's academic background, special knowledge of an area, experience, and interests, not just his present job title. That policy was followed in assigning Dana's translation of the poems of Mistral. With reference to the question in your letters received by Miss Serebnick and John Berry (the current Editor-in-Chief): it is hardly unusual that there will be disagreement among "highly qualified" reviewers of any work. As a reader of English poetry who did examine the translation in question, I myself can only say that I did not find Priscilla Whitmore's judgment unfair. As poems to be read in English, many of them do suffer from flatness in phrasing.

We are always happy to receive readers' reactions to our reviews, and we want to thank you for taking the time to write to us.

Yours Sincerely,

Janet Fletcher
Associate Editor
The Book Review

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