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JOAN DAVES

CABLE: JODABOOKS

145 EAST 49 STREET/NEW YORK 17, N. Y./PLAZA 9-6250

December 16, 1966

Dear Doris,

I am awfully glad to have re-established contact with you; it was so good to see you the other night and I hope that we can get together soon for a leisurely afternoon or evening. I shall be most interested in hearing more about your new venture and, of course, about your trip.

I have written you during the past few months variously to Pound Ridge, Tannersville and Paris. There are many pending items which we should take up before too long; it would be easiest to do so during a session in the office but, if your schedule does not allow for this, I would write to you separately about the various matters.

As I mentioned when I saw you, the most important is the Italian contract which I have approved on your behalf but which I should like to check with you and have signed by you. I am not quite sure just what you meant when you spoke of some publication having taken place in Italy; I know you were aware that some Italian publishers have claimed that the various Mistral poetry volumes were out of print because of the place of original publication and the copyright arrangements (or lack of them) between Italy and the countries of first publication. You had started to investigate this through your South American contacts.

Since I don't know just which of my letters actually did reach you, let me summarize briefly the situation as of now: earlier in the year I had been negotiating with the Italian publisher, Fabbri, for the rights to publish Italian editions of the Mistral poetry. The negotiations were lengthy but finally I had in hand Fabbri's offer which amounted to a total guaranteed sum of \$10,000. Within days of their offer there came a cable withdrawing it. Fabbri never explained themselves but through my Italian associate I learned that their lawyers were of the opinion that the greater part of the material they wanted to buy was in the public domain anyway. This is when we started to investigate the copyright angle.

In the meantime, my Italian associate was able to pick up negotiations with another publisher, the Club de Editore. This led to an offer from them which came to me on October 10th. The offer guaranteed a total revenue of \$10,750, an excellent one as I detailed to you by letter. I had set up the contracts but have been holding them for your signature. They will come to you separately and I would ask you to look at them right away and return all copies to me with your initials and signature as indicated. Call me, of course, if there are any questions you might have.

Yours,

Joan Daves:ash

Miss Doris Dana  
Hack Green Road  
Pound Ridge, N.Y.

Member of the SOCIETY OF AUTHOR'S REPRESENTATIVES

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