

Fabel Aug. 27th

Dear Mr Follett,

Thanks a million for your rlast explanations. You dont know how previous is your help. Sure a translator has problems and more so if he tries to understand completely what he is doing - which is my case. Being a retired newspaperman I always want to know - in order, if necessary, to explain to your future French readers. Do you reading French, by the way? Living in France, I suspect you do, no? If you do I would love very much to have your impression on the book when it's published, about the end of this year, I guess.

I just reached this morning page 156 of your novel - the middle, if you please! - and I expect to respect the date-limit of Oct. 15th fixed by Laffont with God's help and yours.

And now here's my list of queries for to-day.

P. 75 - they have "hearts" for lunch. WOuld it be mutton's hearts?

-- 79 - Blogg's melodramatic hat. So far I translated by: son chapeau a la Humprhey Bogart. OK?

Or it there another meaning?

P. 85 - Combined forces of G. B. & U.S.A. - I wrote: les Allies, because of the French readers who knows that Gal. Montsabert [Note: General Monsabert] also was there with Moroccans & French soldiers.

-- 86 - "Corsos" - Are they Cortican?

-- 88 - you lucky sod - Does that mean: Irish, peasant, or drunkard? Not knowing exactly, I wrote: Il n'y a de la veine que pour la canaille! A French friendly expression. OK? Or please let me know what a sod is anyway.

--123 - ARO warden. Is that Air Raid Patrol?

--141 - Oxford Union. A club of former students?

- Tatler = still the society magazine?

- What is the function of a Lord-Lieutenant?

P. 141. he stood in three by-elections. Did he run for office in what we call here: une election partielle?

P. 148. Donkey jacket? Search me, I haven't the faintest idea of what it is.

149. Corn store. Is it what we call: un grainetier?

--- And, at last, a Morris Cowley Bull nose. So i have to translate Cowley (couldn't find it anywhere, Harrah's, Webster...) or may I let it go as: une Morris? But I would like to know what a Cowley Bullnose is anyway. For the time being I wrote: a Morris decapotable.

This is a rather long list and I must apologize but you dont have to answer at great length, a

few words to the point will do.

Am I forgiven as I hope? I may look a bit like a perfectionist but it's what I am, for my sins.

Hope your new novel is going fine and looking forward for your answer.

Yours with my best

R Bre

Robert BRE

Fabel

[Street address redacted]