

The Countryman Press, Inc.

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April 23, 1991

(Quoted STG 191)

Mr. Datus C. Proper
Foreign Service Officer (ret.)
c/o The Foreign Service Lounge
Department of State
Washington, DC 20520



Countryman
Press

Dear Mr. Proper:

As a fellow retired Foreign Service Officer, I thought I would drop you a line and let you know about the publishing business I am involved in here in Vermont. I have been aware of your outstanding writing on trout and fishing for some years now, and I was reminded of it--and of your versatility--late last year when I read Christopher Lehmann-Haupt's excellent review in the New York Times of your Pheasants of the Mind.



Foul Play
Press

The Countryman Press, the company of which I am part owner, is in the process of developing a line of books on fishing, and we have a special interest in trout (reflecting my own interest in fly fishing). We published Charlie Meck's most recent book, Pennsylvania Trout Streams, and in a few months will bring out his new book on fishing small streams. We have other fishing books, both regional and general, in the works. I am enclosing our catalog to give you an idea of the range of books we publish.



Backcountry
Publications

I realize that your books have generally been published by such New York publishers as Knopf and Prentice Hall, but I wanted to let you know that if you have any manuscripts--or ideas in mind--which might not be as suitable for the big publishers, I hope you might consider us as a potential publisher. We have a sales force which covers the entire U.S. and Canada and a skilled telemarketing operation which markets effectively to sports stores and other non-book outlets. And I think many of our authors find that as an independent publisher, we can offer a two-way relationship and a level of collaboration with our authors that few larger publishers can match.

It is always gratifying to see other retired Foreign Service Officers with fulfilling second careers, and I wish you continued success in your writing career--and the fishing and hunting that goes with it!

Sincerely,

Carl Taylor
Editor-in-Chief

Eagle Buckets

Post Office Box 925, Jackson, MI 49204 FAX: 517-782-7442 TEL: 517-787-0385

7 FEB 90

DEAR DAD:

Certainly enjoyed our evening together.

Just purchased ticket to return 18 APRIL for a week. Carol hasn't talked herself into the APRIL TRIP YET, BUT I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF SHE CAME. SHE WILL NEED TO DECIDE ON A PROJECT, AS WE (BILL STEERE + I) PLAN TO FISH.

GREETINGS TO ANNA + SCOTTY.

BEST REGARDS

Tom

rec'd. check for \$500
for Winston Rod

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

ITHACA, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

March 14, 1956

Dear Prose:

Your "First Wind of Winter" in Cornell Writer has given me much pleasure. It reminds me a little of Hemingway's early stories, but it is genuine and vivid in its own right — not second-hand. The narrative description has lots of color and feeling. The use of first person can be defended here by the tone; your reader can live over what the writer experienced and even ~~can~~ like the writer at the same time.

Go on!

Harold Thompson

1252 Ellis Hollow Rd.
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
October 7, 1996

Dear Mr. Proper,

I recently reread your wonderful book, What the Trout Said, and noted that you invited readers to let you know about omissions and corrections. I'd like to send along a couple of small historical notes.

Cutcliffe advocated fishing upstream. Between pages 110 and 114 there are several references to this. It seems strange to be fishing flies that are heavily hackled with stiff feathers, in the upstream direction. Possibly the water in Devon streams ran rapidly enough to make such flies like-like? Leisenring mentions in his book that one should use "hackles of stiff fibers for swift, fast water..."

Stewart tied the feathers for his spiders in by their stem. On page ⁹²~~85~~, he writes, "take the feather, and laying it on with the root end towards the bend of the hook, wrap the silk three or four times round it, and then cut off the root end." This allows the more flexible tip to be twisted around the thread and palmered back along the hook.

Sincerely yours,
Ed Thomas

Over

Replied 10/15/96. Said I couldn't
get into these problems now but
would if there is a chance for a
corrected edition. Thanked him
for good suggestion.

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