

November 28, 1953

Dear Ethel McCoy;

It was good to have the nice chats with you at the ASDA show.

I have taken my co-laborer from other work and he will search for the Robey correspondence until it is found. I re-check of the "R" file shows the letters are not there, as I told you. But I have seen them in quite recent years and know they are here. They would never have been thrown away intentionally as I had in mind printing the story of my connection with the find myself sometime.

I have told few people about it and the only time I recall mentioning it publicly was at a dinner of one of the airmail societies in New York at the time of the 1947 show, at which time I learned of Vincent Domanski's connection with the matter. I believe he furnished part or all of the money by which the Philadelphia group purchased Robey's sheet. Percy Mann, who was one of the five dealers Robey approached, did not have that kind of money.

Two of the other dealers were Wendover Neefus and A.B. ("Useless") Power. I do not recall who was the fifth dealer, but I know he was not alive in 1947, as I was surprised to learn that any of the Philadelphia group were living. In fact, other than Percy Mann, I never knew who put up the money, *or were in the group.*

In re the Carrier Book, there is a small deficit in the fund at this time but a \$50 check was forced on it at the show, which will help. The facts are that with so many other matters to keep going I have not been able to get out the invitations to donate fast enough to keep ahead of the expenses.

However, 29 chapters have gone to the Editorial Committee, I hope to send the 30th - a short one - tomorrow and that leaves only about six chapters to finish.

K&M Company
Torrance, CA 90503
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June 3, 1957

Dear Arthur:

What I suspected was likely to happen did happen yesterday. My younger son, Bill, and two grandsons are here and when looking for a document of Bobbey's which was thought to be here looks across the lobby letters.

The short letter postmarked at Washington 3 AM on May 15, 1918, refers to a telegram Bobbey had sent me about the "one invert sheet" - "the only one in existence at this date." Four names pencilled by me on the back of Bobbey's note sheet are evidently the other people who Bobbey approached, viz; Percy Mann, Stanley Gibbons, Percy Doane, and Lindover Healin.

Other pencil notations are "\$50,000" and "\$100" which I believe was Bobbey's price for the invert sheet and the average price for each of the 100 stamps necessary to make the total price for the sheet.

intended

Another pencilled notation is my reply to Bobbey's letter, but that reply is crossed out and marked "not sent." However, Bobbey wrote me on May 20, 1918, after his return from New York and referred to a letter I wrote him on May 16th. (*)

Bobbey's letter of May 20, 1918, is as follows:-

"I wish to notify you that all negotiations for the sheet are at an end, as I have come to the final conclusion that the same is not for sale at any price."

The envelope in which this letter came was also found. It shows the letter was registered at the New York Ave. Station on May 15, 1918.

Two other Bobbey letters must date the others were written before he bought the one invert sheet, but unfortunately, he did not mention it. One is dated May 11, 1918 and the other (undated) bears indication that it was written at the same period.

What is your pleasure regarding these letters?

Sincerely,

(*) So far as is known my files do not contain a copy of my letter of May 16, 1918, but if there was a copy it probably is still here somewhere in the house.