

Ray B.
Mr. Poirot -- For your file on this.

January 16, 1956

Mr. James Mussatti
1341 University Avenue
Palo Alto, California

Dear Jimmie:

We have just received two paper-bound volumes of "The Constitution of the United States" and personally I am greatly pleased with this production. Before the week is over we will receive our 5,000 copies of both the paper and clothbound volumes. I know that you will want some of these for your own use, so let me know the number you would like to have me send to you -- and of course with our compliments.

There is one item that worries me, namely that there does not appear an acknowledgment in the front of the book that reprinting privileges were obtained from American Principles, Inc. However, I turned over to Mr. Crane, President of D. Van Nostrand and Company, the contract written by Mr. Clark and from there on the deal was between the two. In looking over the correspondence, this was not a stipulated item. It may very well be that the whole thing is satisfactorily arranged between Clark and Crane and that my worry is groundless.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. Crane to Mr. Clark, which Mr. Crane informs me has not been acknowledged. Is there any way that you can assist in helping these two clarify their respective positions?

Be assured of this, Jimmie, there isn't anything that American Principles, Inc. may wish in the way of cooperation from us that we will not grant. I know that their interest is the same as ours, namely the wide-spread interest in and study of your splendid book, and we are going to be able to give this a rather remarkable promotion. There is a splendid piece already written by Charles Wolfe which has been reviewed by Verna Hall and the Matteis that will appear in the March Freeman. I am looking forward with much interest to the book jacket that D. Van Nostrand is preparing and the bookstore sale.

My best and my compliments to you!

Cordially,

Leonard E. Read

LER:bf