

27 October 1975

Topper Martyn
St. Olofsgatan 10B
Uppsala, Sweden

Dear Topper:

I've owed you letters for ages, and while things have been unusually busy lately, what with moving into a new office, having to make a couple of trips, etc., I still feel guilty about not having written before this. So at least you know my conscience is in the right place.

Many thanks for your thoughtfulness in sending me the various programs from your performances, exhibits and such-like. It was especially fun to read the IBM convention program from Southport. From the reviews of it I've seen I gather that your appearances were bright spots in an otherwise largely not very impressive affair.

As you may have seen from my announcement in Abra last week, I'm going to be in England from mid-December to mid-January and am trying to drum up some lectures for myself while there. Have had two responses so far and hope that there are others considering it.

We had Al Goshman here for a lecture about a week ago. I had seen him work before but ~~xxx~~ never met him. This time I ~~xxxx~~ did a running translation of his lecture into French and helped him sell the sponge balls. Had him over to the house for a while afterwards. He's a very pleasant guy and very knowledgeable about presenting magic.

Just got back yesterday from a few days in Paris. Spent part of one of them ~~xx~~ browsing among the bouquinistes, and this time hit it lucky. Found a Ponsin, Nouvelle Magie Blanche Devoilee, first edition copies of both parts bound together in a nice, and if not contemporary at least 19th century, binding. The binding is in pretty good shape - the books themselves in very fine condition. Not cheap, of course, but not exorbitantly expensive, either. I'm very pleased. I started reading it on the train back to Brussels. It's extraordinary how much good sense he talked in his short chapter on basic principles and how exceedingly modern his outlook was.

Also called in at Mayettes and picked up a few odds and ends. They have a new catalog coming out soon.

The enclosed picture of Alexandra is not a put-up job. She made the picture of the juggler herself with a set of magnetic pieces she has. When I asked her who it was, she said, "Topper." So I just wrote it on the board and took the ~~xxx~~ picture.

Thought you might also like the enclosed booklet. I picked it up together with some other stuff I bought recently. Sorry ~~it's~~ it's not in better shape, but it is a Daisy Bank and I gather these have a certain

scarcity value. I also think the cover picture of ~~Frank~~ Goldin looking so smug and Rotarian, if you know what I mean, is good fun.

The last issue of New Pentagram was largely devoted to some things of mine - don't know whether or not you get it - and I have a Triad coming up some day in Abra.

The Bouglione circus is in town and I hear they have an exceptionally good new juggler with them. Alexandra and I both have colds, but if we recover ~~here~~ before they leave we will check it out.

Come see us.

All the best,

(Home address)

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