

November 27, 1990

Mr. Ronald P. Sokol
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Dear Ron:

In catching up on my back reading, I have just now had a chance to read your piece on the law-making process in France. I have read it with much interest and pleasure. I gather that what you have there is delegation of the legislative authority that makes the American-style delegation pale by contrast. It was an illuminating account for me, as I had no idea about this aspect of the process.

I was disappointed to have had no word from you while you were--I assume--at Lake Lure this summer. One of these summers you should plan to include a side run to Charlottesville.

For a long while I have had an idea for a small book describing American courts, primarily for foreigners but also perhaps for beginning American law students. I have now about completed a manuscript to that end, and West Publishing Company has agreed to publish it. I am anticipating winding up the manuscript in January, and the book should appear in print two to four months thereafter. For your information, I am enclosing a copy of the table of contents. I anticipate a work of something under 100 pages, published with soft cover so as to be easily portable. When the book is off the press, I will send you a copy.

One of the major projects on which I am engaged at present is to design a new course to be offered here in the spring of 1992, entitled "Appellate Courts." The material I am putting together for that course will, I hope, also provide the basis for a casebook that can be published after I have taught the course once or twice. Maurice Rosenberg of Columbia and Paul Carrington of Duke are collaborating with me in the venture, although I seem to be carrying the laboring oar, at least for the present. The course will certainly fill a void that has developed increasingly in American legal education. Much of the material to be covered has never been covered in any course. What little has been done about appellate courts and appellate jurisdiction and process in courses such as Civil Procedure and Federal Courts has now dropped by the way under the pressures of time.

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Another project on which I am now at work is the collecting and editing of the papers--published and unpublished--of Hardy Dillard. The objective is to assemble a one-volume work that we hope will be published by the University Press of Virginia. Much of the screening of the material has been completed, and I hope that all of this can be brought to fruition sometime in 1991.

You may recall meeting Louisa Dixon at your office there. She tells me that she also talked with you on the telephone this past summer. She is now working in this office full-time, having assumed the position that is known as the "administrative assistant/secretary" for the Graduate Program for Judges. It was indeed a happy circumstance that she returned to this country from France just as I was looking for a person to fill this position.

I hope that all is going well with you and your family. Keep me posted from time to time. With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Meador

DJM\lm

Enclosure

AMERICAN COURTS

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