



The Publishers Association

19 BEDFORD SQUARE, LONDON, WC1B 3HJ

With the Compliments of The Secretary RONALD BARKER



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Telephone 01-580 6321 Telegraphic address Publasoc London WC1

President RAYNER UNWIN Secretary RONALD BARKER

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REB/SJ

26 September 1972

G. S. Bishop Esq.,
Booker McConnell Ltd.
Bucklersbury House,
83 Cannon Street,
LONDON, EC4N 8EJ.

Dear Mr Bishop,

Mark Longman

I was extremely grateful to receive your letter of 20 September, conveying the sympathy of Booker McConnell in the loss which we all share in the death of Mark Longman. Unhappily, it arrived the day after our monthly Council meeting, but I am copying this letter and yours to the President and Treasurer, so that they will know that you joined with us in mourning over Mark's departure.

He was truly a remarkable man, with a most lovable personality. He did indeed, as you say, take a very close personal interest in the inauguration of the Booker Prize for Fiction, and like every cause he espoused he took it both to his heart and supported it with all his energy and intelligence.

He is a man among publishers who will long be missed, and his individual qualifications are such that he may never be replaced. But you may be assured that the Publishers Association, and its President for the time being, will always give its utmost support to the Booker McConnell imaginative inauguration of the Booker Prize.

Apart from copying your letter and this one to Mr Rayner Unwin and Mr Colin Eccleshare, who will be his successor, I am also copying it to Miss Marilyn Edwards, who is now with the National Book League, but who herself did so much to give the Prize the 'lift-off' it needed, and who herself shared my personal affection for Mark.

Thank you again for your very kind letter.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary

cc: President Assistant Secretaries REG GOWERS PETER PHELAN

Treasurer
Miss Marilyn Edwards.