

President: The Lord Goodman CH

The National Book League

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London W1X 4BB
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Booker Prize for Fiction

8 November 1972

Your reference

Our reference

Date

Peter Smith Esq.
Booker McConnell Ltd.
Bucklersbury House,
Cannon Street,
London E.C.4

Dear Peter,

Two small points I have seen. Alex Hamilton says he has not received an invitation to the Booker dinner. I see from the list that you addressed his invitation card to 'The Guardian' when it should have gone to 24 Weymouth Street, London W.1; could you put another one in the post to him and his wife?

Also the News Editor of The Times (whoever he might be) has rather curtly refused. I just wonder how the News Editor of The Times got an invitation in the first place; I am sure it was their mistake not ours?

I am sorry to raise the issue of the order of precedence in the presentation of the prize (and I dictate this after having spoken to you on the telephone) but looking back at my notes it seems to me that in order to enable Roy Jenkins to present the prize to the winner, without actually announcing who the winner is, the order of speakers should be Rayner Unwin, Cyril Connolly who will announce the prize-winner, at which point Roy Jenkins will leap to his feet and hand over the statuette; the winner will then say 'thank you' very briefly and Roy Jenkins will then launch into his peroration, followed by Mr Robson. This seems to me eminently logical and I am sure it is not a slight on Roy Jenkins as he speaks after Mr Connolly. I would appreciate your thought on the telephone and will be in the office tomorrow afternoon (~~Thursday~~). *morning (Friday)*

Yours sincerely,

Marilyn Edwards
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