



Thomas Nelson & Sons Limited
36 Park Street London W1Y 4DE

Telephone : 01-493 8351
Cables : Thonelson London W1

18 December 1969

Miss Marilyn Edwards,
The Publishers Association,
19 Bedford Square,
London W.C.1.

Dear Marilyn,

Booker Prize

I was not entirely happy with the proposed letter and have had a crack at redrafting parts of it although I am by no means happy with my draft. Perhaps, however, something satisfactory will emerge from our combined efforts. I should certainly be against mentioning that the prize is 'industrially sponsored' because I doubt that this is quite what Booker want.

Yours,

Jocelyn Baines

22 DEC 1969

DRAFT/

As you know, the Booker Prize for fiction was inaugurated last year. The prize is sponsored jointly by the Publishers Association and Booker McConnell Ltd; and the author, who, in the opinion of an independent panel of distinguished judges, has written the best work of fiction in the previous year, receives £5,000.

This is a landmark because there has never been a literary prize of this magnitude in Britain. It is the hope of the sponsors that such an annual award will do much to increase public awareness of the important role that fiction has to play in our society.

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The Publishers Association and Booker McConnell Ltd. wish to invite you to a small, private party on 15 January at 6.30 p.m. at:

Flat 1015,
Kings House,
St. James's Hotel,
Buckingham Gate,
London S.W.1.

in order to discuss plans for the prize, in this, its second year, and to seek your advice and help in handling of it. *like*

Please will you let me know if you are unable to attend.

Yours sincerely,

The Publishers Association

19 BEDFORD SQUARE · LONDON WC1

Telephone 01-580 6321/5 Telegraphic address Publasoc London WC1

Dear

Re-write

As you know, the £5000 Booker Prize for fiction, sponsored by Booker McConnell Ltd., was instituted last year by the Publishers Association and Booker McConnell Ltd. This is somewhat of a landmark in the history of literary prizes in this country, being the first prize of this size and the first to be industrially sponsored, and our hope is that it will go some way towards increasing the public's awareness of the importance of writers and books in a world increasingly dedicated to other pursuits.

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in order to ~~discuss~~ discuss ^{plans for} the prize and ~~plans for~~ it in this, its second, year and to seek your advice and help in the handling of it.

Please will you let me know if you are able to attend, ^{etc}
~~if if you would like anyone else to attend in your place.~~

Yours sinc.
Secretary R E BARKER Assistant Secretaries R C GOWERS P C L PHELAN

The Publishers Association

19 BEDFORD SQUARE · LONDON WC1

Telephone 01-580 6321-5 Telegraphic Address Publasoc London WC1

ME/ADW

29 December, 1969

Dear

As you know, the Booker Prize for fiction was inaugurated last year. The Prize is sponsored jointly by the Publishers Association and Booker McConnell Limited; and the author, who in the opinion of an independent panel of distinguished judges, has written the best work of fiction in the previous year, receives £5,000.

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Please will you let me know if you are able to attend or not.

Yours sincerely,

Marilyn Edwards