

*Wesley Wood*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

NEW YORK OFFICE  
444 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

March 16, 1943

Mr. Wolfgang Lent  
277 East 57th Street  
New York City

Dear Mr. Lent:

I am returning herewith Mrs. Baum's manuscript. As you can see, I made several corrections in the names and I should also like to suggest the alteration of two details. In the first place, the leather attire of the "vaqueiros" is only used on the farms, to run after the cattle in the woods, "carrascos" or "caatingas". Therefore, an individual should not appear in Belém dressed in leather. He may keep his leather hat, which is usually worn with other clothes.

In the second place, the jangadas are embarcations destined only to fishing on the high seas and guided not only by one person but by several expert fishermen on the coast. The greatest distance covered by a jangada is usually 15 miles. The distance between Ceará and Belém is ten times as large. In times of draughts in Ceará the inhabitants from the interior used to emigrate to the capital, Fortaleza, from where they went to the Amazonas with steamship tickets paid by the government.

The name Matteo is Italian. The Brazilian name is Mateus (formerly Matheus, up to the time when the orthography was changed and simplified). If Silvestre is a count he should be called "Conde Silvestre", but that does not sound truly Brazilian. It would sound much better if he were called "Conde de São Silvestre", "Count of Saint Silvestre", which is more in the imperial fashion of Brazil. The name Mafaldo (Sebastião Mafaldo) sounds too Italian. Sebastião Moreira is a better Brazilian name. Sebastião Pereira sound equally well. And why should he come from the Guiana? Only Frenchmen, sentenced in Paris, came to the French Guiana, to be secluded there. If he is a local character, it would be better to have him in the Maranhão jail. Thus it would read: "Don't you know that he is a fugitive from the São Luis do Maranhão jail?"

One more thing: "Canôa" and "Canoa" are the same, but Mrs. Baum should stick to one.

Sincerely yours

*Raymundo Magalhães*  
Raymundo Magalhães

RM/bs

Waring Wood

1 Stratford Terr.  
Cranford, N. J.  
March 26, 1943

Dear Miss Baum:

I greatly appreciate having had the opportunity to review your Chapters on "Washington Minutes" and "American Mural" for your new book concerning Rubber. I believe that you have handled this material in a very interesting manner. Dr. Sparks, however, was not too well pleased with me; it seemed apparent after he read over the story that he felt that I must have talked too much; nevertheless he, too, considered it to be a good fiction story.

From a strictly personal point of view, I would be less embarrassed if the following changes were made. This, I believe, could be done without changing your story in substance.

1. The names "Bill and Bob" might be changed to, say Jim, etc. (Bill and Bob is a rather special trade name in their association; it would be desirable to change the Bill, if not the Bob.)
2. Rubbutyl does not get around the "Butyl" trade mark which should be avoided. (It still has butyl in the name.) I would suggest "Butaprene". This is a name which I made up and to the best of my knowledge has never been used as a trade mark for any thing at any time.
3. Indiana University might be changed to the University of Kentucky, for example. (The towns which you selected in Indiana as Bill's and Janet's homes are very close to the Kentucky borderline.)
4. Change Peoria to Pekin. (This is the adjoining town; it locates the Regional Laboratory without being so specific about it.) Although the name "Peoria" has been made the target of many crude jokes throughout the country, Peoria is not looked upon as an out-of-the-way "hick" town by the people of the middle west. They see it as a city of one hundred thousand, the second largest in the State of Illinois, and within commuting distance of Chicago, e.g. your words "exile", "drabness" would not be considered apt if you use Peoria. Many of your readers will have come from the Middle West.
5. In this presentation there are only two characters which are not fictitious:
  - a. Roger Adams. Roger Adams is well-known in technical circles, but the use of his name would have no significance to the average reader, and in view of his present position he

might dislike having his name used. In any case, since the Department at Illinois is so big, the character in your story would not have been in a position to have known him well, i.e. for a number of years he has been in executive type activities rather than teaching.

- b. Carothers. Carothers was never well known to the public at large. The use of his name as such does not contribute materially to the credibility of the story. It might be better taste to change to something similar, e.g. Carroll. The change, however, would not be so important provided you would use the name less frequently or with less emphasis.

The acknowledgement, p.5, lines 1,2 in the Introduction is definitely undesirable. Please believe me sincere in saying that I appreciate your kindness in giving us recognition here and do not want you to think me ungrateful for your intentions if I ask that you do not include our names, the reason being that it might embarrass Dr. Sparks professionally. The Company could take the attitude that the public recognition of the assistance of a member of its staff might be interpreted to indicate quasi-official sanction. For anyone who has not worked for a large Company it may be difficult to understand how touchy they can be at times on what seems to be small matters, but all our past experience has taught us the wisdom of considerable caution in this regard. As a matter of fact Dr. Sparks does not admit having collaborated personally at all.

The recognition p.2, line 26 is different in that this information has already been publically announced by the Company and we appreciate your including it.

I also suggest the following minor change in wording of p.3, lines 1-3 to "On the other hand, the story of Bill Clark and his struggling invention of Butaprene--while suggestive of the American Chemist's life in general--is fiction."

Please don't think I don't like your story or feel unkindly towards you because of the story. It is simply a case of changing those features which point too directly to Dr. Sparks so that everyone will be sure to recognize the story as fiction and not think it a put-up job on our part in order to gain some personal end.

I am also enclosing several sheets of further suggestions, etc. which occurred to me while reading the manuscript. Feel free to adopt these as you see fit. After all, I make no claim to being a fiction writer and send my humble apologies at trying to advise an expert in this field.

I wish you success with your book. Please feel free to consult me about anything with which I might be of assistance.

With best regards,

*Meredith Sparks*

## Introduction

- p.1 line 10,11 in quotation. x should not be capitalized (chemical rules for writing formulas.)
- p.2 line 26 Mr. Robert McKee Thomas
- p.3 line 18 Should Jave be spelled Java?

## Capitalization

Throughout both chapters note the capitalization. In all books dealing with chemistry I believe the rule is that:

Trade names are capitalized

Chemical names are not capitalized.

Just in case the proof-reader for your publisher might not know in all cases which are trade names and which are chemical names, I am listing the following names which are used in your book:

### Trade names, to be capitalized

Ameripol  
Buna S or N  
Butyl  
Chemigum  
Koroseal  
Neoprene  
Perbunan  
Thiokol

### Chemical names, not capitalized

acrylonitrile  
butadiene  
butylenes  
isobutylene  
isoprene  
styrene

## Washington Minutes

- p 10 line 12 It is Alfred Hoyt, not Randolph Hoyt.
- p.59 line 8 Note construction of sentence.
- p.88 line 17 Hydrocarbon  
22 omit "something like Latex" (isoprene is not "something like Latex")
- p.28 line 25 The word "Ameripol" should be substituted for Koroseal (Koroseal is not a Buna S type of rubber; Ameripol is.

*please watch for these corrections!*

*J. P. B.*

AMERICAN MURAL

p.1 line 24 on upon ?  
 25 inventore?

*yes - quotation*

p.2 line 5 We do not say glass "pipes", but "glass tubing"; since you have already said test tubes, you could substitute the word "condensers".  
 Erlenmeyer is the correct spelling.

p.3 line 15 The more approved name is simply iodide (not "tri-iodide").

p.5 line 19 potassium thiocyanide  
 potassium chloride unknown (no capitals)

p.7 line 21 A better order would be: general, inorganic, organic, physical chemistry. I would omit analytical geography and instrumental analysis as they are not courses widely given to an undergraduate in chemistry.

p.8 line 21 Vancouver. This is in Canada. Since this is an American Mural, would it not be better to move across the border in the U.S. to, say Seattle?

25 \$275 would be better than \$225 here (since he had been around long enough to have a stenographer).

28 eczema

p 10 line 2 "at least he never made passes"--some people might resent this as inaccurate inasmuch<sup>as</sup> in large companies the rules are rather strict; few chemists are of the type anyway.

7 hydrocarbons

8 I believe this man's name is spelled "Teer Mer" (I do not have the proof at hand).

27 "there is very little prospect of ever changing to another one"

The actual situation is that it is fairly easy for a chemist to change from one large company to another, but practically impossible to do so with any financial advantage to himself. When the matter of salary comes up, he always finds himself offered exactly the same salary he is now getting. So-called "Company ethics" between large companies is that a second company does not offer an employee of the first more money than the former employer paid. Since conditions in general and chances for advancement are much the same in the various companies, and by changing, the employee not only loses seniority and insurance benefits but must also pay his own moving expenses, on the whole he loses. In other words, an employee may change his position due to conflict in personalities, unfavorable geographic location, etc., but he cannot "get ahead" that way.

The statement p.11, line 3 that "you won't get another job if you leave a company of your own free will" is definitely untrue and many chemists, as well as the American Chemical Society, would

protest such a statement if it ever received any particular notice. A chemist can change his position from one large company to another, but it is very unlikely that he can gain anything from it; hence he does not do it ordinarily.

Consider the above explanation also with regard to p.27, line 2. I would stop this sentence after "later". If you desire to throw special emphasis here, do so by telling how all Bill's various well-meaning friends came to him, telling him of their own unsatisfactory experiences and recommending that he not do it. One even said "I think anyone who had such a fool idea ought to go and get his head examined".

Also consider p.71 line 13 ---- (Note comments under this section when you come to it)

page 11 line 17 For Christmas--bosses in chemical plants earning \$225/mo. rarely give the worker a present; in the case of a secretary, the boss's wife may give the secretary a present, usually of small value, e.g. one pair of silk stockings at the most. (note p. 16 that Dr.G. has a wife). A vanity set might be appropriate. However, it may be your purpose here to throw this off-color.

line 20. The standard rule about vacations which applies to all big chemical companies that I know about is that a person gets in the summer (usually between June and Sept., the time sometimes being optional and sometimes not) one week of vacation if he came to work before Jan.1, and two weeks if before August of preceding year. A chemist gets no vacations around Christmas except the day of Dec.25 and Jan. 1, regardless of how long he has worked. In a few companies, a chemist may make special arrangements to take part of his summer vacation around Christmas.

page 12, line 28. \$20 would be more accurate than \$18, considering that Bill has an A.B. and has gone so far from home; it will still be under Janet's \$22.50.

page 13, line 10. Compound A. We would say "unknown compound A", or simply "unknown A".

page 14 line 1 "sulfonation of an anthraquinone compound" (note spelling also)  
11 with anthraquinones  
8 better to say "one of the thermometers had broken" (I don't believe a thermometer ever just "leaks")

p.16 last line. Laboratory coats are usually laundered by the company. We usually say "rinse out her stockings and lingerie"---reserving the word "launder" for a more heavy wash.

p.17 line 7 commissary--the more common word is "lunh room"( where one eats the lunch he has brought ffrom home) or "cafeteria" as the case may be.

p.18 line 18 "routine analysis". "Routine work" would be better; he is not in the analytical laboratory if he is assisting Dr. Bailey on the sulfonation of anthraquinone.

last line. change "count iodine numbers" to "determine iodine numbers".

State Universities are big institutions and they have definite rules that no professor and no department may break. Exceptions are not made. There are two objections which anyone who has ever attended a State University would raise to this Section:

1. A graduate school ruling is always that of requiring one school year of residence at the University before getting an M.S., regardless of the amount of work accomplished. In some Universities this ruling can be overcome, provided that the student lives where the University is, or <sup>living</sup> where the University has an Extension Division, by doing the laboratory work at the industrial plant and attending night classes at the University, but I know of no case where it can be done at a distance. "Correspondence" courses when not a resident are limited to undergraduates.
2. All State Universities require a thorough physical examination by the University physician before entrance. A pregnant female would not be admitted, i.e. Janet must get pregnant after being admitted to the University.

Moreover, companies never permit employees to use their facilities for personal purposes without knowing in detail what experiments are to be carried out and why. It is against the safety regulations. That is to say, that the matter of a leave of absence to go to school must come up at the time they get their permission to use the building and not after the work has been completed.

It occurs to me that the theme of becoming pregnant both times just as Janet started back to school is a little overworked, although I am well aware that women in general seem to like such a theme. Since in this more modern world, such events are considered not so much the acts of God, as the acts of man, so to speak, your modern reader might think Janet was pretty dumb to let the same thing happen the second time in the same way. May I suggest the following possible alternate theme for p.19-22 which would also overcome the difficulties cited above. Then leave p.27---as is.

When Janet found she was pregnant she realized that she must quit work permanently at Union Chemical, due to the Company ruling that when a married woman quits to have a child she may not again be re-employed (This is a very common policy). When she calculated that the three of them must live on Bill's salary alone, and that it would in all probability never exceed \$150/mo with his present qualifications, this meant that they would never have that luxury which she had sought for as her original goal; moreover, when the child grew old enough to go to college, due to lack of finances, the child would be forced to fight the same battles which she and Bill had had to fight in order to get as much education as they had. Memories of what she had missed in order to get her education were too fresh for her to want her child to repeat the experience. Thus she began to realize that with all the hard work she and Bill had not made a real step forward toward her goal inasmuch as she would be able to furnish her child with no more than her parents had furnished her. Janet was not a quitter. She concluded that she must go forward while the child was too young to know, to finish the job that she had begun. Then they decided to quit work just before the baby was to be born, go back to the farm to have the child and save the money that it would have cost to have the child away from home (high doctor bill, hospital fees, nurse, etc., about \$225 total) as compared with the \$25 total for the country doctor at home (\$25 is actually the cost in farming districts in Indiana). This amount,

together with a teaching assistantship which Hogart could offer, would cover the expenses. Of course, it would be no fun to have the baby at Bill's mother's home with antiquated methods of delivery, no anesthetic, the old fashioned ways of taking care of a new baby, etc.

p.20 line 17. Thesis on the pinacone-pinacolone rearrangement.  
(The example you cited occurs as an intermediate for the Neoprene reaction which is not fitting here.)

p.23 line 11. A cleaning woman three times a week for a family of three in Wilmington on \$185/mo is impossible. Usually in that salary range, which is correct under the conditions indicated, a woman does all her work or has a cleaning woman 1/2 day or one full day per week for heavy work.

p.25. This page is missing.

p.26 line 10 Neoprene  
11 The expression "make his Ph.D." is unfamiliar to me. One usually hears "take his Ph.D." or "Get his Ph.D."

p.27 line 20 work on acetylene hydrocarbons (no capitals or " ")  
21 "some new heterocyclic nitrogen ring compounds" instead of "oxazoles". (oxazoles fall in this classification; one works on a class of compounds; the thesis title is chosen after the work is completed.)

p.33 line 12 "General Introduction to Theoretical Chemistry" would be better.

p.35 line 7 I.G.Farben formulas (not butylenes)

p.36 line 6 The term "glass cages" is not good (unnecessary glass is not used on account of explosion hazards) perhaps, "dark, smelly cages" is what you want.  
12 May I suggest ~~X~~ "plainly commercial or with connections"----- get to the top as executives, or receive better salaries as salesmen. (vice-presidents and Board Directors get their positions usually because of their financial interests.)

27 Chemists' Club (note position of apostrophe)

p.43 line 3 salicylic acid should read "acetyl salicylic acid"

p.44 line 24 butadiene  
26 acetylene hydrocarbons  
27 Neoprene

p.46 line 10 with butylenes  
20 I would substitute "in the conference room" for board meeting.

p.47 line 25 conference meeting instead of board meeting.

p.48 line 23 should be "butylenes"

p.49 line 23 "Double hook" I am not sure how to advise you on this. The correct expression is "conjugated double bond". To make this correct it would read "It's this godforsaken conjugated double bond", he sighed. "No conjugated bond, no rubber. Well, butylene doesn't have it, it's just a ~~px~~ simple double bond". This sounds a little too technical for the layman; however, not too technical for Bill to use with Janet. As you have it, <sup>it</sup> perhaps isn't too far off.



- p.57 line 12 \$250 would probably be better
- p.63 line 4 "company" instead of "trust"
- p.64 line 18 Probably better to change to "No. I probably wouldn't get a job half as good if I quit".
- p.67 line 20. I suggest that you change to "I'll write to the Civil Service Commission and find out about it". "I might write to the University too to see if they know of any jobs" (Roger Adams does not handle job placements; this is left to an underling, a personnel man.)
- p.71 line 1 fore  
3 foreground  
4 foresight } Is this too much repetition for good diction?
- p.73 line 13 "there was not much left" should probably be toned down a little. I suggest that you say "the best thing to do is to creep under---"

line 18 to end of page.

The personnel of the Regional Laboratories and also many government chemists would not like this paragraph at all inasmuch as they have considerable pride in being very much alive and a part of national affairs, having interesting problems and of giving opportunity and a real career to those who wish to enter the service. They also feel that good advertising is important due to the necessity of getting funds to run the laboratories. They would particularly resent such phrases as "slow decay" --- "who cares attitude".

- p.77 line 20 Pekin instead of Peoria
- p.79 line 6 omit or change Roger Adams
- p.80 line 67 Articles to be presented at an A.C.S. meeting are never published until after the meeting; hence the particular article by William J. Sparks on Polybutenes could not have been available to them since it is stated p.78 line 13 and also p.87 line 4 that the paper is to be read at the meeting.
- p.81 line 6 eliminate or change Peoria.
- p.82 line 1. change Indiana  
27. say merely "had to go back to the vegetable oils" (Omit Peoria)  
18 butylenes (instead of isobutylene)
- p.86 line 7 change to "with the government, the regional laboratories" (omit in Peoria)  
18 butylenes (instead of isobutylene)
- p.87 line 28 the gum formations (not "ouf")  
29 change Peoria
- p.88 line 1 change Peoria  
91 line 21 change Peoria  
93 line 24 change in Peoria

AFFILIATED WITH

S. H. DALRYMPLE, Gen. Pres.

THE AMERICANS

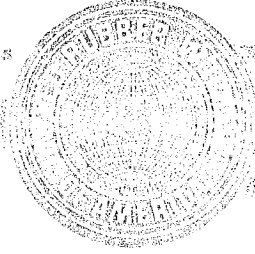
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# UNITED RUBBER WORKERS OF AMERICA

L. S. BUCKMASTER, Gen. V. Pres.

C. LANNING, Gen. Sec. & Treas.

AKRON, OHIO



May 29, 1943

*file*

Mr. Donald B. Elder  
Doubleday, Doran & Company  
14 West 49th Street  
Rockefeller Center, New York City

Dear Mr. Elder:

I have your note of May 18, 1943, requesting permission to use my name in the acknowledgments in the introduction to Miss Vicki Baum's book "The Weeping Wood."

Please be advised that I have no objections to having Miss Baum so use my name if she wishes to do so.

Sincerely yours,

*L. S. Buckmaster*

L. S. Buckmaster, Vice-President  
UNITED RUBBER WORKERS OF AMERICA

LSB:HLP  
uopwa

THE RUBBER MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION  
INCORPORATED

444 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

June 7, 1943

Zone 22

*Vespine Wood*

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO SUBJECT.

Mr. Donald B. Elder,  
Doubleday, Doran & Company,  
14 W. 49th Street,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of May 24, the writer has no objection to the mentioning of his name in the introduction to Vicki Baum's new novel provided the wording is limited merely to an acknowledgment of assistance.

Very truly yours,

*C. W. Halligan*  
C. W. HALLIGAN  
Assistant Secretary.

CWH.F

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES  
P. O. BOX 1694  
SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

July 10, 1943.

Mr. Donald B. Elder,  
Doubleday, Doran and Company Inc.,  
14 West 49th Street,  
Rockefeller Center,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Elder:

Your letter of May 26, 1943,  
requesting permission to use my name in the  
acknowledgements of Miss Baum's novel "The  
Weeping Wood" was forwarded to me from  
Washington and has just been received.

I am delighted to authorize  
the use of my name in these acknowledgements.

Very sincerely yours,



Earl N. Bressman

*This has been  
returned.  
E.N.B.  
7/19*

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DON ALDER=

DOUBLEDAY 14 WEST 49 ST=

IMPORTANT URGENT JUST DISCOVERED THAT BUTAPRENE AS  
 SUGGESTED BY MY EXPERTS AND USED IN LAST THREE CHAPTERS  
 HAS BECOME FIRESTONE TRADEMARK PLEASE CHANGE TO  
 BUTANEX SO SORRY=

VICKI=

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

July 28, 1943

Dear Vicki:

This is just to let you know that the lawyers have read your book and have found nothing libellous in it, and so I am releasing it for the press at once. They said that you had done a very fine job of avoiding all the possibilities of libel.

Ken has just left and we are waiting to see how he makes out in the army.

With love,

Mrs. Vicki Baum  
464 Bellefontaine Street  
Pasadena, California

DBE:T

VICKI BAUM

*Wespin Wood*

Dear Don,

In a hurry, only about those formulas the India Rubber People resented. I took the formula from an article in Fortune, written by Howard Wolf, checked by Dr Sparks. Compared it with the formula given in some government pamphlets about synthetic rubber and had it checked once more by a chemist. I don't quite see how it could be wrong. I gave the formula for natural rubber in the introduction, and it ~~is~~ quite different. Anyway, even the India Rubber world should know that the formula for natural rubber includes an unsolved X. So, please, leave everything as it is. Please, poooosh the book (as my Mexican friends say) and thanks for everything. I do hope you like the temporary set-up at D D & Co- in any case, it seems you people are having a good season. I just read an add about "Hungry Hills" which seems to prove that you can sell even the most boring book if you only know how.

Love, in a great hurry,

*Vicki*

*Don*  
Please, send one copy to Sgt Klaus Mann  
Post Public Relations Office  
Camp Crowder, Missouri

~~1. Miss. Vicki Baum~~  
2. D. B. Elder

H. E. SELBY  
619 SIXTY-EIGHTH STREET  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

FORMULATION, DEVELOPMENT  
ANALYTICAL SERVICES - -  
MICRO-CHEMICAL  
MACRO-CHEMICAL

February 1st 1944.

Miss. Vicki Baum,  
c/o Doubleday, Doran and Co.,  
Garden City, N.Y.

Dear Miss. Baum,

Having just finished the reading of "The Weeping Wood",  
may I commend your work, from the viewpoint of the Rubber  
Chemist, and offer some corrections for a few very noticeable  
errors.

- Page 347, line 12 the word should be washing, not watching.
- Page 360, line 22 Ethyl Benzine please correct to Ethyl Benzene.
- line 31 Soap Solution in place of soapstone solution.
- Page 470, line 7 The same mistake as above
- Page 501, line 25 Jamanese, village not Japanese
- Page 365 You have pictured here the formula for Rubber,  
not Buna S.

Your characterization of working in a rubber research bureau is  
perfect. May I thank you again for affording me an interesting  
story, it will prove of value to all that read.

Sincerely yours,  
*H. E. Selby*  
H. E. Selby

For reply  
to Miss Baum  
3-1-44  
See  
Hotel Berlin  
3-1-44



May 17th 1945

Dear Sirs:

We are today in receipt of your cable as follows:

"IT IS REPORTED THAT CONSIGNMENTS OF YOUR EDITION WEEPING WOOD ON SALE THROUGHOUT MIDDLEEAST STOP WE ARE INVESTIGATING AND SHALL BE GLAD YOU DO SAME AND REPORT TO US"

I don't know exactly what territory you mean to cover by Middle East. However, I would like to assure you that Doubleday Doran have not sent copies into any territory not covered by our contract for the publication of WEEPING WOOD by Vicki Baum. According to our contract we have exclusive rights in the United States and Canada, and may send copies of our edition into all other parts of the world except the British Empire, though territory other than the British Empire and the United States is open market for Doubleday, Doran and you, the English publisher.

It is possible that a few copies may have been shipped into the British Empire but, if so, they were shipped by American jobbers, and not by this house. If you will give us specific names and addresses of companies receiving copies of our edition, we shall be glad to make a very careful investigation and report to you.

Sincerely yours,

L. G. Booth

Messrs. Michael Joseph, Ltd.,  
26 Bloomsbury St.,  
London, W.C.1, England.

FAST

DIRECT



# RCA



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IT IS REPORTED THAT CONSIGNMENTS OF YOUR EDITION WEEPONG WOOD  
ON SALE THROUGHOUT MIDDLEEAST STOP WE ARE INVESTIGATING AND  
SHALL BE GLAD YOU DO SAME AND REPORT TO US

MICHAEL JOSEPH

1946 MAY 17 AM 10 52

TELEPHONE HAnover 2-1811

To secure prompt action on inquiries, this original RADIOGRAM should be presented at the office of R. C. A. COMMUNICATIONS, Inc. In telephone inquiries quote the number preceding the place of origin

AIR MAIL

Ferdinand Bronner,  
c/o Trinidad Paper Pulp Co.Ltd.,  
Nelson's Estate,  
St. Joseph, P.O.  
Trinidad, B.W.I.

1st June 1945.

Cord

Mr. S. White,  
Book News Service,  
Messrs. Doubleday, Doran & Co., Inc.,  
Garden City, N.Y.  
U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

On March 29, 1945, you promised to send me your general catalogue. This catalogue has not reached me up to this moment, and I shall appreciate if you forward it, again.

Further, could you let me know who owns the foreign rights on "THE WEEPING WOOD" by Vicki Baum?

Mrs. Booth {

Yours faithfully,

F. Bronner.

JUN 6 1945

June 11th 1945

Dear Mr. Bronner,

In reply to your letter of June 1st, we wish to advise you that the translation rights of THE WEEPING WOOD by Vicki Baum are controlled by the L. B. Fischer Publishing Corp., 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N.Y. We have taken the liberty of advising them of your interest in the foreign rights.

Yours very truly,

L. G. Booth

Ferdinand Bronner, Esq.,  
Trinidad Paper Pulp Co. Ltd.,  
Nelson's Estate,  
St. Joseph P.O.,  
Trinidad, B.W.I.

LGH:p

June 11th 1945

Gentlemen:

We have a letter from Mr. Ferdinand Bronner,  
c/o Trinidad Paper Pulp Co. Ltd., Nelson's  
Estate, St. Joseph, P.O., Trinidad, B.W.I.,  
asking us to let them know the owner of the  
foreign rights of THE WEEPING WOOD by Vicki  
Baum.

We have written them that you are handling  
the translation rights, and that we have  
communicated with you concerning their interest  
in this book.

Yours very truly,

L. G. Booth

L. B. Fischer Publishing Corp.,  
381 Fourth Avenue,  
New York 16, N.Y.

LGB:p

*Ann. Elder*

*Do you want  
to look into this?*

*GB*

**REYNAL & HITCHCOCK, INC.**

PUBLISHERS : 8 WEST FORTIETH STREET : NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

July 2, 1945

LeBaron Barker, Esq.  
Doubleday Doran and Company  
14 West 49th Street  
New York, New York

Dear Lee:

I have just had a letter from Earl Hanson, the author of JOURNEY TO MANAOS which we published some five years back, who is now out in Liberia. He says in part:

"The object of this letter is to ask whether or not you gave permission to Vicki Baum and Doubleday-Doran to plagiarize JOURNEY TO MANAOS in her book "The Weeping Wood." It is a nice book, and a damned good job of plagiarism, but the fact remains that the chapter called Black River, beginning page 313, is almost entirely a slightly revised condensation of Journey, with no credit given except that the chapter is headed by a nine-line direct quote from my book, with acknowledgment that I wrote that small part of it.

I was quite surprised to find myself in the chapter under the name of Maxwell Tyler. Otherwise I run pretty true to type. I've just come down from the Yavita Pimichin portage, am on the Rio Negro, lousy with malaria, and have exactly the same kind of delirium bouts that I had the first time in 1943 and then again <sup>in</sup> 1938 in Journey. Not verbatim, of course, but exactly the same pattern, with the same brilliant conversations, including one with my father. And boy, am I sorry for myself all over again, and did I bite again on buying local quinine that is mainly bicarb of soda. (I'll hand it to the wench, she read my book carefully.)

In this book I'm glad to find that I am also running a magnetic survey for the Carnegie Institution of Washington, even though the brave Vicki slipped up and called it the Carnegie Institute. And how do you suppose I repay social obligations? I haven't changed a bit, I do it by turning on my field radio and giving people concerts. And then there is the same brutal stuff coming in with the news, that sounds so savage over the radio, and so disturbing. There is even the same talk of war, only this time it is the European war instead of the Japanese Chinese one. You've gotta give them a little progress since 1932. But the people who hear the war news haven't changed a bit. They go wild

7-2-45

with joy, exactly as they did in 1932, because now the price of rubber will go up.

On this last trip I find that I camp in one of the old rubber-palaces on the Rio Negro, instead of just going by them and commenting on them. That is the way I do things really right when I'm managed by a novelist. And who do you think I run into? Why, a German tramp, of course, who was squeezed out of Germany by economic stress. He isn't Walter Pillkahn this time; his name is something else because he is here a combination of Walter Pillkahn and my old friend Jack Diamond. He'd done about what Pillkahn had done and he'd done just what Diamond had done in JOURNEY TO MANAOS, worked on the Madeira Mamore railroad and then boomed to Henry Ford's place where he didn't like it so well for exactly the same reason Diamond didn't like it.

There is quite a similarity of pattern in the conversations too. In Journey I keep saying to my Knaut: "Mensch bist du verrückt?" Here the guy has the crust to say to me: "Mensch, mach doch die Augen auf."

Friend Vicki went a little too far, I think, when she killed me off on the Rio Negro. Now I'm mad, and wondering whether I should not do a little spot of ha'nting both Vicki and her publishers.

I'm sending a copy of this letter to my friend and lawyer, Mr. Jacques Bacal, 522 Fifth Avenue, New York, who handles all my affairs there. I'd like to ask you to call him up and talk to him about the matter after you've gone into it yourself."

I am just off for two weeks and have had no chance whatever to look into the matter myself but I think perhaps you had better have the two books compared and have a word with me about it when I get back. This is the first I have heard of any relationship between them.

Sincerely yours,



Curtice ~~Hitchcock~~

Mr. Lee Barker

August 6, .

Karen Rye

I have checked the points which Mr. Hanson mentions in his letter, and it seems to me that while there is some justification for his attitude, the situation is not nearly as bad as he makes it sound. To say, as he does, that "the chapter called Black River, beginning page 313, is almost entirely a slightly revised condensation of Journey," is at least extravagant.

Vicki Baum's character, Maxwell Tyler, has three things in common with Mr. Hanson:

1. Both were commissioned by the Carnegie Institution to study the magnetism of the earth.
2. Both have malaria.
3. Both use their field radios to entertain the natives.

These facts appear in both books:

1. The natives' reaction to the war (Sino-Japanese in JOURNEY,



(European in ~~THE~~ WEEPING WOOD).

2. The building of the Madeira-Mamore railroad.
3. Fordlandia
4. The dilapidated rubber palaces
5. The adulterated quinine

Here Miss Baum probably used Hanson's book as a source, but all these facts are no doubt available elsewhere.

From a creative point of view, there is little similarity. Tyler's bouts of delirium are not identical with Hanson's; anything they have in common (conversations with people who are not present, visions of fresh fruit, etc.) seem to be simply general characteristics of delirium. And Enrique, Miss Baum's German tramp, is by no means a combination of Hanson's Pillekahn and Jack Diamond. Pillekahn is a vague, mildly insane man who is looking for a settlement which ceased to exist 150 years ago; he had left Germany during the period of inflation after the first World War, and he worked in the oil fields

in Venezuela. Diamond is a picturesque "tropical tramp," who came to South America to work on the Madeira-Mamore railroad, then went to Fordlandia, and finally killed himself. Enrique left Germany before World War I because he was a younger son and therefore inherited no land, and because he hated militarism; he deserted the Army to go to South America and work on the Panama Canal. Like Diamond, he worked on the railroad and at Fordlandia. I'm sure Mr. Hanson has no monopoly on German tramps in South America, and except for these superficial similarities Enrique, as a character, owes nothing to Pillkahn or Diamond.

What it adds up to, I think, is that Miss Baum should have acknowledged her use of JOURNEY TO MANAOS as a source book; she is not, however, guilty of any great literary crime.

I am attaching a few pages of quotations from both books, covering the major points at issue.

Delirium - conversations with father:

BAUM

"In his fever Tyler had many discussions with his father, and he watched with pleasure how brilliantly and irrefutably his own arguments were pitted against the reactionary, senile oratories of the old man." (p.313)

HANSON

"... It took me back to Berlin, to my ninth year, when I had pneumonia - how clearly I could remember all that. Here, in a minute, a man would come to see me; I would recognize him instantly as my father, who had shaved off his mustache when his son was ill with pneumonia, and had gone to the sick little boy pretending to be somebody else. God and Napoleon, with hands like Virginia hams - that was splendid; that way one knew one had hands and feet, and a jaw - Father was sitting there, talking - he hadn't shaved off his mustache after all, it was white now - oh, Father, why don't you keep quiet - it is hard to listen to you... It is splendid to lie like that with all one's faculties sharpened, with feet and hands and jaw as great as they had been when that boy of nine had been intrigued by them in the same way; it is splendid to be a little boy again, and to be carried in to see the Christmas tree and forget about having pneumonia, and to wake up the next morning without a headache, and with a dream that one's father had taken the ache out of one's head and hung it on the Christmas tree." (pp.267-68.)

Quinine

"Because the quinine he had bought in San Fernando de Atabapo had turned out to be nothing but farina and sodium bicarbonate, and no one up the Orinoco, the Atabapo, and down the Rio Negro could help him out with a sufficient dose of real quinine." (p.314)

"Sergeant Felix watched me take my newly-bought bottle of quinine from the box of supplies. 'Let's see that stuff!' he said.

I gave it to him. 'That's no good. It's adulterated.'

(Cont.)

'How do you know?'

'I'm sorry to say that all our rivers here are flooded with stuff they call quinine but that's mainly flour or bicarbonate of soda.'" (p.232)

Carnegie Institution.

"... I'm a mathematician, and I've been sent here by the Carnegie Institute."

'The Institute sends you here to do what?' Enrique said.

'To check up on terrestrial magnetism; to study the magnetism of the earth, if that means anything to you,' Tyler said." (p.233)

"Eventually the Carnegie Institution hired me temporarily to make a survey of the earth's magnetism, not in the polar regions but in the interior and on the West Coast of South America." (p.2)

War News

Tyler hears Hitler's speech announcing the invasion of Poland, and tells the natives that war has begun:

"'Patricios,' Enrique shouted over all the cheerful clamor, 'amigos, now our troubles are over! We do not have to leave, we do not have to go to Ceasa and work like peons. You heard it. War! Arriba la guerra! Arriba! They will need rubber, they will pay any price, ten milreis a kilo, twenty milreis; we shall all be rich, very rich, very rich.'" etc. (p.335)

The natives are listening to Hanson's radio; there is a news broadcast announcing the invasion of Manchuria:

"A ripple of excitement spread through the village. People came out of their houses to ask about the matter. Nobody wanted to listen to my music. A war! Gracias a Dios! Perhaps now we can sell our rubber again, and have life here, and stop living like savages, and be decent civilized people. Did you hear that the doctor said there was going to be a war?"

So the rumor spread like wildfire, among these people who had spent years doing nothing but plant vegetables, hunt, fish - waiting for the day when the world's trade would seek them out again." etc.

(pp. 146-47)

Madeira-Mamore railroad and Fordlandia

Enrique, the German, tells Tyler about working on the railroad:

" Senhor Tyler, you will not meet many men who can say they worked on the Madeira-Mamore and are still alive. Maybe you heard what they say of her. Every tie on that railroad cost the life of a man... When we start building that ferrocarril, there is great rubber boom, more than three dollar the pound, fine Para. In nineteen hundred thirteen it is over. Price goes down. Finish. We been fools. We been crazy. Locos. There is a railway through the jungle from Porto Velho to Guajara-Mirim, and nobody wants to use it. A new ferrocarril, a fine railway, from nowhere to nowhere, and the rubber isn't worth shipping!...

I work in Fordlandia myself, from 1930 to 1932, up Rio Tapajos. With my own eyes I see the young trees get sick and die... Mr. Ford is a religious man, no? Good friend of God, Mr. Ford, no? Only maybe God does not know about it and makes Mr. Ford's little rubber trees all sick. I tell you something, Americano. Madeira was bad. Putumayo was bad. But Fordlandia was more bad. To drink, verboten. To swear, verboten. To smoke, verboten. I did not run away from Germany to live in a god-damned prison. If Mr. Ford wants his seringueiros to be little angels with white wings and nice, clean, white shirts - adios, Enrique! Mr. Ford builds roads and houses and a faucet with water in every house and a school and a hospital, and all children must be clean all the

"Jack had originally gone to South America to work on the construction of the Madeira-Mamore Railroad, that frightful job that was hacked through the Brazilian jungles about the time the Panama Canal was built, and that was said to have cost one life, from disease, for every tie in the road. On the termination of that work, Jack had boomed to the West Coast, to help build Chuquibambilla, the power plant in Tocopilla, and the various other products of the post-canal boom. But then the depression came and left him stranded... Penniless and discouraged on the West Coast, he had crossed the Andes and "thumbed" his way down the Beni River, by hook or crook, by launch, sailboat, balsa raft, and canoe. His thought had been that on the Madeira-Mamore Railroad, where they had known him since construction days, he could always find work. But the railroad was virtually dead. The British firm that had run it since the days when Americans had built it, had given up the ghost and told the Brazilian government, that, since the collapse of the rubber boom, there was not enough traffic in the country to make a railroad pay. The government had taken it over, largely because its abandonment would mean, too, the abandonment of a number of towns that had sprung up in the jungle along, and as a result of the railroad. The government was running one train each way every two weeks, had too many employees on its hands, and could

BAUM

time and go to school every day, and every man gets needles stuck into him, and in the children too, and the women. You cannot treat Brazilians like this!...

Seven years ago... when rubber was so low you cannot buy a drink of water with an arroba of fine Para, I go back to Porto Velho. I speak to the jefe of the ferro-carril and explain to him my situation. Senor Jefe, I say to him, I have helped build this railway. There is not a rail between Calaleirao and Mutum which I have not helped lay with my own hands. Senor Jefe, I say to him, I am tired of the Amazonas. I am an engineer, and you see in me an educated man who is willing to do good, honest work. Senor Henrique, the jefe answers with great politeness, I am overwhelmed by regret, but do you realize that we run only one train every second week, just in order to maintain the concession?"  
(pp. 327-332)

HANSON

not give work to Jack Diamond. So Jack's old friends had taken up a collection to send him down the Madeira River, down the Amazon for some five hundred miles, and up the Tapajoz to "Fordlandia," where Henry Ford had a reputation of never refusing work to any man who came to his rubber plantation in search of it.

The rest is conjecture, though four of us, old friends of Jack's, agreed about what must have happened. He was given work on the Ford plantation but he was an old dog who could not adjust himself to the new morality that Henry Ford had injected into the Amazonian jungle frontier. It seems that in Fordlandia nobody is allowed to drink and perhaps to smoke, on pain of dismissal; the gossip throughout the Amazon Basin was that nobody was allowed to swear either, and that all carnal thoughts were regarded as balefully as, in Detroit today, is a desire, even though suppressed, to join the C. I. O."  
(pp. 74-75)

August 6th, 1945.

Dear Vicki:

Since Don is still away on vacation, I am therefore writing you about Earl Hanson's complaint. Several weeks ago Hanson kicked to his publishers, Reynal & Hitchcock and alleged that you had plagiarized his book, JOURNEY TO MANAOS in THE WEEPING WOOD. Curtice Hitchcock wrote me about it at the time and I passed it along to Don whose assistant Karen Rye has made an analysis of the similarity between the two books.

A few days ago I had another call from Curtice saying that Hanson was getting more and more unpleasant and he thought we ought to do something about the matter as soon as possible. Curtice, of course, would like to see the whole thing settled amicably and forgotten, and he thinks his author is being an awful nuisance to pursue it.

Apparently Jacques Bacal, Hanson's lawyer having compared both books feels that he has the basis for a plagiarism suit (and probably a good fee). Curtice Hitchcock thinks that this can be averted by a letter of apology for not giving Hanson sufficient credit. From Miss Rye's report I would judge that he is not entitled to too much more credit anyway, but of course he does have a certain amount of nuisance value. I don't believe for a minute that he can win a law suit, but he can probably make a lot of trouble and cost us some legal fees. I'd be in favor of making peace with him for that reason, but the final decision is certainly yours. I'm sorry to bother you with all this.

Eileen and I have been hoping that you'd come on this fall; we'd love to see you again.

As ever,

Lee Barker.  
Miss Vicki Baum,  
Balneario,  
San Jose Purua,  
Mich., Mexico.

without any cost.

Balneario San José: Purua  
Mich., Mexico

August 16, 1945

Dear Lee, -

Your letter was the first thing I ever heard about the trouble with Earl Hanson. I am enclosing my answer to him and hope that it will take care of it. However, I have to get tough with Doubleday, Doran and strictly refuse any incrimination in this whole business. "Weeping Wood" was hot stuff and full of little traps and possibilities of libel suits etc. I asked, then, that your lawyers might go over it with a fine comb and I begged Don repeatedly to make sure that there would be no trouble about quotations, mentioning authors, saying thank you, and so on. I remember distinctly to have asked several times whether we had an okay by Earl Hanson and his publishers, and was assured that all this was taken care of. If you look in your files you might even find it in the correspondence. I think the whole thing came out just before you came in and so you won't know about it. But I must definitely refuse all responsibility. My business is to write books and Doubleday, Doran's have to look after the legal and formal side of it. Now ain't that true?

Right after my return I'll have to move into our new house and finish a story for Collier's. I should like to come to New York in January but God knows how, a) my health and b) transportation will be by that time. I certainly would like to see you and Eileen. Give her all my love and the very best to you.

Always yours,

P.S.: If my letter to Hanson is okay, please keep a copy of it and send it off for me. Thanks.

Vicki

I'll be back in Pasadena by Sept 5th.



Weeping Wood

August 29, 1945

Dear Curtice:

I've been a long time getting a letter from Vicki Baum in reply to Earl Hanson, because as you know she lives out on the Coast and she has recently been in Mexico. I'm sorry about the delay and I hope you will tell Earl Hanson that it hasn't been entirely our fault.

You will note that Miss Baum suggests in her letter that in future editions a suitable credit line might be included, and this of course we would be only too glad to do. I'm sure that you realize that we too are disturbed over Hanson's annoyance and want to do everything possible to heal the breach between him and Miss Baum.

Sincerely,

Lee Barker

LB:CD

Mr. Curtice Hitchcock  
Reynal and Hitchcock  
8 West 40th Street  
New York 18, New York

~~Mr. Bartlett~~  
File

August 30th, 1945.

via air mail

Dear Vicki:

Your letter to Earl Hanson is a masterpiece and I think it ought to clear up everything. It is my fault that the matter ever came up, since I never got a clearance from Hanson or his publishers. The reason that I did not was that according to the permissions department it was not necessary since less than one hundred words of directly quoted material had been used, and in such cases it is technically not necessary. However, I should not have let it go at that and I should have followed it up just to be on the safe side. So you are quite right in declining all responsibility of the matter and we will attend to any further developments.

I hope you are feeling better and will be coming to New York soon.

Love,

DBE.

Miss Vicki ~~Baum~~,  
464 Bellefontaine,  
Pasadena, California.

598 Ellen Army

~~Sheeping Wood~~

**REYNAL & HITCHCOCK, INC.**

PUBLISHERS : 8 WEST FORTIETH STREET : NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

Weeping Wood

August 30, 1945.

Lee Barker, Esq.  
Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc.  
14 West 49th Street  
New York 20, New York

Dear Lee:

I wonder if you read Vicki Baum's letter to Earl Hanson which you enclose with your letter of August twenty-ninth? It seems to me that I have seldom read a more tactless epistle or one less well calculated to do what I assume the lady wanted to do, namely to mollify the complainant. I don't know why I should be spending time on this, but if Messrs. Doubleday and Miss Baum really want to be pestered with more bitterness and maybe a lawsuit (which I confess seems to me absurd), they have only to pass this letter on to Mr. Hanson and his lawyer. I tried to reach you on the telephone but have been unable to do so.

Sincerely,

*Curtice Hitchcock*  
Curtice Hitchcock <sup>f</sup>

*W. H. H. H.*

*John Barker*

**REYNAL & HITCHCOCK, INC.**

PUBLISHERS : 8 WEST FORTIETH STREET : NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

October 18, 1945.

LeBaron Barker, Esq.  
Doubleday, Doran and Company  
14 West 49th Street  
New York, New York

*file  
weeping wood  
y/ Baum*

Dear Lee:

With respect to the Earl Hanson matter. I excerpted Vicki Baum's letter to Earl Hanson and have finally succeeded in getting the consent of Hanson's attorney to pass it on to Hanson with his recommendation that no further action be taken. I eliminated from Baum's letter several of the more unpleasant and wholly gratuitous paragraphs and I think the house of Doubleday owes me a drink for going to considerable trouble to save them from trouble.

*write Baum  
10/26/45*

It should be particularly noted, however, that in any future edition of the novel whether original or reprint some form of reasonable credit should be given to Hanson's book and to save yourself from future pain I would suggest that you give me a look at it before it is inserted.

*memo to  
Seltzer -  
will do.  
in future  
edition  
LOBE*

Sincerely,

*Curtice Hitchcock*  
Curtice Hitchcock

DOUBLEDAY, DORAN & COMPANY, INC.

Memorandum For: ~~Henry F. ...~~ ✓

Date 10-25-45.

From: → molly ryan

Before any plans go through for a reprinting of another edition of WEeping WOOD by Baum, will you be sure to flag Mr. Elder, because there is a change to be made in the front matter of the book containing acknowledgements.

thanks.

maryan.

*Have noted on  
my records, altho I doubt  
very much if we will do  
another reprint edition*

*N.W.D.*

~~Mr. Harry Lichtenreich~~  
Marilyn Ryan

October 26th, 1948.

Dear Vicki: *Wilson's*

Curice Hitchcock tells me that he has passed on your letter to Earl Wilson's attorney who has recommended that no further action be taken. This seems wise on his part, since he hasn't much of a case anyhow and apparently was just letting off steam. I still feel very guilty about having let you in for this unpleasant episode; it was one of the thousand details that sometimes slip by me, and I promise you that I'll never let it happen again.

I think it would be wise in future editions of *THE WEEPING WOOD*, which is now in reprint, to give credit to Wilson's book in your acknowledgment page and if you will tell me how you would like the acknowledgment phrased I'll see that it is inserted in any future editions. *Wilson's*

I haven't heard from you for a long time and I hope that you are well and thinking of a new book. I particularly hope that you might be coming to New York this winter as I am yearning to have a long talk with you on every subject in the world. Ken is out of uniform and back in the office and it seems like old times.

Give my best regards to both Wolfgang and Ruth and to Dr. Lert.

With much love,

As ever,

DBE.

Miss Vicki Baum,  
588 Glen Arm,  
Pasadena, California.

via air mail.

VICKI BAUM

December 3d , 1945

MR. DON ELDER  
C.O. DOUBLEDAY, DORANS CO.  
14 W 49th STR.  
NEW YORK, N.Y.

Dear Don:

Gosh, darn it, I forgot all about that line of recognition for Earl Hanson. I think we shove it in after the line about Ruth Mc Kenney and it should go about like this: To Earl Hanson, whose JOURNEY TO MANAOS threw new lights on the never-changing trails of travelers in the Amazon.

I'm jotting this down in great haste - soon more.

Love as ever

*Vicki*

520 EAST 86<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
NEW YORK

December 12, 1945

Doubleday Doran & Co., Inc.,  
14 West 49th Street,  
New York, N.Y.

*Miss Baum*

Gentlemen:

On October 3rd I wrote Miss Vicki Baum on behalf of Editorial Febo of Madrid, asking the conditions on which the Spanish language rights of her books, THE WEE PINE WOOD and MARION could be obtained, and I have a reply from her advising me that all matters concerning the rights of her books are handled by you. Will you, therefore, please let me know if such rights are still open and name the figure at which they could be obtained?

*J. B. Anderson*

The Spanish editorial houses are very active again and are looking to this country for best sellers to publish in Spain. As the same situation no doubt exists with respect to the South American publishing houses it might be of interest to the author, under the circumstances, to sell separately the rights for Latin America and the rights for Spain proper.

Trusting that I may be favored with your answer soon, I remain,

Very truly yours.

*Manuel Alonso*

Manuel Alonso



DOUBLEDAY, DORAN & COMPANY, INC.

Memorandum For: ~~Don Elder~~

Date 12-14-45

From: Lee Booth

You will see from the attached letter that Vicki Baum has told Mr. Alonso that we handle the translation rights of her book, WEEPING WOOD. However, our records show that Dr. F. H. Landshoff of L. B. Fischer Publishing Co. handle all foreign and translation rights of this book. This is according to a letter dated 2-2-45 from Vicki Baum. If this is an indication that she is changing her agent, and that we may now handle the rights, I'm delighted of course, and shall be glad to answer Mr. Alonso accordingly. Will you advise?

*Landshoff is still  
handling - leaving for Europe  
Thursday  
DOB*

December 19th 1945

Dear Mr. Alonso,

I am indeed sorry that I am not able to answer your questions concerning THE WEEPING WOOD by Vicki Baum. We have now been requested to refer all inquiries for translation rights to Dr. F. H. Landshoff, c/o L. B. Fischer Publishing Corp., 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N.Y. Will you therefore kindly communicate with Dr. Landshoff.

Sincerely yours,

L. G. Booth

Manual Alonso, Esq.,  
520 East 86th Street,  
New York 28, N.Y.