

May 28, 1963

Mr. Eric Q. Bohlin
President
Eberhard Faber Inc.
Crestwood
Wilkes-Barre
Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Bohlin:

Please accept my thanks for your very nice present. Your personal expression of thanks for my effort is a bit unusual and all the more appreciated. Incidentally, my "effort" was really on behalf of a just disposition of this case, which was based upon a profound misunderstanding of the situation. I find that such situations, which unfortunately are not rare, are an affront to my sense of fairness, and I find myself involved in them from time to time.

My personal feelings, which I have never been hardened by experience to disregard, are that both you and I were defeated in this instance by the settlement, despite its rationale. I realize fully that there was the imponderable, in this instance, of a jury that could not fail to sympathize with the plaintiff; there may have been other unpredictable factors. However, I regard the settlement of a worthless case by the sum agreed upon in this instance, as a cynical acceptance of a sad state of affairs in the courts. So long as this sort of thing obtains, it is impossible for a citizen to resort to a "court of justice" in defense of a civil suit unless he is very well to do. The sums which are now being awarded (or settled) are, in my view, outrageous, regardless of the stratagems by which such payments can be made without ruinous effects. This leaves the "little people" without access to justice.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Behoe, M. D.

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