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April 18, 1967

Mrs. Priscilla Cohn
 The Pennsylvania State University
 The Ogontz Campus
 1600 Woodland Road
 Abington, Pennsylvania 19001

Dear Mrs. Cohn:

Thank you for your letter of March 21 which was addressed to an office the Encyclopedia vacated some four years ago and which, as a consequence, did not reach me until a couple of days ago. I am much astonished by several of your remarks, but being myself quite ignorant about Spanish philosophy, I am not in a position to argue with you. In deciding the articles to be featured in this area, I was entirely guided by the advice of several persons who, I had reason to believe, knew a great deal about Spanish philosophy. Since they, quite independently, gave me much the same advice, I thought that I had been properly informed. I share your low opinion of Julian Marias one of whose books I have read, but apparently my advisers thought he was sufficiently important to warrant a separate article. I did not allow my personal opinion to interfere with decisions in such matters.

I am afraid I do not share your high opinion of Ferrater Mora's original works. I admire his Dictionary, but I got very little out of Being and Death which I read last summer. In a forthcoming book of mine there will be some detailed criticisms of what he says about death. This, however, had absolutely nothing to do with the absence of an article about Ferrater Mora in the Encyclopedia. None of my advisers ever suggested having such an article on him and, as I explained previously, I was guided by their recommendations.

I must absolutely contradict your assertion that the author of the articles on Ortega and Marias is "biased" or "misinformed, or both. Mr. McInnes is an old and close friend and he is one of the most scholarly and responsible persons I have ever known. I do not always agree with him but he is the last person on earth whom I would ever describe as either biased or misinformed. His forthcoming book on Serel will, I am sure, be a major event in scholarly circles.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Edwards
 Editor-in-Chief

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