

ROSE LAWN,
KINGSGATE-ON-SEA,
BROADSTAIRS,
KENT.

April 17th.1952

Dear Frank Snell,

Very pleased to hear from you again. But I am very sorry to hear about poor old Puppy. I know what it feels like, only too well. But I am glad that Timo is going strong, bless his little doggy heart.

You are a good boy to say such nice things about the Auto. It must be readable if you devoured it at such a rate. Quite a lot of people seem to think the "third person" idea a little unique: but after all, Caesar set the example, I seem to remember, a good while ago: and anyhow, I just couldn't have written it at all crammed with "I's". I am very glad, my dear boy, that you liked reading it. Some readers seem a little bothered about the "Monte" chapter, which perhaps I should have left out if I had been wiser: but wisdom never was my long suit, and somehow I have never lost the habit of telling the truth which I acquired in the eighteen-seventies. But really and truly, a man who has nothing worse on his conscience than a flutter at Monte Carlo must be a much more

stainless character than I can ever claim to be.

I am afraid that "Faith and Hope" is likely to remain in typescript for some time to come. Publishers seem to think that F.R. had better follow the example of the scabbler, and stick to his last! Still, you never can tell, and I hope to see it in print some day. The Greyfriars series mentioned in the Auto was run in a periodical called the "Comet". It ran for about a year. Now there is a Bunter strip. "Felgate" is published in Raymond Glendenning's Book of Sport, a Christmas annual,--three or four short Felgate stories in each issue. There was an idea once of a Felgate periodical, but so far it has not materialised. These be difficult days!

I am very glad you have come across the "Goldhawk" books. This is really an attempt to get back to something like pre-war prices, and at present it looks like turning out well. Actually at the moment I am busy with Nos. 9 and 10. The present idea is to publish two a month, but whether that will go on, we don't yet know. Certainly I shall be very pleased to autograph a copy if you send it along.

Kindest regards to Timo.

Always yours sincerely,

Frank Richards