jhs ABBEY OF GETHSEMANI TRAPPIST, KENTUCKY Feb 9, 1961 Dear Victor: Here it is. I have done my best to promote useful knowledge. You must now be loyal to the tradition of caves, and beware of the culture of cities. While you are away I shall seek a small grant of about ten dollars in order to spend a week doing some murals of my own in some of the deeper recessas of our own Kentucky caves which have so far lacked any form of artistic embellishment. My murals will be completely abstract, without even the intrusion of an expressionist element: it will be the emergence of a new cycle of so called "dead pan cave art" and will be all the more effective because it must be a) painted and b) viewed in complete obscurity. This will be my protest against the fluorescent lighting which is currently characteristic of the agora. I hope I have been literate and have not made so many spelling mistakes as to prejudice your worthy cause. I got Carolyn's card and am relieved that the Rovere book was not lost. When are you coming over again? When do you plan to sail if you get the grant? If you come in the next couple of months would you want to give a talk to the group of monks that I referred to? Any time would be good expept from February 15th to 28th. Perhaps the first week in March? I hope we can arrange something. I want to get this to you as quickly as possible, so I will not delay any longer. God bless you both: With cordial good wishes in Christ In Louis