

1/1/98

Dear Brian Lamb:

It was a fortunate day for me when I stumbled upon C-span. I was attracted to "Book notes" because you were interviewing the incomparable Colman McCarthy, and I've been hooked ever since. Thank you for C-span, as I hear many, many call-ins say.

The Tocqueville series has been riveting for me. I hope in time it can be purchased as a consecutive film.

A farago of suggestions:

- I'd love to see you do some dialogues with perhaps a living actor portraying dead or distant writers who have much to say:

The late Christopher Lasch

I. F. Stone

Paddy Ashdowne, who is in the U.K. bar writes a refreshing speech. (I have your tape of his remarks to the convention of his party.)

others? There are lots more.

- A suggestion for the Newseum. I'd like to see them include a section about the role a free press has in making sure our liberties stay intact. Tiananmen Square gave a prime example of how the

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press can keep us informed, even if a government wishes to bury a scandal. So did Donald Woods in South Africa. Amnesty International might collaborate in digging for material about the role of the press in keeping the light on politics, no matter how murky. Justice Brandeis said in 1913

"Publicity is justly commended as a remedy for social & industrial diseases. Sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants." (Quoted from memory - may be imperfect.)

You are doing a service no one else does. Bravo.

Sincerely,

