

September 7, 1940.

Mr. Walter Frese,
Hastings House, Publishers,
135 Front St.,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Frese:-

Your letter and the complimentary copy of the New Mexico Guide and the Gloucester and Cape Ann books were here when I returned from a short trip, yesterday.

First, my thanks for the books which I am very happy to have.

I am glad to hear from you relative to possible publication of books of this western country. I have done one or two myself, as well as a series of post cards, but I am not in a position to push this work as I should like to do.

I am very much pleased with the reproductions of most of my prints the New Mexico Guide. All of the Indian group are excellent. The Rancho de Taos Mission in the Architecture series, is much too dark in the copy I have. The other two in this section also are a bit too heavy, but the Mission has suffered as it should be in a very high key. However I know what your problems are on such a book.

As to your inquiry regarding material for Bryce Canyon, I have some work that I have done there but not sufficient for a book. I should, however, be glad to go down there again and do a full series. Knowing that country very well, I am wondering if a book would not go better if it included Zion National Park and the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. These are all relatively close to-gether, and are all reached through the Union Pacific Railway who have all the concessions in the Parks, and manage the hotels etc. Their outlet would be a large one. Bryce Canyon of course can be adequately done in black and white but it is the most amazing place in color anywhere in this western country, and would do best in color. Possibly a book containing a few good reproductions from Kodachromes, (I can make any size from 3 1/2 x 4 1/2 to 8 x 10) would do best, as everyones reaction is to the color. I remember my own reaction very well, as it was the only time in my twenty four years of photographic work, that the color upset me so that I had great difficulty in finding pattern, light and shade, and fine design.

I can easily send you a long list of possible books, such as the Cape Ann, for I have worked in this country

for many years and have a considerable quantity of available material. Several years ago, I put out a series of pictorial lantern slides. These were purchased by a number of Museums and Educational Institutions. With the invention of the Kodachrome the slide business needs all to be done over again. But I have all this material in black and white and have already partially prepared this same lecture for possible book publication. THE STORY OF THE SOUTHWEST IN PICTURES. I enclose a little folder about the slides, which will give you some idea of the subject matter included. The material I have on the slides for the lecture can easily be used as a single page or less of text to accompany each picture. I should like to make a few changes using new things have done in the last year or two, and to see some of the Archaeologists to be certain that I have all text material up to the minute, as new discoveries are constantly changing.

At the moment I am engaged on a large job that will take me another month to finish. But as quickly as possible I shall complete my text and prints for this book and submit it to you. It is of-course of great importance to any serious photographer to have his or her work reproduced as perfectly as possible. I am not a Miniaturist but still use an 8x10 camera for practically all my work, occasionally a 3x4. The outlet for such a book would be very large as the Fred Harvey stands would all carry it, as well as all book stores along the Santa Fe and I am sure else where as well. I know the stores here would be interested.

I would be pleased to hear from you regarding any thing in the line of picture books for it is the line that I have been working for and towards for many years.

Sincerely yours,