

MORGAN & LESTER



Publishers

101 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

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January 30, 1945

Dear Laura:

Received your letter and note that you are doing portraits. This sounds perfect for a good chapter on Portrait Photography which I can include in Graphic Graflex Photography.

Just after I sent you my last letter I received a reply from a photographer in Birmingham who will do the chapter on Industrial Photography. I had written to him several months ago. As there was no reply I figured that he had been shipped out somewhere. However he is now back on the job and will start the chapter immediately.

I need a good photographer to do the Portrait Chapter now. Can you do this? I'll hold this open until I hear from you, so there will not be any mix up this time.

The portrait chapter should present some good elementary principles on posing, exposure, lighting, etc. Tell how to use the Graflex and Graphic View cameras...also the Speed Graphic. However the equipment can be mentioned only where it comes in natural.

I would like to keep the chapter free from stuffy rules on portraiture. A portrait should reveal the character of the individual...either a close-up mug shot or even a full length shot. There should be some emphasis upon the use of interesting backgrounds related to the subject...two people in one portrait shot...or other combinations which will give the chapter a more progressive viewpoint in keeping with the modern portrait demands of amateurs, publications, etc.

Some mention can be made about finishing the portrait for final use. You will undoubtedly have plenty of good ideas on this. If you wish...send me an outline or a rough draft of your chapter. Then I can add any suggestions. There will be a chapter on straight lighting written by Don Mohler in the new edition. You don't have to go into too much detail on this. Mohler is rewriting the chapter which he had in the previous editions of the Graflex book. Your angle should point more to the personality interpretation of portraiture.

I hope you can do this chapter on portraiture. Please let me know.

Willard D. Morgan

PUBLISHERS OF: The Leica Manual • Miniature Camera Work • Synchroflash Photography • Photo-Lab-Index
Graphic Graflex Photography • Correct Exposure in Photography