

May 20,
1948

Mr. Walter Ponce,
Martin & Monro, Inc.
41 East 50th St.,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Walter:-

Your note of May twelfth with the news of the possibility of a break in the Book-of-the-Month Club News was welcome indeed. I am keeping my fingers crossed that they will have space.

A number of nice letters from people whose opinion I value have come in. I send a copy herewith of one from Paul Martin of the Chicago National History Museum. Then I have heard from Dr. Eric Thompson direct, and also Dr. Clyde Fisher of the American Museum. Also a very nice letter from Frank Pomeroy, editor of POPULAR PHOTOGRAPHY. While this magazine is not what we would call high class, it has an enormous circulation and a good review in it will be worth while I am sure. I have never received the copy for Dr. Charlot in Colorado Springs. I have written to see if was sent direct to him. If not I will send him one of my copies, for a review in the American Magazine of Art is something I would like very much indeed. The news I am anxious to hear is how the book has been received in Tucson and Mexico City and what the sales are down there. Dr. Pomeroy will be home next week, so I can hear something direct from him. Also I have written to Dr. Barbachano of the Mayaland Lodge to hear his opinion. I hope very much that you can bring back word for me from him. I am sure you will be certain that there is no doubt for the time of publication you have in mind. Let us hope that this means Copen and Quirigua next winter.

It was a pleasure to see the McPharlings and take them on a little trip. As you know I have mentioned a small book on Bandelier National Monument. I hadn't been out there for a year, and took the McPharlings out there for a picnic, which we all enjoyed very much. But my own recollection, and I am sure that it was Mr. McPharling's too, was that there was not enough material there to warrant a book. Also I had been given misinformation as to the number of visitors a year. Bandelier has 25,000 and the White Sands 50,000. So I have dropped all thought of that. The churches of the Southwest would be nice book to do, but would take a lot of time and travel, which at the present time I could not undertake without backing. There is also another idea which I have discussed with a number of local authorities. A small book on the Indian Crafts of the Southwest. A series of the making of pottery from the gathering of the clay to the finished product, subject No. 1; No. 2 the making of Navaho rugs and blankets; No. 3 the making of Navaho silver. There are no basket makers in this vicinity, but could be had in Arizona. I think this would make a very interesting book and would be one that I am certain would have a big sale here, if the cost could be kept at \$2.50 or \$3. At the moment I am deep in the pottery angle, as I am doing the photography for Kenneth Chapman's treatise for the Laboratory of Anthropology. This of course is a scientific study of the design of these certain pueblos. My thought is a popular book telling how the crafts are made. Everyone I have asked about this, thinks this a swell idea. My first thought was a little book just about the pottery, (Mr. Chapman is strong for this) then it has occurred to me to extend it to include, rugs and silver, possibly drums and paintings. All the handicraft of the Indians from this part of the world. I shall gather material towards this as I can during the summer, and if you are at all interested, you might think it over.

I am returning herewith, the letter from Mr. Thompson sent to you, as well as a copy of Dr. Paul Martin's letter.

With best wishes, I am

Most sincerely

May 18,
This is the book that should follow CHISHAM LANA,
and I hope that the next few months will warrant
our undertaking it.

It was a pleasure to see the McPharline. As I
had been wanting to make the trip out to Bandelier
National Monument to look it over with the thought
of the little volume I wrote to you about, I took
them out there for a picnic. We had a lovely day,
and thoroughly enjoyed the trip to this historic, or
rather pre-historic spot. However, on looking it
over from the book angle, I came to the quick con-
clusion that there is not enough material there to
warrant even a small book. Also I was mis-informed
as to the yearly visitors. It is the White Sands
National Monument that has 50,000 visitors; Bandelier
has 25,000.

One or two other ideas are in my mind concerning
which I will write you as soon as I have them more
thoroughly thought out.

I enclose herewith the letter from Mr. Thompson
which your office sent to me several weeks ago, to-
gether with a copy of Dr. Martin's letter to me.

With best wishes, I am

Most sincerely