

October 15,
1949

Mr. Jerry Bywaters,
Dallas Museum of Fine Arts,
Dallas, 10
Texas.

Dear Mr. Bywaters:

Thank you very much for your letter of the 12th. As yesterday was a very hectic day in regard to advance work on the book, I was unable to get an answer off to you.

The book seems to be off to a good start and I am hoping that Texas will be interested in it since so much of Texas is contained therein.

Yes, the exhibition of originals will be the same as the show at Colorado Springs, but with improvements. We had planned that exhibit for a year and at that time we expected the book out last fall. However, when I saw the prints on the wall at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, I realized that I was far from satisfied with the final section of the book, and as there was a delay in production anyway, I returned to the Brownsville area last winter and reworked that last section. Both the book and the exhibit are greatly improved by the material I obtained down there last winter. This will, of-course be included in the show. It will go on display here on November 7th for two weeks, after which I shall be happy to come to Dallas with it. I believe that I have worked out a plan whereby to show the prints under glass here in Santa Fe. It makes such a tremendous difference in the presentation that I would rather not show it without. I will have the glass and unless it is too heavy for my car, I will bring it, otherwise it can be shipped. I also have a set of plaster letters for the various sections, a poster etc.

Last winter I was in your Museum on a Sunday afternoon and I know what nice rooms you have. Mr. Wilder did a magnificent job of presentation in Colorado Springs, and I will try to repeat it here. He calsoained the walls a dark grey, with one wall an Indian red. That sounded very somber to me when he told me of it in advance, but I was amazed at how wonderfully the prints

looked on the walls. I shall bring approximately 150 prints, and you can make some cuts if there are too many. The book contains 242. You may have other ideas for display, and I pass on the information about the Colorado Springs showing for your consideration.

As for a gallery talk, I am a very informal speaker, not very good at it, but it seems that I shall have to learn how. I did it at Colorado Springs, and I shall have to do the same here. I shall be happy to do the best I can.

As to the other exhibition, I do not mind showing at the same time at all, and would be most happy to see it.

I have just had a letter from Miss McFarrey from the Bookstore in Dallas about the book and in answering it I suggested that she get in touch with you regarding the selling of books at the Museum while the exhibition is on. I do not know what your policy is in that regard, but by the time you receive this you may have seen the book and will have a better idea of what the show will be like. My mounts are all 16x20 and the print sizes vary from 3 1/2 x 4 1/2 to 16 x 20. This makes a variation for the exhibit which I think is a good thing.

I am looking forward very much to my visit to Dallas, and I am very pleased that you wish to show RIO GRANDE-RIVER OF DESTINY.

Cordially