

February 14,
1951

Mr. Joaquin Ortega, Editor
The New Mexico Quarterly Review,
Albuquerque, N.M.

Dear Mr. Ortega:-

This is to acknowledge the return of the seven photographs which came in yesterday.

First, I want to tell you once more how much I appreciate this article and the space you have given it. I am very pleased that John Collier wanted to do this, and I am pleased with the article, even though our points of view do differ over the last section of my RIO GRANDE. I see his criticism perfectly from his sociological angle, but this book was not intended for that. If it had been it would have been a three volume affair with equal treatment of that subject on all three sections of the river!

I am very much distressed over the reproductions used in the Quarterly. I know that you yourself are not responsible for someone else deliberately "cropping" these. If you saw the prints when they came back you saw the tissue overlays with crop indicated. In the case of the WHITE SANDS, it is completely ruined both in line and balance.. In the Prospector, the trim on the right hand ~~sides~~ has lost the little landscape which gave the picture not only balance but a setting and atmosphere. Photographers suffer greatly from such practices. Would an editor "crop" a painting or a lithograph by Peter Hurd, for instance, or by Gus Baumann? Or leave out a paragraph from an article? My whole reason for working is defeated by this, for in both the above mentioned instances, I took the greatest possible pains to achieve the very thing which has been removed. My reason for going into such detail is that should you use any of my prints in the TAOS issue of the Quarterly, I beg of you to see that this does not happen again. In the future I shall see that "NO CROPPING" is clearly marked on the back of the print.

I notice from the wrapping paper that the Beck Engraving Co of New York, made the plates. Had I known they were to make these, I would have urged you to use the print that was your first choice, FAITH. They have made plates for me for thirty years, and I know what fine engravers they are and what they can do.

I have sent copies of the Review to both DUELL.SLOAN & PEARCE
and HASTINGS HOUSE, I await their reaction to it.

Miss Forster joins me in sending you our best wishes, and
again I thank you for your interest in my efforts.

Most sincerely