

McIntosh and Otis, Inc.

18 East 41st Street, New York 17, N. Y. MUrray Hill 9-1050

Mary Squire Abbot • Elizabeth Otis

Plays and Motion Pictures: Annie Laurie Williams

December 16, 1955

Dear Miss Gilpin:

Since receiving your letter of November 30th, written from Colorado Springs, I have talked with several more publishers about your book. The final answer from Rand McNally is, I am sorry to say, a rejection. The editor feels that your pictures point to a book of very high caliber but that the weakness lies in the text. He thinks the legend should be done in your own words and greedily condensed. He feels that the text needs an Oliver La Farge. Don't take that too literally. I think he simply meant that the text must match the caliber of the pictures and there must be a unity between the two.

I then consulted one of the editors at Prentice Hall because they have gone into the gift book market recently. But his reaction was that Indian subject matter was out for them. I have also approached Ives Washburn who again was very much attracted by the pictures. My most recent approach was to Little Brown.

I have been very definite with Bryan Holme that the book is in his hands and I will do nothing more until I hear from him about it. I feel we have exhausted our chances if Studio Publications isn't able to take it. I want to let you know this as soon as possible because it will probably affect your planning.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Abbot

Mary Squire Abbot

Miss Laura Gilpin
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Santa Fe, New Mexico

MSA:ASV