

[1957?]

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
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John Collier Jr.

DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

May 15th

Dear Laura

I regret our long silence - but I have often been thinkin
of you- and what you are planning next

Duel Sloan and Pierce's decision to turn down your book made us all extremely angry. It was so obvious that they were for a long time insincere- and just let you go ahead! how I despise this kind of manipulation....John Adair says you are thinking of the University of Oklahoma press- That seems like a verey good deal- Surely now that you have your book so near compleation, they would want to take it up. I cant be to judging of the material now- I only saw the loose leaf binder addition, but it LOOKED like a better presentation than any of your past publications, and of c ourse, it is in every way the most important of your books - so we pray that it will find a publisher. Did I thank you for the camera grip?, I believe I did - but I have not taken pictures since leaving Taos..... so the grip has not been used again - but it will!

I have been nose to typewriter all these months working on my final writing - of Photography in the social sciences. Its stiff wirery stuff- with little oppertubity for free writing- so it goes slow- so very slow. The Part on the Navajo appears to be the most vital, and is a sort off combination ethenography - and phtographic hand book. It deals in length with problems of protocol, cultural personality, and navajo psychology- Possibly you will enjoy reading it. OF COURSE a large part of the MS is devoted to scientific method and so will probably bore all my friends - we shall see.

Pressing hard for a departure for Peru in July- We have to stunning opportunitys for books- One anethnography of the peruvian Hacienda system, and the other an art book on Peruvian Archeology - I wouldnt mind collaborating with YOU on this one - I am going to try and trace the social life of extinct peruvian cultures through thier art of textile and Ceramics. To bad it is all so far away- we could have fun on such a project- there really is to much work for one Photographer, But OF COURSE we have to have some money- We have in some proposals backed by Cornell and the American Museme- but LIKELY we will be back in Taos --- Well, we can always build another room on our house!

Love and good luck,

Your friend,

John Collier Jr.