

March 25,
1962

Mr. Richard D. Lewis,
The Ward Ritchie Press,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Mr. Lewis:-

Your letter of March 22nd came yesterday, and I thank you for your interest in my Navaho book. I shall ship the dummy to you on Tuesday morning for your inspection. It is still quite incomplete. Most of the photography is done, though not all reproduction prints are yet ready. The dummy contains many rough proofs for identification only. Also it is very "beat up", as I have taken it out on the reservation many times and every Navaho I see wants to look at every picture. But it will give you the general idea. I am at work on the text, none is in final form. My plan is to use many personal experiences into which it is easy to incorporate any necessary information. I have a series of standard (3 1/2 x 4) color slides that I have shown a good deal with a talk, and I find that the experience angle is what people like the best. I do want to make one more excursion to the reservation for a few fill ins that seem necessary or to improve what I have. All of this leads up to the fact that it would be very difficult to complete this work by June 1st which you have to have for fall publication should you decide favorably. For spring, yes, but to get it all complete in two months would be doubtful.

It was such a pleasure to see Mr. Webb. We saw very much eye to eye on photography in general and photographers also, and it was wonderful to see his original prints of Mr. Vroman's

plates. The book is beautiful and I treasure my copy.

Mr. Webb may have told you that I was under contract on the Navaho book to Duell, Sloan & Pearce for 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years when they canceled the contract and I have been trying to finish it on my own between necessary work jobs. I have just received a written release from them on my RIO GRANDE so it is now open for any new edition.

I am quite aware of the cost of production of the Navaho book as I have designed it but I hope it can come into a satisfactory budget without too many cuts. I shall await your reaction with the greatest of interest, and I hope that you may consider it favorably.

Sincerely yours,