

Oct. 26,
1962.

Mr. Ward Ritchie,
1932 Hyperion Ave.,
Los Angeles 27,
California.

Dear Mr. Ritchie:-

A few weeks ago I was in Colorado Springs showing my Navaho slides at the Art Center and making some portraits. While I was there, I had dinner one evening with some old friends. I was being plied with questions about my Navaho book. I made the statement to two very old friends that your Press was interested in the book and that I hoped my final manuscript would meet with your approval, or words to that effect. A few days later at a wedding reception I was introduced to the manager of a new bookshop in Colorado Springs. One of these friends was with me and she promptly spoke up saying that you were publishing it. I was somewhat horrified by this statement and quickly told the bookshop gentleman that nothing was settled as yet.

Last week a copy of a leaflet this bookshop publishes came to me with quite a blurb about the forthcoming book of mine which you were publishing! I am indeed most embarrassed about this and I want you to know at once that this is all due to an over zealous friend who misquoted me. The bookshop ofcourse should not have issued such a statement without consulting either you or me. I dont know what it will do any damage, but I certainly dont want you to think I go around making such statements. In view of the events of the past few days, this seems most insignificant,

and it is indeed a lesson in keeping one's affairs to oneself, which is sometimes hard to do.

May I add that I am hard at work on the manuscript of the book and am really making headway with it. But I do have to stop to do necessary work to keep my small pot boiling.

I regret this incident more than I can say and I trust that you will understand the situation.

Very sincerely yours,