

May 27, 70

Dear Mitch:-

How utterly hilarious! The thought of myself in cap and gown first then plus hood has been giving me much inner mirth. Now you have capped it off! Only you would ever have thought of such a thing and so wonderfully put. Thanks a million for the best laugh I have had in a long time. You shall have the picture I promise you.

Now the trouble is going to be that when I hobble up to receive all this at a serious moment, I shall think of your remark and have a very difficult time keeping my face straight.

To-morrow, I hope, I will be mailing you a lot of prints of the Big Bend etc. Some are reject prints which I keep just for identification. I am including some of near by areas, such as Presidio and Ojinaga and the large cattle ranch which adjoins the Park. I will loan you my one copy of The Rio Grande long out of print and now selling at a ridiculous price second hand \$35-\$45. There has been a faint nibble on a new revised edition. This I would like to see. Bill Webb, book-seller & photographer is working on it. He is the one who located the Vroman negatives that led to the publication of that book. He made all the prints. My only other copy of the book is in his hands right now.

I would love to rework that book and bring it up to date. It would not need too many changes. Mostly down in the delta area, I think. I have always wanted to get back to the Big Bend because I was there in 1946 when no developments as to roads etc had been done. You doubtless know that Ansel has work he did there. One I remember from nearly the same spot and how differently we handled it.

In the mean time, I am a lot better. Now one crutch only and the new form shoes and doing a great deal. I am good for much more work.

Many thanks for everything, and especially for all the mirth

With affection,