

February 23, 1937.

Mr. Kenneth Houston, Editor,
The Galileo Press.
New York City.

Dear Mr Houston:-

I fear that technical experts would throw up their hand in horror at my lack of knowledge of what I sometimes do! For four years I have done the photography for the Central City Play Festival for Robert Edmond Jones. I struggle each year to have them plan for the photographs so that it will not be one desperate rush at the last minute. I'm still struggling. There has always been so much confusion and rush that I have had to work madly from instinct alone, and I could no more tell you now what exposure I gave Helen Freeman than fly to the moon. Judging from the looks of the plate, it was made with a Smith lens, stopped to about F16. This is only guess as the lens is not marked beyond F8. I use it stopped down as much as circumstances permit. The camera is an ordinary 8x10 view camera. The print is a double coated platinum on paper specially coated by the Platinotype Co of London. No manipulation.

Sorry that I cannot be more specific but if you could witness the stress under which I have worked at Central I believe you would excuse me.

My photographic philosophy has always been to acquire as great as possible a sensitivity to light on the ground glass that I become my own photo-electric cell. There are times when I do not register accurately but there have been many times when I have had to work so fast and to feel and plan compositions so quickly that I would have been lost indeed had I sat down to figure out what exposure I ought to make, and many a picture would not have been made.

I do hope that this is not to negligible an amount of information for you.

Sincerely yours,

I am sure that Haanstad's Camera Shop, 404 Sixteenth St., Denver, Colo. would also be interested in your publication, particularly as the Central City print will be in it.