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August 2, 1949

Dear Laura:

The short material arrived here actually before you left and I was under the impression that you had seen this and checked it, or had taken a duplicate set of proofs with you. That is why the delay occurred in getting it to you. You have it now so that all is well.

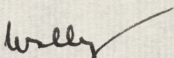
As far as having an autographing party in Santa Fe before publication - I don't believe that this would make any difference except we are going to be on such a tight schedule, the question comes up as to whether or not books will be available much before publication. I know Jerry Clemens is interested in getting them there as far in advance as possible to pick up the Fiesta crowd, but as things go now it looks very doubtful if we can do this. I can report more definitely later on.

Your detailed answers to my questions I think will cover the queries we had from here (except of course for the short measures), and you have given us enough lee way anyway.

I had forgotten about the motto going at the bottom of the last page of text, but with this as a balance I think it will solve our problem. I don't like the idea of a large cut which would spread over two pages as the tailpiece to the text. It will lose a sense of finality which the river going into the gulf implies. In a way, I still like the idea of this particular cut being at the bottom of the page or at least dropped down lower than the others of the same size in the book. What about dropping it to the middle so that the top of the cut would line up with the last line of text on the facing or left hand page? Then have the quotation from Confucius at the foot of the right hand page under the cut. I am trying to get a feeling of the tailpiece in this and I feel if it is at the top of the page it loses that significance.

As you intimate in your card, it is going to be hard enough to hold down the price to \$6.00 at best, and I don't want to go into any extra costs on anybody's part if I can help it. The purpose of keeping the book at \$6.00 is to increase sales enough to warrant the reduction in the retail price.

Best,

  
Walter L. Goodwin, Jr.

Miss Laura Gilpin  
Box 1173  
Santa Fe, New Mexico