

Alta Vista Hotel
Colorado Springs, Colo.
June 28, 1945

Mr. Walter Goodwin,
Duell, Sloan & Pearce,
270 Madison Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Wally:-

I was sorry not to see you all again before setting off on the great adventure, but I had not counted on your being closed on June 19th. I probably did not make myself clear about coming in before I left, and Monday I was out at Barbara Morgan's. As it all worked out everything was perhaps better for the telephoned appointments as things certainly clicked for me in Washington. I think you will be interested in all that I learned.

First, I had been given the wrong spelling of nice Dr. Rowe's name which was embarrassing. I asked Eliot how to spell it and wrote it down in my note book. Well anyway he was so nice and I had a half hour with him. He was very interested in both the Rio Grande and Chichen Itza books and gave me letters both in Spanish and English. Then he said I should see Mr. Corrigan of the division of Mexican Affairs in the State Dept. and called up at once to make an appointment for the next morning. Then I went out to the Mexican Embassy and found Senor Vincente Sanchez Gavito a very helpful and interested person. He is an enthusiastic amateur photographer so we got off on the right foot. He told me all the necessary things to do about passport etc. and then said I must see Dr. Timm who was the Authority on the Rio Grande. Then he told me all about the water treaty between the U.S. and Mexico and also of the possible forthcoming project of an international "T.V.A." for the Rio Grande which will benefit both the U.S. and Mexico. I suddenly began to see our project approaching political potentials! In any event it may be that our book may be timed just when the Rio Grande is very much in the public attention, and also I shall get pictures before big changes are made. The next morning I saw Mr Corrigan who was most courteous and also said I must see Dr. Timm whom he called at once and took me around to his office. He is the head of the Boundary & Commission and knows all there is to know about the waters of the whole region. He gave me a copy of the water treaty and also of a report on the drainage of the Rio Grande. He also told me that the soil conservation people were doing some sort of a book. Perhaps it would be well to find out what we can about this, though I know how different my approach will be. We talked for more than an hour and both he and Senor Gavito gave me the names of the local Commission men in El Paso and Juarez who would be of great help when I get there. Then Mr Corrigan said I should see the Army Public Relations head before I left Washington in case I ran

into any restricted areas and he too made an appointment for me.

So I went out to the Pentagon and saw Captain King who said he doubted if I would run into anything until I got down near the mouth and that if I would write to him when I knew when I would be there he would write the local officer to be on the look out for me. So in a day and a half I thought I accomplished a lot.

I got home and run into the Colorado Springs Gas Ration! Mr. Lipsy was very pleasant and everything but says that the maximum gas he can allot me is 650 miles a month which of-course isnt nearly enough. From

all I hear about town he obeys the letter of the law very strictly and I also gather that somehow lots of people get lots of gas. He suggested that you write to Mr. Chester Bowles to fix it up. I dont know whether Mr. Duell will want to do this or not, but while I await word from you I am writing to Santa Fe to see how things are down there and if it is necessary I shall go straight down there and put in my application there instead of here. I can use my A coupons to get there.

Also the day before I left New York I saw Mr Daniel of PIX again about intermittent assignments for him which will feed and house me along the way. He handed me an assignment at once to illustrate an article by Struthers Burt on returned Veterans and Ranching for the Sat. Eve. Post. I can do these with in driving distance of here and as I have a gas credit on my last three months allotment I shall stay here to do this immediately before going to the Rio Grande. I am very pleased with this affiliation for the pay is good and it will dovetail do nicely with the book and I do not expect too many jobs but enough to keep me going. Mr. Daniel seems a very swell person, I told him all about the book and he said that whenever they have an assignment come up in this region he will wire me and if I can do it O.K. if not they will send someone else.

I find that I can get the photo lab. that I set up for a class at the Art Center and I am taking it for some months partly as a place to store a lot of equipment and also a good place to work for I shall probably come back here by bus or by train every six weeks or so to develop and print the work as I go along. If I should find an adequate place to work in Santa Fe all well and good, if not two of my former pupils will share this with me and I am certain of an anchor somewhere.

So if you will be kind enough to help me work out the gas situation all will be well. In the meantime I shall be getting all possible information about it that I can. Maybe I had better start in Texas for I hear everywhere that Texas pays absolutely no attention to the ration! They come up here for the summer drive everywhere, go hunting and fishing etc. It's wonderful! I have been so careful about not driving a mile more than I absolutely need and now if there were a gas shortage that would be one thing, but there isnt and afterall my job requires driving. I figure that I should have a minimum of 2000 miles a month, preferably 2500. Figured on a daily basis this is about 75 miles a day and you know how fast that can disappear in New Mexico. Of course there will be days when I do not go so far but those days would make longer drives possible.

My greetings to Mr. Duell and excuse such a lengthy epistle but I thought you would be interested in the Washington trip. And my best to your mother, I shall drop her a line soon.

Most sincerely