

11⁵ Camino Escondido,
San a Fe., N.M.
October 2, 194⁵.

Mr. Walter Goodwin,
DUELL, SLOAN & PEARCE,
2⁵⁰ Madison Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Wally:-

You may think I am lost or something, but I have been working hard and traveling so much that I do not seem to get mail attended to properly. I am making good progress on El Rio Grande del Norte, but one large obstacle has presented itself which spells delay. Last winter there was less snow fall than some thirty odd years, which added to a very dry summer, has shrunk the river to a trickle! You would hardly believe how low it is and how meagre it looks. This means of course that I shall have to wait until high water in June to get a lot of river pictures that will be necessary. However, you may recall my hesitancy when Mr. Duell asked about April 1st as a dead line, and now that I am on the job I doubt very greatly if I could get it done in that time even with plenty of water. This is one whale of a job. And it grows more interesting as I progress. Also I am convinced of the necessity of the season round to get certain important pictures. I have, of course, a lot of landscapes of the headwater country, which by the way, is the most magnificent country I know of, and I already have both summer and fall pictures. But as SNOW is the source of the Rio, I want to

2
get some real heavy snow things this winter
and I find I can get to where I want to be.

I have put in two months o hard work and
have a great many negatives, but so far I havent
made a print. I hope that the paper situation
will improve rappidly now and that by December
I can send you a goodly idea of how the work is
progressing. All I can say at the moment is
that I have many negatives that please me and that
I am anxious to get onto paper, that I have gathered
a lot of interesting anecdote and information,
that it is being great fun making friends all up
and down the river as far as I have gone and
that I have had wonderful co-operation wherever
I have worked. This month I shall complete
a lot of things in this region and work on south
to El Paso. Then in November I want to get
clear to the mouth of the river getting the
citrous fruit harvesting, which I shall want to
get again in blossom next springs.

In the mean time, I have established head-
quarters here where I can develop my negatives
though my facilities are none too good. My
cousin Mrs. Knox Taylor has three houses here,
one was vacated Sept. 1st so I grabbed it.
It is the west half of 614 Alameda if you re-
call it, though I give here address next door
until I can get a P.O. box as I do not want mail
left promiscuously when I am away.

To-morrow I am running up the Colo. Springs
to get my winter clothes and other things I need,
and will pick up a few pix on the way. Our
gasoline problem solved itself very nicely didnt
it! It seems strange still to be able to go where

ever one wishes. . . My tires are good and will last some months particularly as I never drive over 40 and usually hold about 35, and I believe my historic car will see me through. It is 10½ years old with 118,000 odd miles to its credit, and many of them pretty strenuous miles, which is pretty good for most any car particularly a cheap car, and she is going strong with many more good miles.

I shall probably have to stop work for a while later in the year to earn some necessary dollars, but I shall work through all the good fall weather to get just as much accomplished as possible. I am doing a lot of reading and getting the "feel" of the whole thing in my mind so that I hope the text will shape itself easily when I get down to it. I have a lot of ideas on format that I am trying to accomplish as I go, page design with a certain kind of picture grouping so that I am trying to compose a group of pictures as well as the individual ones.

The book definitely divides itself into three sections. The Source, The Center, The Border. The first two sections should be well in hand my January with spaces left for the seasonal fill ins.

All this in the way of a report and the promise of a visual one in the not too distant future.

With kind regards to all, I am

Very sincerely