

Dec. 3, 1947.

Mr. Walter L. Goodwin,
DUELL, SLOAN & PEARCE, INC.
270 Madison Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Wally:-

It is a long time since I have written to you and a long time since I heard from you. I never expected to be so long with two replacement pictures, but I still have only one of them done. The hands and Indian corn. I have a new one with lots of colored corn, to replace the one with the white corn. Then I wrote you that I wished to replace the Cross of the Martyrs. I don't like that concrete affair and it isn't old. I have wanted to get one of the simple crosses on a hill which are so indigenous of the country. Then I had a bright idea that it would be good to make a balance picture to the Indian with the growing corn, with the head placed low. That picture represents the Indian religion and heads that division. My new one would be a cross high in the picture and a head low, (Father Angelico) to head the native section. I have made several efforts to get this. Father Angelico is willing to pose for me for it and it has been a question of finding a cross that is situated right to get the figure into the right relation to it. We were all set to go out near Chinayo one day, and a terrible wind came up. Then he was sent away for several weeks. He is back now, and we are buried in snow. However, I hope that we can pull it off in the near future. The Glossary, too, remains unfinished. I have the list of words that need the pronunciation indicated, and will get at this right away too. Following those two years of such extreme drought, we are now in our third snow storm of the winter already and from what I hear the upper Rio Grande is buried deep as it should be and I am longing to get up to see it and do something about it. I suppose that next spring will see a real flood, now that it is too late for me.

Two or three weeks ago, I had the nicest call from Paul Morgan, and we had a wonderful time comparing notes.

He had some very charming sketches that he had done on his travels and it seems a pity that they are not to be used rather than Peter Hurd's illustrations. I did appreciate his coming to see me and was more than pleased by his enthusiasm over the few prints I had to show him.

Have you reached a stage yet where a dummy is underway or any definite plans made? I am, of course, more than anxious to know. Hastings House is missing the boat for the second time for me as far as Christmas is concerned. My completed material was in their hands December 1st 1946, and though it was announced in the Publishers' Weekly for October 28th, I doubt if it sees the light of day before late January or February. Definitely a gift type of book, and I am pretty sure about it. But I know you are all having an awful time with conditions at present.

And in the face of all this I have the temerity to write to you now about another book! During the war, I sent in to Mr. Sloan, my friend Elizabeth Forster's letters about her experiences as a nurse among the Navahos. When I was in your office in 1945 Mr. Duell spoke of this again. I have worried about this effort of hers and so much time had gone by that they were out of date etc. Now, an idea has suddenly struck me regarding them. You may or may not be aware of all the situation on the Navaho reservation and the conditions that have brought to light following Margaretta Deitrich's accomplishment of the Town Meeting of Air on the Indian Question. There have been "investigations" and the situation there is very bad. It just suddenly occurs to me that now with all this so very much in the news, her book could be brought up to date if we made a trip out there and got both pictures and story to bring it down to date, using the first part as a real background. It is short, too short, was the criticism on it before. It contains all my Navaho pictures which I made on visits to her. My feeling about the letters is that she has been too afraid to tell what she really did down there. Now I feel that I could write an introduction that would appraise her work as a most humanitarian nurse. It seems to me the time is now, and if you are still interested I will send on the material as it has stood for so long and see if you agree that we could between us, bring this into focus with a bang. One trip to the reservation should get all the needed material to finish it up.

When people ask me when the Rio Grande will be out I am saying Spring, is this right?

With the best of wishes,

Duane Sloan - Pearce
Dec 3, 1947

He had some very charming sketches he had done on his travels and it seems a pity that they are not be used. I did appreciate his coming to see me and was more than pleased by his enthusiasm over the few prints I had to show him.

Have you reached a stage yet where a dummy for the Rio Grande is under way? And are plans for it assuming shape? Publishers problems must be very great with present conditions. HASTINGS HOUSE is missing the boat for me again on my Yucatan book. My completed material was in their hands on December 1st 1946. They announced it in the Publishers' Weekly for Oct. 28th and now I doubt if it sees the light of day before late January or February. It is definitely a gift type of book. I am pretty sick about it.

And in the face of all this I have the timidity to write to you about another book! During the war I sent in to Mr. Sloan, my friend Elizabeth Forster's Navaho book. Her experiences as a field nurse among the Navaho in 1932-33. When I was in your office in 1945 Mr. Duell spoke to me about this. So much time has gone by that I have worried for fear it is now too out of date. Now an idea comes to my mind that will bring it right up to the moment. You are doubtless aware of all the investigations of the conditions on the reservation etc. and the wide publicity that has followed Margaretta Deitrich's accomplishment in getting The Town Meeting of the Ait to Santa Fe with the Indian as the subject of discussion. Investigations have followed revealing deplorable conditions. Now it seems to me that Miss Forster's book as it stands could make a wonderful background concerning the Navaho and that we could make a trip now to the reservation, see conditions for ourselves, get material and new pictures, and end the book with an up to the minute note. As it stands now it is has been criticised as being too short. This addition should make it right. I have always felt that she belittled her own work out there, or rather put herself so completely in the background, that her own accomplishment is too submerged. Now, I should like to write an Introduction giving an appraisal of her work there as I saw in those years.. It seems to me that now is the time to proceed with this, when the eyes of the country are focused on the Navaho and one trip out there should bring it all up to date and would

not take long. Shall I send her material on to you now

for your consideration and suggestions?

I am still hoping for the answer to my last letter to you which was filled with numerous questions about the Rio Grande, and I hope that you are beginning to get at it. When people ask me when it will be out, I am saying Spring. Is this O.K.?

With best wishes to you and for the holiday season,

Most sincerely