

Sept. 10,
1953.

Mr. Charles A. Pearce,
DUELL, SLOAN & PEARCE, Inc.
124 East 30th St.,
New York, New York.

Dear Cap:-

Home two weeks ago from one trip and off again to-morrow on another. This will be the last long trip, and with one or two more quick dashes out for a day or two, I believe my material will be complete.

The purpose of this letter is to send you the enclosed article of Nancy Newhall's reviewing Paul Strand's LA FRANCE DE PROFIL. At the end of the article is a section on how the book was made. I saw Nancy in April when she and Ansel Adams were here working on the Santuatio for TIME. She told me that the reproductions were superb. She said she had an extra copy which she would send me but to date I have not received it and she has doubtless forgotten about it. If you can get me a copy at a discount I would certainly appreciate it. Keep it as long as you need to to study it and then send it on. But from what she says the quality is largely as matter of INK. If this is the case there is no reason why it can't be done in this country which I would prefer, as I can be on hand to pass on both plates and proofs. One point that is most essential for me to know and to know very soon is the kind of print necessary for me to make. I emphasize this for I have had talks with Ansel on this point. He makes a very much flatter print, with high values printed way down, then the engraver expanding the values and holding highlight values. This, of-course, is for letter press. Perhaps you can discuss the matter with the Gravure Co in New York after seeing the Strand book and showing them also the Ylla book. I can make two prints for them, one the way I want the picture to look, the other scaled to produce that if they can obtain it by the use of either a flatter or higher keyed print. There are a lot of decisions we will be having to make very soon.

I expect to be home about Oct. 1st. and can then send you sample pictures and a little later a tentative

dummy as layout on this book is going to be very important for many reasons. The figure FOUR is very important in Navaho life. For instance a Navaho can tell you an untruth three times, but if you ask the fourth time he HAS to tell the truth! The four directions, the four seasons etc. all are important, therefore I want the book in four divisions or parts, and use this and other symbolism as much as possible.

If the book is manufactured in this country, I will have a little more time and I am going to need it, I know.

U.S.CAMERA ANNUAL is using one Navaho picture in a big double spread. The magazine is holding the others I sent in to appear in an article shortly before publication.

This trip is to the western part of the reservation and north to Navaho mountain. The deeper into this I get the more there is to do (as usual) Why do I pick such hard ones?!

This brings my best wishes and the hope that we can get the ball really rolling very soon.

Most sincerely