

January 16, 1950

Dear Mr. Swann:

We appreciate your interest in writing us about THE RIO GRANDE by Laura Gilpin. However, it is disappointing in that since you have taken the trouble to go a little way into the book, that you have not taken more time to analyze and appreciate the details in laying this out and making it the book that it is.

For instance, in pages 8 and 9 the difference in size, upon careful analysis, is obviously done on purpose so that facing pages would have some relationship to each other in design and in carrying out line and plane, making a double page spread of unity and significance as the opening page of the book. Many plates were remade in this book to obtain the objectives and ideals that we had in mind. Miss Gilpin worked with me on the layout and we dummed it with photo-stats and proofs several times. I am one, myself, who believes it is sacrilege to tamper with others' cropping on photographs, especially with a photographer such as Miss Gilpin. If this is felt necessary we endeavor to check with the photographer in every case. There are many instances in the book which I think deserve, upon real scrutiny, a question which may or may not have been correct in the way in which we answered it, but there are reasons behind each of these and the solution was based on careful thinking, but another person might have decided differently.

I wish to thank you for writing in to us and hope that you will take the time to peruse the book more carefully and really analyze with what thought this book is really laid out.

Sincerely,

Walter L. Goodwin, Jr.
Treasurer

Mr. James Swann
Prairie Print Makers
219 Wisconsin Street
Chicago 14, Illinois

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