

614 Alameda Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico

April 25,
1946.

Mr. Walter Freese,
HARINGS HOUSE,
67 West 44th St.,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Freese:-

For several weeks I have been intending to write to you to report on the trip to Yucatan, but I have been working and traveling hard and somehow when evening comes I don't seem to settle down to letter writing.

We returned from Yucatan about the 12th of March and I stayed in San Antonio until I developed all of my negatives. Then I have been working up the Rio Grande on the other book until I arrived here yesterday.

The material for the Chichen Itza book is all safely in hand and it will not be long until I settle down to get it all in shape to send in. I must first go up to Colorado Springs to bring down a lot of equipment etc. for I shall be settling down here for the better part of a year at least. So by May 5th I shall be back here and getting an adequate dark room in shape for I have many irons in the fire.

In Yucatan I found much interest and enthusiasm for our forth coming book. There is certainly a crying need for something and a rich market. The friend of mine who went down with me

was Mrs. Roberta Robey who founded and conducted the Villagra Book shop here in Santa Fe for some ten years until she sold it a few years ago. She knows the book business and she estimated that we should sell about ten copies a day during the greater part of the year just at the Lodge at Chichen. The tourist travel that is going out there is growing and fills the present capacity with a long waiting list for accommodations. I took down my prints from my first trip and had an exhibition at the little museum there in Merida which met with a lot of enthusiasm and I believe it was a politic thing to do if nothing else as the Museum staff and others in Merida were kindly enthusiastic and will push the book when it comes out. Can you specify the limit of number of pages for this book for I think it will work into more than THE PUEBLOS? And also I want to know the dead line for having the material in your hands to have the book out for the Christmas market if possible.

Yesterday I went in to the Santa Fe Book & Stationery Co to get a copy of the PUEBLOS for someone in Albuquerque and I was told that there would be none available until fall. I also hear this from La Fonda. This gave me a bad jolt for the coming season is going to be a big one here and the book should make a big sale. I am at a loss to understand it for I know it cannot be sold out, and as it was manufactured before the war I cannot imagine what the trouble is. Please may I know the answer if this is true? As my own existence for the past three years has been one of move and travel, my records are all in storage, and difficult for me to get at, therefore I would appreciate if it is possible.

to have a statement of the total number of copies sold since publication. From memory of my royalties it cannot yet have reached half off the edition or barely so.

I am going to go ahead on my own on post cards of this country. I realize your distribution problem, but that is something I am willing to undertake myself. May I ask if you have had the sheet fed gravure cards made at the Beck engraving Co. and to whom I should write for quotations? Or any other suggestions you may have.

Just a few days ago I had a letter from Mr. Ansel Hall at Mesa Verde asking where to get copies of the PUEBLOS as he was going to carry it this year(I don't know why he couldn't have written to you in the first place) but having gotten him to come across as well as the Southwest Monuments Association, I shall feel very badly indeed if they are not able to obtain copies of the book for sale. I understand the A.S.S. has done very well these first few weeks and they are all looking forward to large crowds and sales this summer.

I shall be in Colorado Springs until about May 4th or 5th and then return here so that an answer here about that time will reach me on my return.

The Chichen Itza book is going to be much better than THE PUEBLOS and I am anxious to be at it, but I do want information as to time of manufacture.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,