

June 29, 1951

Mr. Walter L. Frese
Hastings House
41 East 50th St.,
New York City 22

Dear Walter:

As usual I seem to be a very long time thanking you for your Christmas good wishes and the calendar, which I always am very happy to have.

I have been meaning to write for a long time, but it seems to keep one hustling managing the daily work and I seem to get hopelessly behind. I am extremely disappointed over the situation on the Yucatan book. On the last royalty statement there were only 104 copies sold, all of which I was responsible for, and it seems hard to understand no other sales in this period. This was the statement of last December; I have received no statement whatever this spring.

I am wondering what you have heard of the situation in Yucatan. Several people have reported to me that they have been to the Mayaland Lodge out at Chichen Itza and that my book was not on sale there. The archaeologist Karl Ruppert is here in Santa Fe now and he informs me that the Lodge has been greatly enlarged, with a large gift shop where this book certainly should be on sale. He has also given me the name of Senor Puerto (does not recall first name), whose address is the Gift Shop, Hotel Merida, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. The big season down there is January, February and March and I do hope that we can somehow get the ball rolling to get books down there this year.

Do you know also if the book is on sale at the National Museum Book Stall in Mexico City? I enclose a copy of a letter written by a friend of mine here in Santa Fe to the woman in charge and I hope a new contact can be established there. I know it is characteristic of the Mexicans to do nothing in regard to such a matter as this and I feel we must do something to get this book moving. If it is at all possible I would like to go down there myself right after the first of the year and see where the trouble is. Before I write further letters to Mr. Barbachano can you tell me exactly the financial status of exporting books, etc. so I will have it clearly in mind and can put on all the pressure I can to get him to keep the book in stock?

(Over)

Will you kindly check as to my spring statement which was due, I believe, in April or May, and advise me what you think we can do to stimulate a sale on this book?

With best wishes.

I am,

Sincerely yours,

LG:eh

Laura Gilpin