

HASTINGS HOUSE

AIR MAIL



41 EAST 50th STREET
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Publishers
INC.

March 11, 1948

Miss Laura L. Gilpin
614 Alameda Road
P.O. Box 1173
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Miss Gilpin:

Immediately upon the receipt of your telegram of the 4th, we checked into the matter of page 80. I had not seen the proof of the plate which had been sent to you, but was shown one immediately. It seems that the whole plate (containing 18 pages) had this defect where page 80 was to appear. It seemed to be in the form of a large hairpin.

The engraver worked on the plate very carefully, but had not finished by the time our Mr. Spencer had to leave in order to be able to ship you this last sheet the afternoon the plate was proved. Instructions were given, however, that if the "hairpin" could be eliminated, to do so and to endeavor to bring back the tones of the clouds. The engraver evidently thought that he had done this satisfactorily, and as a matter of fact, there is no comparison between the sheet you saw and the final sheet for the book. I am still very much disappointed in the final plate, because the cloud effects have disappeared. I immediately ordered all work stopped; but upon investigating, I found that it would delay the book because of the synchronization of the printing and the binding by at least one month, and a decision had to be made immediately whether the binder could go ahead.

With great reluctance, therefore, because of this one page (the balance of the sheet, I think, is splendid) I told them to go ahead, but am receiving a written promise from the plate-maker to remake the entire 18 pages without cost on the next edition. Mine was an unenviable position, but I think that you will agree that the loss of at least an entire month would probably not have justified making this one plate over.

Miss Laura L. Gilpin:

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March 11, 1948

Many of the sheets you saw were just the first proofs. We are, with the exception of page 80, very thrilled about the printing, and think that it is an excellent engraving job. We are sure that you share this opinion.

I understand that the book should be bound within a week or so, that is, if the threatened compositor's strike doesn't spread to the binders. We all have our fingers crossed, however, and look forward to seeing the completed books. Best wishes.

Cordially yours,

HASTINGS HOUSE

Walter
Walter Frese

WF/mgm