

ORAL HISTORY
2015-21-20

I hereby give permission to David A. Harley, his heirs, and his
publishers to quote or summarize the information I gave him in an
interview in the summer of 1970. Permission herein given is for
world publication rights for Mr. Harley's history of the Alaska
Highway.

Justin J. Stauter 6/20/71

Source

Justin J. Stauter

Date

Anchorage, Alaska

Place

Anchorage, Alaska

2015-21-20

June 20, 1971

Prof. David Remly^e
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87106
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Dear Dave:

It was nice to hear from you again, and to learn that things are going along more or less as planned.

Yes, certainly, you may use anything I threw out, although at the moment I can't recall anything relevant to your topic---just a lot of odds and ends.

You are probably correct in anticipating small sales. But don't underestimate Alaska itself! In this respect I just might be able to do you a little good. Send me an advance copy as soon as possible (I expect to pay the regular price) and I'll knock out a review and see that it is used in a few strategic periodicals. This could then be followed up in the regular way by sending review copies to virtually all Alaska periodicals, perhaps with an excerpt or two from my review, which, I promise, will not be too tough on the book, nor too easy, either(!)

It MIGHT (notice, I don't necessarily urge it) be a good thing for you to visit Alaska again, and have autographing parties at the principal bookstores. Also, have you given any thought to a few paid ads here and there in Alaska magazines and newspapers?

Since your welcome visit, many things have happened in my microcosm. Last November and December I took an extended research trip, spending a week in San Francisco and a week in Madison, Wisconsin, and topping it off with three days in Seattle. Making Xeroxes of old newspapers, mainly. My God, what a beautiful set-up they have for research at the Wisconsin State Historical Society museum! For example, phone books and city directories of the principal American cities, from the 1850's to the present (I didn't realize that city directories are an old, old gimmick). Nor that an 1856 Madison newspaper would be 99% classified ads, on front page and everywhere. Not a speck of what we have come to call "small town journalism", alas.

My book is still a long way off. I expect to return to part time teaching in September under what seems to me to be a

very generous arrangement, for a small college with bad financial ~~sickness~~ sickness. The dean is talking about one 4-hour course per semester at \$400 per month plus, with probability of another \$1100 for one month's summer teaching. I would have the months of January and May entirely off. Sounds too good to be true. Something is bound to intervene, just you wait!

Our winter here was late coming, but was pure H-E-L-L when it arrived (zero plus 30 MPH wind mostly) with almost no sunshine. Spring lasted only about three days, followed by a (so far) cool and cloudy summer. People still fighting frozen pipes in the middle of June, yet! Many a nd many a day I made no effort to leave the apartment, since even a trip to the grocery was miserable.

One of the few rays of sunshine was a card from a former student of mine postmarked M Hamburg, Germany---a very quiet, plain, inconspicuous young married lady in her late twenties, I'd guess. On it she says, quote:

"I could hardly visit Germany without remembering you and all I learned about the Hansa. Everything is more beautiful when it has more meaning..."

I suppose, and hope, that every instructor has little indications of memory and appreciation. I thought this one especially nice; in fact, I DAMN NEAR CRIED!

I'm sure I don't need to say that your correspondence, and your personal visits, are very welcome indeed. Please let me know if I can help your Alaska sales as indicated, or in any other way.

Best regards,

Jay

Jay Stauter

Note box number. It was incorrect on your letter----

Box 2184, Anchorage (99501, after July first, 99510)

Jay Staüter
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Via Air Mail

Replied

Staüter

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