

March 7, 1963

Mr. Roscoe Sheller,
519 Park Drive,
Sunnyside, Wash.

Dear Roscoe:

Thanks for your letter and trust the material was received which you wished return. There wasn't much of a story but it was in the cause of publicizing something worthwhile. You have done nobly in preservation of various little stories which all together go into the greater story of America. "And if we believe these stories are worth preserving, we believe America is worth preserving etc." (Quote from Relander, stock speech on historical writing.

About Saxton's. They are the finest outfit I've known about to deal with. They took the manuscript, put their money into it and the costly cover (understand it cost them about \$1,800 alone), and even contacted their various outlets sharing advertising money. Only by figuring out the various royalties could I tell, roughly, how many copies they issued. Requests still come in for it, and none are to be hand of course, but publishers figure they have to have around \$2,000 a year sales, not strung over several years. It would move slowly and surely, but they seldom reissue. I guess they also do subsidy printing, but they never suggested that tome.

Through reviews, some of them quite distant, Strangers is being accepted ok. It was a tribal publication with the idea to get back cost, hence the low price of \$2.25 for 63,000 words. It's moving fine, whenever introduced. The Seattle public library for instance bought two or three copies, and after checking it out ordered 21 in one order and 15 in another. It would have cost \$1.50 more to put it in hard cover. I don't think it will last too long and it won't be reissued. (Why work for the printer, unless it is for keeping a print shop in operation?)

What are you doing now besides taking it (life) in stride?

Expect we'll be seeing you at Walt Purdin's "afternoon at the museum" about March 10? My best to you and Mrs. Sheller.

Sincerely

Click Relander