

México, D.F., January 4, 1965.

Mr. Herbert Weinstock
Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.
501 Madison Avenue
New York 22, N.Y.
E.U.A.

Dear Mr. Weinstock:

Thanks indeed for your friendly note of December 27. The very best wishes to you too.

Now, as to business matters. You may be sure that I shall be extremely pleased to see one of my books published by Knopf. I know perfectly well the high prestige of your firm, and we Latin Americans can hardly ignore the fact of Knopf having been a real pioneer in presenting us to the American reader.

The fact is, however, that before sitting down to write the two books we have talked about, I had to get rid of two other books I had been working on for sometime, --and it has taken much more time to do it than I had anticipated. None of them will interest you: one is a massive bibliography on Mexico's international problems, and the other a new collection of my essays, some of the older ones and the majority unpublished.

I am happy now because those two books were handed over to my publishers a month ago. I am then free to tackle the other two.

I shall be in New York next week for a few days. If time allows me I shall telephone you to ascertain whether I could call on you at your office. Anyway, I shall be at the Roosevelt Hotel.

With best wishes,

Cordially yours

Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
México 1, D.F.

DCV/meh.-

Alfred A. Knopf *Incorporated*

P U B L I S H E R O F



B O R Z O I B O O K S

Cables: KNOPF NEW YORK

Telephone: PLAZA 1-2600

501 Madison Avenue

New York (22), N.Y.

March 3, 1965

Dr. Cosío Villegas:

At lunch yesterday with Frank Tannenbaum, I happened to mention your name. Frank said that a project in which you are much interested is a one-volume history of Mexico (if I understood him correctly) from the beginning of the Díaz regime to the present. This would, I take it, amount to a one-volume condensation of the many volumes on which you have been at work. This is certainly a book in which we would be keenly interested.

Not having heard from you in reply to my letter of November 30, 1964 I cannot help wondering what you think about its contents. In any case, I am not going to abandon the attempt to get a real book out of you for us. If either the book vaguely outlined in my letter of November 30 (and in the quotation from Hubert Herring's letter which I sent with it) or the one-volume history of Mexico is of interest to you, let me know and let us see if we can get together on some sort of arrangement.

Cordially yours,

Herbert Weinstock
Editor

Dr. Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal 2123
Mexico 1, D.F., MEXICO

HW:rr

México, D.F., March 26, 1965.

Mr. Herbert Weinstock
Alfred A. Knopf
501 Madison Ave.
New York 22, N.Y.
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Weinstock:

I am reading just now your good letter of March 3rd., as I was abroad for a while.

You are right: I never answered your letter of November 30, 1964 for the unpolite but quite convincing reason that I had little or nothing to say about it.

The information given to you by Frank Tannenbaum is not entirely correct. Of the Historia Moderna de México proper there remains to be published (and written) the ninth volume. This, I presume, will take me the rest of this year and all the next. In 1967 I will write a resumé of this work: a book of no more than 500 pages, without any notes or scholarly apparatus, and written not only clearly, but with real literary polish. But naturally, this volume will cover the same period as the big work, that is 1867-1911.

What Frank does not know (and nobody knows) is that I have signed an agreement with a French publisher to write within a year a book entitled Mexico in the XX Century, that is, from 1900 to, say 1950 or 1960. It is a rather short work (some one hundred pages), but as I am lecturing next year at Harvard on the same subject, I imagine the Spanish original may go up some 50 pages more.

I have a great faith in these two ventures and I hope that some American publisher may share my opinion. As a matter of fact, two American university presses have already approached for the publication rights of the first book. I have made no commitments so far, partly because it seems to me a bit premature, and partly because I would certainly prefer to deal with a "commercial" publisher to handle a book which properly handled may reach quite a number of readers.

I do not know whether you may be interested in the volume on Mexico in the XX Century, and if so, I would like to see your first reactions,

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Daniel Cosío Villegas

DCV/meh.-

Alfred·A·Knopf *Incorporated*

P U B L I S H E R O F



B O R Z O I B O O K S

Cables: KNOPF NEW YORK

Telephone: PLAZA 1-2600

501 Madison Avenue

New York (22), N.Y.

April 6, 1965

Dear Dr. Cosío Villegas:

Thank you for your helpful and informative letter of March 26. I have discussed its contents with Mr. Alfred A. Knopf, and am able to say that in principle we should like to publish both of the books you describe--that is, if I understand correctly, first the short (perhaps 150-page) book on Mexico in the Twentieth Century and then the 500-or-so-page resume of the nine-volume Historia Moderna de México, to cover the Díaz period. You asked for "first reactions": here they are.

What do you suggest as the next step?

I should like to ask you not to discuss possible arrangements with other publishers until you and I have had a chance to try working matters out to our mutual satisfaction.

I look forward with keen interest to hearing from you.

Cordially yours,

Herbert Weinstock
Editor

Daniel Cosío Villegas, Esq.
Apartado Postal 2123
Mexico 1, D.F., MEXICO

HW:rr

México, D.F., April 21, 1965.

Mr. Herbert Weinstock
Alfred A. Knopf Incorporated
501 Madison Ave.
New York 22, N.Y.
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Weinstock:

You will excuse me for answering your good letter of April 6 a bit late, as I was in Austin for two weeks.

I am glad you and Mr. Knopf are interested in my two forthcoming books. As I am leaving again for Austin tomorrow, I think the best I can do now is to write you again at the beginning of June, when I will settle in Mexico for a long period of time. I hope to be then more specific.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
México 1, D.F.

DCV/meh.=

Alfred A. Knopf *Incorporated*

P U B L I S H E R O F



B O R Z O I B O O K S

Cables: KNOPF NEW YORK

Telephone: PLAZA 1-2600

501 Madison Avenue

New York (22), N.Y.

July 13, 1965

Dear Dr. Cosío Villegas:

April 21st you wrote me: "As I am leaving again for Austin tomorrow, I think the best I can do now is write you again at the beginning of June, when I will settle in Mexico for a long period of time. I hope to be then more specific."

I hope that you have not forgotten me or your promise. We are still very much interested in your books, as I mentioned and detailed in my letter of April 6.

I shall look forward to hearing from you.

Cordially yours,

Herbert Weinstock
Editor

Dr. Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
Mexico 1, D.F.

HW:rr

México, D.F., July 27, 1965.

Mr. Herbert Weinstock
Alfred A. Knopf Incorporated
501 Madison Avenue
New York 22, N.Y.
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Weinstock:

Your good letter of July 13.

You are always right, and I am always wrong.

As a matter of fact, however, I have little new to communicate you, except this: I am starting next month with the first and smaller book: Twentieth Century Mexico. I hope to get through in six months. If that is the case, I shall write you quite in advance, so we may have time to consider terms, etc.

As to the second one, it is most worthwhile to think about it right now. But you may be sure that when the proper time comes, I shall get in touch with you first.

With best wishes, and thanking you for your interest,

Yours sincerely

Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
México 1, D.F.

DCV/meh.-



Alfred A. Knopf Inc. 501 Madison Avenue, NEW YORK 22, N.Y.

Cables: KNOFF NEW YORK

December 27, 1965

Dear Daniel Cosío Villegas:

Still eagerly hoping for news of Twentieth-Century Mexico and/or the résumé of the Historia Moderna de México on the Díaz period, I write now to wish you a bountiful 1966 and to ask you what progress you have made since you last wrote me on July 27.

I hate to become a nuisance and a bother to you. On the other hand, I should much dislike losing the first opportunity to make a contract with you for one or the other of these books in English translation.

So--I shall hope to hear from you at your convenience.

Cordially yours,

Herbert Weinstock
Editor

Dr. Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
Mexico 1, D.F.
Mexico

HW:tbs

Alfred A. Knopf Inc.

501 Madison Avenue

NEW YORK (22), N.Y.



Dr. Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
Mexico 1, D.F.
Mexico

AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

FIRST FOLD

SECOND FOLD

DO NOT USE TAPE OR STICKERS TO SEAL
NO ENCLOSURES PERMITTED

December 31, 1963

Alfred · A · Knopf *Incorporated*

501 Madison Avenue



NEW YORK (22), N.Y.

March 7, 1966

Dear Dr. Cosío Villegas:

Not having heard from you when (as you said) you were in New York in January, I now write to express once more our keen interest in the books you and I have been discussing by mail. Is there anything that you can tell me about your progress on them? I do not mean to lose track of what you are doing! (On the other hand, I certainly do not want to become a nuisance.)

Cordially yours,

Herbert Weinstock
Editor

Dr. Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
México, 1, D. F.

HW:ab

PUBLISHER OF BORZOI BOOKS

México, D.F., March 15, 1966.

Mr. Herbert Weinstock
Alfred A. Knopp
501 Madison Ave.
New York 22, N.Y.
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Weinstock:

Many thanks for your friendly note of March 7th.

Had I anticipated that New Yorkers were not sensible enough to stop in just one second a strike at all means of communication, I certainly had given up the idea of going to your home town. I was there, but entirely paralyzed. The only advantage I had was that the place where the meeting I had to attend to was three blocks from my hotel.

As to our business, let us call it by this ugly name, you may be sure I am working hard and every day, and as soon as I see the end of it, I will write you.

With best wishes,

Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
México 1, D.F.

DCV/meh.-

Alfred · A · Knopf *Incorporated*

501 Madison Avenue



NEW YORK (22), N.Y.

October 4, 1966

Dear Dr. Cosío Villegas:

I have been hoping to hear from you with regard to the projects we have had under discussion since 1964. Won't you just drop me a few lines to tell me how they are progressing and when we may expect to see something by way of a manuscript? I do not, as you see, mean to give up on this!

I hope that this finds you prospering and in the best of health.

Cordially yours,

Herbert Weinstock
Editor

Dr. Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
Mexico 1, D. F.

HW:n1

PUBLISHER OF BORZOI BOOKS

México, D.F., December 20, 1966.

Mr. Herbert Weinstock
Alfred A. Knopf
50. Madison Avenue
New York 22, N.Y.
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Weinstock:

I was at Texas University since October 2nd until few days ago. That is the reason why your kind note of October 4 remained unanswered for such a long time.

You may remember that we had considered two possibilities: one, a short work on "Mexico in the Twenty Century", and the other a "Modern History of Mexico", some sort of summing up the ten-volumes Modern History of Mexico, already published, almost except the last volume.

Some months ago I gave up the first project because the original invitation came from a French publisher I could not finally agree with as the compensation for my manuscript. As to the second project, I cannot attempt it before getting through with the last volume of the Modern History of Mexico, I mean the larger work.

I read and write everyday and every hour in such a volume. In fact, I have already the final version of the first chapter. But I hardly fool myself as to the difficulties this volume presents. So, with hard work and a moderate dosis of good luck, it will take me a year to finish it. Only at that time, that is to say, January 1968, I shall be able to talk real business with.

The only thing I wish to say at the present time is that you may be sure that I will contact again at the earliest possible moment to find out whether your interest has not died out by then.

With the very best,

Yours cordially

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Alfred · A · Knopf *Incorporated*

501 Madison Avenue



New York, N. Y. 10022

August 1, 1967

Dear Dr. Cosío-Villegas:

Where do we stand? By now you must know that I do not mean to give up on this project. I should greatly appreciate a word or two from you.

Cordially yours,

Herbert Weinstock
Editor

Dr. Daniel Cosío-Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
Mexico 1, D. F.

HW:jg

AIR MAIL

PUBLISHER OF BORZOI BOOKS

A

México, D.F., August 9, 1967.

Mr. Herbert Weinstock
Alfred A. Knopf
501 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Weinstock:

Your good note of August 1st. gives me the impression that you (of all persons) have relied on some sort of computer to handle your correspondence. Computers, as you should have known, are real wonders, but once you have fed them with a certain idea, they just work mechanically... and wrongly.

On October 4, 1966, you kindly wrote me a letter asking me the same question: "Where do we stand?", and adding: "I do not, as you see, mean to give up on this!" On December 20, 1966 I wrote you a long letter answering that note in which I explained the whole situation in detail.

Ten months after, on August 1st., 1967, you ask me again where do we stand, and you add again "I do not mean to give up this project". The computer failed, no doubt.

With gratitude for your interest and best wishes,

Cordially yours

Daniel Cosío Villegas
Apartado Postal M-2123
México 1, D.F.

DCV/meh.-