

February 16,
1955

Miss Margaret Speer,
The Shipley School
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

Dear Miss Speer:-

It is with the greatest reluctance that I write this letter. Due to many reasons, the last one the illness right now of my companion, I am not going to be ready to come east by early April. Miss Forster has been ill now nearly two weeks with a bad attack of shingles, and though she is much better, it will still be a while before she can resume her duties as keeper of our little house. All this, and more have delayed me with work on my book and I came to the conclusion yesterday that I cannot possibly have it finished before June first, if then. All this means that I must postpone my trip until late summer and stay into the early fall.

I cannot tell you how it distresses me to have to cancel an appointment. That is something I try never to do. I hope it may be only a postponement, and that I may come any time in the early fall that would suit you. I do feel very safe in setting such a date now. Some unknown factor has prevented my making the effort to secure more showings of the slides. I had intended to notify a number of places regarding it, and expected to do all this soon after Christmas, but as it is, I have only two certain dates, yours and Carrol Preston's. I do hope that I am giving you sufficient notice so that it will not inconvenience you too greatly, and I assure you of my sincere regret in sending you this news.

This brings my very good wishes to you, and again my regrets at any inconvenience I may be causing you,

Very sincerely yours