

Rt. 4 Box 33
Santa Fe, N. M.
87501

February 6, 1969

Dr. Michael A. Luishaw
Dept. of Pediatrics
Mount Sinai Hospital
Fifth Avenue, 100th Street
New York, N. Y. 10029

Dear Dr. Luishaw

I have delayed answering your letter until now because of the press of other activities and because I wanted to think over your proposal carefully. The difficulty with me is committing myself to any particular time, which is complicated also by my not knowing the exact time when I will be going to South Carolina. The trip south depends very much on the spring season in the Congaree area, which Mr. Line, editor of the Audubon magazine, will eventually inform me about. I hesitate to urge you to give up your family plan for such a tentative arrangement which might in the end not work out. In saying this I am not trying to get out of any encouragement that I gave you over the telephone when I was in New York. The problem is that I must be as free as possible in making my plans and also free to change them at a moment's notice. I realize this is not very satisfactory for you but I can see no alternative but to say that if you do go to Congaree when I am there, I will be happy to see you. I am not troubled by the fact that you are as yet a complete stranger.

In June and July I shall be in Maine at Great Spruce Head Island, where occasionally people come to see me when they have transportation to the island and return. This has to be arranged for with the mail boat operator at Sunset. His name is Jimmie Quinn.

I am sorry to feel obliged to send you such an unsatisfactory answer from your point of view.

Sincerely

Eliot Porter