

June 20, 1939

Dr. Douglas Wild
c/o General Delivery
Williamstown, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wild:

I have just received your address from Miss Fritschie and I am very happy to be able to write this note, which I have had in mind for some time.

At the time I wrote you previously I was rather burdened with both current work and prospects of future accumulations, due to Mrs. Lichtmann's illness and the advisability of her remaining away from New York for another--and a longer--period. You may understand me when I say that I was quite reluctant to mail you that letter, but it was the consensus here that a great effort must be made to hasten the preparations of this new book.

Of course shortly afterward I learned that you had mailed the pages, completed, back to Miss Fritschie--evidently just before the arrival of my letter--and I felt that my intuitive reluctance had, therefore, been quite justified. For the next week or so I was searching for an opportunity to arrange a luncheon appointment for either you and me and Miss Fritschie or even just you and me.

As you doubtless know, I have been privileged to help in the preparation of this work and I know very well its specific requirements. That is why I was especially hoping that you would join us, as I can better explain when we meet. Of course you will understand that it is not so hard to find one well equipped in English language construction for editing or translating something, as it is to find one like you, who shows restraint based upon respect for the original, which provides the subtle balance necessar in this, to me, sacred work.

If you have any special questions or suggestions which require returning to the original, please make note of them and I will be happy to refer them to Mrs. Lichtmann who of course will be our final authority as to the preservation of the meaning.

I have held here a letter to you from Mrs. Lichtmann and she sent me to forward as soon as she heard of your offer, and I am enclosing it.

It is rather strange that the four of us are so widely separated at this time, but if the postal service holds up we will succeed. I am wishing you all success and do hope that we will all have a chance to get together here in New York, let us say, in the not too distant future.

Cordially yours,

Dudley Fosdick