

Bennington College
Bennington, Vt.
August 19, 1943.



Dear Aaron:

I have just had a letter from Mr. Spivacke telling me that he has decided on postponement. There is no date set. I am greatly upset but I suppose it will be for the best. I had waited here for the Chavez work which he kept promising and then it never came. I had made all plans to rehearse, engaged my pianist for the summer and all company rehearsals so that they could be free part of the time. I feel that it all would have worked out had Chavez done as he told both Mr. Spivacke and me. I expected the work in June at the latest. So you are blameless in this. I was at fault in getting your script to you on time but you have done as you said you would last summer and I do appreciate that. My only fear is that something might happen to permanently delay this. And it means more to me as a start on a season and in every way than I can say. But all I can do is to hope for the best and to go to work.

Naturally I am anxious to hear what you are doing. I suppose you are busy with the picture but as soon as you can will you drop me a card? I wish you would go ahead as soon as you are free and then I will begin as soon as it arrives. If it can be done before the set time of the first of December that will be fine. I cannot answer for the Chavez work for now I do not know when it will arrive and I shall only believe it now when I have it in my hands.

I know how hard it is to work to a deadline and to compose on a subject to be ready at a given time must be very hard indeed, so I know that I must not be too impatient. But it has been hard to be understanding as all my plans had been made and I was geared to work. I think nothing is so agonizing as to be ready and then to have to wait for any reason. I am glad that I did get the Johnson piece finished, however, as it gave me a courage and impulse to work in new directions. And it will help me in these new things I hope.

I hope the picture has gone well and that it is to your liking. I am still working on the point of the speeches. I think I have a better plan. I will tell you about it if it does turn out to better.

Best wishes always,