

New York, October 31st 1949.

Mr. Blevins Davis
Glendale Farm
Old Lee's Summit Road
Independence, Missouri.

Dear Mr. Blevins Davis,

I thank you very, very much for your letter of October 20th and for your invitation to come out to Missouri. I am looking forward with great pleasure to my working down there and I am in particular happy that you'll be there so that we can be in touch with one another during the work.

I should have preferred leaving New York immediately, but Mr. Freedley made the suggestion that I should stay here a week more and wait for the preliminary answer from the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He'll phone Dr. Sterling Brown in the middle of the next week and try to get the answer as early as possible. Mr. Freedley advised me to write you that I would prepare myself for leaving New York not later than on the 31st of October. I'll send you a wire and let you know the date and time of my arrival.

I have now so many books and papers that I'll have to buy a solid trunk which however will be useful later on when leaving for Palestine. The books and papers I had with me from Copenhagen were packed up in a wooden box made particularly for that purpose but it doesn't exist any more and it wouldn't have been sufficient now.

I seize the opportunity to write you about a matter which troubles me a little. I do not like to change an arrangement once made but you'll certainly understand me. You'll remember that the payment to my wife is fixed to 2000 Danish Crowns a month. Now, consequent to the devaluation prizes in Copenhagen are getting up considerably. For this reason I should indeed be very grateful if I from the 1st of November might pay my wife the equivalent of 400 Dollars a month instead of 2000 Danish Crowns. Before the devaluation the equivalent of 2000 Danish Crowns was equivalent to 419.62 Dollars. I do hope you'll find my request reasonable, but I shall of course respect your decision in case you for reasons of principle cannot accept my suggestion.

Finally I send you herewith enclosed a cutting from a Danish Newspaper which I have received to-day, saying that the English Government has allowed to export 50,000 Pounds for financing a film on Christ which is going to be made in France. But the telegram doesn't mention from whom or to whom, so I think it is the Abel Gance project still haunting. At any rate I do not fear the competition. When I made my Joan of Arc, another Joan of Arc was made in the same year and in France.

Hoping and looking forward to meet you at the Glendale Farm very soon and with my kindest regards and wishes

Most sincerely