

January 5, 1938

Dear Mr. Bjorkman:

Thank you for your invitation to the Lincoln Birthday Anniversary Celebration at the Newark Athletic Club on February 12th. I should like very much to accept, but I can only do so provisionally. I am under rather strict orders from my physician to give up all speaking and late dining this season and to date I have refused engagements for Lincoln's birthday. There is just a chance, too, that it may seem wise for me to go away for a little time in February, though I shall not do so unless it seems necessary. Would you be willing to leave it this way, Mr. Bjorkman? To let me come to your dinner as a non-speaking guest if I am still in New York at the beginning of February.

What I want you to understand is that I would like to be present at your dinner but I am not at all certain that it will be possible.

Regretting that I should be so unsatisfactory in an invitation which honors me and which would give me pleasure to accept.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. Valentine Bjorkman
Newark Athletic Club
Newark, N. J.