

Handwritten

June 6, 1935

Dear Frank Bray:

I am sorry I have been so long about reading your manuscript. I knew I couldn't do it when you gave it to me for some days, but I have been over-crowded. However, I went to the country over Sunday and I read it then carefully and with a great deal of interest. Of course it is a fine subject and you have shown the actual situation completely, clearly and most interestingly, I thought. It is a lecture which will bear repeating and for which I think as the matter grows you will get more and more chance to deliver, but you must depend upon something more than this lecture. You ought to be backing yourself up and perhaps you are, though I do not know, in more ways than simply offering a lecture.

There are subjects for special articles here in this stuff and it seems to me you ought to be able to develop and get placed in one of the weekly Sunday Magazine sections. These playgrounds and international parks make a capital subject and there is no doubt that those who are running them would give you fine pictures. Now, I may be carrying coal to Newcastle in suggesting this but as I looked over the article it seemed to me that possibly all the points could be developed into lively special articles which the newspaper or syndicate might use. That is the way to sell yourself.

Moreover, if you watch the news and get a point on which you can write a letter, even if you cannot sell it to one of the newspapers, you might easily make a point well presented in a short crisp article in the editorial page of the Times in letters. Now you get no money for that of course but you call attention to the fact that you are interested in the material. You have something here that you might very easily make yourself an authority on. But you can't do

that by going around to people or presenting one lecture, you have got to work on the material all the time and present it at any possible fashion. It is not impossible that with a crisp little talk on playgrounds and international parks you might get a chance on the radio. You won't get any money for it but again you sell yourself.

Don't be worried because there happens to be a conference to which you are not invited. What you want to do is to study carefully what went on at this conference, get all the information you can and develop that.

I know this is a slow process but it is the only sound one that I see for you. You can't make yourself an authority on one lecture, you have got to keep your material up by study to the last minute. And you'll get more by studying documents probably than you will by taking a trip. But if you want a trip along the border why not make a hitch hike trip - take to the road. It probably would be the best thing for your health and it would be great fun this summer I should think. And then you will get subjects for articles and all kinds of freshening up for your lecture.

I would have said all this to you but I am just back from one trip and going off tomorrow for ten days more and I did not want longer to delay.

Please do not think that I am not interested in the matter. When I come back if you are around we will try and get a chance to talk it over.

Very sincerely

Mr. Frank Bray
National Arts Club
New York City