

April 16, 1941

Dear Mr Issacs,

Thank you for your letter (undated) received this morning.

As you observe, the difficulty lies in the grant of the British Exit Permit. No reason has yet been given why this should be withheld. I have, I believe, fulfilled the only stipulation suggested by the passport office for its issue. If it were possible, I should be much obliged for your further aid in obtaining this permit in time to fulfil my American invitations. This may now no longer be possible. Even in this case, however, it would be equally a convenience to myself and to my American associates if the reason for the withholding of this permit could be discovered, or the conditions elucidated on which such permits may be granted in the future.

I am glad of your assurance that if and when the British Foreign Office are willing to grant the exit permit, there do not appear any reasons which would hinder my obtaining the visa to travel to the United States.

Yours sincerely,

P.S. I have to-day received from Dr Brandt of the U.S.D.A.
a letter on my invitation, from which I may quote the following:

"Before sending you a cable asking if you would accept their offer, I consulted our State Department and the British Embassy. Both places assured me that you would have no difficulty getting permission to come but neither would offer any assurance that passage would later be available but said that there was considerable travel both ways at that time.

"However, I am enclosing a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement between North Carolina and the Federal Government under which this work is to be conducted and asking Miss Cox to do the same. Your appointment for the Summer Session comes under Cooperation A on page 3. This document should convince your officials that the proposed trip not only has official sanction but is also officially sponsored."

I enclose also copy of the Project Agreement referred to, which, if its purport could be made clear to our Foreign Office might perhaps have the effect which Dr Brandt suggests. Will you please let me have this document back when it has fulfilled any useful purpose in your hands.