

March 7, 1950

Mrs. Margarete Ruben
13 Netherhall Gardens
London N.W. 3

Dear Mrs. Ruben:

Many thanks for your letter of January 3rd. I haven't been able to answer you sooner because things here have been rather turbulent lately and we are just in the stage of getting out of the woods a little bit. On February 2nd, after much deliberation with my friends and with their complete agreement, I proposed to re-organize our Education Committee and Institute, somewhat along the lines of the compromise solution the London Institute has established. This was flatly rejected by the opposing group who insisted on a complete splitup and the establishment of another psychoanalytic institute in Los Angeles. This, as you can imagine, caused considerable turmoil among the Society members and the students of the Institute and has taken up a great deal of time and effort for us. I had to call quite a number of meetings at short notice, even over the weekend and devote a great deal of time and effort to this whole business. The lay analyst question also figures to some extent in this whole controversy, although it is not one of the main problems. How far the situation will be cleared up by the time you will get here is impossible to say.

What you wrote me about Boehm and especially about his student Rieman with his racial ideas was very interesting and rather discouraging.

We had a nice vacation the end of last summer. In October and the first days of November, Maria was in Germany and saw her son again after ten years. Unfortunately, she was unable to bring him over with her and it even looks rather discouraging as far as the question of his immigration to this country is concerned. We are, of course, doing everything possible from every angle to expedite it but it may take years.

We are looking forward to seeing you here again. With kindest regards from Maria and me,

Sincerely yours,

Ernst Lewy, M.D.