

Dr D. W. Winnicott 87 Chester Square S W 1 Sloane 9544

20th September 1962.

AIRMAIL.

Dr. Samuel J. Sperling,
President,
Los Angeles Psychoanalytic Society,
344 North Bedford Drive,
Beverly Hills,
California,
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Sperling,

It was very good of you to write me and I am sorry to have given you the trouble of this extra letter. I feel now that I have gone over to the other extreme and have somehow given a picture of myself to Miriam as if I were on the point of death. I am intending to enjoy myself in Los Angeles and I know that I shall be amongst friends who would like me to say when I need half an hour off for a sleep.

When I think of what I wrote to Miriam in reply to her letter, I can see two things which stand out and which I would like to mention to you. One is that at your invitation I am going a long way and I like to go and I am feeling very frustrated that I have only arranged to be such a short while in Los Angeles. The second thing is that in fact for me the journey will be justified if I am able to give something worth giving in the two lectures. For me this has to come in front of the social side of the visit, although if I were at your end of it all I would probably be thinking more in terms of the chance

to meet than of the idea of hearing a lecture or
discussing a paper. (Added to this there is the
fact that one's other work does not give way easily
to such things as preparing papers, and I have been
experiencing real difficulty in getting down to the
writing of papers that satisfy me.)

Please do not bother to reply to this
which is really like a kind of apology to Miriam and
to yourselves for my reply to her letter in which I
think I reacted without thinking. I am not really
at all alarmed about Los Angeles except, as I have
said, in regard to my own personal contribution.
I do of course look forward to renewing our acquaintance
and I am glad that you reminded me of Scott's dinner in
Amsterdam.

Every good wish,

Yours,



D.W. WINNICOTT.