

On my previous trip to New York, I had checked with Robert's secretary and she said she spoke to him and for me to bring the manuscript over, that in two weeks they would get a reading.

I did that, and delivered it to Miss Caplan. I phoned Miss Caplan on Monday, ^{4/20} and she referred me to Roberts, to whom I spoke. He said, and ~~these~~ these are perhaps not his exact his words but they are in substance, "We are back where we were, aren't we?"

I found this not too comprehensible because he did not say that they absolutely would not consider a manuscript; he merely indicated I should pick it up. In the course of the conversation, he said that the chances of their doing such a book would be only about 20 per cent, so I picked up the ms.