

Norman, Oklahoma,
December 1st, 1920.

Mr. Frederick Weygold,
1970 Deer Park,
Louisville, Kentucky.
Dear Mr. Weygold:

Now that I have time to write you, I find that my copy of my last letter, giving an outline of the proposed book of Indian myths, has been mislaid, and I must therefore ask you to send me a copy of that letter. I believe this was the last but two which I have sent you. I have all the earlier letters, but seem unable to find this particular one. Although I have had little time to read of late I have been thinking of the matter in the light of Erinton's book and Wissler's "The American Indian." It appears that the problem of selecting the myths will be affected by the following considerations:

- (1) As you agree, the various culture areas should all be represented.
- (2) The various known artistic types of decoration which correspond in the main with the culture areas, at least in North America, will have to be taken into consideration. (See Wissler, page 80 and page 205).
- (3) It is very desirable that particular myths which are typical of a given culture area should be associated with that area in our arrangement, as for example, the trickster myths of the Algonkins and the California coast and the migration myths characteristic of the Pueblo tribes.
- (4) As you suggest, it seems best to select myths which feature the predominant, natural conditions of the region concerned, as for example, the Desert of the Pueblos and the prairies of the bison area.
- (5) At the same time it is essential that the unity of the mythology of North and South America be kept in mind throughout, and
- (6) That the great typical myths (bird, serpent, deluge, creation, etc.) be included and distributed so far as possible over the two continents.

This will require a great deal of reading on my part, but I believe that a preliminary survey will enable me to select certain of these myths before attempting to cover the entire field. This should enable you to go to work and have a great amount of time for your studies, which I can readily see you will need.