

108 W. 144th Street,
New York, N. Y.,
July 29, 1927.

Dear Miss Spegal:-

Forgive me for not having answered you before.

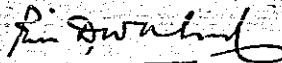
"The Big Ditch" is an account of the Panama Canal which I'm doing for Doni & Liveright. I gave up my job at "Opportunity" so that I might devote myself adequately to it and some other things I've got on foot. According to the catalogue of Messrs B & L "The Big Ditch" is scheduled to appear in October 1927.

The critique I did on Chesnut and Dunbar and a score of other figures in Negro literature appeared in 1922 in "The Dearborn Independent" -- but I don't think it is worth going to the trouble to dig up. All I remember, the research I had to do in connection with it was rather broadening and I felt then -- as I do now -- that the subject was one which warranted more than haphazard treatment.

I wish you all the luck in the world with your study of Dunbar.

One of the luxuries I promise myself is a ~~short~~ ^{short} ~~trip~~ ^{trip} to the photographer's, but as soon as I feel I've done something worth while I take it and then you will hear from me.

Sincerely,



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