

The Harvard Law School Forum
Gannett House
Cambridge 38, Mass.

ALLEN KLEIN, *President*
RAYMOND P. DeMEMBER, *1st Vice President*
ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, *2nd Vice President*
WILLIAM COUSINS, JR., *Secretary*
THEODORE D. TAUBENECK, *Treasurer*

Telephone KIRKLAND 7-7600 EXT. 381

November 3, 1950

Professor Leo Szilard
1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Professor Szilard:

Thank you for your kind letter. Naturally, the Forum was sorry that you found it necessary to cancel your appearance on our program. The audience response confirmed our opinion that "the moral responsibility of the scientist" is a timely topic. The discussion was spirited and interesting, and we sincerely regret that you were unable to participate.

We hope that in the not too distant future you will find it possible to appear on one of our programs that deals with another subject of particular interest to you. We will be more than glad to receive your thoughts on world peace.

Sincerely yours,

Allen Klein

Allen Klein
President

AK:R^A

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
16 DIVINITY AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

September 29, 1960

Dear Szilard,

Can we entice you to give a lecture before a Harvard Audience sometime this academic year. We would welcome either a talk on "repression, etc" before a biochemical audience or a more general talk like you recently gave in Cold Spring Harbor before a mixed physicist, chemist, biologist crowd. Our Biology colloquia fall on Fridays but a lecture can easily be arranged on any day, either in the afternoon or evening.

Now we are trying to measure the number of messenger(?) RNA molecules/cell. Our current value is "total molecular weight of $1.5-5 \times 10^8$ ". If our hunch that the upper size of the "messenger" is 5×10^5 , then there are 300-1,000 such units/cell.

I shall be in New York on October 20th and if you are free, I shall try to visit you.

With best regards

Jim Watson

Law School of Harvard University

Cambridge 38, Mass.

November 1, 1961

Mr. Leo Szilard
Hotel DuPont Plaza
DuPont Circle
Washington, D.C.

Dear Leo:

I understand that the Harvard Law School Forum has booked you for November 17th. Unfortunately, I have to be in New York that evening. Paul Doty and I are meeting with a group of delegates from smaller countries on the question of what smaller countries might do in the way of taking initiative in the disarmament area. On Thursday, the 16th, I will be in White Plains at a meeting of the trustees of Herman Kahn's new Hudson Institute and on Saturday, I will be in Washington for a meeting of the executive committee of the American Society of International Law. Since it would be hard for us to get together at that time let me pass along a few ideas to you now.

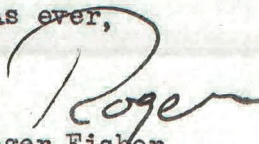
I spoke with David Cavers about your idea on a political organization. He struck me as being extremely helpful, and I think you ought to talk to him for sure before your ideas get too sharply defined. He welcomed the notion that the organization would seek to direct both voting and political contributions but pointed out that it is a long time between elections. Between times significant political power is wielded by the comparatively small group of people who in fact write letters to their congressmen, senators, and to the White House. Rather than concentrate solely on the voting question he suggested that members or supporters of the organization should be asked regularly or from time to time as special questions came up to write a series of letters. I think you are right in suggesting that there is a large group of people who are concerned with peace but who want to know what to do. Rather than simply asking them to sign up and wait until election time, it might be wiser to send them post cards asking them to write letters to the following people in opposition to the resumption of atmospheric testing for example. If they felt they were part of an organized effort they would be more likely to write letters than they are now. Also, the very writing of letters gets them more involved in the movement for restraint.

One other problem is that open political endorsement of particular senators or congressmen might be regarded as the kiss of

death. To some extent it might be as though SANE were to go to a congressman today, tell him how many members they had, and ask him to do certain things in order to get the support of SANE. The senator might decide that whatever support he got would be more than offset by the support he would lose for being identified today with SANE. The John Birch Society recognizes this problem today, I take it, and exercises its political influence largely by writing individual letters rather than by openly endorsing certain public figures who might find the endorsement controversial or damaging.

I suggest that you try to talk with David Cavers either by phone or if possible in person while you are still formulating your ideas. His number here is UNiversity 8-7600, extension 329.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Roger Fisher

RF/dc

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL FORUM

23 EVERETT STREET

CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

329
Covers 315
Pro her

UNF-7600
Ext 410

Now

November 2, 1961

Dr. Leo Szilard
Dupont Plaza Hotel
Dupont Circle
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

The Harvard Law School Forum takes pleasure in confirming the arrangements for your speech on "Are We on the Road to War?" to be made on Friday, 17 November at 4:15 p.m. We have arranged for the Forum meeting to take place in Lowell Lecture Hall, a Harvard University building that seats approximately nine hundred people. Don K. Price, Professor of Government and Dean of the Graduate School of Public Administration at Harvard, has agreed to make the introductions and to be moderator of the audience questioning period.

Amiel
Berman

In addition, in conformance with your wishes, we have arranged for you to have the Associated Harvard Clubs Room, in Holmes Hall, Harvard Graduate Center, from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, November 18th, so you may speak informally to any interested parties.

11 AM
2:30 pm

The Forum would appreciate receiving several bits of information from you. First, for publicity purposes and for Dean Price's guidance while making the introductions, we would like a better idea of the content of your talk, of the lines of inquiry you plan to pursue. In addition, we would appreciate a large glossy picture of yourself and any other biographical data which might be useful for the introduction and for publicity purposes. We thus far only have the information found in Who's Who in America, and from the back jacket of your book, The Voice of the Dolphins. Most important, we would like to know as soon as possible the hour and means of your arrival in the Boston area.

The members of the Harvard Law School Forum are looking forward to your forthcoming speech and to your presence under Forum auspices.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Goldey

Michael J. Goldey
Program Coordinator

MJG/rdf

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL FORUM

23 EVERETT STREET

CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

December 5, 1961

Dr. Leo Szilard
Dupont Plaza Hotel
Dupont Circle
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

We hope that your speaking tour of college campuses is proving to be a successful one, and that your reception elsewhere has proved to be as warm as it was at Harvard.

As per our understanding with you, we will be pleased to pay you any expenses which you incurred in regard to your trip to Cambridge. However, due to our financial situation at the present time, we are sorry that we are unable to cover Mrs. Szilard's expenses. Kindly send us a statement of your expenses, which we will be glad to reimburse.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Goldey
Michael J. Goldey
Program Coordinator

Washington, D. C.
March 4, 1962

Don Price, Dean
School of Public Administration
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Price:

Attached you will find a revised and final version of the speech which I first gave under your chairmanship on November 17 at Harvard. I would very much appreciate your letting me know whether you are sufficiently interested to be willing to be part of the proposed operation.

The enclosed set of copies will bring you up to date of how far we are. If you are willing to participate, you will presumably be asked by the Fellows to serve on the Panel of Political Advisers. This would be a small group of people who would have to meet for a few days six to ten times a year with the Board of Directors of the Council.

Attached is a clipping from The Commonweal magazine. I am sending you under separate cover a set of clippings giving you more extensive data on the press reaction which is so far uniformly favorable. I am also sending you under separate cover a set of letters which I have received which indicates the character of the response.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

Hotel Dupont Plaza
Washington 6, D. C.

Telephone: HUDSON 3-6000

Enclosure

Current

Washington, D.C.
6 March 1962

Kenneth T. Bainbridge
Department of Physics
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Bainbridge:

I understand from Feld that you might be interested in being part of the operation which is being set up at present. The enclosed material tells you how far we have got. The latest and final version of my speech is also enclosed. It will appear in print in the April issue of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists.

I should be grateful for your letting me know if you would be willing to be an Associate and I hope that you will not rule out the possibility of your serving on the Board of Directors which would be elected by the Fellows.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
Washington 6, D.C.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

LITTAUER CENTER
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

March 8, 1962

Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

It is very thoughtful of you to send me a copy of the revised and final version of the speech which you first presented here at Harvard. I was very glad that the invitation from the Law School Forum gave me the opportunity to be on hand for that occasion and it was a great pleasure to see you again after so many years.

I think that you have been doing a real public service in helping to keep up the interest of the public, and especially the scholarly world, on this most vital of all issues. I must confess, however, that my own point of view on these problems is very considerably different from your own, and I think that in view of this difference it would not be appropriate for me to take part in the program. I very much appreciate your asking me.

With all best personal regards, I am

Yours sincerely,



Don K. Price
Dean

DKP:B

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

LYMAN LABORATORY OF PHYSICS
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

March 26, 1962

Professor Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Professor Szilard:

Thank you for your letter of March 6 and your invitation to join.

I prefer to work with the Boston area group, or to act independently as I have done in the past.

I regret that it took me such a long time to arrive at this decision.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kenneth T. Bainbridge". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

K. T. Bainbridge

KTB:s1

November 6, 1961

Mr. Michael J. Goldey
Program Coordinator
Harvard Law School Forum
23 Everett Street
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Goldey:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of November 2.

Mr. Berman told me that you might be reserving a room for me and my wife for Friday night, November 17, either at the Somerset Hotel or at the Harvard Faculty Club. I should appreciate your letting me know what reservations you have made and we would plan, weather permitting, to arrive by air about lunchtime and to go straight to our lodgings. You could contact me there, over the telephone, and also pick me up there, in time to go to the Lowell Lecture Hall.

I am enclosing a picture and a biography from which you might want to leave out what you may regard as irrelevant. I have sent these earlier to Mr. Berman, and if they have reached you in the meantime, I should appreciate your returning them to me, as soon as convenient.

Concerning the line of inquiry that I plan to pursue, I may say, for your information and for Dean Price's guidance, the following:

"If you observe how we, as a nation, respond to Russia's actions and how they respond to our response, you can see a

Mr. Michael J. Goldey
Page 2

November 6, 1961

pattern of behaviour emerging which more likely than not will lead to war within a period of, say, ten years. Most people in America are not capable of seeing current events in historical perspective, and the yardstick which they apply to Russia's actions is quite different from the yardstick which they apply to America's actions. ~~I~~ I propose to examine whether an enlightened minority, by taking political action, might have a chance of changing the present pattern of behaviour of the American Government, and by doing so, stop the present trend toward war. I shall attempt to describe a set of political objectives on which such an enlightened minority might generally agree and which, if attained, could defer the war and keep the road open for subsequently abolishing war. Clearly, political action taken by a minority can be decisive only if this minority is willing to compensate for its inferiority in numbers by making sacrifices far beyond the call of duty, and I propose to examine whether this enlightened minority might feel sufficiently strongly about such a set of political objectives to go "all out" for attaining them."

My lecture will be written out, and as soon as I have the manuscript ready, I shall mail one copy to Dean Price.

A copy of this letter is enclosed for your convenience. You

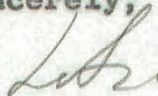
Mr. Michael J. Goldey
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November 6, 1961

might want to transmit it to Dean Price.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,



Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
Dupont Circle
Washington 6, D.C.

Enclosures



LOWELL HOUSE
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

file to file
Invitations

Office of
The Allston Burr Senior Tutor

October 22, 1963

Dr. L. Szilard
Dupont Plaza
Dupont Circle
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

A number of students and members of the faculty interested in the social responsibility of the natural scientist have urged me to extend to you an invitation to spend a day or two in Lowell House as our guest. The invitation is hereby extended.

What would be involved? Principally two things: an intimate dinner with some fifteen to twenty students and tutors followed by an informal talk and discussion open to a wider audience. The latter is held in the comfortable Lowell House Junior Common Room, rather than the forbidding atmosphere of a class or lecture room. In the past guests have commonly confined themselves to perhaps twenty minutes of prepared remarks. The questions that are then raised by the audience form the heart of the evening's 'interview'.

Thus the demand on your time need not be even as much as a day. Should you wish to spend several days with us, however, so much the better. For as long as you can visit, of course, you will be the guest of the House. We would be pleased to accomodate your wife as well, if she would enjoy making the trip with you. We do not pay honoraria; but a grant from the Ford Foundation that makes such visits possible would cover your transportation expenses.

These functions are customarily held on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday evenings. As the year is young and our program flexible, we can arrange the time to suit your schedule. For example, it could be dovetailed with an occasion when you would be in the Boston area for other reasons. Otherwise I would like to suggest one of the last three weeks of November.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Riddiford

Alan Riddiford
Tutor in Applied Mathematics
Lowell House

AR:fh

HOTEL DUPONT PLAZA
WASHINGTON, D.C.

December 10, 1963

Alan Riddiford
Office of the Alston Burr Senior Tutor
Lowell House
Harvard University
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Riddiford:

Many thanks for your kind letter of October 22.

I shall keep your kind invitation in mind and
contact you again if I am scheduled to visit the Boston
area.

Yours sincerely,

Leo Szilard