

1155 East 57 Street
Chicago, Illinois
April 14, 1948

Mr. Clarence Pickett
American Friends Service Committee

12 South 12 Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Pickett:

Thursday night when we met at the Harvard Club we thought that perhaps the next step should be the formation of a small committee that could take the preliminary steps concerning the raising of funds. After you left, however, Mr. Grafton, Mr. McDuffie and I felt that perhaps we had better go a little slow on this and that if we placed too much emphasis on the fund-raising at the present time, we might get mixed up with stuffed-shirtish elements before our own thinking has crystallized.

Mr. Grafton, Mr. McDuffie and I met again this morning and the following represents our thinking as of this hour. We believe that the Friends Service Committee, when it decides to assume responsibility for the enterprise outlined in Mr. Grafton's column, might set up a small preparatory group under your chairmanship. It would be the task of this group to set up a Commission composed of seven to eleven members and a Board composed of five to eleven members.

It would be the function of the Commission to devote full time for a period of not less than three months and not more than six months to the working out of the outlines of a peace settlement that could form the basis of a stable peace. In selecting the members of the Commission, the greatest emphasis should be placed on ingenuity, resourcefulness, and above

all, faith in the possibility of establishing peace. Because these qualities are more likely to be attributes of younger men, the group selected might be mostly composed of men who do not, as yet, have a nation-wide reputation. The final result of their deliberations embodied in the report, could, however, gain respectability by the acceptance of the report by the Board.

The Board should be composed of men who have a nation-wide reputation based on their past achievements. It should include business men who have a progressive economic philosophy such as you might find among the members of the CED. The function of the Board would be to receive the report of the Commission and forward it within a month of its receipt with such comments as it cares to make to the Friends Service Committee who will present the Commission's report and the Board's comments to the public. In doing so, the Friends Service Committee might attach its own observations both to the Commission's report and the Board's comments.

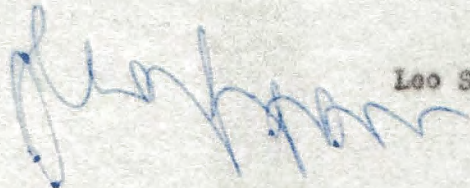
The report of the Commission should not only show the final results of their deliberations, but also it should show the way in which these results were arrived at. And the members of the Board should meet once a week with the Commission during the period of the deliberations of the Commission.

It may be doubted whether the present Administration of the United States and the government of Russia could arrive at any settlement which would lay the foundations for a stable peace. After the 1948 elections, however, the new Administration as well as the government of Russia might

perhaps consider the report of the Commission as a possible basis of negotiation provided that the report is both sound in its substance and receives favorable public attention upon its completion.

It was my understanding when you left that you might want some of us to meet a few members of your organization in an informal way in the near future. Mr. Marshall McDuffie will be in communication with you about this and will arrange a meeting with you at your convenience.

Very sincerely yours,



Leo Szilard

P.S. I called up Frank Aydelotte in Princeton but since we were both tied up in meetings over the weekend we could not arrange a meeting and I did not want to discuss the subject with him over the telephone.

L.S.

I have been thinking of you very much lately and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately but I will try to write to you more often.

Grafton

1891

1891

I have been thinking of you very much lately and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately but I will try to write to you more often.

Chairman
HENRY J. CADBURY

Honorary Chairman
RUFUS M. JONES

Executive Secretary
CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7  Pennsylvania

Telephone, RITTENHOUSE 6-9372

April 23, 1948

Dr. Leo Szilard
1155 West 57th Street
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I have been somewhat slow in answering your letter of April 14, not because I did not appreciate it but because we here have felt that we ought to discuss the proposal with at least a few of the persons in the category from which we would draw the proposed board.

I have talked further with Ruml and find him, thus far at least, believing that the project ought to be undertaken, but he himself is not prepared to sponsor it.

We are having conversations with Tom Finletter, James Warburg, and W. W. Lancaster, and a few others in that general bracket. We do not want this proposal to become second-rate. It will be that unless it commands the enthusiasm and willingness of very able people. Our movement, which may seem to you slow, is because we are taking time for these conversations. I am keeping Mr. Grafton posted and I hope that we may be able to take specific steps forward presently.

The advertisement which came out in the Times Wednesday, a copy of which I enclose, has created a great deal of interest. Point one, which is a modification of Grafton's proposal, has brought forth, I should say, the most enthusiasm of any. Thus far we have had well over 500 letters.

This letter is simply to report progress and we will keep you informed of future steps.

Very sincerely yours,



Clarence E. Pickett
Executive Secretary

CEP:fw
enc.

930 pm

Ernest

Curio 2 Sutton Place
South
Plan 98138

Old Erwin Edman
Columbia Church
Walker Newell
(Arnold of Parks)

[Faint signature]

1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
December 23, 1949

Mr. Clarence E. Pickett
Executive Secretary
American Friends Service Committee
Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Pickett:

Many thanks for your kind letter of November 9th. Since I wrote to you I have seen a number of people whom I shall list below, indicating briefly their reaction.

In Chicago I saw Laird Bell, Fowler McCormick and Marshall Field. All of them were sympathetic. Of the three perhaps the most active interest was shown by Marshall Field and Laird Bell. I could not see whether Fowler McCormick who appeared to be very much interested had formed any opinion during the conversation which I had with him.

In New York Marshall McDuffie and I saw Lloyd Garrison, Chester Barnard and Stringfellow Barr. Lloyd Garrison appeared to be very much interested and there were repeated conversations with him. He raised a number of questions, such as whether we shall be able to obtain the State Department's O.K., which he thought was necessary in order to get a good Board, and whether even though we may pay substantial remuneration to members of the Commission we shall be able to get good men to detach themselves from their present associations for six months of service on the Commission. Chester Barnard tried to think through the proposal from the point of view of whether such an enterprise could do any harm, and came to the conclusion that it probably could not. As to whether we would do some good, he thought that good results could never be predicted in advance. I raised with him the question of whether we ought to eliminate from our thinking the Foundations as a possible source of financing, and he said that he does of course not know what attitude the trustees would take but thought that a contribution of about \$50,000 would be in the realm of possibility, assuming that a number of other individuals or organizations would participate in the financing of this enterprise.

Stringfellow Barr was very much interested in various aspects of the proposed enterprise, and when we told him that the next step in this inquiry ought to be to find out what reaction we get in Minnesota, he suggested that we enlist the help of Harris Wofford, who is now living in Minnesota, to explore the response of that state.

In Rochester, New York I met Archibald J. MacLeish, who is now teaching at Harvard, and I think that the project found

December 23, 1949

favor with him. He too thought that it would be important to clear at an early stage with the State Department, but he did not think that one should go any farther than to inform the State Department of the plans and obtain some informal assurance that they will not be in opposition to it.

I believe that in the near future, perhaps in January, we ought to make an attempt to set up a committee of arrangements which would have the task of putting the plan into final shape and of making the necessary arrangements for putting it into effect. Before we reach that stage however, I shall try to talk either with you or with Gilbert White and get your views concerning the mode of procedure which you consider advisable.

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

Chairman
HENRY J. CADBURY

Executive Secretary
CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia 7,  Pennsylvania

Telephone, RITTENHOUSE 6-9372

January 24, 1950

1130
Howard
Club

Dr. Leo Szilard
1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois

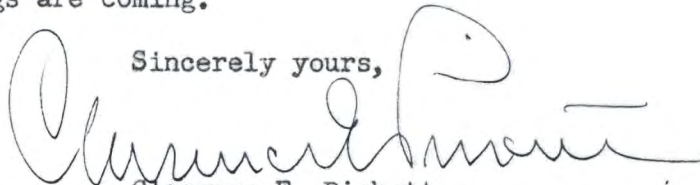
Dear Friend:

I have been very slow in responding to your letter of December 23. I would like to be brought up to date as to how your proposal regarding atomic energy is developing. It seems to me even more urgent now that the hydrogen bomb is being considered.

There are a great many study groups using our US-USSR report but thus far we have found no way to put the recommendations into effect. We have concentrated on the recommendation that trade should be restored. At the moment there is a greater willingness on the part of our government to permit it than there is interest on the part of the Russians in buying here.

Do let me know how things are coming.

Sincerely yours,



Clarence E. Pickett
Executive Secretary

cep/fw

X-ref from
AFSC

March 15, 1950

Clarence E. Pickett
Executive Secretary
American Friends Service Committee
20 South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Pickett:

Many thanks for your kind letter of January 24.

At its last meeting in Princeton, the Emergency Committee of Atomic Scientists has voted to go ahead with the plan if that proves to be possible. The Emergency Committee will not in itself participate in the inquiry, but try to set up an appropriate organization for it, and may attempt to raise a half million dollars for the work of that organization.

We are not trying to decide how best to implement this decision, and I shall keep you informed of any concrete steps that might be taken.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

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JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

April 25, 1950

Mr. Clarence E. Pickett
 American Friends Service Committee
 20 South 12th Street
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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 IN THIS COLLECTION

I understand Hutchins is trying to arrange to see you in New York Monday, May 1. He is sailing for Europe Tuesday afternoon. Professor Harrison Brown and I can meet with your committee in New York if that is desired any day next week. If necessary, kindly set date and ^{wire} advise me at 1155 East 57th Street, Chicago. Regards--

Leo Szilard

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LEO SZILARD=

1155 EAST 57 ST=

COULD YOU AND BROWN MEET ME HARVARD CLUB NEW YORK ELEVEN

FRIDAY MAY FIFTH=

CLARENCE E PICKETT=

1950 APR 27 9 56

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Date 4-25-50

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For Clarence E. Pickett, Am. Friends Service Committee, 20 S. 15th St., Philadelphia

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Signed Dr. Leo Szilard

Approved _____
Authorized Signature

Received above amount:

Signed _____

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L	ACCOUNT	SUB FUND				
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1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
May 15, 1950

Mr. Clarence E. Pickett
American Friends Service Committee
20 South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Pickett:

Enclosed you will find copies of a number of letters which give some indication of the response with which the plan of setting up a citizens' inquiry into the conditions of peace has met so far. They include the following:

- a letter from Carter, Ledyard and Milburn
- a telegram from David Noyes to James Patton
- a letter from Josiah Marvel, Jr. to Leo Szilard
- a letter from Leo Szilard to Grenville Clark
- a letter from Grenville Clark to Leo Szilard
- a letter from Walter Orr Roberts (Director of the High Altitude Observatory of Harvard University and University of Colorado) to Leo Szilard
- a letter from Henry B. Cabot, Boston, to Leo Szilard
- a letter from Karl Compton, Chairman of the Corporation MIT to Henry B. Cabot
- a letter from Albert Pratt (Paine, Webber, Jackson and Curtis, Boston) to Henry B. Cabot
- a letter from J. R. Killian, Jr., President MIT, to Henry B. Cabot
- a letter from Phillip Ketchum (Herrick, Smith, Donald, Farley, and Ketchum, Boston) to Henry B. Cabot
- a letter from Stringfellow Barr to Leo Szilard

I thought that you might find some of these documents rather interesting.

Sincerely yours,



Leo Szilard

Chairman
HENRY J. CADBURY

Executive Secretary
LEWIS M. HOSKINS

Honorary Secretary
CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee
INCORPORATED

Twenty South Twelfth Street
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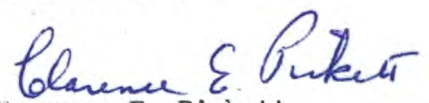
April 28, 1955

Dr. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I have just received a letter from Mr. Benjamin H. Dyschel, who seems to be head of what is called the Dyschel Foundation for Development of Ideas and who gives his address as Philadelphia 16, Pa. He says that he has been "speculating on the possibility of bringing together a group of thinkers sufficiently detached from the many pressing problems to enable them to reach to the core of things and thus bring forth some satisfactory answers." I do not know Mr. Dyschel, but it occurred to me that you might well write him setting forth your proposal for it sounds to me as if he may be feeling for the thing which you are working on.

Sincerely yours,


Clarence E. Pickett

unnumbered

County LI Rd P Bushelton Lu
Philadelphia OR CH 34530

C
O
P
Y

American Friends Service Committee, Inc.
Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

April 28, 1955

Dr. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I have just received a letter from Mr. Benjamin H. Dyshel, who seems to be head of what is called the Dyshel Foundation for Development of Ideas and who gives his address as Philadelphia 16, Pa. He says that he has been "speculating on the possibility of bringing together a group of thinkers sufficiently detached from the many pressing problems to enable them to reach to the core of things and thus bring forth some satisfactory answers." I do not know Mr. Dyshel, but it occurred to me that you might well write him setting forth your proposal for it sounds to me as if he may be feeling for the thing which you are working on.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Clarence E. Pickett

Clarence E. Pickett

Chairman
HENRY J. CADBURY

Executive Secretary
LEWIS M. HOSKINS

Honorary Secretary
CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee
INCORPORATED

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7,  Pennsylvania

Telephone, RITTENHOUSE 6-9372

May 22, 1950

Dr. Leo Szilard
1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I have discussed with my committee and especially with Gilbert White the second proposal that you made to me, namely, that I be a kind of second vice-president of the citizens' committee. I have a very nice letter from Albert Einstein encouraging me if it were possible to accept that responsibility.

We here certainly want to give full encouragement to the inquiry which you are making. We all felt, however, that if I should give time there I would not be able adequately to carry forward what the Service Committee is itself attempting. It seemed better, therefore, for me personally to go on with my full responsibility here and to say to you that if you would like to have some other member of our group as a member of your board we would do our best to find an able and useful person.

Again, I want to assure you that I appreciate very much your thinking of my being a vice-chairman. It would have been a pleasure to have been a part of the inquiry and especially to work with Dr. Hutchins but I suppose all of us find limits to the power of expansion and I think I have about found mine. I hope this will not mean that I shall not see you from time to time and, as a friend of the project, know what is going on.

Very sincerely yours,



Clarence E. Pickett
Honorary Secretary

cep/fw