

PINEWOOD GARDENS
HARTSDALE, NEW YORK

Your unwelcome

Dec. 17, 1947

Dear Mr. Szilard:

Please permit me to send you warm congratulations on your "Letter to Stalin" in the December Bulletin. Your previous articles in this magazine and one radio broadcast which I heard by chance have made me feel that yours is the one voice of hope in this mad world today.

I am hoping that you will receive enough letters from plain people such as myself, who am a Westchester housewife, so that you will not be discouraged but will continue to shout your warnings. Can you not achieve publication of an article such as the "letter" in a mass magazine such as Life or the Readers Digest? How about radio time on really popular programs such as Bob Hope or Bing Crosby? Perhaps if you approached the sponsors as well as the ~~act~~ors on these broadcasts you would be surprised by their favorable attitude.

I have a five yr. old son and I am convinced that mothers all over the country would act to save their children if they were shown a way and given leadership.

Tanks again for your inspiration and may you never give up the fight!

Sincerely,

Joanna Stacke (Mrs. Joe B.)

MOHAWK COLLEGE
UTICA, NEW YORK

Answered

DR. EMILE BENOIT-SMULLYAN
HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
FOR THE ASSOCIATED COLLEGES

December 15, 1947

Xmas

Dr. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Institute of Radiobiology and Biophysics
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Dr. Szilard:

Your letter to Stalin was rather breath-taking, but on thinking it over I believe it makes good sense. Certainly some novel type of initiative must be taken to break the present impasse.

I don't remember whether I ever thanked you for your help in getting the University of Chicago Press to accept my book project on the Control of Atomic Energy Through Minimal World Government. Unfortunately I could not find the time to write it when they wanted it and now they seem to think the psychological moment has passed.

I shall be in Chicago on the 28th, 29th, and 30th. It would be a source of great gratification to me if I could meet you for even a few minutes. Please drop me a note at the Sheraton Hotel marked, "Hold Until Arrival".

Sincerely yours,

Emile Benoit-Smullyan
Emile Benoit-Smullyan

EBS:ks

for
DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMICS

TUFTS COLLEGE

Answered
MEDFORD 55
MASSACHUSETTS

January 2, 1948

Len Szilard
Institute of Radiobiology
and Biophysics
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Professor Szilard,

I am enclosing a copy of an article, "The Atom and the Economy" (The American Scholar), which I think may interest you. It is preliminary to a more thorough and detailed analysis, "Some Economic Implications of Atomic Energy", to appear in the February issue of the Quarterly Journal of Economics.

Very truly yours,

Walter Isard

Walter Isard

National Chairman
HENRY J. CADBURY

Honorary National Chairman
RUFUS M. JONES

National Executive Secretary
CLARENCE E. PICKETT

MIDWEST BRANCH

American Friends Service Committee

19 South Wells Street

CHICAGO 6,



ILLINOIS

CENTRAL 2664

answered

December 31, 1947

Leo Szilard
c/o Atomic Scientists of Chicago
1126 East 59th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Leo Szilard:

I take the liberty of writing to you because of your invitation printed at the end of the article, CALLING FOR A CRUSADE, for readers to make comments. I believe I have expressed to you before my appreciation for this article and my belief that it contains some of the soundest thinking which has recently appeared in print.

The part I am concerned with is contained in this quotation,—"We cannot look for our salvation to the 80th Congress. But this country is a democracy; we are the masters of our destiny. There will be elections in '48 and again in '52. The issue before us will not be a partisan issue... Voters who are willing to disregard all other issues and willing to cast their vote solely on the issue of establishing peace by creating an organized world community might decisively influence the nominations and elections."

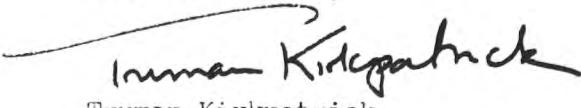
The elections of 1948 are rapidly approaching and I am wondering whether we ordinary citizens will have a chance to vote for what the Tribune derisively calls a "One-Worlder". To any one who is concerned with the creation of an organized world community it would be a tragedy to hold a ballot in November of 1948 where the choice for Congress was between two narrow and short-sighted politicians.

I am wondering if the Atomic Scientists have anyone from within their ranks, or who is known by them to be devoted to the ideal of an organized world community, who is planning to campaign for Congress in the 2nd Congressional District. This district includes the University of Chicago and if this area is not able to send a believer in world community to Congress I do not know of what district this can be expected. The present Congressman is the Republican, Richard B. Vail, who has been in Washington this fall helping on the House Un-American Committee. I don't think he is a "One-Worlder".

If a worthy advocate of world cooperation is to become a candidate for Congress in our district, now is the time for him to announce himself. I do not know much about politics, but upon looking up the election laws, I discovered that to get on the ballot as a candidate in the primary election of April 13, 1948, a man has to file a petition in a certain prescribed form with 443 signatures of registered Democratic voters on it if he wants to enter the Democratic primary or with 476 signatures of registered Republican voters on it if he wants to enter the Republican primary. These petitions for nomination have to be filed with the Secretary of State not earlier than January 19, 1948 and not later than January 26, 1948.

If any of the Atomic Scientists or members of the world government group there want to run for Congress I would like to donate a few hours of time to help him with his campaign. I think that in this I am typical of several people who would like to find a tangible way in which they could work for the ideas you have so well expressed.

Sincerely yours,



Truman Kirkpatrick

TK:lpp

Tom

1155 East 57th Street
January 12, 1948

Miss Georgia Lloyd
Campaign for World Government
343 South Dearborn Street
Chicago 4, Illinois

Dear Miss Lloyd:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of the 18th of December. I anticipated a rather hostile attitude to this article and was astonished that it turned out to be rather favorable.

I do not get downtown very often these days but if I do, I shall drop in at your office and give you a ring on the telephone beforehand so that I do not miss you. With best wishes,

Sincerely,

L.S.

Leo Szilard

CAMPAIGN FOR WORLD GOVERNMENT

(Incorporated)

343 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET

Phone WABash 2725

CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS
December 18, 1947

International Chairman

Camille Drevet
3 rue Gustave le Bon
Paris XIV, France
Vaugirard 2001

New York Secretary

Miss Tracy D. Mygatt
265 W. 11th Street
New York 14, N. Y.
Chelsea 2-6233

Sponsors

Henry G. Alsberg
Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes
Dr. Anton J. Carlson
Miss Sarah Cleghorn
Col. W. F. Gerhardt
Miss Edith Goode
Mrs. Annie E. Gray
Mrs. Rena Maverick Green
Mrs. Esther Fiske Hammond
Prof. George W. Hartmann
Mrs. Kathleen M. Hendrie
Mrs. Stella S. Jannotta
Miss Caroline F. Lexow
Miss Anne Martin
Milton S. Mayer
Mrs. Jessie Overholt
Mrs. Alice Park
Dr. Alice Paul
Frederick L. Redefer
Mrs. Catherine Rumball
Mrs. Frances B. Stewart
Mrs. Eva I. Wakefield
Carleton Washburne
Charles F. Weller
Mrs. Jean M. Wilcox

Dr. Leo Szilard
Metallurgical Laboratory
University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I was very much interested in the letter you wanted to send Premier Stalin. I thought your suggestion was constructive and would help combat the alarming hysteria. The application of the Logan Act was also of interest, because we have never hesitated to interview the delegates at the UN, for instance, of other countries or ambassadors in Washington; and we have cabled our views from time to time to various government officials in other countries.. I can see that being an atomic scientist, when the penalty is so severe, you are not in a position to take such risks; but so far none of our actions has been questioned.

I am wondering what kind of reaction you have had from the public on your suggestion. If it has been mostly unfavorable, I hope you are not dismayed or discouraged.

Someone told me that you had written a play which several magazines have refused to publish. If you have a spare copy, I would be very much interested to read your play. Is there any possibility that you would have time to drop in to our office sometime? I would like to see you to have a chance to talk at greater length.

Keep up the good work.

Cordially yours,

Georgia Lloyd
Georgia Lloyd

GL:JL

CAMPAIGN FOR WORLD GOVERNMENT

(Incorporated)

343 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET

Phone WABash 2725

CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS

International Chairman

Camille Drevet
3 rue Gustave le Bon
Paris XIV, France
Vaugirard 2001

New York Secretary

Miss Tracy D. Mygatt
265 W. 11th Street
New York 14, N. Y.
Chelsea 2-6233

Sponsors

Henry G. Alsberg
Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes
Dr. Anton J. Carlson
Miss Sarah Cleghorn
Col. W. F. Gerhardt
Miss Edith Goode
Mrs. Annie E. Gray
Mrs. Rena Maverick Green
Mrs. Esther Fiske Hammond
Prof. George W. Hartmann
Mrs. Kathleen M. Hendrie
Mrs. Stella S. Jannotta
Miss Caroline F. Lexow
Miss Anne Martin
Milton S. Mayer
Mrs. Jessie Overholt
Mrs. Alice Park
Dr. Alice Paul
Frederick L. Redefer
Mrs. Catherine Rumball
Mrs. Frances B. Stewart
Mrs. Eva I. Wakefield
Carleton Washburne
Charles F. Weller
Mrs. Jean M. Wilcox

Treasurer

Miss Frances Bird
38 S. Dearborn Street
Chicago 3, Illinois

Executive Secretary

Georgia Lloyd

453

December 26th 1947

Dr. Leo Szilard
Metallurgical Laboratory
University of Chicago
Chicago, 37, Ill.

My dear Dr. Szilard,

May I add my own warmest thanks to that of the many other Americans who must have expressed a like gratitude, for the effort you recently made to write Stalin. It was a courageous and wholly intelligent effort, and if you have also received vituperation instead of praise, I am confident that you know how to discount such reaction at such a time!

It was a great satisfaction to find the commendatory editorial in The Christian Century (issue December 9th). And I presume you may have seen the Rev. A.J.Muste's excerpt from an article of yours back in the July issue of Fellowship, the journal of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. I was grateful to be able to close my little article, Vision and Survival (which I'm venturing to send you), with that searching sentence of yours, "maybe God will work a miracle for us--if we don't make it too difficult for Him."

We are indeed making it "difficult" these bitter days! But with you as His instrument, we may yet win out. Georgia Lloyd writes of a play of yours which I shall hope one day to see. And I only wish that all world federalists had your vision on the necessity of reconciliation with Russia. Keep on trying to open the eyes of this terribly confused country of ours!

Gratefully yours,

1/8.5/4

(Miss) Tracy D. Mygatt,
N.Y. Secretary, C.W.G.

Answered

LSP

1155 East 57th Street
January 12, 1948

Mrs. Bettina B. Carter
710 California Avenue
Oakmont, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Carter:

It was very kind of you to write me about the article
in the December issue of the Bulletin and I wish to thank
you for having taken the trouble of writing in such an
encouraging manner.

Sincerely,

LS

Leo Szilard

Oakmont, Pa.

December 21, 1947

Dr. Leo Szilard,
The Editors,
Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Friends:

Please know that, in my opinion, Dr. Szilard's "Letter to Stalin" is one of the most significant and courageous documents known to history. I read it with increasing admiration for each paragraph. Yes, it is undoubtedly being called *naïve*. Actually, it constitutes the highest realism. The world has long since passed the day of trusting peace to the machinations of career diplomats. It is the era of the people's peace or else the end of the world.

What an immature world it is! It is only with the beginning of this century that we have considered war to be wrong. We are almost into the second half of it before the scientists (and I am one of them, if only in a small way) left their laboratories to point the way to peace. But we may be grateful for even these few gains.

I wish the "Letter" could be more widely publicized. I wish more people might read it, might heed and understand. I wish also the many groups in the United States which work for peace could forget their differences in one cause. We have dissipated our energies badly yet we all want the same thing.

I am keenly aware of the courage and selflessness necessary for the writing of such a letter. These are times when nothing less is enough. People all over the world are in debt to Dr. Szilard.

Sincerely yours,

Bettina B. Carter

Mrs. Bettina B. Carter, 710 California Ave., Oakmont, Pa.

L.S.

1155 East 57th Street
January 12, 1948

Dr. I. Patai
Research Institute of Temple University
Philadelphia 22, Pennsylvania

Dear Patai:

Many thanks for your kind letter of the 24th of December. I have read it with great interest and I hope there will be some opportunity for us to meet and talk about things in general.

Sincerely,

L.S.

Leo Szilard

RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
PHILADELPHIA 22, PA.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Prof. Leo Szilard,
Atomic Scientists of Chicago,
1126 East 59th Street,
Chicago 37, Ill.

December 24, 1947.

Kedves Leo,

elnevezését kérem, amiért magyarul irok - e pillanatban még könnyebben és hibátlanabban tudom magamat így kifejezni.

Nagyon köszönöm a Béla után elküldött "Bulletin"-t. Sajnálom, hogy ezzel a nagyvonalú folyóiruttal eddig nem találkoztam a könyvtárakban, sem Washingtonban, sem Philadelphiaban.

A "Bulletin"-ben közzétett mindenki irását a legnagyobb figyelemmel és megértéssel olvastam és sokáig tűnődtem, hogy vajon szivesen veszi-e a hozzájölast. Végül is, visszagondoltam a Sommerfelddel folytatott nagy vitára; Machról, kauzalitásról, monizmusról folytak ezek a viták (Sommerfeld természetesen tökéletesen es megvaltoztathatatlanul abszolutista), melyseges "világnezeti" ellentetek bontakoztak ki - ennek ellenere Sommerfeld ismételten kijelentette: "Ich habe die Diskussionen ausserordentlich gerne..."

A Maga éleslátása és enerija a kultura történetének egyik legimpozánsabb sikéréhez vezetett. Most, amikor ijesztő gyorsággal sietünk az új háboru felé, azt kell kivánni, hogy Stalinhoz írt leveleivel tett lépésének minden irányban meg legyen a hatása és sikere. Valóban, a nagykonfliktusokban elementárisan parancsoló, hogy a problémákat és szundelőket a legrélesebb világnezeti ellentetek dacára is nyíltan és össintén exponáljuk azok számára, akik a történelmi felett döntenek. Azt kellene remélni, hogy a konfliktus nyilt feldírása után a "common sense" meg fogja találni a kompromiszszel utját, amely mindenkor jobb, mint a pusztítás.

Kérdés azonban, hogy azok a társadalmi erők, amelyek idónkent háboruhoz vezetnek, valóban feltáthatók-e a tudatosan, szavakban, mondatokban, egyszóval az értelmes gondolkodás eszközeivel ki-fejezhető és megfogalmazható konfliktus negformálása után. Kérdés, hogy az emberi csoportokban, társadalmakban törvényeszerűséggel ismétlődő háborús jelenségek mögött ne működnek-e olyan elementaris tudattalan tömegek, amelyek a tudatos konfliktusban felismerhető erőktől különböznél, amelyeket tehát csak mélylélektani vizsgálattal lehet megközelíteni, ezenugy, mint a neurotikusok és pszichotikusok tetteit.

Az elkövetkező háboru a kapitalizmus és szocializmus ösz-

szeüthözésé leesz; abban a két háborúban, amelyet "szerencsénk volt" közvetlen közelsegben végigélni, nagy népcsoportok harcoltak egymásra, területekért, hatalomért, amiben benne volt a szocialis háboru előmerítése is; voltak háboruk vallasos ideológiai mozgató erőkkel és sok-sok kis néptörzs indított hadjáratot a szomszéd neptörzs ellen azért, hogy valamilyen kis sérelmet megtoroljanak.

Természetesen voltak olyan háboruk is, amelyekben egy expandáló népcsoport egszerűen ki akarta pusztitani a terjeszkedés utjában álló gyengebb népeket; ezeknek a háboruknak magyarázatara nem kell sok mélylélektan. De: nem minden háboru ilyen és ezzel az egszerű sérnával de még a történelmi materializmus tételeivel sem magyarázhatók éppen a mi korunk nagy háborui.

Van valami meglepően és mechanikusan ismétlődő a háborus történeselben, a primitív törzsök háboruiból épenugy, mint a "kulturnépek" háboruiban. A háborut mindig szervezett készülődés előzi meg, a néptörzs fiatalstagát valamilyen morális ideológia alapján szervezik és nevelik, gyakorlatoztatják és mestersegesen fokozzák termeszeset veszedési hajlandóságát; minden primitív néptörzs közvetlenenyét arra hivatott és hozzáértő szakemberek, mágusok, papok, törzsfőnökök és tanacsadóik irányítják és preparálják; minden nagy gárcsere kerül mozgasba hogy emocionalis izgalom terjedjen: nagy üstdobokat kongatnak és szólnak a sípok, hogy a tömegekben sajátos, a háborura alkalmas lelkiallapot képződjék - de igen alkalmasak az ilyen hataskeltésre a Wagner operái is, vagy épen a Horst Wessel Lied.

Kérdés, hogy a most készülő, minden eddiginél borzalmasabb háboru előkészületei mögött nem működnek-e hatalmas, tudattalan ösztönerők, amelyeket az ertemesen kifejezhető konfliktus csak eltakar, csak racionalizál. A kapitalizmus és szocializmus konfliktusa talán meg tudna találni a kompromisszumos megoldást, de a háboru "szent okóból", mint más ösztönerők megnyilatkozása, mindenképen létre akar jönni. Lehet-e hatást gyakorolni ezekre az erőkre azáltal, hogy felismerjük, leírjuk, analizáljuk őket, hogy tudatosítjuk őket, hasonlóképen a neurozisok gyógyításához? A tömeglélektani analízis meg gyerekcipőben jár...

A Maga Stalinhoz írt levele mögött érzem a kutató optimizmusát: a nagy intellektusok számára talán adva van az a lehetőség, hogy megbirkózzanak az elementaris, tudattalan ösztönökkel. Vajon Stalin ilyen nagy intellektus-e? Vajon azok között, akikhez ez a level Stalinnon kívül szól, vannak-e nagy intellektusok?

Megegyszer köszönöm írásainak megküldését és nagyon örülök, ha valahol alkalon adódna a találkozásra.

Sokszor, szívélyesen üdvözli

Patai

Artesia, New Mexico

Nov. 26 - 1947.

Mrs Quincy Howe Science Reporter
Columbia Broadcasting System
New York City

Dear Mrs Howe,

Your report of Dr. Zelard's suggestion for aiding in maintaining peace interests us, and we want to do our part in increasing its chance of realization.

Would you please forward the enclosed letter to Dr. Zelard? You are welcome to read it. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lammie Forbes
Grade six room Atoka School

Artesia, New Mexico
November 26, 1947

Dr. Zeland
Care of Mr. Quincy Howe, Science Editor
Columbia Broadcasting System
New York City

Dear Dr. Zeland

Your suggestion that Premier Stalin address the people of the United States once a month, and President Truman speak to Russia is a good one.

What can we as school children do to help get this idea across?

How may we help to get it widely discussed in this country so there will be a popular demand for a monthly talk?

You have our wholehearted support

Sincerely,
John Davis Salles

Grade 6 - Room - Atoka

(OVER)

Douglas Stevens
Jacqueline Denton
Barbara Rogers
Otilia Morrison
Paul Irvin Terry
Elmina Brown
George Hamblight
Gwendolyn Coker-Hawkins
Jerry Dominguez
Mabel Rubio
Virginia Morrison
Donald Dominguez
Sextodo Campos
Miriam Strong
Jimmie Lee Liles
Betty Thorp
Virginia Jones
Geraldine Dominguez
Normadaye Coors
Dannie Stokes
Margaret Dominguez
Barbara Clayton
Emilia Fuentes
Rodger East
Juan Dominguez
Jerry Dominguez

Donald Stevens
Kenneth Stevens

December 9, 1947

Mr. John David Sallee
Grade 6 Room
Atoka School
Artesia, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Sallee:

I wish to thank you for your nice letter of the 26th of November which was transmitted to me by Mr. Quincy Howe.

I was very glad indeed to learn that you and your classmates think that my suggestion is a good one and feel much heartened by your approval. Enclosed are five copies of the BULLETIN OF THE ATOMIC SCIENTISTS which you could perhaps distribute among your classmates. This BULLETIN is written for grown ups and it is, therefore, mostly somewhat on the boring side, but perhaps your parents or the parents of some of your classmates would like to subscribe to it and that would be of some help.

What you could otherwise do as school children to help to get useful ideas across I have not yet quite figured out, but I am thinking about it and will write you again if anything useful occurs to me.

With best wishes to you all,

Sincerely,

Leo Smilard