

PETER CHARLTON
634 SOUTH SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES

December 24, 1961.

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

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I was happy to talk with you over the phone; and we are delighted that you are coming to California; and that you have agreed to address the audience here on January 18th. The event is to take place in the evening, at the Civic Auditorium in Santa Monica. The Hall has a capacity for a large number of people who are looking forward to hearing you.

Needless to say, we consider it a great privilege to have you with us. In accordance with my telephone conversation, we will look forward to meeting you on January 17th. We are arranging to get together the group of interested people for you to meet privately. As soon as I can get in touch with Harrison Brown, I will ask him to introduce you at the large meeting. I know that he will be very glad to do so, if he is in town.

Mr. Gerald Fried, who is chairman for the arrangements of the meeting tells me that he will make hotel reservations and take care of other details. Dr. S. Mark Doran, Chairman of Los Angeles SANE is coordinating efforts and will do everything to make your stay here pleasant and fit your wishes.

Mr Fried is writing to you and officially confirming the engagement. Congratulations on your article in the current issue of the BULLETIN OF THE ATOMIC SCIENTISTS. It is being widely read.

All good wishes,

Sincerely,

Peter Charlton.

I am writing this out in the sunshine at the desert beyond Palm Springs, as I am spending a few days of leisure, reading and writing, over the Holidays,

Washington, D.C.
22 December 1961

Mr. Peter Charlton
634 S. Spring Street
Los Angeles 14, California

Dear Mr. Charlton:

On second thought it would probably be better to have the private meeting that you so kindly offered to arrange either on Friday, January 19th or on Saturday, January 20th.

I am enclosing two copies of the speech, which I gave at four universities, and which describes the experiment. The experience hereto has shown that roughly about one half the people who hear the speech want to have a copy. You may have to sell these at 25¢ a piece in order to recover your expenses of reproduction. I want the people who express interest to register their name and address in return for obtaining a copy of the speech.

I expect to speak for one hour and ten minutes. We would then need to have a short intermission and after that I can stay on for another hour for the discussion. Name cards could be given out during the intermission for those to register their name and address and they could then be given a copy of the speech each as long as there are copies available. Beyond that point

they would have to be mailed copies of the speech.

It is important that if the speech is reproduced both sides of the paper be used and that the paper should not be too thick, otherwise postage becomes too expensive.

I propose to telephone you from Portland and tell you the date of my arrival and I should appreciate your making hotel reservations for me and my wife at that time. I shall probably telephone you from Eugene, Oregon on Monday, 15 January. I shall probably arrive in Los Angeles either Tuesday, 16 January in the evening, or Wednesday, 17 January at noon and I should appreciate your telling me when I telephone you, to what hotel to go on arrival.

Enclosed is some biographical material which you could use for your publicity and a glossy picture.

So far the publicity has been very favorable somewhat along the lines of the attached text taken from Commonweal.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

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

P.S. Since this letter was written I received a letter from Gerald Fried dated 20 December. I am afraid under the circumstances I cannot give the talk. I shall call you over the telephone and give you my reasons for having to decline.

In the meantime, I shall mail this letter to you in any case so as to inform you personally about what I am trying to do.

John: my agreement

PETER CHARLTON
634 SOUTH SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES

phone: MAdison 7-9251

January 1, 1962.

Sy 6-8586

Dear Dr. Szilard:

Just returned, yesterday from my short vacation on the desert and found your good letter.

We are arranging the meetings and details which you so well indicated. Last evening, I spent an hour with Mr. Clore Warne, who is a full valued lawyer, interested and adequate in International law. I'm enclosing a copy of a letter which he wrote to Harrison Brown, with his knowlege.

Clore Warne and I went to New York together in June and spent three days in New Canaan at Norman Cousins' place where we joined in a discussion of "bull-session" of affairs which I am sure that you know about, which was pertinent to this letter.

We both are looking forward to talks with you which may implement these ideas. I am personally eager to meet you again.

Will expect a phone call from you from Oregon and will be happy to meet you plane.

Good wishes,

Sincerely,

Peter Charlton.

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

PACHT, ROSS, WARNE & BERNHARD

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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ISAAC PACHT
CLORE WARNE
N. JOSEPH ROSS
LAZARE F. BERNHARD
JERRY PACHT
EDWARD BLAU
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6535 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
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Dr. Harrison Brown
5155 Stone Glenn Road
La Canada, California

Dear Harrison Brown:

I don't quite know why I should pick on you; and yet I do. It is because I consider you a spokesman for a point of view that needs to be amplified and rendered more effective - if we, as a people, are to survive. I speak, of course, of your vigorous activities in supporting disarmament and its corollary "world law". Your continued work with the world's scientists (Pugwash, etc.) pamphleturing, television - I liked your recent joust with Prof. Teller and your participation with Prof. Tamm and other Soviet men from Stowe - all of this I commend.

I liked some of the language of the Stowe scientists, for which I am sure you are partly responsible. To quote from their 1961 Eighth Conference Declaration:

"The participants of the conference are united in the realization of the danger of unleashing a nuclear war, which would cause untold destruction and bring death to innumerable people. We hope that the desire for peace and the revulsion against war, which are shared by all peoples, will make possible a peaceful resolution of the conflicts which have led to the present deterioration of the international situation, and make possible the attainment of complete and universal disarmament and the establishment of stable peace on earth.

In the present crisis we reaffirm our belief in the general principles enunciated in the Vienna Declaration of September 1958."

The Vienna Declaration reads in part:

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"We believe that, as scientists, we have an important contribution to make toward establishing trust and cooperation among nations. ***
The rapidly growing importance of science in the affairs of mankind increases the importance of the community of understanding."

"We believe that the committee (The Continuing Committee of the Conference) should concentrate its efforts, however, on topics which are directly related to the easing of international tensions, the establishment of systems of mutual security, the elimination of war as an instrument of national policy, nuclear control and disarmament, and the role of the scientist in creating a peaceful and abundant world."

This letter to you is prompted, not only by the above plus other good Harrison Brown public efforts, but because there has been continued discussion - but no effective action - of the "role of the scientist" in our present world political dilemma.

I could refer at length to the "talk, talk, talk" of your colleagues from C. F. Snow - East and West, The Atomic Scientist Bulletin - any issue. But why go on, such talk seems a kind of occupational affliction, or at least addiction. Perhaps it is the collective sense of guilt that occasions it. After all, you scientists got us here: Hiroshima, nuclear weapons, missiles, etc.

No better example of this continued view than a brief report of Dr. Leo Szilard's talk to a Harvard University group which I noted (see attached copy). He is reported as follows:

"Dr. Leo Szilard, one of the fathers of the atomic bomb, has proposed a plan to avert nuclear war by forming a minority movement led by distinguished scholars and scientists who would whisper with 'the sweet voice of reason' into the ears of official Washington.

"War would seem indeed to be inevitable, unless it is possible somehow to alter the pattern of behavior which America and Russia are exhibiting at present."

"Szilard emphasized that the committee of scientists could not conduct an effective lobby for the abolition of war without the support of a sizeable chunk of the voting populace. In Washington, he

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said, the scientists 'would be heard, but they would not be listened to if they were unable to deliver the votes.'

In explaining how the movement would function, Szilard said, 'I personally, find myself in rebellion against the fate that history seems to have in store for us, and I suspect that some of you may be equally rebellious. The question is, what can you do?'

The solution, Szilard hopes, lies with a dedicated minority which would employ political action 'to attain political objectives which would alter the course of events, cause the present danger of war to recede and open the door to a constructive effort to abolish war.' He theorized that the group could bring about a change in the attitude of the American government which, in turn, would bring about a similar change in the attitude of the Russian government."

I am concerned by the insufficiency which seems to me apparent in Dr. Szilard's proposal, unless it is extended. The "sweet voice of reason" is not enough. It echoes, it seems to me, the "grand words" of the Charters of all the "peace movements" (U.W.F., AAUN, Quakers, etc.) and the spirit of the President's September Address to the United Nations. It does not translate however into effective political action. Therefore this letter to you.

I am suggesting specifically that you, Szilard, et al., accept and initiate something which I have outlined as follows:

POLITICAL MOVEMENT PROPOSITION

A political movement should be organized in the United States, specifically addressed to a Disarmament-World Law concept. Its program and activities should be centered currently toward: (1) election to Congress of Representatives and the Senate candidates committed to such concept as reflecting the demands of the electorate, and (2) persuading the Administration to active National and International action toward world acceptance of procedures to such ends.

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Organization of such a movement should be undertaken by scientists and other "intellectuals" cooperating to attract and develop a large public following. The Movement's activities should be controlled so as to prevent partisan or demagogic use by professional politicians.

The Movement's general purposes should be limited to the outlawing of armed force as a method of resolving disputes between governments, and specifically, to negotiate with the U.S.S.R. and other interested nations, to achieve:

- 1) Total and universal disarmament under agreements for adequate controls and inspection; and
- 2) Procedures and rules for submission and resolution of issues and disputes arising between or concerning nations, together with appropriate means of enforcement of decisions reached.

I will not elaborate this, for its validity is not obvious, all argument would fail. But I'll talk if you think it has value.

With greetings of the Season, and best wishes for you always, I remain,

Sincerely,

CLORE WARNE

CW/sl/dd

P. S. I am sending copies to Ping Ferry, Norman Cousins and Pete Charlton, for comment.

CW