

October 12, 1945

Mr. R. Gustavson
Office of the President
Faculty Exchange

Dear Mr. Gustavson:

Mr. Szilard asked me to send the inclosed letter to you. He would like to talk to you about it when he returns to Chicago. There is considerable background to this matter which is not revealed in the letter attached.

Yours very sincerely,

Secretary to Mr. Szilard

*Plans
3 June 4
at 2 pm
Alarum
see file 3rd*

1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
April 18, 1950

Dr. Reuben Gustavson
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, Nebraska

Dear Dr. Gustavson:

We were very sorry that you could not attend the last Princeton meeting. The enclosed memorandum will inform you what the Emergency Committee is up to. At the last meeting, the Emergency Committee appointed a "Committee of Arrangements" consisting of Joe Mayer, Harrison Brown, and myself and authorized us to raise half a million dollars for the purposes of the project. We plan to bring into existence an organization which we propose to call "Council of Inquiry into the Conditions of Peace," which will consist of a Board and a Commission as outlined in the enclosed memorandum.

This "Council" will have a corporate existence, separate from the Emergency Committee, and will be organized on a tax-exempt basis. We have asked Mr. Hutchins to act as chairman of the Board and to invite at the outset a few other persons to serve as Board members. We have received a tentative acceptance from Mr. Hutchins, prior to his clearing the matter with the Trustees of the University. We made the following recommendations to him concerning other Board members to be initially approached:

- ✓ Laird Bell, Bell, Boyd, Marshall & Lloyd, Chicago
- Henry E. Cabot, Boston
- ✓ Grenville Clark, Dublin, New Hampshire *write*
- Marshall Field, Chicago
- Reuben Gustavson, University of Nebraska *call him up*
- Fowler McCormick, International Harvester, Chicago *write*

R. L. Stearns, University of Colorado
Clarence Pickett, Friends Service Committee
James G. Patton, National Farmers' Union, Denver

We also recommended to Mr. Hutchins to try to get Clarence Pickett to serve as vice-chairman of the Council.

Last week I spent in Boulder, Colorado, and talked about our plans with James G. Patton; R. L. Stearns; Edward C. King, Dean of the Law School, University of Colorado; and Walter Orr Roberts, Director of the High Altitude Observatory.

As a result of these conversations, the Committee of Arrangements proposes that at the time when the Council is formed, an affiliated regional group be formed in Denver for the purpose of disseminating information on the Council's activities in the Mountain States and some of the neighboring states. We were thinking of proposing that Byron White be asked to form the regional committee and that the committee include Arthur Henry, Allen Phipps, Dick Davis, Henry Swan, Jr., Palmer Hoyt, and James G. Patton. This is merely a tentative proposal of the Committee of Arrangements subject to further discussion, and our suggestion does not so far cover any of the states other than Colorado. This particular suggestion is based on the desire of the Committee of Arrangements to try to draw into the work of the Council citizens who have so far not participated in activities of this general type.

If you have any suggestions as to whom else in your opinion might be suitable for the regional committee, particularly if you have any suggestions relating to Nebraska, we would very much appreciate your letting us know.

With kind regards--

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

wv
cc: Harrison Brown
Joe Mayer

1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
April 24, 1950

Dr. Ruben G. Gustavson
Burlington Hotel
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Gustavson:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which I sent you to Nebraska and a copy of the memorandum which accompanied it. In the meantime, Mr. Hutchins has accepted the chairmanship of the "Council", and we had an interview with Clarence Pickett urging his acceptance of the vice-chairmanship. This week we are trying to line up with Mr. Hutchins enough of the proposed members of the "Board" of the "Council" to be ready to incorporate the "Council" by the time Mr. Hutchins leaves for Europe on May 2. Hutchins, Harrison Brown, and I will be in New York next Monday and Harrison Brown and I will stay on for the rest of the week to meet with a Committee of the Society of Friends and do the other necessary odd jobs in connection with this plan.

I shall try to call you Friday of this week at your hotel in Washington to get your reaction to ^{any} ~~this~~ proposals and discuss the next step with you.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
May 28, 1950

Dr. Reuben G. Gustavson
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, Nebraska

Dear Dr. Gustavson:

When I spoke to you from Chicago today, I told you I would send you a collection of communications which are indicative of the response that our plan has generally been receiving. Some of these communications you have already seen, but the others you have not. You will find a copy of the document enclosed. I shall tell you more about these things when I see you in Lincoln, which I shall try to arrange if possible.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE, INC.

706 CAFRITZ BUILDING
1625 EYE STREET, N.W. • WASHINGTON 6, D. C.
NAtional 8-3694

October 20, 1953

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Chairman

REUBEN G. GUSTAVSON
*President and
Executive Director*

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C
O
P
Y

My dear Dr. Szilard:

I was looking the other day for some material on the hydrogen bomb and I recall that you made a statement sometime ago in an article with regard to the possibility of exploding, I think, 500 tons of hydrogen with terrible consequences. I seem unable to locate the article. Can you help me? If you have more recent ideas on the hydrogen bomb I would love to have them.

I am preparing a speech, the theme of which is that whatever safety may be found in civil defense plans the only hope is to secure international control of atomic energy on a basis that will be fair to all and that we should be working continuously trying to negotiate such control.

I will be happy for any remarks you may have on the subject. I miss seeing you.

Sincerely,



R. G. Gustavson

Dr. Leo Szilard
University of Colorado
School of Medicine
Denver, Colorado.

cc. Dr. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois.

October 26, 1953

Dr. R. G. Gustavson
Resources For The Future, Inc.
1625 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Dr. Gustavson:

This is in response to your letter of October 20th which was forwarded to me to Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts, where I am spending this year on a leave of absence from Chicago. I was pleased to hear from you after such a long period of time.

The statement in which you are interested was made on the University of Chicago Round Table February 26, 1950, Number 623. You should be able to get a copy from the University of Chicago Round Table. What I tried to do on that occasion was to emphasize an aspect of thermal-nuclear bombs which had been played down up to that time. I wanted to draw attention to the fact that such bombs can be rigged so as to produce vast quantities of radio-active poisons. One statement which I made was that if 500 tons of heavy hydrogen were actually "burned" in such a bomb leading to the liberation of 50 tons of neutrons and if these neutrons were utilized to produce radio-active dust which would gradually settle down and cover the whole earth, all human life could be destroyed.

An obvious choice of a possible radio-active element appeared to be cobalt. Jim Arnold in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientist in 1950 or 1951 tried to evaluate this possibility and came to the conclusion that I may have underestimated the amount necessary to kill all human life and that it would take actually a larger amount to achieve this purpose and that perhaps the supply of cobalt would be insufficient.

What I tried to do on the Round Table was of course to get across the idea that the development upon which we have embarked will lead in all likelihood fairly fast to a state of affairs where one government will have the power to destroy all human life on earth. The press reaction to this broadcast was quite violent. While the news of it reverberated through the world, the press reaction in the United States was uniformly hostile. Immediately after the broadcast, Harry Brown and I met a number of publishers and editorial writers and it was interesting for us to learn that they were not really interested in finding out whether what we said was true. All they wanted to know was for what purpose we had made the statement.

In the last few months John Foster Dulles made an almost identical statement without of course becoming technical and it would perhaps be good for you to get from his office the text of his speech. He said, if I remember correctly, that the development now in hand will lead to the point where all human life can be exterminated. I believe that for purposes of your speech it would be

Dr. R. G. Gustavson

(2)

October 26, 1953

important to quote Dulles in addition to whatever else you may wish to take from the University of Chicago Round Table.

Sincerely,



Leo Szilard

LS:js



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
TUCSON

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 8, 1960

Dr. Leo Zilard
The Memorial Hospital
New York City, New York

Dear Leo:

I just learned that you are in the hospital, and I hasten to extend my sincere hope that you are coming along in good shape. I had a session with the surgeons about a year ago, but things are going well with me.

I have missed seeing you. So many things are going on in the world that require the kind of careful analysis you have always given them.

My best to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. G. Gustavson".

R. G. Gustavson

RGG:djs



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
TUCSON

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 8, 1960

Dr. Gertrud Weiss
c/o Dr. Fox
Rockefeller Institute
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Weiss:

I just learned through Mrs. Coulter, Director of our Nursing School, that Leo is seriously ill in Memorial Hospital. I was terribly sorry to learn this, but I sincerely hope that he will make a good recovery. From what Mrs. Coulter told me, the situation is serious.

I have always admired Leo, and his ideas are certainly needed in this complex world. Please give him my very best regards. I have just written to him.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'R. G. Gustavson'.

R. G. Gustavson

RGG:djs

10,000 max
1000 deal.

~~7500~~
~~500~~
~~5000~~
200

Age limit - 65^{As}
\$50.50
75% - 10,000

cancellable
ch. in occup.

Mr. Miller
18 E 41

John Tandler

Registered, N. H.

[Handwritten signature]
Tandler

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the application for a license to sell and distribute in the State of Illinois, the product of the Illinois State Lumber Co. I have the honor to inform you that the application has been approved and a license has been issued to you for the purpose of selling and distributing the product of the Illinois State Lumber Co. in the State of Illinois. I have the honor to inform you that the license is valid for a period of one year from the date of its issuance. I have the honor to inform you that the license is subject to the provisions of the Illinois Lumber Act. I have the honor to inform you that the license is subject to the provisions of the Illinois Lumber Act. I have the honor to inform you that the license is subject to the provisions of the Illinois Lumber Act.

Very truly yours,
John Tandler

Secretary
No. 100
St. Louis, Mo.

October 9, 1900

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR



IN COMMISSION
THE REGISTRAR OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS