

U. S. PUGWASH CONTINUING COMMITTEE
935 E. 60th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois

October 4, 1960

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Mr. Cyrus Eaton
Chairman of the Board
C & O Railway Company
3600 Terminal Tower
Cleveland 1, Ohio

Dear Mr. Eaton:

You may have seen the "Letter to the Editor" which the U. S. members of the Continuing Committee published in the Washington Post on September 24. I am sorry we were forced to this step to prevent a collapse of our program. You have been so helpful to us in the past that we hated to state in public that our program has never been determined or influenced and is not now supported by you. We long hoped that we could work quietly towards a situation in which our independence from any individual or group sponsorship would be clearly established in the public mind, but leaving a chance for friendly cooperation with you.

This has been made impossible by your failure to keep clearly apart your support for our activities and your increasingly partisan, political activity. You know that many--probably a great majority--have never agreed with your over-simplified and one-sided estimate of the political realities of our times; but all had respect for your independence and courage in proclaiming unorthodox and controversial views and fighting for them when it was not without risk even for a man of your wealth. We also appreciate that you have never attempted to influence the organization, composition, proceedings, or conclusions of our conferences, even when you were obviously not quite happy with them. What has made our cooperation with you increasingly difficult, was that through private correspondence and public statements, you have represented our conferences as being sponsored by you, and used them in support of your political activities.

In order to avoid the identification of our conferences with your partisan political activities, we have gradually stopped asking you for financial support; you know that the Baden conference was held with no support from you, except for editorial assistance, and that in June the International Committee decided in London not to accept even secretarial help for the forthcoming Moscow meeting. This has not prevented you from initiating, or, at least, in condoning, a public release, "Eaton to Sponsor Moscow Session," UPI, September 13. If we had not made a public clarification of our relation with you, we would have lost the respect and cooperation of the most important segment of the scientific community in America and Western Europe--the men whose participation is considered particularly valuable also from the point of view of our Soviet colleagues. You may recall

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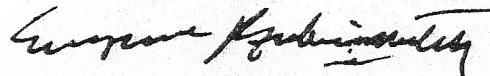
that I have several times tried to discuss with you a possible assistance towards the establishment of the "Pugwash Movement" in America as a viable and independent organization--the last time in a letter of August 26, which you have not answered. You have never shown an interest in such a perpetuation and strengthening of the independence of our movement but you have continued to take full credit as its initiator and sponsor.

I understand and respect that in your mind the pursuit of certain immediate political aims seems to you more important than gradual progress towards understanding and solution of the fundamental problems which divide mankind; but the latter is the only approach to which scientists can effectively and conscientiously contribute.

We have kept the name "Pugwash," even after we have ceased to receive or expect your support, for two reasons. One was our gratitude for your original support, which has permitted our long-held plans to begin moving towards realization. The other was the fact that the name had "caught on", and become widely identified in the East, with an independent movement of scientists for the prevention of a "scientific" war and the utilization of science for the benefit of mankind. We have done so, although the name was conducive to misunderstanding and confusion with other conferences held in Pugwash under your sponsorship. I am sorry to have to abandon my past opposition to the changing of this name.

I would like to assure you on this occasion of my own gratitude to you for your assistance to a movement which I consider important enough to have dedicated to it much of my time and energy in the last three years and for yours and Mrs. Eaton's warm personal attitude.

Yours sincerely,



Eugene Rabinowitch
Editor

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