

Dear Mr. Eaton,

As you have already heard from Professor Rotblat, the Pugwash Continuing Committee, which met in London a few days ago under my Chairmanship, agreed that there exists among scientists a widespread sense of the grave urgency of the present situation and a desire to contribute to diminishing the dangers. It was felt that it is no longer sufficient for scientists to issue general warnings, but that it was necessary to attempt to make a contribution to the resolution of the present problems.

For this reason it was decided to call a small meeting, as early as possible, to discuss a number of topics in the hope of making a contribution to international thinking on these issues. The theme of the meeting would be "The Dangers of the present situation in the atomic arms race, and ways and means to diminish them"; a list of topics suggested for discussion is enclosed.

To allow time for reflection and full discussion we felt that about two weeks would be required. Whether a public statement would be issued at the end of the meeting would depend on the result of the deliberations. In any case we feel that a larger meeting should be called a few months later, to give other scientists time to consider the findings of the first meeting.

Taking into account that most of the participants are University people, the most convenient time for the first meeting would be the Easter vacation, and it is proposed that it be held between the 31st March and the 11th April.

We were very glad to hear that you have kindly agreed to give financial support for this meeting and we agree that it should be held in Canada. I understand that Pugwash would not be suitable at that time of the year and we should leave it to you to choose the venue. I would be glad, however, if in doing this you would take into account the following points: The meeting should be held in a small place rather than a big city, but secretarial and office facilities should be available for fast typing and duplicating of documents. The climatic conditions are also of importance, and they should be such as not to restrict the movements of the participants. It has been suggested that British Columbia might be best for this purpose, particularly since it has very good air connections, but we will leave this matter to you.

We intend inviting up to 25 people with the following

representation: U.S.A. - 7, U.S.S.R. - 5, Great Britain - 4, Germany - 3, France - 2, and one each from Canada, China, India and Japan. It was felt that the special nature of the topics to be discussed justifies a larger representation from America and Russia and a limitation of the number of countries participating. We hope to have many more countries represented in the larger meeting.

A number of names have been suggested for the different countries, but we could not find anybody suitable from Canada. It was felt that both Dr. Brock Chisholm and Professor Foster might find the topics outside their field of interest. Would you care to suggest a Canadian scientist? One suggestion was to invite Mr. Lester Pearson. Not being a scientist he would have to come as an observer. It was felt that, as we were going to discuss political problems, his advice would be very valuable. On the other hand his presence may prove a source of embarrassment, so we feel that we should leave the decision to you.

We also intend to invite Dr. Gredzin of the University of Chicago. As you know he had offered his help in organizing such meetings. The committee felt that the first two meetings should be tackled by the committee itself, but that future meetings may be organized by the University of Chicago, or possibly the University of Moscow, or others. The organization of the April meeting would be in the hands of Professor Rotblat in London.

The larger meeting to follow that will be organized by Professor Rabinowitch. It is suggested that it should be held between the 15th and 21st September in Europe, probably Austria, to take advantage of the presence of a large number of scientists at the Atomic Energy Conference in Geneva. This would greatly help in the financial side, although further funds would still have to be found. We realize that you, having agreed to finance the next Canada meeting, must not be called upon for further assistance, but I would be grateful for your advice about approaches that could be made to secure funds.

In view of the short time before the April meeting, it is essential that invitations be sent out without delay. I would be grateful if you would let me know, at your earliest convenience, whether you approve of our proposals for the next meeting, where the meeting will be held, and who should be invited from Canada.

Another small point about this meeting concerns its organization. Apart from consuming a great deal of time, the organization necessitates some secretarial assistance as well as expenditure on postage, cables, short journeys etc. I wonder whether you

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would be willing to put at Professor Retblat's disposal a small sum for this purpose, and for which he would account to you.

Finally, I would like to express on behalf of the committee our deep gratitude to you, for your offer to sponsor the next meeting.

Yours very sincerely
Bertrand Russell

*P.S. Congratulations on your marriage & warmest
good wishes for the coming year.*

B. R.

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