

Ralph Schoorman,
7, Alveston Mansions,
Mission Street,
London, S.W.3.
22 April 1962

PLAS PENRHYN,
PENRHYNDEUDRAETH,
MERIONETH.
TEL. PENRHYNDEUDRAETH 242.

Mrs. Cyrus Eaton,
Chesapeake and Ohio Railway,
Terminal Tower,
Cleveland, Ohio,
U.S.A.

Dear Mrs. Eaton,

I am sorry not to have written before now. I should like to thank you for coming on such short notice and for giving so compelling an account of the women's delegation to Geneva. The Russells were most delighted with your visit.

I should like to tell you something more of the celebrations planned for his ninetieth birthday. The concert on May 19 will take place at 3 P.M. (Saturday). The program will consist of a birthday piece by Stravinski, The Stravinski Symphony in C, The D-Minor piano concerto of Mozart, and the Symphony in Eb, number 39 of Mozart. Colin Davis will conduct the London Symphony Orchestra and Lilli Kraus. Medallions are being struck to commemorate the occasion. The medallions will have a three-quarter view of Russell raised with titles engraved on the medal's face, suggesting the range of his work. On the obverse side will be a detail of a vast sit-down in Trafalgar Square with a mushroom cloud rising over the square. Around the perimeter will be written: "Remember your humanity and forget the rest".

For the concert a special concert-program is in preparation and it will consist of messages from all parts of the world, selected excerpts from his writings, early photographs of him etc.

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Presentations will conclude the concert. Fenner Brockway is preparing a private dinner in the House of Commons in his honour and Professor A. J. Ayer is preparing one for the actual date of his birth, May 18.

The Committee of 100 is holding a special meeting for him on May 25. Beyond this, I am gathering essays for an anthology of tributes which I hope to have ready by the end of the year. The intention is to invoke the whole man and people will be contributing to the book who write from areas of special competence to which he has made his own great addition.

May I ask your assistance in the following matters? Firstly, I should be grateful for your permission to publish your sonnet to him in the concert program as your message to him for the occasion. It would be a wonderful thing if you could help in celebrations in the United States. I. F. Stone is thinking of something and perhaps you could discuss with him the possibility. I hope all the peace movements around the world will do something.

There is one particular matter I should like to put to you quite confidentially. Kuznetzov, the Soviet Deputy Minister of Culture, has sanctioned the sending of David Oistrakh to perform at the concert. I had reached him through Vikenti Matveev, a journalist writing for Izvestia. His name should be kept confidential. Things seemed all arranged but I have been told privately that Soldatov, the Soviet Ambassador in London has been raising objection because of the protests here against the Soviet resumption of tests on the part of Bertrand Russell and the Committee of 100. This has prevented official

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approval from coming through and it seems that the obstacles may not be overcome in time. Oistrakh is free for the date and eager, Kuznetsov is agreed but these political niceties are preventing its realisation. Do you think that it could be possible for your husband to appeal directly to Khrushchev for his approval for the appearance of David Oistrakh at this commemoration concert? I believe that aside from the tribute to Bertrand Russell this provides, it is important for our peace work and that Khrushchev might feel this. I do think that your husband would have greater chance of persuading him than anyone else.

I shall welcome any advice or further help which you could give me in this effort to honour B.R. in a manner adequate to his true stature. I look forward to hearing from you and I shall be writing to your husband to express my thanks for his cabled message and generous contribution.

With warm good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Ralph Schoenman