

*Ans - 2/10/11
The new medicine*

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YALE UNIVERSITY

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

July 6, 1911.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

WOODBIDGE HALL, 105 WALL STREET.

My dear Dr. Osler:-

On the nomination of the Committee of the University Council, the Corporation has requested me to invite you to deliver a course of Silliman Lectures at Yale University in the year 1912.

The fee which we are able to offer the lecturer is \$2,500. The number of lectures is not fixed by the terms of the gift; but it is contemplated that the course should be of sufficient length -- say from eight to twelve lectures -- to form the basis of a volume which shall be published at the expense of the University. This means, of course, that we are prepared to assume the cost of any reasonable number of illustrative plates which may be incident to the understanding of the text. The volumes thus issued form a connected series; and the size of the fund is such that we have made them of high merit and value. The copyright of the lectures, by the terms of the foundation, belongs to the University; but in case the author desires to reserve the right to republish these lectures as part of a connected edition of his works, the University will give him every facility for doing so and will not let its copyright stand in the way.

The size of the foundation is such that we have tried each year to obtain, and I think we have succeeded in obtaining, a series of really important lectures by some scientific man who was engaged in progressive investigation and could give us something really new. Our lecturers have been Messrs. J. J. Thomson, Sherrington, Rutherford, Nernst, Penck, Campbell, and Arrhenius. Our lecturer next October is to be Professor Max Verworn. I think that we can fairly say that we have succeeded each year in making our volume of Silliman Lectures a place for the first publication of important scientific results.

The lectures can be given at any time between February 1, 1912 and June 1, 1912, with the exception of the single week of Easter holidays, or at any time during the months of October and November of the same year. We should put the lectures at such an hour that they would be given on successive days without interfering with the regular work of the students in the University; so that the course could be completed in two successive weeks if you were unable to stay with us longer. Your audience would not be confined to professors and students of the University. More and more as the years go on investigators from other places are taking the opportunity to visit us on the occasion of these lectures.

In establishing the foundation, the deviser provided that "the general tendency" of each of the courses should "be such as will illustrate the presence and wisdom of God in the natural and moral world". But he was wise enough to add that it was not necessary that the religious element should be emphasized, inasmuch as he believed that any orderly statement concerning the works of the Creator revealed his presence and wisdom. We thus have our hands free to employ the income of the fund for any course of lectures which is not positively and avowedly materialistic in its conception.

I feel sure that if you can come to us we shall be able to give you a pleasant time and that you will meet outside of the lecture room even more than inside of it a number of students who will derive inspiration from your work and your talk. I think that J. J. Thomson, when he was here as Silliman Lecturer, did more work in promoting the study of mathematical physics by his casual conversations over his beer or his whiskey and soda at the Graduates Club than he did in his more formal utterances. I very much want our younger men to have the chance to know you and I hope that if you accept our invitation, you will be able to make a reasonably continuous stay here and not accept invitations to lecture in other

[Handwritten signature]

cities until after your work here is ended -- at least without consulting us.

I can't begin to tell you how much personal pleasure it would give me if you could be here.

Faithfully yours,

Arthur Huxley

Sir William Osler,
13 Norham Gardens,
Oxford, England.

Dear Sir
(continued)
5/15/15

CUSATF/12.10.12

cities until after your work here is ended -- at least without consulting us.
I can't begin to tell you how much personal pleasure it would give me
if you could be here.

Faithfully yours,

William Osler

Sir William Osler,
13 Northam Gardens,
Oxford, England.

*Silman Keels
(in imitation)
July 1912*