

Dr.R.S.Vasudeva

INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

CONFIDENTIAL

Head of **Division of Mycology & Plant Pathology**
NEW DELHI

D.O.No.FC/2224

Dated the 16th October, 1950 19

Dear Dr.Pal,

I am herewith enclosing copy of a letter from Dr. George I.Lavin dated 22nd September 1950. He writes that Dr. Raychaudhuri and he have been discussing the possibility of making some arrangements so that he could come to India for a series of lectures and conferences. He wants my reaction to this proposal. Such matters, as you will appreciate, can only be discussed at Governmental level and I am neither in a position to discuss nor give opinion on such matters to correspondents. Dr.Raychaudhuri rather than restricting to his training work for which he has been deputed has been unnecessarily indulging in matters which are entirely out of ^{his} sphere. Such discussions place us and the Government in an awkward position. If you approve I shall write to Dr.Raychaudhuri on these lines. Also I shall acknowledge Dr.Lavin's letter suggesting that I am not in a position to give him opinion on this matter which can only be discussed by higher authorities.

Yours sincerely,

R.S. Vasudeva
(R.S.Vasudeva)

Dr.B.P.Pal, M.Sc., Ph.D. (Cantab.), F.N.I., F.L.S.,
Director,
IARI

*Discussed with Jhal M.
16/10/50*

*Recd 16/10
SM*

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Copy of letter dated 22nd September 1950 from Dr. George I. Lavin, The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, 66th Street and York Avenue, New York, to Dr. R. S. Vasudeva, Division of Mycology & Plant Pathology New Delhi.

At the suggestion of Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri I am sending you, under separate cover, some reprints which I hope will be of interest. I would appreciate it if you would let me know of their safe arrival.

Dr. Raychaudhuri and I have been discussing the possibility of making some arrangements, so that I could come to India for a series of lectures and conferences. I will be glad to have your reaction to this proposal.

16.10.1950.

P L A N T P R O T E C T I O N L T D.

Bolton House, 61 Curzon Street, Piccadilly, LONDON W.1.

Reply to TECHNICAL DEPT.

Ref.EH/GMH.

14th February, 1951

AIR MAIL

Dr.R.S.Vasudeva, Head of Division of Mycology & Plant Pathology
Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi,5, India.

Dear Dr.Vasudeva,

I am writing to seek your co-operation in connection ^{with} a Scientific Conference to be held at our Fernhurst Research Station in 1951, which is being organized by Plant Protection Ltd.as a contribution to the Festival of Britain.

The Agenda of the Conference will be entitled "Some Plant Protection Problems in World Agriculture" and it is proposed that some six or seven papers should be discussed over a period of three days (June 26th - 28th inclusive). The provisional titles for these papers are:--

1. The influence of pests and diseases on world food supplies.
2. The work ^{of} the past five years and the present outlook in respect of:-
 - (a) Insect pests,
 - (b) Fungus diseases
 - (c) The Control of Virus diseases
 - (d) Weed control.
3. Factors limiting the use of plant protection measures.

The papers will be compiled by British scientists, drawn in the main from the Plant Protection staff at Fernhurst, and will be distributed to all delegates some weeks before the Conference opens. They will not be read at the Conference, but we are inviting well-known authorities from all over the world to open the discussions, which will become general after the nominated opener and seconder have spoken.

Sir John Russell has been asked to contribute the first paper

This immediate appeal to you is to ask you to be good enough to open the discussion on the paper entitled "The Control of Fungus Diseases".

To enable you to consider the implications of this appeal, I should explain that Plant Protection Ltd.will be very happy to pay the expense of your transport to the United Kingdom, and to ask you to be their guest during your stay in this country. The Conference will extend from an inaugural luncheon in London on Monday, 25th June (at which we hope one of His Majesty's Ministers will be present) until a final dinner near Fernhurst on Thursday evening. Accommodation will be provided near Fernhurst from ~~Monday~~ Monday to Friday morning.

The week after the Conference is the week of the Annual Show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, which is being held at Cambridge from July 3rd - 6th, and we should be very happy to arrange for you to visit the Show on any days you might select. Visits to Research Stations in England, such as Rothamsted, East Malling and Long Ashton could also be arranged, if you cared to see them.

The success of the Conference will depend very much on the calibre of the authorities who open the various discussions, and for this reason I very much hope that you will find yourself able to accept this Invitation.

Yours very truly,

Head of Technical Department

He is exceedingly hard working & has done very useful work under the Plant Introduction Scheme.

Mr. Milan, one of the American Experts who is here under the Plant Introduction Programme, who spent about six weeks at the Institute spoke very favourably about Mr. Fyfe's work. Prof. Edgar Anderson of the Museum Nat. Hist. also came earlier expressed a similar opinion.

He is ~~is~~ quiet by nature & very unassuming.

Work & interest satisfied, but is not doing so much field work as before. ~~Not very~~ He is rather inclined to be set in his views.

Work & interest satisfied. He is a very steady worker.

Owing to lack of staff, has not had as time for personal research. Work & interest in the whole have been satisfactory.

Mr. [unclear] Recommended for promotion to Class I vice Mr. Parthasarthy. He has an enormous amount of sound knowledge & qualities which in pl. work & generally to his credit.

Really reserved, he is a man of integrity & has been successfully engaged in the Bot. Div. for ~~over~~ a decade.

DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.

Draft Letter
Memorandum
Telegram

File No.

Serial No.

1. Date of despatch

No.

Dated

2. List of enclosures

He has not quite lived up to his ~~reputation~~ the
expectations I had formed on his arrival. He is by
nature a very slow worker and it is taking him
time to orient his work in a way that will
be ~~useful~~ useful to an appreciable extent
possible. His ~~appreciable~~ work though small in
amount, is good & he continues to be a
pleasant colleague

He continues to do very sound work in current
physiology. A lady, Miss B. S. P. E.
Anderson of USA, who visited India this
year told me privately that he was
very highly impressed with Dr. Asari's work &
his approach to practical problems.

This work has been satisfactory though there is ~~some~~
happier ~~interest~~ in the laboratory than in the
field. He likes to try & impress
visitors.

~~Conduct~~ There has been some
complaints for class III & class IV
staff reg. his lack of tact -

His work & conduct has been satisfactory.
As a result of his training at ~~Memorial~~
he has a very sound knowledge of
plant biology & genetics.
He is ~~very~~ ^{very} ~~capable~~ & is pleased to
deal with.

He is one of our most brilliant young
botanists & was very well spoken of
by the authorities at Cambridge
University. A pleasant young man of
excellent character.