

28th February, 1956.

My dear Professor Darmois,

It was a pleasure as always to receive your letter, and particularly as you find yourself so well in agreement with the position, which after reflection I am inclined to take, about the proposals for remodelling the Statutes of the Institute which have been put forward.

On receiving from my old friend, Dr. Bliss, the proposals that he has laid before you, I replied at once in terms of which you may judge from the extract from this letter which I enclose. It would appear that he had been rushed into the second of his proposals by other less tactful citizens of his country, and I thought it important to make it clear, as I believe my letter does, that I consider a claim to a specially large quota, based on the assumption of educational superiority, is really rather in bad taste, and not likely to command the assent of other nations.

Indeed, it might be argued that in any case candidates from English-speaking countries possess an advantage over those with other mother tongues, by reason of publications in their common language being widely read among them.

The real problem for the Institute, however, as I see it, is to find a sufficient supply of good candidates fit to fill up the rather large ^{cadre} ~~quota~~ which we are prepared to elect annually. As, at the last election, virtually all the British candidates were elected, I have been looking round for some more, and I think there are some very good ones. I hope you will be doing the same in France.

I am now sending to M. Vincent the draft you have seen without alteration. *Many thanks for your guidance.*

Sincerely yours,

Enc.