

5. oktober, 1928.

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Dear Mr. Houston,

Many thanks for your kindness to write me so promptly about Mr. Reid's changed attitude as to our proposed lecture agreement. I regret that I could not accept his new proposal. I take it that by "proceeds" is meant net profit, and with agreements on that basis I have had very sad experiences, so I could not accept conditions on that basis. A guarantee of \$ 250 per lecture when I have to pay my own expenses, would not leave me much profit, as I should have to pay taxes on my income here at home, too, which is a great deal, and there would not be much left. As I told you, it might be desirable for me to make some money for future use, but on the other hand I am hard up for time, and it would be somewhat difficult for me to get away. I could not therefore think of doing it unless something really good could be made out of it. I beg you therefore not to waste your valuable time in trying to make arrangements unless you think something really worth having could be obtained. I think an arrangement on terms similar to those proposed in your memorandum would be satisfactory. Of course, Eichelberger could easily arrange a lecture tour for me, but that would be on quite different terms. His Society would not be able to guarantee anything and it could not be arranged on any commercial basis. If I had gone for him and his Society, it would not have been in the hope of making much money, but only to work for the good cause. This I am sorry would not be possible for me to do this winter, so I could not have gone for Eichelberger in any case.

I hope this will make you understand my position. I wish you a happy voyage, and shall be glad to hear from you if you think anything acceptable can be arranged. All cordial regards, Yours sincerely,

Fridtjof Nansen.

If anything in the way of sharing profits should be arranged I think it ought to be on the basis of gross receipts or total sum of money in the hall.