

15th January 1954.

My dear Irving,

Thank you for letting me know about your application for a Commonwealth Fund Fellowship. I expect you will go sometime and enjoy it.

It might be useful to let Krishnan know that the trap specimens have turned out to be so exceedingly important. Of course your pitch is a tricky one in reviving the drift theory since so much has been discussed, suggested and rejected, all without adequate checking or evidence. The main point therefore in any exposition will be to make clear just what ~~block~~ magnetism has to tell us in addition to the vast but rather incoherent mass of previous geological evidence.

In fact whenever any scientific advance to matter is made about half the world is inclined, if it gets the chance, to say that there is nothing new and so avoid bothering about it. Actually I think you have ~~it~~ in your hands the means of resolving one of the major problems of geological history, where the purely geological evidence has been shown by the experience of the last eighty years to be incapable of telling a clear enough story to carry conviction.

Let me know if I can do anything further on the kappa data or, of course, in the matter of the Commonwealth

P.T.O.

Fellowship.

Sincerely yours,