

April 14, 1925.

Lawrence Tombs, Esq.,
28, St. Mary Axe,
New College, Oxford.

Dear Mr. Tombs:-

I was glad to have your letter of the 25th inst. I quite realize that you had not any particular candidate in mind when you wrote about the Rhodes Scholarship. You understand, of course, that the reason why the University was completely disassociated from the Rhodes Committee was so that there would be no question of any University imposing its own particular ideas and that the Trustees could ensure continuity of policy. What that policy is is entirely a matter for the Trustees and their Committee.

You can probably guess that this is not the objection on which various people have disagreed upon the award made; I can recollect at least two, many years ago. If people agreed on all points then committees would be of no use.

As far as your entering into the discussion is concerned, I hope you will not mind and that you will attribute it to my friendship for yourself if I say to you 'Do not write letters unless you have to'. I have seen endless trouble made by people writing things down when they could quite well have waited an opportunity of saying them; in fact, my own motto about writing what one might call critical letters is 'Write them, think about them for three days and then tear them up.' You will be interested to hear of our new exhibit