

Avery Gateway Dedication

September 29, 1965

Dr. Bronk

I would join with my colleague Dr. McCarty in thanking the speakers who have come here and have made this such a memorable afternoon. Dr. Avery would have been grateful to those of the speakers who knew him, having remembered him so affectionately, and so significantly, and I know, too, because of his deep interest in young people that he would have been greatly pleased to realize that his work had been and was being helpful to Dr. Holley in the midst of his productive career. There was one I had hoped we might have say a few words to us, I promised him that I would not call on him, but if Roy Avery would release me from that promise, I know you'd all join with me in being pleased to have him say a few words to us. If he won't release me from that promise, I insist that he at least stand up so that when you see him later, if you don't know him, you'll recognize him, but I hope that he will release me from the promise too.

[Roy Avery] "I am so filled with emotion at this time that it is hard to articulate and I want to tell you, ^{Dr. Bronk,} that I deeply appreciate being here at this dedication, very deeply, thank you."

We're so happy that Mrs. Avery could be here with us too. It was a great satisfaction to Fess that he was able to spend so many summers with his brother, ~~whom~~ whom he was very fond, there on Dear Isle, which I've already spoken. When I wrote to Roy Avery and told him about our plans for this afternoon I happened to be in Maine and I received one of the delightful letters of my life, cause Roy spoke of the many days in which he had been ears for ^{Alan} Allen Chesney as he stood in the bow of that famous 60 year old friendship sloop, The Dictator, and listened as Roy said "for grunners, for groaners and for boats starting up the Penobscot to sell their wares in Bangor."

~~For~~ those of you who have had the privilege of hearing these lucid accounts of the great work of Fess Avery, know now, as you must have known before, that Avery needs no physical memorial to keep his memory alive and immortal, but ~~it was a desire~~ it was a selfish desire on the part of many of his friends and admirers to participate, ^{to have} ~~at~~ some small, insignificant part in the perpetuation of his memory for some years, at least. And so one summer when Bill Tillit^r and ~~Allen~~ ^{ALAN} Chesney and I were talking about some of our hopes we decided that, or they decided that, they would like to give many of his friends an opportunity to participate in this memorial. The committee, who proceeded to do what they have done, was ~~Allen~~ ^{ALAN} Chesney, who unfortunately is no longer with us, and Rufus Cole, ~~Doc Shea~~ ^{DOONHEZ (?)} who again has departed, and Tommy Francis, ^{BAIRD} ~~Bert~~ Hastings, Michael Heidelberger, Colin MacLeod, Phil Miller, Hugh Morgan, lost to us, and Bill Tillit^r. And to them and to the 160 odd friends and admirers, David Rockefeller, Chairman of our Board of Trustees and the other Trustees have asked me to express our gratitude, most for your admiration and regard for Fess Avery, and also for this memorial which now graces our campus. In choosing an architect to do the work I emphasized the necessity for dignity and simplicity, and I also expressed the hope that the architect would be able to create something in stone that would come from Avery's native land, and so what you will see, if you go to see the Gateway, is a simple structure with dignity and created out of Canadian red granite. And work was done by Nelson Aldrich of Boston and much of the detail was accomplished, as always here on our campus, by ^{BARNEY} ~~Brian~~ Lupinek and his strong associate, Paul Penndorf. Colin MacLeod has told you about the late afternoons that he and Fess and Doe spent together in social and scientific discourse and something more. At 5 o'clock we will gather in Welch Hall again for friendly discourse and something more. Thank you very much.

(DOONHEZ)
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[see above?]