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January
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1948.

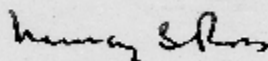
Dr. Karl Polanyi,
Columbia University,
New York 27, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Polanyi:

I am going to be in New York on Wednesday, January 14th and wondered if, by any chance, I could see you for a few minutes. I would like to discuss with you the possibility of your coming to Couchiching next summer, but also to get your advice and counsel on speakers and topics which our Institute Committee should consider this year.

With Season's Greetings,

Very sincerely yours,



Murray G. Ross, Secretary.

MGR:G

Columbia University
in the City of New York

[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]

THE LIBRARIES

January 9, 1948

Prof. K. P. Polanyi
513 Fayerweather

Dear Professor Polanyi:

We would appreciate your listing on the enclosed sheet the volumes you wish to place on reserve in the Burgess Library, 412 Butler, for your courses listed below. If the bibliography you submit is a long one, please star the items that you expect all students to read, as it is impossible for us to place more than 50 titles on reserve for a single course.

We would also appreciate receiving two copies of any mimeographed outline of assignments and readings you may prepare.

If you do not wish to place any books on reserve please indicate this on the enclosed sheet and return it to us. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Borome
Joseph Borome, Librarian
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JB:b

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Economics 352

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73 Adelaide Street West
Toronto 1
Telephone: EL. 7444

January 12th, 1948

Prof. Karl Polyani,
School of Political Science,
Columbia University,
New York City, N. Y.,
U. S. A.

My dear Prof. Polyani:

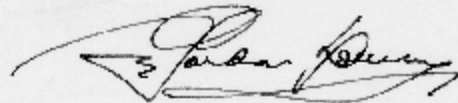
This is to convey our very deep sense of gratitude to you for your graciousness in helping us bridge a very precarious gap pertaining to the Forum Meeting in which you shared so effectively on Sunday, January 4th, 1948.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the questions answered and unanswered as submitted last Sunday evening.

Whenever in the future your travels take you this way, please let me know. I should not only like to meet you again, but if feasible, include you in another Forum program.

With every kind wish and hoping that the health of Mrs. Polyani has been completely restored.

Yours very appreciatively,



P.
Encl.

Copy to Dr. Polanyi

January 14, 1948

Dean H. M. Gray
Graduate School
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Dean Gray:

Dr. Polanyi has informed us that he will be pleased to be considered for a teaching appointment at the University of Illinois.

If there is any further information which you desire, we shall be glad to try to furnish it.

Dr. Polanyi's address is:

King's Crown Hotel
420 West 116th Street
New York, New York.

Sincerely yours,

Edgar J. Fisher
Assistant Director

MEA
EJF:aw

30, Inverness Terrace
LONDON, W 2

23d January, 1948

Professor Karl Polanyi
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
New York

My dear Professor,

It took more than 30 years until I succeeded to put into a systematic, more or less mature form that tiny little study (about the aesthetic origin of our consciousness) which I dedicated you when both we were much younger than are now.

However slow and careful I was in my work, I published it with many faults left in it; particularly the first (gray) volume is a failure.

Yet, it is not without ~~some~~ satisfaction that I send it to you; hoping that you—as any good-willing man—will appreciate the better parts, in which, anyhow, the basis of a new metaphysics is laid down. (Enclosed, in a few typed pages, I repeated the important viewpoints of the work.)

And I would be pleased if you gave me the address of a few persons, interested particularly in metaphysics, to whom I could send other copies.

But still more I would be honoured if you found this work worthy enough to give an account about it in a philosophical ~~or~~ other review.

In this country, there is too little chance to get a serious review (in the Sunday Times, they put a note, too short to be so beautiful.) I have more hope in France, and in the U.S. your help would be a great deed.

I trust you are satisfied by living in America, doing without restrictions anything you wish. Here, I am afraid, I came too late with my book; nobody is interested in it.

You will make me happy by answering me. I know too little about you; your brother, Misi, gave me your address.

Yours as ever

Francis Schlegel

Magyarul sokkal kevesebb levelet tudtam volna írni. De hát 9 éve élve itt, illik angolul írni.

Egyetud suggest it; Maria a lányommal. Csak a napra van...

Columbia University
in the City of New York

[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]

COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

February 13, 1948

TO MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS,
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY:

Invitation to submit research projects

Members of the University who are interested in securing financial support for research projects in the social sciences for the year 1948-49 are invited to submit applications for research grants for consideration by the Columbia University Council for Research in the Social Sciences. It is expected that a substantial appropriation from the University will be available to the Council for the support of such research, and it is hoped that if the quality of the projects submitted warrants, additional funds may be secured from outside sources.

Applications may be submitted through the undersigned, at 513 Fayerweather Hall. Each application should be accompanied by a statement descriptive of the research project, and by an itemized budget. Applications for supplementary grants for projects for which grants have previously been made should contain a statement of the total amounts allotted and expended to date.

No definite deadline has yet been set for the consideration of projects, but early submission of projects is particularly desirable for the purpose of facilitating the canvass of outside sources of funds. The executive committee also wishes to have time to go over projects and secure advice concerning them before their submission to the Council. It is suggested that even though projects have not matured sufficiently to justify formal application for funds at this time, a brief note regarding the probable nature and scope of the project be submitted. It will be appreciated if applications, or at least a descriptive note pending a more detailed application, be submitted by March 1.

According to the resolutions of the Council, copies of each application must be provided for distribution to the members of the Council; for applications submitted in good time the provision of these copies can be taken care of in the Office of the Secretary of the University if it is inconvenient for the applicant to do so; for late applications the applicants will have to supply the necessary 25 copies themselves. Further information may be had by calling Extension 776.

William Vickrey,
Secretary to the Executive Committee
Council for Research in the Social Sciences

Oberlin, 1948, Februar 23

Kedves Karlin,

Gratulálok szíves soraidnak. Nagy sikereidről már tudtam. Ritka szerencsének érezheted, hogy ezek olyan korban értek, amikor már a legtöbb ember életvonala leeszen van. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Alkotó és elismert munkáért érdemes azokat a nehézségeket elviselni, melyekről írsz ~~xxx~~ s melyek talán csak átmenetiak lesznek.

Nekem sikereid annál inkább elégtételt okoznak, mivel élő nken emlékszem azokra az órákra a bécsi kávéházban, amikor igyekeztem a felhőkből a földre hozni gondolataid szárnyalását.

Utam fáradalmait és izgalmait visszatérve erősebben érzem, mint amikor bennük voltam. Nem tudok szabadulni egy bizonyos erkölcsi undor érzésétől. Ha megtudnám írni azt a kis könyvet, melyet tervezek: "The Exile cannot return" talán megnyugodnék. De egészséges nem a legjobb és a kedves is gyakran megtorpad.

A napokban lesz két előadásom a College ben, "Dambias: Old and New" melyek olyan prolegomena félék a továbbiakhoz. Olyan időkben élünk, amikor szabad és életükben nem veszélyeztetett embereknek kötelessége a végső nyíltsággal beszélni.

A legobbakat kívánva Ülel

John's

Febr. 27.

*Er a levél a mai napig
el volt érkező máis
levelével.*

Brickkiln Fm, Lode, Cambs, March 18, 1948

D.I.P.,

Yes, we have not heard for an eternity- from you-your last letter arrived at Mila's just the morning when I had left for London, which was the day in the afternoon of which you made that last appointment-which consequently failed. We interpreted your letter as to mean that there are nice walks round the Niagara falls, and wondered how Karl would manage the ensuing way of life. So we are not very astonished about your decision-though, in the present material circumstances, the detour via Canada must have strongly reduced the financial backing for your new start in 1949. Besides, I do not think such future 'din' -all the present fuss is the mere propagandist accompaniment to the division of the spheres of interest. If you pass through England, we must arrange some meeting- best in the Fens (which, this year, are spring-like and not flooded at all!)

I am writing and writing. Glasgow seemed for a moment nearly realised. I was invited for an interview, and all detailed conditions were settled on condition that the grant to start the project would come forward. But all expectations as to the fulfilment of that condition were, to say the least of it, delayed- and so everything is again in doubt, after we had, for weeks, already started to think of the Journal as of an existing being, with much correspondence on details (besides, Carr is not at Columbia, but at the Institute of Advanced Study, Princeton- but he will return ~~soon~~ in later April to this country). All this is very exciting, but demands good nerves. As I happily possess the latter, I have elaborated a broad programme of continued literary activities in the Fens- for a year, or so, we can stand it from the material point of view; and this spring my Family volume will get out, and certainly improve my reputation on the academic line (besides, our naturalisation passed easily, even without spring-cleaning: the man suddenly appeared, with the house in a most disorderly state, and Mila in bed- so I made my excuses, alleging that she was at Cambridge, and everything went all right!)

Your compliment about my Russian book is of a questionable character. As I have just finished retyping Marx I deem, of course, that this is at present my top-achievement- and I shall continue to dream of my top-achievement when I shall be carried, for the last time, to the operation-theatre (besides, this event is still far-away, and Mitchell's main interest in me is as a demonstration object of his success). Seriously spoken, it would be very bad if my top-achievement were embodied in a book written as early as 1943, before Legal Theory etc- but certainly I had an enormous success with the Spirit, and people in Glasgow alleged it was a truly English book (not as to the language, but as to the lack of philosophical generalisations). I listened and wondered very much. But if Dobson were a more efficient publisher, we would be well through the difficulties, and could fight from our Fen indefinitely 'against the current'... The worst aspect of the material difficulties, combined with moral obligations in the present state of the World, is the

'philosophical'
need for rather ~~taxation~~ work, such as 'Sectional Mass-organ-
isation, to rest (but perhaps it will be interesting for you to
learn that my next, and topical, attempt will be a criticism of
Burnhamian).

This enough for the moment- hope we meet during
your return-travel

Robey and Mike Miller

NEW YORK

Herald  Tribune

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Telegraphic Address:

HERALD - PARIS

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April 6, 1948

Dear Ilona,

I was really pleased to have a letter from you after such a long silence. Your lines reached me just three days before I am leaving for Budapest myself. Not long ago I have accepted the Hungarian offer and was appointed commercial attache to Washington. Now I am going back to Budapest to wait there for the American visa and around end of May expect to leave Hungary via Paris for Washington. My position on the Herald Tribune was very pleasant indeed and I had a surprising amount of freedom to write what I wanted. Now, however, I feel that the time has come to choose and I want to be on "that side". I am very interested to hear your opinion about this. Meanwhile, also I got married, in January.

All this adds up to this: By the time you reach Paris I will be in Budapest. More exactly I will be leaving here around April 20th. Havas in Paris (at the Embassy) will be able to tell you whether I have left already. In any case you will find me in Budapest at c/o; Sandor Palocz, 15, Wekerle Sandor utca, Budapest 5, - Telefon: 126-063. Please give a ring at this address as soon as you arrive. There we can discuss all your publishing plans and I will write any number of letters to introduce you to people I know in London or Paris. Your plans sound very interesting and I have no doubt that it will be easy to find a publisher. I should imagine studies on those lines, with a light touch, and with photographic illustrations would go down well in publications like Contact, Future Books or some American magazine. This, of course, does not exclude scientific publication in more serious journals. The diluted form always brings in more money. Meanwhile, I am enclosing a note to Charles Madge but I have no idea whether Pilot Papers is still published or not. The last time I have heard about it, about a year ago, it was in financial difficulties. Still, you will decide whether you should use it or not. I am not mentioning Pilot Papers in my letter as he may be interested in your offer for independent publication too.

I am very anxious to meet you as soon as you arrive in Budapest. One of the chief attractions of my coming American trip is that I will meet Karl again.

Au revoir, and soon,

E. L. W.

THE ECONOMIC HISTORY ASSOCIATION

THE JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC HISTORY

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

WASHINGTON SQUARE, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

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The Journal of Economic History

April 6, 1948

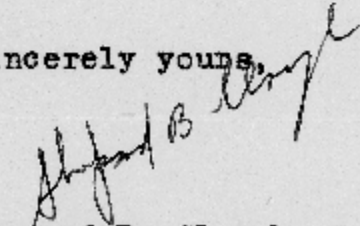
Dr. Karl P. Polanyi
Columbia University

Dear Professor Polanyi:

At New Haven last fall I am sure that you were made to realize the precarious financing of THE JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC HISTORY. With rising costs, the situation is getting worse rather than better. Hence we are in need of more members. If you are of the opinion that the JOURNAL would be of use to your students, I hope you will go out of your way to encourage them to become subscribers.

For your convenience, I am enclosing a number of membership blanks.

Sincerely yours,


Shepard B. Clough
Treasurer

SBC:ss
enclosure

Páris, 1948. április hó 9.

Kedves Ilonám !

Örömmel vettem hosszú leveledet és azonnal válaszolok rá.

Leveledből nem derül ki, hogy miképpen akarod budapesti tanulmányodat anyagilag megoldani. Mondanem sem kell, hogy mind az Elnökek mind én teljes mértékben segítségedre leszünk. Azonban mégis jó volna ezt már előre biztosítani, nehogy az utolsó pillanatban kelljen kapkodni. Éppen ezért még mielőtt Párisba érkezel, részletesen add elő, hogy mi a kívánságod. Ugyanis otthon nehezebb lehet ilyen célra akár ösztöndíjat, akár másfajta segílyt kapni. Mindenesetre meg kell tárgyalni a dolgot Boldizsár államtitkárral, aki a külügyben ezeket a dolgokat intézi. Ha előre volna megbízásod akár könyvkiadótól, akár valamilyen más szervezettől arra, hogy a magyar földkérdést szociológiai és politikai formában feldolgozd, könnyebben menne az ügy elintézése.

Nagyon örültem hireidnek, noha Karlsruól szeretnék többet hallani. Szeretettel várunk. Talán tudod, hogy időközben kislányom született. Mindannyian jól vagyunk és nagyon sokat dolgozunk.

Szeretettel ölel

Anna Bani

Professor Arthur H. Cole,
Committee on Research in Economic History,
Box 37,
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts.

April 27, 1948

My dear Professor Cole:-

I was delighted to learn that there is a plan afoot for a publication of a volume upon economic history, jointly with the A.E.A.

It took me some time before I managed to have a glance at the articles suggested for selection - though even so I could not get hold of all.

There may have been, of course, a number of reasons for omitting some otherwise commendable choices such as

- 1) Max Weber: Die sozialen Grunde des Untergangs der antiken Kultur. 'Die Wahrheit', 1896. (This brief essay contained in nuce his theory of antiquity.)
 - 2) Henri Pirenne: Stages in the social history of capitalism. A.H.R. 1913/4 (a revised text of the author's address at the International Historian's meeting, in London, 1913. The original is unobtainable in the U.S.A.)
 - 3) Otto Hintze: Wesen und Verbreitung des Feudalismus. Sitzungsberichte der preussischen Akademie der Wissenschaften. Philologisch-historische Abteilung. 1929. (This admirable paper inspired M. Bloch and R. Thurnwald.)
- From more recent representative publications I suggest
- 4) From Johannes Hasebroek: Griechische Wirtschafts- und Sozialgeschichte bis zur Perserzeit. 'Der Aufstieg der Bauern und die Hoplitenpolis.' pp 158-188.
 - 5) From Fritz Heichelheim: Wirtschaftsgeschichte des Altertums. Leyden. 1938. Die Stadtkulturen des Alten Orients: Der Konig und die Staatswirtschaft, p. 175-196.

6) W.L. Westermann: Ephraim Beanland and Zenon of Caunus. A historical comparison. A.H.R. XLVII 1941.

As to the Schmoller publications I was in some doubt in regard to the first on the list. It seems to be identical with the excellent translation published under the title 'The mercantile system', in 1896. To be sure, it is out of print, and should be republished.

On the other hand, may I utter a warning in regard to the existing English translation of Karl Buecher's 'Entstehung der Volkswirtschaft'?

Believe me, always readily at your disposal,

Sincerely yours,

[April 27, 1948]

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- 2) Henri Pirenne: ~~Stages~~ Stages in the social history of capitalism A.H.R. 1913/4 (a revised text of the author's address at the International Historian's meeting in London, 1913. The original is unobtainable in the U.S.A.)
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LN 100E

53/

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- 4) From Johannes Hassbroek: Griechische Wirtschafts- und Sozialgeschichte bis zur Perserzeit. 'Der Aufstieg der Bauern und die Hoplitopolis.' pp 158-188.
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stehung

Believe me, always readily at your disposal,

Sincerely yours,

May 5, 1948

To the Members of the Department of Economics
From James W. Angell

I am glad to inform you that Professor C. Lowell
Harris has accepted our nomination for appointment as
the Schuyler Wicks Souger Fellow in Economic Research
for the academic year 1948-49, and that the Trustees of
the University have confirmed the appointment.

I am also glad to inform you that Professor Harry
Schwartz, of Syracuse University, has accepted an
appointment as Visiting Lecturer in Agricultural Economics
for the academic year 1948-49. He will give one lecture
course each semester in this Department, and will also
take part in the University Seminar on Rural Life.

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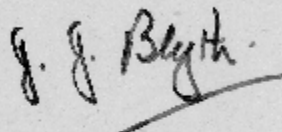
11th May 1948.

JB/IA
Dr. Karl Polanyi,
49a, Hornsey Lane Gardens,
N.6.

Dear Mr Polanyi,

Further to our letter dated Feb 19th we have now received from Rinehart & Co application for their 20% share of payment covering the German edition of ORIGINS OF OUR TIME. As explained in our letter we paid you in full for this edition on the assumption that you controlled and had full interest in Foreign translation rights. To put the matter in order and to enable us to settle with Rinehart would you kindly send us cheque value £9. 0. 0. i.e. 20% of the £45 sent you.

Yours sincerely,



Accountant.

M á s o l a t.

Páris, 1948. június hó 23.

Tisztelt Miniszter Ur!
Kedves Barátom!

Személyes ügyben fordulok Hozzád, azonban ez a személyes ügy közügy. Polányi Károly barátomról van szó, aki jelenleg a new-yorki Columbia egyetemen a politikai tudományok fakultásán ad elő és Nyugaton tudományos körökben nagy megbecsülésnek örvend. "The origins of our time" című munkája mind az Egyesült Államokban mind Angliában nagy feltűnést keltett. A könyvet én is olvastam és valóban briliáns munka.

Polányi progresszív szemléletű ember, akivel a háboru alatt Londonban szorosan együttműködtem. Mődomban volt megismerni és nyugodtan állíthatom, hogy jószándékú, becsületes és igen nagy tudású ember. Együttműködésünk ideje alatt és később is szovjetbarát magatartást tanúsított, noha tudom, hogy felfogásában valamennyire eltér a marxista állásponttól. Angliában és Amerikában tudományos és politikai szempontból is értékes munkát végzett, mert tudományos tekintélyét latba vetette a béke érdekében és egyben az ifjúságban a maga módján megingatta a hitet a jelenlegi nyugat-európai rendszerben.

Polányi Károly Angliában a legnagyobb szegénységben élt és soha olyasmit nem tett, ami meggyőződésével ellentézet és csak akkor fogadta el a Columbia Egyetem meghívását, amikor megígérték neki, hogy ott saját nézeteit szabadon kifejtetheti. /A meghívás különben fentemlített könyvének és néhány progresszív amerikai tudós barátságának volt köszönhető./

Azóta tudományos tekintélye annyira megnőtt, hogy a Columbia Egyetem 15.000 dollárt szavazott meg számára, hogy kutató munkáját végezhesse és külön 15.000 dollárt azért, hogy munkatársait fizethesse. Ennek ellenére most arra a meggyőződésre jutott, hogy Magyarországon van a helye. Ennek legfőbb magyarázata az, hogy feleségét, Ducsinszka Ilonát, aki kommunista, nem engedték be Amerikába. Noha feleségével nincs teljesen azonos véleményen, mindenben támogatja az új magyar demokráciát és nem hajlandó olyan országban élni, ahová feleségét nem engedik be, még akkor sem, ha ezzel a progresszív gondolatnak ott bizonyos szolgáltatásokat tehetne. Ezenkívül leánya, aki jelenleg Kanadában él, szintén Magyarországra készül, ugyancsak régóta az angol kommunista párt tagja.

./.

O r t u t a y C y u l a Urnak,
magyar vallás- és közoktatásügy miniszter,

B u d a p e s t .

Havas Endre budapestről visszajövet Londonban találkozott Heltai Györggyel, aki éppen akkor érkezett oda az Egyesült Államokból. Ő is találkozott New Yorkban Polányival és szintén arra a meggyőződésre jutott, hogy Polányit a magyar kormánynak valamilyen módon haza kellene hívni. Polányi elmondotta neki, hogy a new-yorki Columbia Egyetem ajánlatát lelkiismereti okokra való hivatkozással unnepelesen vissza fogja utasítani és emennyiben mégsem hívnák meg Magyarországra, akkor Angliába tér vissza és lemond azokról a lehetőségekről, amelyeket a mai Amerika kínál neki. Szerintem ezt a lehetőséget nekünk fel kellene használnunk, már csak azért is, mert Polányi ismerve ezt a különbséget, amely közte és a marxisták között van, nem kíván tanítani. "Nem tanítói, hanem kutatói kinevezést várnék" - írja, majd hozzátézi: "Természetesen véglegesen költöznék haza azért, hogy a magyar tudományosságnak szenteljem hátralévő éveimet." Semmi kétség és kérdőjel nincs. Ha nem hívnának meg, Angliába mennék. En minden télen telhetőt megtettem. Annál könnyebb szívvel teszem, minthogy semmi kétségen nincs elhatározásom helyessége felől." - Ebből is látható, hogy Polányi kérése szerény és tisztességes. Bizonyos vagyok a felől, hogy kutatómunkájával nagy szolgálatokat tehet a magyar tudománynak. Minden tekintetben megérdemli a magyar demokráciától, hogy otthon gondok nélkül és nyugodtan dolgozhassék. Feleségét, akinek szinte történelmi érdemei vannak /ő volt a Galilei-Kör egyik kezdetéreje, a híres antimilitarista sztrájk megszervezője/, Rákosi Mátyás nagy szeretettel fogadta. Már két hónapja Budapesten tartózkodik. Azzal a szándékkal ment, hogy néhány hónapig egy angol lap megbízásából tanulmányozza a magyar földkérdést. Természetesen nagy lelkesedéssel maradna otthon, de elhatározása attól függ, hogy férje ügyében miként döntenek.

Nagyon kérlek tehát, hogy ebben az ügyben lehetőleg gyorsan intézkedjétek és Polányit megfelelő keretek között hívjátok haza. Beszélj át az ügyet Heltaiival, aki - mint fentebb említettem - személyesen is beszélt vele. A haza-hívást Polányi személye és az én baráti szempontjaitól eltekintve már csak azért is helyeslem, mert a sok disszidenciá, különösképpen pedig Vámbéri disszidenciája után ez megfelelő ellenpropagandát is jelentene. Nem szabad elfelejteni, hogy Polányi a nyugati tudományos körökben valóban nagy név.

Előre is köszönöm fáradozásodat. Mielőbbi válaszodat várva vagyok

Összinte barátsággal

Károlyi Mihály sk.

Columbia University
in the City of New York

[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]

COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

July 23, 1948

Professor Karl Polanyi
423 West 120th Street
New York 27, New York

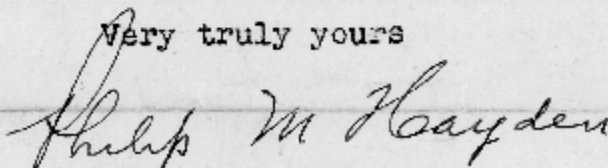
Dear Professor Polanyi

The Executive Committee, on behalf of the Council for Research in the Social Sciences, has authorized an allotment of \$7,000.00 for your project entitled "Origins of Economic Institutions".

Expenditures under this allotment will be made upon written request addressed to the Secretary of the Council. Directors of research projects are requested to refer to the project by number and to keep a copy or a record of expenditures authorized. The state of the account may be ascertained at any time by addressing the Secretary.

Please note that the number 190 has been assigned to this project.

Very truly yours



Secretary of the Council

RF

**AN ANSWER
IS EXPECTED**

BY THE SENDER OF THIS
MESSAGE. PLEASE GIVE
IT TO THE MESSENGER
OR TELEPHONE IT TO

WESTERN UNION

WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1301

SYMBOLS

DL - Day Letter

NL - Night Letter

LC - Deferred Cable

NLT - Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

(47)

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BGA1 27 NL PD=BARHARBOR ME 27=

1948 JUL 27 PM 3 45

PROFESSOR KARL POLANYI= *NQR*

ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY NYK=

CAN YOU ADDRESS ELEMENTARY CCF SUMMER SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL
ASPECT TWO OR THREE LECTURES ANY TIME BETWEEN AUGUST 28
AND SEPTEMBER 5. PLEASE WIRE COLLECT MRS MCCURDY LAKESIDE
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28 5 9028 CASS-BEGGS= CCF ASPECT=

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50 Rockefeller Plaza,
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July 28, 1948.

G 7-014 f
New York, N.Y.

Professor Karl Polanyi,
Columbia University,
Morningside Heights,
New York, N.Y.

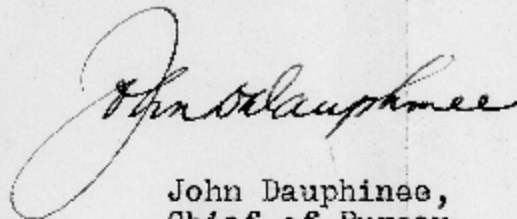
Dear Sir:

I understand that you are delivering an address next month at the Lake Couchiching, Ontario, meeting of the Canadian Institute of Public Affairs.

I am writing to ask whether you expect to have a text prepared in advance. Will you let me know about this as soon as possible--and send me a copy of the speech, when available, if the answer is yes?

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,



John Dauphinee,
Chief of Bureau.

JD:I

August 9, 1948

Professor Milton B. Singer
Chairman, Social Science Department
The College of the University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Singer:

I am writing in behalf of a young friend, Mr. Allen Sievers, in whose work and person I am taking very great interest. I feel sure that in him we have the kind of teacher's personality truly suited for the social sciences.

I do not know, of course, whether there is or is not an opening at the College suited to his experience. His present post is that of Assistant Professor at Women's College of the University of North Carolina.

I first met Mr. Sievers some seven years ago, but later lost sight of him when I returned to England in 1943. After joining Columbia in the spring of 1947, to my surprise I learned that Allen was in the course of writing a thesis the subject of which was a critique of my book. Although emphatically sympathetic to its main underlying idea, he ruthlessly criticized most of its statements.

As the enclosed curriculum vitae shows, Mr. Sievers studied at Chicago, although you may not remember him as one of the many whose papers you corrected. His many-sided training and studies make him peculiarly suited for work on the Social Science Survey.

I should be most grateful to you if you could let me know whether there is any chance of an opening at the College.

With all best wishes, and most cordial regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Karl Polanyi
Visiting Professor of Economics

[Aug. 9, 1948]

Professor Milton S. Eisenhower
Chairman, Social Science Department,
The College of the University of Chicago.

Dear Dr. Einstein:

I am writing in behalf of
a young friend, Mr. Allen Sievers,
~~whom I am in whose interest~~
~~I should like to explore the~~
in whose work and person I am
taking very great interest. I ~~hope~~
feel sure that in him we ~~may~~ ^{have}
~~the~~ kind of teachers'
personality truly suited for the
~~subject~~ social sciences.

I do not know, of course,
whether there is or is not an
opening at the College suited to
his experience. ~~Allen has been~~
three years the present post is that
of Assistant Professor at Women's

Copy of the manuscript of North
Carolina.

I ^{just} met Mr. Series some 7
years ago, but later lost sight
of him again. In the meantime
when I returned up to England
in 1943. After joining Columbia
university (1947) I learnt to my
surprise ~~that~~ I learnt that
~~Mr. Allen~~ ~~had~~ was on the course

of writing a thesis the subject
of which ^{was} a critique of my book.
~~In effect,~~ Although, emphatically
sympathetic to the ^{its} main
underlying idea, he ~~stands~~
with a ~~critical~~ ~~view~~ ~~of~~
its statements.

^{As he enclosed}
His curriculum vitae
shows, Mr. Series studied at
Columbia Chicago, although you may not
remember him as one
of the many whose papers you
collected. His many-sided

training and studies, make
him peculiarly suited for
work on the Social Science
Bureau survey.

I should be most grateful
to you if you could let me
know whether there is any
chance of an opening at
the City.

Yours
J

284 KING STREET WEST
TORONTO, CANADA

TELEPHONE ADELAIDE 0481
CABLEGRAMS "ARGEDDEE" TORONTO

August 26th, 1948.

Personal.

DR. KARL POLANYI,
423 W. 120th Street,
NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

My dear Karl,

R/ First, let me say how very much I personally appreciated being in such close contact with you during our recent week together at the Couchiching Conference, and then, let me do my duty as its chairman and thank you on behalf of the Committee for the very great contribution you made to the success of our week.

I hope we did not exhaust you too much but I did notice that by the end of the week you were looking tired and I hope you have now fully recovered. I also hope that the "hot dogs" have long since ceased to bark and that they made no permanent mark on your interior economy. I should warn you, however, that the North American "hot dog" is an animal to be dealt with circumspectly!

I found your lecture extremely interesting, as did everyone else at the Conference and I hope you enjoyed being with us as much as we all enjoyed having you there.

Personally, I look forward with very great pleasure to meeting you again in the not too distant future.

With kindest personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Nik Cavell
Chairman

Canadian Institute on Public Affairs.

NC:HF

Acknowledged Oct 29

Box 13 Fayerweather Hall
Columbia University
New York 27, N. Y.

August 31, 1948

Dear Sir:

Attached you will find the agenda of a proposed conference on "American Public Policy" in which I hope you will be interested. I should stress at the outset that so far this conference is only an idea. No institution has as yet given official endorsement or commitment of sponsorship, although every person with whom I have discussed it has been enthusiastic and has encouraged me to go forward with the proposal. This letter and the enclosures, therefore, constitute the first step toward getting the proposed conference organized.

Professor Arthur Macmahon of Columbia University, Mr. Bruce Bliven of the New Republic, Miss Freda Kirchway of the Nation, Mr. Joseph Barnes of the New York Star, and Mr. Lyman Bryson of Columbia and CBS have been among those who looked at my first rough-draft proposals and furnished constructive criticism.

For the weaknesses of the enclosed agenda I should perhaps here make some apology or explanation. I prepared it in considerable haste, so that much remains to be ironed out in the way of conference hours, specific items on the program, a chairman for each session, etc. I hope that you will take the attached program for what it is intended to be -- a working draft on which a final program could be based.

I should introduce myself to you as a graduate student and instructor in the Department of Public Law and Government at Columbia. For the past two years I have been reading widely in the general field of social science and more particularly in politics. The idea for this conference came to me two weeks ago when I was confined to bed with a high fever -- and perhaps a little delirium! But it looked good enough to me when recovered and "sober" to go ahead and try to put the thing across.

If you read the attached agenda it will probably become obvious to you that I am a young man who has a social conscience and a belief in progressive, liberal, constitutional, and democratic socialism as the "middle way" which offers the best hope for America and the world, and which furnishes the only positive program for defeating the absolutist systems of the communist left and fascist right. Further, as one who has worked for a number of years in adult education, I see an invigorated program of civic education -- at all levels and utilizing all media of communication -- as the sine qua non for the continuation of our institutions of popular government. If I could take a course of study unlimited by the normal restrictions of time and space -- a course designed to improve my understanding of what is happening in modern history -- this is the course of study I would want and these are the men whom I would like to have instruct me.

To get the ball rolling on this conference I have hired at my own expense a part-time secretary for the necessary clerical work. Your ideas and offers of modest financial contributions to handle the administrative expenses of the conference I will deeply appreciate, needless to say.

I assume that if enough of you are interested, and it appears that plans for the conference can go forward, a small planning committee can be organized to carry forward the work. When the senior professors at Columbia return to the campus for the winter session in mid-September, it is my intention to solicit their advice and assistance in organizing such a committee.

The speeches by individual scholars I have planned to be of 15 minutes' length each. Each panel will last either 30 minutes or 45 minutes, depending on the scope of subject and the number of participants. As the program will be broadcast, each participant must stay within his time limit.

For this conference I wish to have little discussion from the floor. My experience in a number of conferences -- as general secretary, participant, or mere observer -- has led me to believe that floor discussion is the most amorphous and uncoordinated part of any conference, and the least fruitful. I have scheduled, on the last day, a 90-minute period presided over by an experienced discussion leader, Mr. Lyman Bryson, who can keep the talk from straying too far afield.

I would like to hear from each of you as to:

- 1) Whether you will participate
- 2) Whether you will attend
- 3) Whether you or your organization can contribute financial help, modest or substantial
- 4) Any recommendations you have as to modifying the content, organization, roster of speakers, etc.
- 5) Your choice of a mid-winter date which will not conflict with other meetings

Please address your communications to me at Box 13, Fayerweather Hall, Columbia University, New York 27, N. Y.

Sincerely yours,

F. B. Evans
F. Bowen Evans

Sunday 17 October

[1948?]

Dear Karl-

Your note came yesterday, one of the best surprises I've had in months, and I'm profoundly grateful for the generous impulse that prompted you to write it. I've thought of you so often, wondered how you are, and always regretted that I didn't have the enterprise and faithfulness to keep up our contact these past 5 1/2 years - I can't thank you enough for resurrecting it from my "golden age" of College. After you left for England I didn't have your address there, and then later I was ashamed to write about your book - you'd asked me for an "honest critique" of it, and what honesty demanded me to say was that I couldn't understand a good part of it - and I hated to say that to you. As long as it dealt with the material we covered in your seminar, it was fine - Old Home week, and fascinating - but beyond that section I got completely submerged in opacity; not your fault at all, but mine, because the words themselves made sense but I didn't have the background concepts behind them to complete my understanding. Consequently I felt I was only sliding on the surface of the material instead of seeing into the depth. Very humiliating, because I couldn't find any way to enlarge my understanding sufficiently - I did manage to locate Tawney and read it, but I never have found any other economics or economic-history book that makes real sense to me. Most of all I want to learn more about Robert Owen, because that last chapter of your book did

Sink in. Unluckily, the one time I've been near a good library I got involved in the gospel according to John, and didn't get out before we left.

There's a flood of things to tell you, and questions to ask. I'd give my teeth to get down to New York, but am pretty tied down here, and can only hope that maybe you could come up some weekend if you'd have the time and inclination - we have three children now - Cynthia, who's $4\frac{1}{2}$, Johnny - 2, and Nancy an august 2 months old - and John is in an Army hospital in Colorado recovering from a bout with tuberculosis, so I'm temporary *paterfamilias* as well as nursemaid, and shoot the furnace besides. We just moved to a place of our own after living with various relatives for 6 months, and I'm reveling in the privacy but have a hard time keeping up with all the jobs of running a house alone for the first time, besides keeping track of our kids, who are a very lively bunch. John expects to be cured and come home early next year, which hope will sustain us through the winter - I trust I can get the pantry shelves painted before his arrival, but at my present rate of accomplishment I'm not counting on it - however I do have time to read while I'm giving Nancy her bottle, provided Cynthia and Johnny are asleep or outdoors. I'm living an extremely private life, with domestic preoccupations all day, barely enough time to write John at night and still get sufficient sleep - and the remaining part of my brain just wonders ineffectually how fast the world is going to hell.

I feel completely inconsequential except in a purely personal sphere - but I'm hoping my stretch in solitary this winter will help coalesce the more constructive ideas that are vaguely bumping around in my head. That's me, always hoping - I find sheer pessimism too boring; though God knows there are enough grounds for it.

We've had some wonderful times these past years, besides the long months apart. John was in the Air Force taking flight training awhile, then back in the infantry and went overseas just after Cindy was born. He was in Italy 18 months, and when he got back, had another try at theological seminary, in New York; we enjoyed the 5 months there tremendously, and I sat in on some of his courses including JOHN, but he decided he never would be a minister so there wasn't much point staying longer. He went back in the Army, finally, with a permanent commission, and went overseas again when Johnny was 4 months old, this time to Germany. We followed in 3 months, and had a wonderful year and a half together there - it was grotesque and ironic that we could enjoy life so much in the midst of so much misery, but we did - he was stationed in the Bavarian Alps, so we could hike and climb all summer and ski all winter, learning to speak the language all the time. By a further irony he caught TB in a town renowned as a health resort, and we flew back here early this summer; he went to the Army TB hospital in Denver and I stayed with my family and his until the baby was born. Now we are settled here, in the town where his mother lives,

and when we finally get together again, we'll really enjoy being small-town civilians. He'll be retired from the Army and after resting awhile, will probably go back to school, so he can qualify as a history teacher - that was his major in college, and always one of his chief interests. We've covered quite a lot of territory, but I think we've home to roost now, for the next few years at least.

I'm eager to hear all about where and how you've been, and what work you're engaged in now. I hope Mrs. Polanyi and your daughter are with you, and well. Could you possibly manage a trip to the country sometime? Cobleskill is about an hour southwest of Schenectady and Albany, and a very pleasant small town. The kids are thriving on this life - Cindy goes to nursery school every day, and Johnny loves to roam the town so much that I've had to put him on a leash in the back yard! Even Nancy shows signs of wiggling out of a kerpine existence -

Now that we're located, at last, please write soon, all about yourself and present job -

And my thanks, more than I can express, for your abiding friendship - it is more than I deserve, but I'll try to -

Yours ever -

Char

Columbia University
in the City of New York
[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]
FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

October 20, 1948

Professor K. Polanyi
Room 513, Fayerweather

Dear Professor Polanyi:

I wonder if you would mind very much going through the attached master's essay by a former student of mine, Mr. Richard Timberlake. I believe he is also a former student of yours.

He started originally writing his essay under my supervision on a subject related to International Economics. Since then he has evidently changed his topic and it lies no longer within my province or competence.

In his letter, which I enclose, he mentions you in the first place and I, therefore, hope that you will find it possible to take over the supervision of this essay and let him have the benefit of your criticism and comment.

With best regards.

Yours very sincerely,

Ragnar Nurkse

Ragnar Nurkse

RN:ES

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Editor
DOLORIS COULTER

Dear Dr. Polanyi-

Thanks for your "On Obsolete Market Economy," a part of which I shall read to one of my classes tomorrow (since it comes at the exact moment of intellectual need. And for your page of advice to Columbia, which I applaud.

Dr Thompson (Mrs Lollie) & I equally were nourished, stimulated anew, by the contact with you of last week.

If you do not have my "Indians of the Americas", whose main theme owes a good deal to yourself. Drop me a line, please, & I'll send it to you.

I enclose the current news letter of the Institute. The 2nd article on Africa may interest you, & the one on Motel Trusteeship.

May we soon see you again!

Cordially John Lollie

SOCIOLOGY SOCIETY
Columbia University
New York, N. Y.

25 October 1948

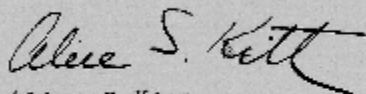
Dear Dr. Polanyi:

I received your kind acceptance of our invitation to participate in a panel discussion with Dr. Merton at a meeting of the Sociology Society.

In discussing the plan with Dr. Merton, he felt his busy schedule would not permit a commitment in the early part of November; I therefore suggested Friday, December 3rd. I hope this meets with your approval.

It has been agreed that Dr. Merton would contact you to discuss a feasible topic for the evening.

Sincerely yours,



Alice S. Kitt
Secretary

585 E. 22 St
Brooklyn, NY

18 Fallingbrook Road
Toronto 13, Canada

Oct. 26 48

Dear Karl,

We were so glad to hear from you. Mrs. Scubara was in town for a few days — has now gone back to North Bay. I think if she knew you were going to be here, her charming young person would arrive Air Mail.

I phoned Cass Bege and he claims no engagement for you on Saturday evening next. We have asked John Morgan and wife (Dep. Social Science) and Northrop Frye (ditto), to have supper with us at 6.30 on Saturday. Please phone us when you arrive in Toronto, so we can know precisely what to expect. We hope Clemens will drop in (I know you would like to meet Barbie's architect father).

It was good to hear from you. Please plan on supper here and an evening — with your daughter if possible.

With very best wishes

W. C. C.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
AUSTIN 12

October 28, 1948

Professor Karl Polanyi
423 W. 120, Apt. 76
New York 27, New York

Dear Mr. Polanyi:

It's nice to hear from you again in spite of our failure with Allen Sievers. I did hope we could bring him here, and I think my colleagues were sincerely wishful, too, but we work under severe limitations, I'm ~~afraid~~ ^{sorry} to say.

Under President Rainey, I was a member of our Public Lectures Committee but got swept out by a new administration; however, the present chairman is a good friend of mine, and I am sending the material on Donald Grant along to him in the confident expectation that he will wish and be able to arrange for a paid lecture on our campus--in which case, of course, we will pump out as big an unpaid dividend as we can get! Thanks very much for the chance.

In connection with the development of the College of General Studies, you speak of Dorothy Fox. Is that our Dorothy Fox? I don't suppose it can be, since our Dorothy has been Mrs. Abram; however, if it is she, please give her my regards and ask her why the hell she doesn't drop me a line sometime.

Yours,

Clarence E. Ayres

Clarence E. Ayres

CEA:mt

for 2 or 3 years

November 1, 1948

Professor Karl Polanyi
Department of Economics
Columbia University
New York 27, New York

Dear Professor Polanyi:

Last spring I discussed with you the course I am giving in "Development of Economic Institutions", in which I am using the "Polanyi approach." I know how interested you are in the course, and I can only beg your forgiveness for not telling you more about it at an earlier date.

I am enclosing an outline of the first semester's work, along with the reading assignments and a required museum trip. Also required is a book report, the book to be selected by the student from the lists of further readings in Heaton.

The second semester will be devoted to the industrial revolution and modern developments including the revolutions of the 20th Century.

My students are extremely interested in the course--so far. They have done the readings consistently and ask many questions in class. Several have undertaken special reports on the economic organization of particular Indian tribes. The primitive economics approach has been an unqualified success here at Hofstra.

Another aspect of the course that has gone over well is the emphasis on the relationship between economic institutions and social classes and institutions.

I haven't been able to see you this semester because I can get to Columbia only on Thursday afternoons and evenings. Could we have dinner together on a Thursday evening convenient to you? I have a seminar from 5 to 7, but could meet you after that at any place you name.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Fusfeld

Daniel R. Fusfeld
Instructor in Economics
HOFSTRA COLLEGE
HEMPSTEAD, N.Y.

DRF:mk
Encl. (3)

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KURT LEWIN
RONALD LIPPITT
D'ARCY McNICKLE
CAREY McWILLIAMS
HENRY A. MURRAY
PHILLES NASH
DELOS O'BRIAN
SAUL K. PADOVER
ELISE THOMPSON
HUSTON THOMPSON
LAURA THOMPSON

Editor

DOLORES COULTER

Dear Dr. Polanyi

I would be very glad to have one or two additional copies of "Our Obsolete Market Mentality." I want various people to read it.

Did I ask whether you had a copy of my "Mutations of the Americas" which owes no little to you. If you do not have it, I want to send it to you.

With cordial wishes
John Collier

P.S. The members of my class on Non Literature or Non Industrial Societies in the Western World are very eager to have you talk with them for an hour. The class meets Mondays at noon, & Tuesdays & Thursdays at 11 A.M. Do any of these hours fit your convenience?

J.C.

November 4, 1948

Professor R. Murksee
Fayerweather Hall

Dear Professor Murksee:

Please excuse the delay in dealing with Mr. Richard Timberlake's suggestion in regard to his Master's essay.

As a matter of fact, I do not believe that I have met Mr. Timberlake, who has never been a student of mine.

However, this would not preclude my taking charge of his work, if I only felt otherwise the right person to do so. It is my lack of contact with the problems of the British industrial scene which prevents me from taking on such a responsibility.

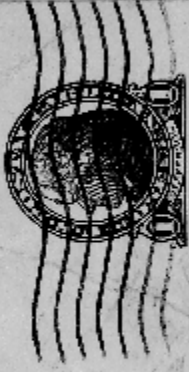
They're

With best regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Karl Polanyi

Mrs. John L. Cole Jr.
48 North St
Cobleskill, N.Y.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Prof. Karl Polanyi
423 West 120 St
New York 27, N.Y.

Apr. 76

Sunday night
[8 Nov. 1948]

Dear Karl,

Many thanks for your two
good papers, also John's copy -
An interesting ~~election~~, wasn't
it? I'm really proud of Illinois
for electing a decent senator, at
last.

John is making good pro-
gress, and can get out of bed for
meals now.

Yours ever,

Chas

PS - letters are also interesting,
don't you think?

CWC

Columbia University
in the City of New York

[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]

FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Nov. 10, 1948

Dear Gertrude:

Thank you for the
recommendation. I've just
mailed the chain of
the solar was due to the
suggestion of Dr B.N. Nelson,
of Chicago, who asked me
to keep it till ^{they} he had an
answer from you whether
you would agree to my
lending it to him for
a brief period? However,
he seems to have not yet
written to you, & so I
return the book forthwith.

I found it rather useful
as a summary of the
punkin as it appeared in 1907.

is usually mentioned in loan contracts...

But isn't it surprising how often he is wrong on detail?
Eg. as to the meaning of Siptu which originally
law from being increase,
is on the contrary, as
Satried once from Dr
Mandelstam, rather decrease
("that which has been chipped
off" as with the help of pincers,
knives, or bitten off by one's
teeth). I intended to use
it as a proof for the
practice of deducting
interest in advance. In
ancient Greece, as you know,
this was regarded as a
"repudiation practice" of some
"money-lenders", but in
ancient Macedonia, I
suspect, it was practically
the rule. This ~~explains~~ ~~is~~
~~explains~~ the fact that why
only the interest rate "in hand"
and also that the regular rate

423 W 120 St Apt 76

Edeles Bizim:

az új nevezett
velétek Somló' hűség
Két missiót juttatva
Jódotra utamba és
hő éjén tartozom vele
köt legalább a mi
gök barátai kormunkban
e missióhoz, melyen
irantok kedvelőitől
azok kifejezést.

Előző "Güterverkehr
in der 'Vergesellschaftung' (1909)
Kerületi Kézirat,
Mauss, francia nyelvű
egy példát utalasa
nyomán. 1923. máj

Marszi atkintdte nekem
magyar eredetiben. Magyar

"Elogo" igi hangok - 46
ei elon utu, alicke foot,
emlekezi ka: "A europai
civilizaciok el a koroska
amelyben etink ei a mel
- mi idu jel ara unat -
y embri tarsadalom el,
berithatatamul melysege
atalalulasanak hejkala,
y a tami beosztas,
kerdunyeig problemajara
munkokotay is y
pakocskotol kezdett."

Magyarulok: a 19 y.
liberalizmus a ma a tamen
vill ei sikel integritate
y egyuttal qabadable, tassa.
- dalom felt. A valas ei a
tudomany vegso tomu valo

a című ötéves tanulmányát
1911. augusztus 14. napján
Körmökcserényen tartotta
tanulmányát. De az ault-
nak látta, című megítélés
nemcsak botok és ual,
kritikája az aultodó
utilitárius pszichológiának,
hanem az egész for,
ittörő megfontolás és
azóta bejegyződött kéjes
is részéről. Amit mási-
konstói és Thurnwald a
20-as években felfedezték,
az fontos pontulatáramait
csatlakoztatva töltött meg,
itt másik könyv is, melyben
hite és munkájai barátság
(a művet az aultodó)
lelkességgel mutatott ki
és a legnevezetesebb barátságát
militáris nekem. Tegnap este

Spekulum-tervezet' effile-
ségét vitatja (34. oldal).

Ez a neubenedéki marxista,
pencerista és piklerista
epidemiológusokkal szem-
szembenleg izolált ^{1903, II. is}
mint az "Magaslatok"
-jában, sok neubenedéki
epidemiológusokkal szem-
ben érvel. De a
medeg az új népi neubenedéki
társaság felé áll. Szembes-
ség, neubenedéki elötte
meg a primitív népi
jogszabályok megismerésében
kutatásait. A "Magaslatok"
szembes és individualiz-
mus is valamelyes
szembes és individualiz-
mus is valamelyes

Önök neubenedéki, amit
serejétek néla a társaságban
1908-ban. Pesti neubenedéki
Dr. Kaktus.

Sociology
INSTITUTE OF ETHNIC AFFAIRS

500 Otis Building
 810 Eighteenth Street, N. W.
 Washington 6, D. C.

26 E. 93 St. N.Y.
 Atwater 9 5569
 Nov. 14 '48

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 ELISE THOMPSON
 HUSTON THOMPSON
 LAURA THOMPSON

Editor

DOLORIS COULTER

Dear Dr. Polanyi:

Thanks indeed for the three reprints of "Market Mentality." They will be intensively used.

The coming Thursday would be an excellent time for my City College class to meet and hear you. Unfortunately, my car is not here but in Washington; for I would like to call for you. However, City College is easily reached from Columbia: Broadway subway, (local) to 135 Street station. An easy 10 minutes' walk to 139 Street and Convent Avenue; the Sociology and Anthropology Department, Room 206, right above the entrance to the building. Just be sure to take the subway train that stops at 135 Street. (Perhaps all the trains stop there.)

The hour, 11 o'clock.

I much hope that you can remain to have lunch with me and one or two others, after the lecture hour, at noon.

I do not have at hand a copy of *Indians of The Americas* as issued by Norton last year; but I do have a copy of the New American Library (Penguin) reprint of it, to be published Nov. 24. I am mailing you this copy today. To perceive its main theme and to note its indebtedness to yourself, you might run through pps. 12 to 16.

With all wishes,

Sincerely,

(John Collins)

Flat 4 - 28 Bramham Place
London SW 8

23: XI: 48

My dear Karlis:

Its my turn to apologise - most abjectly - for my shocking failure as a correspondent. Your excellent letter arrived last spring just before the first of three trips I made to the Continent & somehow I never seemed to have caught up with myself since then. Please believe me, though, when I say that I do think of you very often & that I am sure I hope that you will forgive me sufficiently to write me soon again.

I was, you see, very sorry indeed that it did not prove possible for me to join you in N.Y. But this bad news took at least ten years by the excellent news that you were re-appointed for 45/49. I am now most interested to know about your future plans. I have not seen the Crantford for some months, but hope to do so very soon, which should provide an opportunity to get some news.

As usual, I have been enjoying life enormously since last I saw you. As you know, I am working for my Ph.D. in Pol. Sci. at L.S.U. under Karlis. In

addition my research I am teaching some first year classes in Brit. Politics & Govt for Karlis. Despite his numerous obvious shortcomings he is extraordinarily kind & stimulating. In my spare time I am broadcasting a British European Politics quiz frequently for the CBC. I also represent the CCF at the various Brit. socialist Confs. (held here & on the Continent) & at various Transport House functions. I have had to ask that no publicity should be attached to these CCF activities since if they became known they would almost certainly lead to a cancellation of my radio work.

I have made, in all, 4 trips to the Continent during the past year. Three of these have been to Germany & on two occasions (April & Sept) I have spent a week in Berlin. On each occasion I have gone to lectures at University & student conferences. My most interesting experience was in late Aug & early Sept when I flew to Berlin as a guest of the Americans & gave 3 lectures at an Intel University Seminar held in their sector. They had

③ assembled 40 young teachers, journalists, students etc from 10 countries (in study 6 days from the Soviet zone) to discuss the post-war crisis. This was a fascinating & on the whole, a most encouraging experience. After living & working together for 3 weeks these young people were able to find a quite remarkable area of agreement. While in Berlin I toured the Soviet sector & also went some 20 miles outside their zone as far as Potsdam. For what it's worth, I don't recall the impression that the Soviets ever held as if they felt they were on the verge of war. In the long run our position in Berlin is in my view quite untenable. Some bright thoughts have been our diplomacy on a tacit acceptance of this fact.

The German situation in general could not be more ominous. Despite considerable economic revival in the western zone, no foundation whatever has been laid for the reconstruction of democracy & the prospects for socialist victory are negligible. At least 75% of the adults & 90% of the young people have no confidence whatever in any of the existing parties. An overwhelming nationalist revival

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.



PROF. SSOR KAROL POLANYI
423 W. 120th St
NEW YORK, 27, N.Y.
U.S.A.

LETTER NO. 1.

Post 4
28 Brunswick
London SW 13
Horton St
England

Sender's name and address:

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First fold here

To open cut here

7) will, I suspect, occur just as soon as the occupying authorities will permit it. In light of this fact the decision to allow the Germans themselves to determine the future ownership of Ruhr heavy industry is not much more than treason. It also plays directly into the hands of extreme French nationalists & the Soviets.

Every effort made to press the British Americans to meet the legitimate Soviet fears is, of course, undermined by the vicious stupidity of much of Soviet policy. They have ~~the~~ destroyed the position of every one of their friends outside the C.P. (I indeed of many of their friends inside the C.P. via Tito, Comulka & the German Communists. The latter would I am sure go to the first opportunity.) I am sure you noticed that Moscow radio the other day launched a vicious attack on Tom St. Kluge, Martin & the "N.S.U." However much headed he might be he was at least one of the last of the voices appealing for a rational, non-hysterical approach

8) to the E-W conflict. Within the Labour Party the Left movement is in almost complete ruins. The great majority of the Govt now accepts the Blair speech thesis which Churchill laid down (which, incidentally, was present to him) & any would go the whole way with B. Blair in advocating a pre-emptive war.

The main explanation of Labour's failure, in my opinion, is, of course, the fact which you have so often pointed out: they never did understand foreign affairs. In addition, their ignorance has been tempered by their outraged disillusionment ~~and~~ (which I find wholly understandable, but none the less very immature) with the Soviet Union.

Domestically, the situation has been, until the past few weeks, improving steadily. Truman's victory marked the end of the wave of Labour optimism about the next election. Now this dreadful Tribunal engineering the allegations of bribery among certain Ministers & junior ministers has the party in a bad state of jitter. It is generally doubted whether the Tribunal will find any parties



BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER
IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL.



PROFESSOR KARL POLANYI

423 W. 120th St.

NEW YORK, N.Y.

U.S.A.

LETTER
No. 2

To open cut here

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To open cut here

R. F. Mckerns
1st fl
28 Brammham
London W. 8
England

Sender's name and address :-

proof of complicity; but already the
evidence has been extremely solid
& suggests that several jr. members
of the Govt have been guilty of the gross-
est of indiscretions. One is afraid
of course that this will 'end' in the
judicial mind, to buttress the Tory
inference that "Latham is not fit
to govern". (Another grave danger lies
in the fact that almost all of the shady
businessmen who have been called
before the Tribunal - foot ball pool
promoters & the like - are Jewish.
Certainly anti-semitism has already
reached serious proportions here &
undoubtedly helps to explain the 1,000
fall in Latham's majority at Edmonta
(last week where the Lab. cand. was Jewish.)

What concerns me most in this
case (& the recent deflection of a percent
of Labour M.P.'s over Iron Steel) is the pro-
bability that it may reflect a dangerous
drift in the direction of the moral & phil-
osophical bankruptcy of the party.
[The way in which the party has acquiesced
in some of the grosser aspects of Beveridge
& E. L. Roden 1947 is of course evidence of the
same thing]. A re-statement of first prin-
ciple & a re-generation of moral purpose
is as necessary as it is little for domestic
education in the basic values of foreign
policy in the 20th C. But enough of foreign
policy to write com. bonum regard from RB

23rd. Nov. 1948

Mr. Henry Allen Moe
John Simon Guggenheim
Memorial Foundation,
551 Fifth Avenue,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

If you will permit me, I should like to give you as much detailed information as possible about Henry Orenstein. For I believe very strongly in his ability to become a significant artist.

Our acquaintance began overseas where I was his commanding officer (major). At the cessation of hostilities Orenstein and myself were responsible for the design and lay out of our Brigade war history.

At the same time the Canadian Army set up a Rehabilitation Program. It was my ~~it~~ responsibility to direct the Advertising and Art division of this program. Here Orenstein was given opportunities to study and work. Later going to England, upon my recommendation, to study in the colleges of art there.

Even at that early stage - he had had but 6 months evening classes in drawing only, prior to the war - his style was powerful individualistic, his handling of masses and his uncanny ability to create mood and atmosphere, was amazing. As was his ability to handle groups of figures and to express their feelings in terms of black and white tone. His understanding of line too was developed to a most sensitive degree. He was at that time unfamiliar with color but has since, I believe tackled it with greater assurance and promise.

What he can do today, I cannot say - having not seen his work for over a year - except that I am certain it would be vital, alive, dynamic and certainly significant. That if given the opportunities to study and work as outlined, I would fully expect to see him emerge as an outstanding illustrator of our contemporary scene.

It maybe stated, for what it is worth, that General Crerar, Commander of the Canadian Army, was especially impressed by Orenstein's drawings, upon his careful inspection of the Rehabilitation Centre.

This opinion of Orenstein is not biased, but is based upon a considerable degree of practical knowledge in these matters, as I shall outline further on, for your information. This belief in Orenstein is also backed by several of Canada's leading practicing artists. So that it is not my opinion alone but equally that of the following outstanding men:

Arthur Lismer, R.C.A. One of Canada's leading artists.

Adam Sherriff Scott, R.C.A. Also a brilliant artist, actively engaged in the fine arts as well as commercial illustration, etc.

Ralph Allan, Art Director, J. Walter Thompson, Advertising Agency.

In each case (this was 2 years ago, the earliest beginnings of Orenstein's study, with but little training) these men were tremendously enthusiastic and predicted that he would go far. J.W.T. went as far as to ask him if he would come back to them as an illustrator when his training had been completed. This comment helped him to get into the Art Students League.

This personal belief and opinion is backed by some 18 years practical work in the arts. Five active years as a student of art. A regular exhibitor with the Royal Canadian Academy of Art. With paintings in private collections and in the past on tour throughout Canada, USA and England, with the RCA travelling exhibit. Wide experience in the fields of advertising, design and the theatre. Two years as stage designer in New York. Organizer and operator of my own advertising company, until I went overseas.

Today I'm not a practicing designer, but a producer of feature motion pictures, commercial films and films for television. Here all the arts are encountered.

Any further details will gladly be surrendered. If there is anything that I can say or do which will give Orenstein every possible chance for this fellowship, I shall spare no time nor energy. For, in my opinion, Orenstein has more natural ability and therefore greater chances of becoming a really fine illustrator than possibly any other with which I am acquainted.

Sir, I believe with both my mind and my heart, that Henry Orenstein will bring credit and distinction to the honored name of the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, and I commend him to you with my deepest wishes for his and your success.

Sincerely yours,

Clark Middleton-Hope
5124 N.D.G. Ave.,
Montreal. Que.

Saturday 4 December

[1948?]

Dear Karl,

I find I can get down
to New York after all, and
would be very thrilled at
seeing you, if it can be
arranged. I'm coming down
Monday, and staying until
Sunday, the 10th, with my
sister-in-law in Jersey; and

I plan to come over to New York City
several times; so I could meet you up
around Columbia some place, or wherever
is most convenient for you. If you're
in town now and not too busy, and
wouldn't mind having your ears prob-
ably talked off, please do let me know
about a time and place for a meeting.
My address will be:

Mrs. John L. Cole Jr.

90 Mrs. R. A. Smith

954 West 7th St.

Plainfield, New Jersey-

540
49

I certainly hope we can get together,
because the chance of seeing you again is
one of the chief reasons I want to come
down. I wanted to go out to Denver to
see John, but we reluctantly concluded it was
much too expensive a trip; and we're still

hoping he'll be east by February,
As I'm taking a short vacation in
NYC instead -

Here's hoping to see you soon -

Y¹³ ever -

Char

EL FIDEL HOTEL



JOHN LINDI
TELEPHONE 211-1111

Largest in New Mexico

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

Dec. 4th 1948.

Dear Karli, I have moved Pers and Par since I left Baltimore on Oct 30th. Here are the stops I have made: Reno, Berkeley, Spokane, Seattle, Portland, Ogden, Denver, Pueblo, Boulder, Colo Springs, (these four in Colo) then a week in Tucson, (it beats N.Y.C. in December) then back to New Mexico, last 2 days; now I am en route Flagstaff for Dec 6. Shall be with Jack, in his Seminars Dec 7 + 8; then Ojai, & in So. Calif. up to Dec 27. Thanks to your good offices and the help of Prof. Ayres, I am booked for the U. of Texas on Jan 12. (I make get an engagement for U. of Arizona, for early Jan.) So, I am telling you about Ayres. He is interested to have me speak about Britain; also, & recovery with the two in W. Europe. I hope all goes well with you: are you quite well always? Irene had a letter from you, she tells me. She hasn't much time for writing.

Don is a Good Companion to her, + she may see
Therese at Xmas time. Give my love to Dona,
& tell her that I am all right. I have enough
engagements to enable me to break even
but I expect to have quite a few more.

The 6 days in the Sun and Desert of Tucson
were very fine. I was with Beulah & Alton
Waring, who will stay there for another 2 months.

I'll be back in Panama + to East by end of
April + I may have a day in N.Y.

I wonder do you see the W. Europe Co-operation
approach rapidly an econ. integration? And do
you see the Atlantic Region take more definite
shape, with outreach thro' the "Commonwealth,"
plus the Colonial Territories of France, Belgium,
Holland? All this becoming a real third
Sector of the World; and Eastern Europe
linking up more closely - reverting to origins
& links of race via history - with USSR
and Asia? Do you see Europe likely to
continue a dual and divergent develop-
ment? Not necessarily in conflict with
each other, the two sectors of it; but definitely
in competition with each other in a number
of ways?

I'll enclose my postal
addresses in case you find time to send
me a line. I did send you a card. I
think, after enjoying your hospital; and
your general care. Now, a Happy
Christmas to you Karl; and take a few
lazy days: affectionably, Donnie.

December 4, 1948

Dear Merton:

To last night's discussion, which was enjoyable indeed:

I do not now believe that 'Klassenlage ist Zustlags' bears the interpretation which I put on it, however much this would seem to be on the lines of Max Weber's approach to the problem of the 'closed group'. On this point, I think, you were right.

In effect, in his analysis of class, Weber tried, and rightly so, to stress the specificity of this term, especially in regard to the class struggle. His point is an excellent one, namely that this peculiar form of social struggle occurs only within a market environment. Class war, as opposed to the struggle of social estates, is sharpest in incipient capitalism, ancient or modern.

Incidentally, Weber is enabled to make this penetrating observation on capitalism precisely because his definition of 'economic' fuses the formal and the substantive meanings of that word, a combination which is, as I said, singularly appropriate to the analysis of market-societies.

On the other hand, to what extent this same fact works out as a weakness in the field of economic history outside of market-dominated periods was the point, which I was trying to make. It is startlingly borne out by the definitions of economic terms with which Weber introduced his lectures on general economic history (page 1). These passages are not included in F. H. Knight's translation. The element of economic is not present, according to Weber, unless there is disposal of goods. Goods are bundles of 'utilities', which are to be construed as 'services'. Personal services are only one type of 'service'. A worker in the factory is not, properly, engaged in economic activity, e.g., since he has already disposed of his labor power by selling it. No more extreme application of the scarcity definition (page 102 of 'Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft') could well be imagined, and certainly none less appropriate for the analysis of economic institutions. Actually, Weber then proceeds to extend the terms of this definition so as to include non-market-economics.

By such tenuous means is the connection between the substantive economy and the formal element in the definition maintained. No wonder that the general theory of motives and institutions, which underlies his sociology, could not be made methodologically fruitful in economic history. Nevertheless, he opened the way to a decisive advance in method, not to speak of his contributions in the matter itself, the extent of which we may not yet be able to realize.

With my very best wishes,

Best cordially yours,

P.S. I enclose another copy of the mimeograph, which, incidentally, I intend also to send to Abel and Melver, together with a copy of this letter.

Columbia University
in the City of New York

[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

December 7, 1948

Professor Karl Polanyi
Department of Economics
Columbia University
New York 27, New York

Dear Professor Polanyi:

Donald O'Connell of Columbia College gave me your kind message which I appreciate very much.

My study on "The Possibilities of Increasing Productivity through Labor-Management Cooperation" is to be published in the fairly near future. I am sending you herewith a summary of the conclusions which are to be published shortly in the Cornell Industrial and Labor Relations Review.

I think you will be interested in the material, though I should be grateful if you would return it to me when you are through with it as I have only a limited number of copies available.

Also, I am sending you a copy of an article of mine which has just been published on "Guaranteed Wages and Employment."

I am sending your book to a manufacturing friend of mine who is president of The Cyril Bath Company and has a very active interest in your research and thinking. He is one ^{of the} men who has been very successful in integrating labor and management at the shop level and I think you will be interested in a speech he recently made to the American Management Association.

Yours sincerely,

Ernest Dale
Ernest Dale

ED/ces
Enc. (3)

December 10, 1948

To Directors of Projects:

Enclosed you will find a summary of the status of the project or projects carried on under your supervision, which has been compiled from records in the office of the Secretary to the Executive Committee, and which is to be included in the annual report of the Chairman of the Council for Research in the Social Sciences to the University Council on December 21.

If the summary is incorrect in any material respect, or if there is further information concerning the project which should be included, please get in touch with me, on telephone extension 776, or in Room 513 Fayerweather Hall.

Sincerely yours,

William Vickrey
Secretary to the Executive Committee
Council for Research in the Social Sciences

11
#150. Polanyi--Origins of Economic Institutions

This project was started with an allotment of \$7,000 in June, 1948. Work is well under way. \$4,914.76 remains unspent (November 25, 1949). Work is concentrating on the Eastern empires and Greece. Seven graduate students and one Ph. D. have been employed part time. A draft of two of the proposed eleven chapters is ready, and the fields of the other chapters have been surveyed.

911 Olivia Ave.,
Ann Arbor, Mich.,

Dec. 20, 1948.

Dear Karl:

Mary and I think your little letter was about the pleasantest Christmas token that we could possibly receive. She is a moderately good correspondent, but I almost never write personal letters. Yours was too good to ignore, however--even though it brought word that you would be crossing the Atlantic again before many months. But, judging from the past year, we'll see about as much of you on one side of the ocean as on the other.

There is so much we need to hear you talk about. You scarcely mention the fate of your book, and a mere couple of lines about Ilona and Kari isn't at all enough. So you'll have to find some excuse to get to Ann Arbor, or we to New York.

I'm trying very hard to get my book done--it will take at least another year, because I have only odd moments, after teaching and administrative duties. We have developed quite a social psychological center here, and it's very exciting to be associated with it.

Mary and the youngsters are well--all except Mary are getting older fast. Within two years Esther will be going away to college, and I shall have a sabbatical leave, some of which we hope to spend in Europe. But we couldn't manage it unless I can find some sort of teaching position over there, because it's so expensive to transport a whole family. Before the time comes, I shall try to arrange it.

Please give my fondest to Ilona, whom I think Mary has never met, and that is sad. And we must arrange some sort of rendez-vous before you return. Meanwhile, fondest holiday greetings.

Ted

December 23, 1948

Professor Karl Polanyi
Faculty of Political Science
Columbia University
New York 27, New York

Dear Professor Polanyi:

Many warm thanks for your heartening note. I am very grateful for your kind comments on the articles which I sent you. May I say that I appreciate them especially as they come from the author of The Great Transformation. I want to tell you that I have liked your book so much that I have sent more than a dozen copies this Christmas as gifts.

I am grateful that I may call you in the near future for a luncheon engagement and am very much looking forward to another discussion of our mutual interests.

Yours sincerely,

Ernest Dale
Ernest Dale

ED/ces

HORST MENDERSHAUSEN

HARWOOD HILL

BENNINGTON, VERMONT

25 Decemb 1948

Dear Karl:

Thanks for sending me your notes
on money. I am glad to have them,
and I am eager to get further notes
as they become available.

I accepted the position at the
Federal Reserve Bank (research on
the prospects of the US foreign economy)
and shall begin the work about
1 February. I shall need an assi-
stant and I would be interested
in people whom you might recommend.

Desirable qualities: a combination
of economic, statistical, anthropological
and historical education - probably

P.S. Do you have some sort of a stampy award or something like that? Copies of receipts and reduction? Value for credit?

impossible to find. But just in case ...

We are having a lovely Christmas. The house is bulging with toys, and the boys are happy. I butchered two home-raised rabbits yesterday, and the boys had their first anatomy lesson - on mammals.

Friede sends her best regards to you. A Happy New Year to you, including success of the work and reunion with Ilona.

Yours,
Hans.

December 29, 1948

Dear Mr. Polanyi,

I've written you so many letters but unfortunately they were not on paper. Perhaps I should fortunately else you'd have been deluged. And it took so long to write this one because so many things happened I'm not quite sure where to start. I know, the beginning, you'd tell me.

When Fred and I got back from our trip to England, France, and Holland, I felt like working on some painting. I have. The room is bulging on all sides. In fact I just started another this morning. There's no smell, to me, as good as turpentine. Fred lives on 11 Street in New York and attends the Mannes School of Music. He composes and I'm in love with what he writes.

It's sad how people grow away from each other like I have with the Holts but I see Sarah and Charlotte all the time. How did you remember the key episode? I do though myself and it still makes me

laugh. As far as is known the key remains wherever "the button" decided to put it.

If there is some sadness connected with losing the relationship of the Nolts, there is also a great happiness from my knowing Dr. Fromm, and his wife, Henry. I met them this summer. They were moving into their new house and I offered to help them with the moving. I was a student of his in college. What wonderful people they are! We became friends.

I think you knew that I was doing an analysis with Dr. Chouell. After he left I felt lost, desecured. I was dialectic, and the world seemed black as black can be. That was how I met Dr. Fromm. I wrote him to see if he could suggest something. Despite an enormous schedule, the moving, his book, he was gracious enough to see me. And we are friends beside the analytical work.

So happy that this was a good

Rinehart

L-COMpany - INCORPORATED

Publishers



232 MADISON AVENUE • NEW YORK 16 • N. Y.

29th December 1948

Dr. Karl Polanyi
King's Crown Hotel
420 West 116th Street
New York 27, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Polanyi:

Under separate cover we are sending you three copies of the Spanish edition of THE GREAT TRANSFORMATION and one extra English edition copy which we recently found on our book shelves. We thought you might like to have these.

Sincerely,

Marguerite J. Reese
Ass't to the Editor

MJR:nb

4 books u.s.c.

American Affairs

A Publication of the National Industrial Conference Board

247 Park Avenue

New York 17, N. Y.


December 29, 1948

Mr. Karl Polanyi
c/o Columbia University
116th & Broadway
New York City

Dear Mr. Polanyi:

Please will you be so good as to send us the text of your address before the American Philosophical Association at the University of Virginia on December 28? And may we make some use of it in the Spring Number of AMERICAN AFFAIRS?

Sincerely,



Garet Garrett

GG:tk

Department of History & Political Science

Dr. ~~the~~ Eugene Pfaff, Chairman

Local Science Forum, The Women's

College of the University of

North Carolina

Greenville NC

1948

3292

to my infinite regret
have had to cancel

tomorrow's flight

cannot join you stop

had to cancel tomorrow's

flight on account of

sudden illness stop

~~Please convey to all
with participants~~

→ my very best wishes
for the success of your
~~brilliantly well~~

promising and
important forum ~~these~~
~~convey~~

Cordially

Karel Potaneci

423W 120th St

Apt 26 N.Y. 27.

{ please convey to all
participants