

Other Enclosures  
under separate cover.

10th Febr. 1943

My dear Kati and Thona,  
though it is impossible to catch up with the news from either side, there is no reason against resuming correspondence. Actually I have a fairly good idea of what you are both doing, having talked to Kai from nine to nine. She stayed with us about a month ago but we saw little of her because she was occupied with a University Labour Federation meeting at which she acted as Press Officer.

I think it is just one year since Thona left. I saw Kai in April in London, then once more in December and lastly in January. I wrote to her fairly often at first but got no reply - she does not like to write. Maurice was present when we met in April and we had a very lovely evening together, but somehow it was not found easy to renew the contact. Perhaps we may yet be able to do so in future - I hope so.

I send you to-day a few copies of

Shearmair's ~~the~~ report on the Film experiments. The work is being carried on, particularly with the new type of showing, which I developed this year: using only the first 3 parts of the film and adding a talk on monetary policy. I had an excellent meeting on three lines with 150 Rotarians in Manchester only last week. I am also training a small number of National Fire Service discussion-group leaders, who will go round showing the film to their groups and discussing it with them. The groups consist of the firemen at their service stations.

Plans for making a popular film have gone entirely awry for the moment, but I may renew them again before long. What happened in U.S. in this respect?...

I sent Gyula the manuscript of my paper "Jewish Problems" about 4 months ago. This has since appeared in the Political Quarterly and I will let you have a copy of the proof-sheet; no <sup>reprints</sup>

are available and copies are difficult to get too. The article has been well received by non-Jews, but I had only little support of real warmth from Jewish quarters. However, Koestler reacted very favourably and so did Professor Charles Singer, an eminent rabbinic scholar and historian of science. I am just sending off to print a paper on the "Autonomy of Science" which is coming out in the <sup>Memories of the</sup> Manchester Literary and Philosoph. Soc. I am sending you enclosed the copy of a "letter" published in the Guardian some time ago. There ensued a lively correspondence which is still continuing. The Society for Freedom in Science which Baker, Tansley and I have founded, played its part in supporting me.

Attention is being increasingly concentrated here on post-war problems and the general

feeling is very peaceful. The Beveridge Report has struck the fundamental note for all future hopes and has become the token of their fulfilment.

George has been with his training unit now for the past 3 months and expects to finish his training in another 3 months. Whether he will succeed in getting a commission, we can not tell yet — nor do we perhaps care very much, though he himself is ambitious in that respect.

Magda has become an office woman altogether. She has now been ~~with her~~ appointed as a full-time paid worker for quite a while and though she still loves her job as before, its glamour has worn off to some extent.

I am, as usual, doing rather a number of things; publishing chemical papers and articles on other subjects. The latter are supposed to crystallise to a book but I am afraid there has been insufficient tendency for them to do so:

I do hope we may yet see each other and send you much love meanwhile. Kin

Oakley Arms

Tan-y-Bwlch  
Near Bleinaw Festiniog  
North Wales  
Sept. 12th 1943.

My dear Karl and Ilona

I just made up my mind about my programme and I want to tell you about the possibilities for meeting together. I am staying here until Wednesday 22nd September. I am still hoping to lose a nasty cough which I had for the last 2 months in my trachea and also want to accumulate some reserves for this coming winter. I have kept up an average of 1500 words a day (I mean writing) in the first 8 days of this holiday and I want to get away from that too for a while. For all these reasons I made up my mind to stay on until the 22nd.

2.  
22<sup>nd</sup>  
On Wednesday ~~mentioned above~~ I shall return to Manchester and stay there till Thursday lunchtime when I leave for Billingham (I.C.3) - which is in the Co. Durham. I have been asked to stay over the week-end of the 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> in Durham and in Leeds. But I would be very glad (without the slightest trouble) to cancel these arrangements if you could come to stay with us in Manchester during the same week-end. Please do let me know by return whether that suits you.

Magda is of course very keen on seeing you both and it would be much easier to talk over everything at length in Manchester. But if it is too much trouble for you to make the trip, I will come to

London to see you there. I could probably manage best one day in the first ~~last~~ half of the week beginning on the 27th, say Tuesday or Wednesday. Our term starts on Thursday and I am lecturing at 9.30 in the morning of that day; also I ought to be back for fire-watching on Wednesday night. †

Looking further ahead I have unfortunately an engagement in Leeds on Saturday 3rd October, but I shall be back in Manchester later in the afternoon. Would that week-end suit you?

I also return to the suggestion of one or both of you staying with us in Manchester for a longer period. That would be very nice indeed.

4.

I do hope you have met George in London. I could not get hold of you on ~~Saturday~~<sup>Wednesday</sup> night at the Grant's. Donald said you were staying elsewhere - but I hope George got through to you.

This is Magda writing. I am sorry for you to have to wade through all these dates; I find it always difficult to keep up with Misi's varied programme.

I do so hope that you will both be able to come to M.C. I am only working part time now (things were more difficult when Kari stayed with us) and there is plenty of room as you know. U.S. is still a mystery to me and I am anxious to hear about your experiences and impressions.

Yours  
Magda.

I have to thank you for your essay in Harper's and your talk about Rousseau. I showed the former to J.L. Hammond who agreed with you;



but I wish somebody would answer - as Hammond failed to do - my questions on this business. (If Ribbentrop and Chamberlain pursued the identical aim, why did they fail to agree?) Your paper on Rousseau touches upon a problem about which I have been thinking a good deal for the last 2 years or so. You would be interested to read Bosanquet's *The Philosophical Theory of the State*. He tries to make sense of the Common Will.

I sent Kari a copy of my last published essay *The Autonomy of Science* and will let you have a copy from Manchester when I return here. At the moment I am busy writing up a book on Science in Society (or something of the kind) which shall

complete and summarise all my thoughts on the subject. I am concentrating all my efforts on this single task now in the hope of completing it in another 3-4 months. I wrote 50000 words, in raw, during the last 50 days. The book, in the end, will probably run into 100000 words, or rather more. Unfortunately I have so little time. It is hard to write every night and through every free week-end for months on end.

I hope to see your book in its final form. And I am longing to see both you and Ilona again. You will find me grown much older in appearance, but my life has on the whole improved a great deal since we last met. I feel confident and happy. This is a lovely spot here. I wish you could come to see me

7  
here. The connection with London is ~~not~~  
very good (Railway Station: Bletchley  
Festiniog). It is very crowded, <sup>here</sup> but I  
could find accommodation for you  
at a day's notice.

- My love to you both.

Mimi

I am trying to hear about  
Mauri, Gyula - and Adolf, if  
possible?

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER



TELEPHONE: ARDWICK 2681

DEPARTMENT OF  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES  
DOVER STREET  
MANCHESTER, 13

Dear my  
3. Oct 57

Dear Karli and Fiona

I shall be coming  
to London on Tuesday  
next (25th October) and have  
the evening free to spend  
with you. Please let me  
have a message at the  
Easton Hotel where I  
shall arrive shortly before  
lunch time on Tuesday,  
telling me whether to

expect you at the hotel  
for dinner or else meet  
you at some other place.  
I very much hope that  
you are free.

Mimi

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER  
MANCHESTER 13

FROM  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS  
DOVER STREET



*Sakeley Arms*

*Sunday* TELEPHONE :  
ARDWICK 2681

*2. October 1949*

My dear Karli and Ilona,

The cottage idea is  
beautiful but there are  
certain points to consider.

You cannot keep a habitation  
empty for it will be requi-  
sitioned. If occupied you  
cannot turn out the tenant

or at any rate it is very  
problematic whether you can.

The ratings are erratic. If

tenanted, the sale value of  
a small house today is  
outside the market. It is  
rarely used as a rent yielding  
investment for the yield of  
a great many properties is  
near zero or even negative.  
Landlords are trying to get  
rid of ownership rights to avoid  
their obligations which outweigh  
their incomes. That is a mass  
phenomenon <sup>in and</sup> near Manchester  
(in the poor districts). There  
remains the possibility of buying  
a house with vacant possession,  
putting your own furniture into  
it and relying on the right  
of turning out the tenant.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER  
MANCHESTER 13

FROM  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS  
DOVER STREET



TELEPHONE :  
ARDWICK 2681

on the grounds of "furnished house  
lease" when you want to  
move in or sell.

So much for the moment  
and all in a hurry. I am  
returning to Hale to-  
morrow and shall talk  
the matter over with Napier.  
Perhaps we can see some  
way. Meanwhile let me  
know whether you have thought  
of these difficulties and  
how you intended to deal  
with them. yours  
Miss



P.S. We are in a difficulty  
about our house which we  
would like to let for 6  
months or so, but see no simple  
way of doing without risking  
the loss of its entire value.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER  
MANCHESTER 13

FROM  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS  
DOVER STREET



TELEPHONE :  
ARDWICK 2681

7. Oct. 1949

My dear Karl - Bone,

I am afraid my  
enquiries in Manchester and  
talks with Neayda have only  
confirmed what I said in  
my letter last Saturday.  
Whatever channels of investment  
are still left open in Britain,  
the purchase of small houses  
is hardly among them.  
Please let me know whether  
your ideas have developed  
any further in this matter.

I should like to do all  
that is in my power to  
get something for you in  
his neighbourhood, if you  
can make some headway  
against the legal difficulties  
to which I have referred.

My resignation from  
the Gifford Lectures has not  
been accepted and I have  
agreed to withdraw it on  
condition that they don't  
expect the lectures to be  
any good, and <sup>that they will not expect</sup> ~~at any date~~  
~~to be~~ <sup>there to be</sup> ready for publication  
for a long time yet.

W.



## Note

In Arthur Koestler's *Promise and Fulfilment* p. 274 there is a reference to something you have lectured upon. "... if a backward nation has missed certain stages in its development... can it ever fill the gap?" -- "Can such nations ever become socially sound without reverting to the missed phases...?" "Alexis (Ladas) says Karl Polanyi is lecturing on a similar theme, based on Malinovsky."

[1952]

14 January

My dear Kari and Ilona,  
how wonderful to have these pictures! Thank you ever so much for them. I am sure your little house in the depth of the Canadian winter is warmer than the clammy boardinghouse which we are inhabiting since we were driven out of the centrally heated oasis of the University Hotel where couples may stay only if unmarried (for which we are too old). However, we continue to survive, though admittedly not as the fittest. This term I am giving a weekly seminar in the department of philosophy to which I have at last managed to gate-crash. I wish I knew what to tell them. But it will at any rate serve as a dress rehearsal (including probably of the emperor's clothes) for the second series of my Gifford Lectures. Thank you for your prompt and kind remittance of \$100 to E. H. Meanwhile Gera has made a fortune on a patent and they will not have the

money, and it is being  
now pushed backwards and  
forwards by rival generosity.  
So I hope to return it  
to you eventually. I am  
glad you hope so / so strongly  
on Churchill's greatness.  
I was afraid that the  
somewhat moth eaten  
historical pageant from a  
country too redolent of  
history anyhow, might  
be unable to ~~inspire~~<sup>inspire</sup>  
much confidence in a  
world so weary of its  
past. Let us hope you  
are right. My love to  
both of you,  
Missi

**BY AIR MAIL**

**AIR LETTER**

IF ANYTHING IS EN-  
CLOSED THIS LETTER  
WILL BE SENT BY  
ORDINARY MAIL.



*Dr Karl Polanyi*  
*R R 3*  
*Pickering*  
*Ontario*  
*Canada*

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Sender's name and address

*Michael Polanyi*  
*The University*  
*Manchester*

To open cut here

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AEROGARME  
ON W.I.  
5PM  
MCH  
1959  
E



Dr Karl Polanyi  
R.R.3.  
Pickering  
Ontario  
Canada

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Sender's name and address:.....

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY  
ENCLOSURE ; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGE  
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

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as from The Athenaeum London 21. March 59  
Pall Mall SW.1

My dear Karl (and Ilova)

Thank you ever so much  
for your telegram received 10 days ago  
on my birthday. Of my journey to Brazil  
I should tell you that Adolf is weak, even  
weaker (I am told) than he was last April  
in North America. His mood, <sup>though</sup> not cheerful,  
~~but~~ <sup>is</sup> passionately nostalgic, tainted by an  
exaggerated dislike of his South American  
surroundings: a dislike that is intensified  
by Lily's aversion against all Latin countries.  
For all that, she is a splendid support for  
her old husband, full of courage and  
good sense, and giving herself generously to  
a fault. I went into all the details of  
their situation with Lily, but left their  
councils pretty well unaffected. John ~~to~~  
wrote of your recent check which was entirely  
favourable. I also heard of your journey to  
a meeting in Chicago and would very  
much like to know about it.

We are both well and about to settle in a flat in London (70 Cheyne Court SW3). However, I am not as vigorous as you are and do little work if any.

Thank once more, best wishes

Uisti

My new little book, *The Study of Man* was published yesterday. I shall send you a copy

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BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AEROGAMME



Dr Karl Polanyi  
R. R. 3.  
Pickering  
Ontario  
Canada

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Sender's name and address: .....

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[13 March, 1960]

My dear Karli and Ilona,

Thank you very much for your cable. I was glad to hear from you, for the news about unprecedented cold and snow-fall in and around Toronto has worried me greatly on your behalf. I was thinking of Ilona's trouble with sciatica in the circumstances. What an ordeal! I found even the mild winter of England unpleasant and trying. Fortunately, our new house will have central heating. Please note that I shall be moving to London tomorrow, 14th March, and remain there till we move house to Oxford on 5th April. Please let me know how the translation of Hungarian poets is progressing towards publication.

We expect to be staying in Oxford  
till the beginning of May. There is a general  
meeting of the C.C.F. on 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>  
June and a seminar in Stambul at  
the beginning of July, followed soon (July 18)  
by a meeting of the World Sc. C. M.  
in Strasbourg, which I have agreed to  
address. So we shall be away for about  
5 weeks in June and July. I shall  
try to keep in touch with you.

Miri

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME



Prof Karl Polanyi  
R. R. 3  
Pickering (Ontario)  
Canada

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Sender's name and address:

K. Polanyi  
The University  
Manchester

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ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED  
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

To open cut here

29 June 1955

My dear Karli and Elona,

Thank you for your dear letters. Yes, it is a sad thing to part from the hope of having you here next year. Nothing can compensate for this. I have just seen the official paper which is going for confirmation to Senate next ~~Monday~~ <sup>Monday</sup>. It throws no further light on the matter which at my request was discussed altogether without any consultation or participation on my part. What I saw with my own eyes was the fact that Karli's application was placed on the agenda of the Ctee as proposed invitation to Simon Visiting Professorship. The Registrar told me that the only issue that might arise about it was that of age. After the meeting one of the Professors whom I asked what they had decided, informed me that, owing to reluctance to appoint anyone above the age limit the result was negative. I doubt whether this will be officially stated since it has not been made part of our regulations but merely laid down as a matter of policy. I have not mentioned it to A. R. Burns either, for the resolution has not yet been put before Senate and he might have talked to somebody about it, giving me as his source.

The loss of these hopes is bitter and irrevocable.  
It is the kind of event which calls for our last  
reserves of fortitude. Let us seek consolation  
in what remains to us.

I have just sent off the proof of a paper on  
the subject "From Copernicus to Einstein" to Encounter.  
It is due to appear on first of August. I  
have been making reasonable progress lately on my  
book, but the prospect of finishing it before the  
end of the year are remote. Perhaps next Easter.

My dearest love to you both  
Muriel

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UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA  
THOMAS JEFFERSON CENTER FOR STUDIES IN  
POLITICAL ECONOMY  
ROUSS HALL  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

Dear K, and T.

27. Sept 1961

Thank you, thank you both for your letters. I shall gratefully preserve the reminiscences which Ilona quoted of Mauri's last stay in Hungary. Our neighbours in this apartment-house asked Magda whether I belonged to the famous Polanyi family. So I naturally thought of Margaret, but it turned out he had been in touch with you via Redfield, who taught him. I just saw in Irodalmi Ujság that Maxi died. He was 90. The paper is dated 1. Sept. so he probably died about mid-August. Eva Carocci said that he ~~had~~ <sup>was</sup> engaged in monumental sculptures of high distinction until quite lately. In case you wanted to write to her, her address is:  
Eva Carocci, 34 Via degli Orsini, Rome.

I have so far met very few members of this university, but shall look out for anyone who ~~is~~ <sup>may be</sup> connected with Pichler via John Smith. It may take time. Do you think P. speaks English? Unless he does, he would be totally lost in this place. I got 'Explorations' a few days ago and could not make head or tail of it at first. Then I found interest in the article "Dada in the Druggstore

I am fascinated by Dadaism and am about to say something about it in my first lecture "The Destruction of Reality" which I am ~~the~~ writing just now. But my second lecture "The Realism of the Unspoken" goes already beyond McLuhan - for it goes out for the renaissance of pre-linguistic thought - at any rate for tacit thought. But I am very grateful to McLuhan and shall write to thank him. We visited Monticello this afternoon (I am taking my rest at midweek, but I can work best over Saturday and Sunday at the Centre) and found the experience beautiful and exhilarating. How sensible of him to have a bust of Turgot flanking that of Voltaire! Not Diderot, nor Rousseau. He probably knew nothing of Condorcet. But even more thrilling was to touch the actual volumes of the Encyclopaedie. I never knew it was not alphabetic. What a man, what an age! Eheu fugaces - our lost innocence! However, an S. J. friar reviewing P.K. in the 'Schoolman' wrote that it coincides strikingly at many points with Aquinas. So one day we may yet all return to the bosom of Aquinas, if not of Rome. Our main occupation here is to enjoy the beauty of the university grounds, which are really superb. I cannot understand how every kind of deciduous trees can keep ~~their~~ <sup>its</sup> foliage green here long after it shrivels everywhere else. All the best Unisi

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Sender's name and address: *W. Blauer*  
*22 Upland Park*  
*Road*  
*Oxford*

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*Mrs and Mrs Polanyi*  
*R.R. 3.*  
*Pickering 48 Be*  
*Ontario*  
*Canada*

10<sup>th</sup> November 1963

My dear Kaud I

I was happy to see you well and found your account of Hungary immensely illuminating. Or perhaps intensely is a better word.

What did the doctor do or not do?

I have a request to you. If you happened to have kept the copy of Science, Faith and Society which I am sure to have given you 17 years ago (1946), would you please send it to The Chicago University Press # 5750 Ellis Avenue Chicago 37 for Mr Maurice English, Senior Editor. He will use it up for manufacturing a paper back edition and send you two new copies of that in its place. You will not miss it for a matter of 6 months or so. Any news from Adolf?

Ursi

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER



TELEPHONE: ARDWICK 2681

DEPARTMENT OF  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES  
DOVER STREET  
MANCHESTER, 13

P.S. I forgot the point for  
which I started this letter.

I have here a pair double  
portrait with Mother, by Prigany.

It is not in a good condition  
and it may suffer further

from transportation, since I  
~~should~~ <sup>should</sup> probably have to roll it  
up. Would you like me to

do this and send it to  
you to Canada? John will

be arriving in Toronto at  
the beginning of September and  
he may be induced to take it

John took his Ph.D. a  
month ago and is going for a  
year to Ottawa on a  
Fellowship of the Canadian  
Government, to work at their  
National Research Laboratory.