



UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES  
DOVER STREET  
MANCHESTER, 13

TELEPHONE ARDWICK 2681

31 Jan 1955

My dear Karli:

I got your  
Hamlet re-print and  
read it with delight.

Please send me another  
copy since mine was  
appropriated by Professor  
H. B. Charlton, our  
Shakespeare scholar. He  
was very much impressed  
by your essay and  
promised to write to you.

Better and better! I see you are going to apply for a Simon Fellowship and I have very little doubt that you will succeed. However, I will be the last person ever to hear about it, under the prevailing rules of reticence. However, it would be quite in order for you to write to Max Gluckman, advising him of your intention. He would be the most influential person in this matter. Neither Fish nor Smith are members of the Ctee, though I suppose they

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would be asked to attend  
by invitation. So would Redford,  
no doubt. All this great  
fun and will certainly result  
in one positive gain, by excluding  
me from and relieving me  
of attendance at an endless  
committee meeting.

One more hint. Anyone  
who is prepared to do sociology,  
here is welcomed, even though  
he is suspected to work  
people. For we are in eternal  
search of a sociologist, though  
suspecting that there is no such thing

On the other hand, anyone who claims to be a historian is met by a phalanx of anti-speculative Nauvooites who object to anyone possessing any knowledge of other matters or extending his scope beyond a period of 5 years at the most. Smith is in secret opposition to this prevailing orthodoxy, but he is too junior to reveal it except to outsiders, like myself.

I am writing all this tosh because I really think they ought to invite you as a Simon Visiting Professor (for which no applications can be made under present resolution)

1. June 1955

Karli my dear.

First let me thank you for the telegram you (both) sent me on my birthday. These things become more precious with advancing age.

Your application for the Simon Fellowship will be virtually settled on 16th June. Its prospects seem to be very good. I shall send you a cable as soon as the Ctee has done its meeting on the day in question. I rather expect the Registrar will also notify you "subject to confirmation by Senate and Council," which cannot take place before the end of July.

It is lovely to ponder  
the prospect of  
spending next  
year together here.

My dearest love  
to you both

Muti

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME



..... Dr. Karl Polanyi, .....

..... R.R.3 Pickering, .....

..... ONTARIO, .....

..... Canada. ....

.....

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Sender's name and address : Professor M. Polanyi,  
The University,  
Manchester 13,  
ENGLAND.

.....

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

EXCLUSIVE CONNECTION WITH WESTERN UNION CABLE SERVICE

**CANADIAN NATIONAL**J. R. WHITE, GENERAL MANAGER  
TORONTO**TELEGRAPHS**

20 2 Exa DL

STANDARD TIME

MANCHESTER PO VIA TORONTO ONT  
JUNE 17/55Karl Polanyi  
R R 3  
PICKERING, OntYour application first promoted to visiting professors ship then refused  
under new ruling of age limit desperately sorry Misi

Unsigned



EXCLUSIVE CONNECTION WITH WESTERN UNION CABLE SERVICE

**CANADIAN NATIONAL**J.R. WHITE, GENERAL MANAGER  
TORONTO**TELEGRAPHS**

STANDARD TIME

14 NM 2ex Manchester PO via Toronto 20 June [1955]

Kral Polanyi  
R R 3 Pickering Ont

Very sorry all simon appointments since forth barred now by new age limit.

Misi

TN 935 am

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME

CHESTER  
9 15 AM  
18 JULY  
1955  
S



Dr Karl Polanyi  
423 W 120  
New York 27 N.Y.  
U S A

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:

M Polanyi  
Mayfair  
Fielden Park  
Manchester 20

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← To open cut here →

[55]

July 17

Thank you for your brief note of July 12. You will of course know names of publishers to whom you could apply. I only want to mention that Toni Stolper's daughter Jean is employed by Mac Graw-Hill in London (on the ~~technical~~ science side) - so there is a chance that Toni may know how that firm works.

Could you tell me what the pension amounts to which you will be able to claim once the question of the \$ 1250 is settled one way or another, and whether you are entitled to spend this pension in Europe. Probably the best place to do so would be Austria where medical attention is cheap and good. We visited it last summer and felt quite at home there. Please keep me informed, if it is not too much trouble to you. We are staying in Manchester till 13. August and shall then be without fixed address till the middle of September.

Miss

Goldswil 27. Aug 1955

Karl dear, your letter, which I have been waiting for, reached me here, in Switzerland, where we are spending our holiday. I am due to take part in a conference in Milan from 12-17th Sept. The Secretariat of the Conference on the Future of Freedom will be established from September 1st at the Museo della Scienza e della ~~Tecnica~~ Tecnica Milano. Mail addressed to ~~the Institute~~ <sup>here</sup> will be delivered to me on <sup>my</sup> arrival in Milan.

May I answer your various questions, to begin with. I have not had any other information about the deliberations of the Committee than this. The assistant to the Registrar (misunderstanding a question I put to him) told me that there would be no discussion of your application, except ~~for~~ in respect of your age. (This was after the Sub Committee had promoted your case to that of a Visiting Professorship). After the meeting of the Committee I rang up Ely Devons who merely told me that they turned the recommendation of the Sub Committee down on the grounds of age. Not another word was said. Yet it is more than certain - I mean absolutely so - that political considerations such as you mention, played no part. The Simon Committee has on various occasions gone out of its way to honour persons out of favour with the State Department. Once we appointed a fugitive from

a charge of spying, who was sheltering in Mexico at the time. (I think his name was Coe)

Now about your future plans. It is clear enough that your main preoccupation must be now to get your work published. If you are forced to retire you will not want to go to a place where you cannot direct the process of publication. From this point of view it would certainly be best to settle down in England, which you would prefer also in every other respect. May I say that this does not seem at all impracticable. I take it that Elona has remained a contributor to the British Health Service as a self employed person. In this case her claim at the age of 60 should amount to £ 200 p.a. and be further increased if the cost of living rises. If you tell me how much she has been paying to the F.S.S.U. and under what scheme, I can find out what annuity she would be able to claim at 60; but I desecay you can get that from the F.S.S.U. directly. If these sources of income sufficiently provide for her on your death, you could use some or all of your cash savings to purchase an annuity for yourself which should be fairly substantial in view of your age. Add to this your pension and you arrive at annual income which exceeds what you would have obtained if you had held a Chair in England and retired.

on reaching the age limit of 65 yrs some 3-4 yrs ago. Indeed, your position would be much more advantageous, by comparison. My colleagues in the Faculty of Arts who retired at that time, received a capital sum of about £6000 which they could invest at 5%. There was no old age pension. However, even then they could not live on £300 p.a. and this was even less practicable today. But for an elderly couple to manage on about £700 ~~which~~ which you seem to have a chance of getting, is a very reasonable proposition. It is what I myself would have to expect <sup>at the very best</sup> (so far as I would <sup>have to</sup> rely on ~~the~~ my FSSU benefits + old age pensions + income from savings. (If I get my pension from Germany, in addition to this, my position would be greatly improved.) However, I have not got to retire yet for another 3 years and in the meantime I am very well off and shall be glad to assist your settling down in England, if there is occasion for it.

But of course, we are not quite sure - having discussed the question of retirement often between us - whether, for all its homeliness, England is the best place to retire to. So many English people don't think so! The North can be really murderous to the old and the South is not much better. All along the Mediterranean you see the fugitives from the English climate seeking shelter for their failing health. So we are hesitating what to do when the time comes.

Of course, if you were to settle in England, this would add greatly to its attraction... We simply can't tell. And of course, many things may intervene to make up our minds for us before then! Bad things and even good things - nothing definite.

But we have thought of Austria among other possibilities, for we were much attracted by the milieu of Alpbach last summer. There is much that is homely there too. In fact, there is hardly a place in Europe (even as far as Majorca which we visited 3 years ago) to which we have not felt attracted <sup>in</sup> ~~at~~ one way or another, and in some of these places the material burden of life is certainly much lighter than in England - particularly for the old. Of course, the question of future work after retirement, also comes into consideration. Abroad, one soon loses one's powers of writing in English. (Even Gibbon suffered the adverse influence of a long stay in Lausanne.) Old Joe Aldham, now 81 years old, shows the wonderful possibilities open to exceptional people in their old age. But often the old who would wish to remain active, are resented and made <sup>to feel</sup> ridiculous by the young. Who knows what is right in these matters? So much for the moment. My dearest love to you both.

CHE  
6 45P  
8 SEP  
1955  
S.E.

**BY AIR MAIL**  
PAR AVION  
**AIR LETTER**  
AÉROGRAMME

DEFENCE



**JOIN NOW**

*Dr. Karl Polanyi*  
*R. R. 3*  
*Pickering, ONT*  
*Canada*

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Sender's name and address: *M Polanyi*  
*Mayfair*  
*Fielden Park*  
*Manchester 20*

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Object of



21. Sept 1955

Karli, my dear, I wrote to you about 4 weeks ago and am worried to have no reply. By this time you should know the final situation confronting you: what is it to be? Let me know please, for the sake of companionship and for better co-operation between us. We arrived back from the Continent yesterday with Magda after 5 weeks abroad - in Germany, Switzerland, Italy and France. Naturally, the thought of our future retirement kept recurring to us, and with it the more proximate question of your next moves. Europe has become so much more attractive in the last 2-3 years that the possibilities ~~to~~ for retiring have greatly increased. We were amazed to find how cheap, comfortable and congenial the Swiss milieu had become. In Milan we were heartened by the welcome of the youngest Vedres - Giorgio and his wife. Germany, where I am going on lecture tour next November, has almost regained the glow which attracted a Lukacs and a Mannheim to Heidelberg - around 1912 - 1920. The Picasso exhibition in Paris revived memories of intellectual glories which we in Hungary shared with France at the turn of the century. Incidentally: I hope you have seen Jari Oskari's celebration on occasion of his 80th birthday by 'Látóhatár'! Shall I get a copy of it for you?

John (Polanyi) is here with us today for a few hours. May I share his joy with you in the

hope that your path will cross mine soon again  
and will let us share ever more such moments,  
until the last. There is such a lot I should  
like to talk to you about! More than ever

Please write soon again and let me  
participate in the care of your next move  
in detail. I want to know every thing.

M. Z.

I hope you have been  
very busy with your  
work. I am sure you  
will find time to  
write to me soon.



CIVIL  
JOINT NOV



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

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Sender's name and address: M. Polanyi  
Mayfair  
Fielden Park  
Manchester 20.

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To open cut here

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My dear Karli,  
I wrote to you  
at some length about  
12 days ago and am  
very anxious to have  
a reply to my enquiries.

Please do not drift  
away. I need you  
more than ever.

There is nothing to  
report from here

M. G.

6. October 1955

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME



*Di Karl Polanyi  
R.R. 3 Pickering  
Ontario  
Canada*

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Sender's name and address:

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14 Nov 1955

My dear Karl,

It is sweet of you to prevent me from burdening myself unknowingly with a growing load of sin. While by letting your birthday pass unheeded even longer since this can in no way be ascribed to diminishing concern for you,

I suppose it must be regarded as a charge in its quality. Shall I say that it has become worse and less likely to pass any ritual day. Actually, my neglect of it may have been due to the sudden illness of Magda with erysipelas, from which she has since - fortunately - quite recovered.

I have actually been thinking all  
the time of writing to you for news.  
Also to tell you, on Oscar's behalf,  
that he is far from well and will  
thank you for your telegram (on his  
birthday) as soon as he can manage  
to cope with the task. I wish I  
could promise myself and you too  
that we shall soon meet again.  
There is no prospect of it just now,  
though I never - would have wished  
more than

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AEROGRAMME

MANCHESTER  
6 45 PM  
13 FEB  
1956  
S.E.



Dr. Karl Polanyi  
R.R. 3.  
Pickering (Ontario)  
U.S.A.

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Sender's name and address: M. Polanyi  
The University,  
Manchester 13

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← To open cut here



13. Febr. 1956

My dearest Brother,

I am delighted with the news that you sent your collected papers to pen and that the Fords renewed their grant. No doubt you are tired, for you have stood up to a gruelling ordeal during the last 10 months. Oh, how much I should like to see you and tell you how I feel about it!

I saw Be' again in Paris a fortnight ago and found her in better shape than she had been for some time. Her room is full of books and she does a little painting too. She is a very old lady, of course, and rather frail, but she has recovered her noble self-possession which had been somewhat unseated during the years of transition from middle to old age. She was clearly

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very happy to have recent news from  
Iona. I shall be in Paris again on  
2. March and hope to call on her  
again.

I cannot tell you how happy  
I am with your news. Do have a  
good rest now for a while.

My dearest love to  
you, as always,  
Miss

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AEROGRAMME

CHESTER  
6 45 PM  
5 MAR  
1956  
S.E.



Dr Karl Polanyi  
R R 3  
Pickering  
Canada (Ontario)  
~~████████████████████~~

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

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.....

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→ To open cut here

5. March 1956

My dear Karli

It never rains but it pours, so I can call myself the happy recipient of 3 consecutive letters from you, but since the above quoted principle holds also for other matters, I can do no more for the moment.

I am engaged in re-writing the article entitled "Hist. and Pol." which in the meantime has become "The Magic of Marxism", but I shall send you 3 copies of the 'old' text which presumably will stay like this for the Atomic Scientists, though it will be turned inside out for publication as part of 'Personal Knowledge' (that is my big bad book).

I shall study the Routledge problem tonight and answer your question about it tomorrow

Ursi

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER



TELEPHONE ARDWICK 3333

FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES

DOVER STREET

MANCHESTER, 13

6th March 1956

Dr. K. Polanyi,  
R.R.3. Pickering,  
ONTARIO. Canada.

Dearest Brother,

I want to answer here only to your question about Routledge. In my opinion the Glencoe Free Press has not acquired the British copyright of your publication unless this has been explicitly stipulated and paid for, at least in the form of a token consideration. I think it was also unfortunate to allow the Free Press to print your work in America without agreeing explicitly about the ownership of the American copyright. In consequence the copyright may become *res derelicta*. But of course to the extent to which any of the papers had already been published, without a fee having been received from the journal in question, the American copyright of such paper is presumably *res derelicta* - public property - anyway. As you know, the American copyright comes into existence by the act of publication and is simultaneously relinquished unless copyright is claimed, or its possession can be inferred by a fee having been paid for the manuscript.

I am, of course, no expert on these legal matters, but I think I can affirm from experience that a book printed in America will not be reviewed in this country unless distributed by a British publisher. It practically does not exist here so long as it has not been sanctioned by an agent who possesses the British copyright. I can see, therefore, no reason why you should not negotiate with Routledge for a British edition, even without consulting Kaplan. On the other hand I feel sure that if you did consult him as a matter of courtesy, he would tell you that you are free to act as I suggested.

I am sending you back the documents, to which you may want to refer. I know Norman Franklin, of course, very well, but I think it would only cause confusion if I tried to intervene

/

FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES

DOVER STREET

between you and him. In any case you could ask him all these questions and get a much more reliable opinion than I can give you. I am sure all will be well in this matter.

6th March 1950

My love to you

Winn

I want to answer here only to your question about... my opinion the Glencoe Free Press has not acquired the British copyright of your publication unless this has been explicitly stipulated and said for, at least in the form of a token consideration. I think it was also unfortunate to allow the Free Press to print your work in America without explicitly giving the copyright to the American copyright. In consequence the copyright may become a derelict. But of course to the extent to which any of the papers had already been published, the American copyright of such paper is presumably res derelict - public property - say so. As you know, the American copyright comes into existence by the act of publication and is simultaneously relinquished unless copyright is claimed, or its possession can be inferred by a fee having been paid for the manuscript.

I am, of course, no expert on these legal matters, but I think I can affirm from experience that a book printed in America will not be reviewed in this country unless distributed by a British publisher. It practically does not exist here so long as it has not been sanctioned by an agent who possesses the British copyright. I can see, therefore, no reason why you should not negotiate with Routledge for a British edition, even without consulting Kaplan. On the other hand I feel sure that if you did consult him as a matter of courtesy, he would tell you that you are free to act as I suggested.

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BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AEROGRAMME



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

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

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10 Dec. 1953

My dear Karli

I was saddened by your letter. Since I must not miss seeing you when I shall be so near to you, I have decided to make sure of this by going to Toronto. Would you be sure to be in Toronto between the 1. and 6<sup>th</sup> January, the two days included?

I shall arrive in N.Y. on 26 December and shall be completely engaged till 29. Dec. I think I could leave on 1. Jan and will have to proceed to Oberlin on 7<sup>th</sup> or possibly a day earlier. Please let me know how you are  
Missi



UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER



FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES  
DOVER STREET

MANCHESTER, 13

8. Febr 1957

TELEPHONE ARDWICK 3333

Dearest Brother,

I thought  
you may like to  
see this letter I  
got from Pei de  
Waard, it unusually  
lively and revealing  
I am keeping in  
touch with her fairly  
regularly  
Wein

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTERS  
AÉROGRAMME

CHESTER  
1 30PM  
9 FEB  
1957



Dr Karl Polanyi  
R R 3  
Pickering  
Ontario  
Canada

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Sender's name and address: W Polanyi  
Mayfair, Fielden Pl  
Manchester 20

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← To open cut here

9. Febr. 1957  
Karli, my dear,

I should like to write to you about your book project but find the practical issues of the day blocking these thoughts for the moment. I know that you still have 18 months work to supervise at Columbia, but if you need protracted treatment, would it not be wiser to arrange for his <sup>supervision</sup> to be conducted from England, even though you might have to relax your control to a corresponding degree. There are modern flats now on sale in London which you could easily buy for part of the sum your house would fetch, and the security of the National Health service ~~might~~ <sup>might</sup> in your circumstances outweigh some loss of stipend. You would also be nearer to me and to old friends, such as Ed. K. (Boone),

with whom I am in close ~~touch~~ touch  
now. (We are trying to get Lukacs  
Gyuri released from internment in  
Romania by obtaining for him an  
invitation as Simon Visiting Professor.)  
I think his milieu ~~might~~ <sup>might</sup> be ~~much~~  
more sustaining and helpful both  
to you and Ilona than the place  
you are living at now. Of course, there  
is the question of leaving Kari behind...?  
I do not urge you to take this decision only to  
consider it, my dear. M.

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AEROGARME



Prof. Karl Polansky  
Toronto Western Hospital  
Toronto, Ont.  
Canada

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

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.....

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12. Febr. 1954

Karl, my dear, by this time, I take it, they will have inserted the radium. May I say two things from my distant experience of such cases. First, that you may safely plan for about as many years as you would have done before. For better, for worse, life is still in front of you, with all its responsibilities, and of course, not least for your work. At the same time, I fear, your condition will have its ups and downs for some time. The beneficent effects of radium are often very debilitating to the patient. You will need all your splendid courage to bear up against any such trouble, should it arise. I may be quite wrong, but if I am not, then this is the perspective within which you should consider the alternatives which are open to you. I shall not be able to write much till next Tuesday, for I shall be on my way to London, Cambridge and Midhurst (Sussex). I shall be visiting Joe Oldham there. I hope you still remember him, for he is among the men I admired most profoundly in my whole life. He is well over 80 now but as loudly, fervent and humbly affectionate as ever I have known him.

His example and religious guidance has been a great help to me during the past 15 years or so. I just had a letter from Kende Peter, son of K. Zsiga, formerly leading kommunist writer and now a refugee from Kádár in Sombor, Yugoslavia. I shall forward his letter to you by separate cover. Meanwhile his address has changed to Zarka Zrenjanina 54  
Pancevo Yugoslavia

He is in a camp there and I am trying to get some assistance for him from the C.C.F. in Paris. I am anxiously awaiting further news about the treatment by Radium. My fervent wishes Missi

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME

MANCHESTER  
7 30 PM  
16 FEB  
1957  
K

POSTAGE POSTAGE  
6 SIXPENCE 6 AM

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

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

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16 Febr 57

My dear K. ~~I~~ Just had the excellent report of the cystoscopy and of your return to your work with holidays in England, as you had planned. This is a wonderful blessing, to be received with joy and gratitude.

We hope to spend 2-3 weeks in Italy over Easter and to return to Manchester on 1. May. John is expected here on 18. May. So we set great hopes on his coming May.

I wonder whether Ilona has received the French translation of Irodalmi Ujság of 2. Nov. which I sent to your address. Edith Bone has the original Hungarian text.

When I left New York on 9. January  
I left 14 issues of New From Behind  
The Iron Curtain at Eva's house  
to be forwarded to you. Did you  
ever get this collection? You  
see, my mind runs once  
more happily to hundred  
matters, as I hope yours is too.  
Ulli

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME

MANCHESTER  
5 30PM  
5 MAY  
1957  
K



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

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Sender's name and address: Prof. K. Polanyi  
The University  
Manchester

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My dear Karl:

5 May 1957

Having just returned from Sicily and found your book waiting for me, I can only reach to this gift briefly, on the spur of the moment. Thank you, thank you ever so much for giving me this early joy by sending the book by air. I have only glanced at its pages, but the very texture of its sentences conveys clearly the magnitude of its message. Here is something firmly threaded and long matured. Something that will stand. It is no longer a question to me whether your conceptual framework is flawless or no. (What framework ever was?) Its terms will inevitably derive their meaning from the use that you make of them. Such is the dialectic ~~that~~ inherent in a powerful achievement of human thought. It walks away unbidden towards undreamt destinations. In Monreale I saw in a series of Byzantine mosaics illustrating Genesis the rather unusual representation of the Seventh Day: God, the Creator is shown resting and satisfied. Well, you may be, even though the example of the Bible shows that you can never trust one's creatures. —

I wonder whether you got the volumes of East Europe that I left for you with Mauri? I am sure they would be delighted to send you complimentary copies of later ones, some of which are very informative. My colleague Harry Johnson told me that Kari is taking steps for re-joining to academic life. I am very glad about this. She was so silent when we met in Toronto, I could not make out

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what she thought. If she return to university life, it will make for easier intellectual exchanges. However, her silence perhaps helped to make Joe speak rather more, which I liked very much. — My own work is now cut out most firmly. I have to plough through all my 200,000 words and make use of each single one of them, before they are allowed to go to press. Fortunately, I have Maurice Grene here to help me with this. But I shall find time to read "Trade and Market..." alongside of Miss and also to discuss it with my colleagues at the university. Please let me know whether you have any particular recipients in mind for the copies which are coming by surface mail. And once more, let me say how personally happy I am with your great

achievement. Mrs.

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME



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.

← To open cut here ←

Manchester 13. Aug  
1957

My dear Karl;

I do hope the women-  
ary anxiety about your health has been  
definitively dispelled. (As your postscript  
suggested.) I trust that Tolin would know  
of any complications and would have  
mentioned the trouble in his letter that  
reached us yesterday. I wonder whether  
and what you have heard in response  
to your book so far. Reviews, letters, etc.:  
By this time there should be some. I  
myself am enjoying a period of free-  
wheeling. Tomorrow I am off to the  
continent, first to Alpbach (Osterreichische  
College) then to the Adriatic. You seem to  
have no need for holiday, like other people.  
Actually, I shall do some work, such as  
writing a paper on Probability and a refashio-  
ning of the Second Law which is an element  
of the world view sketched out in Personal  
Knowledge. I also have to collect some ideas  
for my Lindsay lectures The Science of Man which

have to be delivered by the end of February  
and sent to print straight away. I am reading  
a little around the philosophy of history,  
Collingwood, Geyl, Marc Bloch, Deellhey. It  
is a nice, relaxing occupation. Unfortunately,  
the books are too fat to be flown about on  
my journey. — Please ask Ilona on my  
behalf where I could find Brecht's trans-  
lation of Poem for Adults by Waczyk. I  
should like to get it published in one  
of our periodicals. At any rate, it should  
be of great interest in itself. He was a master.  
Wisi



UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER



TELEPHONE ARDWICK 3333

FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES

DOVER STREET

MANCHESTER, 13

15. October 1957

Dear Brother, Karli

I just had the good news from John about your recent test. I am happy and grateful to know that you are quite free of this shadow at last. Another excellent news of yours reached me in Paris when I rang up Bi there. She told me that you have just negotiated a contract - presumably with the Ford Foundation - for the continuation of your researches. How splendid! It is wonderful to receive such a testimony to your future capacity for work at the age of 71. Most of us have a bad conscience at being kept in office up till the age of 67. But this seems to remove indefinitely

your retirement to England. What about it?

I shall be retiring from my Chair in Manchester by next summer and we shall probably move to London then — though a good many obstacles may arise to this plan before then. I have just taken over the Chairmanship of a Planning Office set up by the Congress for Cultural Freedom to organize international enquiries into "Problems of Progress". A very general title, but specifiable to some extent by the preceding events: namely the conference on economic development in backward countries, held in Tokio last April under the chairmanship of Arthur Lewis and of the Oxford Conference held in June on recent changes in the Soviet regime, under the roof of St Anthony's College, Deakin presiding from a distance. My hope is to prepare the ground for a world-wide movement of academic people towards a more active participation in public affairs. It is deplorable how sterile the universities have been in ~~the~~ responding (or rather, failing to respond) to the challenge of our time. I think the trouble lies with their isolation from writers, journalists, politicians, poets. ~~This~~ This cannot be overcome within the universities for the tasks of academics are of a distinctive kind: for one thing, the faculties of arts deal largely with second-hand material. They glean

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER



FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES

DOVER STREET

MANCHESTER, 13

TELEPHONE ARDWICK 3333

after the great herewriters, who made history and philosophy, religion and fiction, and we ever re-making them anew. This gleaning though indispensable, is necessarily marginal: it cannot aim at the centre of mental action and tends to forget its very existence

I wish I would know more about you, so I could write about that rather than of my own interests. I got a copy now of *Temps Modernes* with the translation of Mondet a Zsarnakagról by Ilyés. It is really superb. The Manchester Guardian has used this text for preparing a new English translation which will come out on 23. October. I shall send you a copy of it. Last week in Paris I met Fejtő and quite liked him. I wonder what you and Ilona think about him. Indeed, I wonder what you think of a very great many things. I wish I could come

to Pitcher and ask you. I wrote a piece on  
the 40th anniversary of the Soviet Revolution for  
Encounter, which will come out next week.  
I shall send you a copy of this too.

What about Keri? Has she succeeded  
in her efforts to resume her post graduate  
studies? I sincerely hope so. And how is Joe  
getting on with his heroic return to his  
academic training? How are the grand-kids?

I should like to see you and Ilona  
soon again, but there is no definite  
prospect of a trip to Canada in sight.  
Would you come to visit us here? You  
were about to do so when your illness  
intervened, from which you have now so  
happily recovered. I know you would  
like to come and see Europe again, so  
I shall make this very birthday wish  
to you. Let the young people and  
Ilona start putting pressure on you and  
may they succeed! I am sending you  
a book by Norman Cohn on Revolutionary Movements  
as a birthday present. I think you will be interested  
in it. All our love - Mrs. H.

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME



Dr Karl Polanyi  
R.R. 3  
Pickering  
Ontario  
Canada

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:

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

← To open cut here

16 Dec 1957

My dear Karl, I am very glad to hear so little from you - in fact nothing. We are going on holiday to France (taking in some Corymbea time on both on the way out and back) and shall be at Hotel Westminster, Nice from 20 Dec. to 7 January. I would have liked to hear more for about your ideas on foreign policy and the atom bomb. The Reich lectures of George Kennan have been a great joy and Lester Pearson's speech in Oslo added to his pleasure. But we are unable to make a start in getting these ideas across to the Chancellor's office or filling in the same standard forms with the same sterile clichés. Tomorrow we shall have Stephen King-Hall here to open a discussion on anti-atom ideas in the broadcasting club of which I am a member. Hence yesterday George and Penelope were here to bring in their Christmas greetings and I suggested that we (Bulletin) should embark on a campaign supporting President Roosevelt's appeal to Eisenhower and Khrushchev. But his name quite vague and respectful to me. In a month's time we shall have a discussion in Paris, opened by Kennan, mainly for the members of the international executive of the Congress for C.F. Meanwhile Raymond Aron will have been in Moscow and bring back some relevant ideas from there (he is a member of our Executive). So here we come and go in a bit but it does not add up to much at the rate. I am annoyed to find myself under great pressure just now to prepare my Sunday Memorial lecture which has to be delivered and subsequently read to print during the first week of March. I have finished the text of the first in draft, but there is hardly enough time to do the other two, and certainly no margin left for other interests. The second and third lectures are to accomplish the transition from natural science to historiography and the humanities including economics, politics. This will offer an occasion to think about Trade and Markets on the basis of your work, though unfortunately it will be a very hasty affair.

Well, isn't it wonderful! While I was doodling along with my story your cheerful note burst in of a sudden! Thanks ever so much for letting me know about the Ford Prynanceum project. I hope they will make you a fellow just of all. But it would be nice if they gave me too just enough to spend a few months in Toronto.

A happy Christmas to all  
three generations!      Ann:

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AEROGRAMME  
MANCHESTER  
10 FEB 1958



Dr Karl Polanyi

R. R. 3

Pickering

Ontario

Canada

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:

U Polanyi

The University,

Manchester 13

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



Manchester  
10 Febr.

My dear Karli

On returning from London today I found your letter with enclosed copy of another letter addressed to Peter Draecker. I hasten to tell you that I shall have a chance of transmitting to you a ~~sum~~ £100 in Canadian dollars on first of July. I shall send that <sup>sum</sup> and it should reach you ~~a~~ about a week later.

I am anxiously awaiting news about your hospital treatment.

Meanwhile you have got my letter which crossed yours, I hope. I shall certainly write again soon. No more just now, to catch the post with this.

M.

P.S.

Be' de Waard wrote recently  
that she had not heard  
from you for a long time.

I gave her your news up to  
that date.



HAVE  
TAKE  
YOUR  
FOR RADIO-TV



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

← Second fold here →

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

.....

.....

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OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

To open cut here

1 March 1958

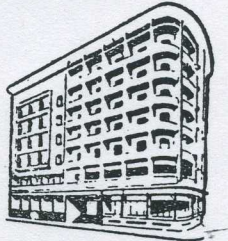
My dear Karl,

I do hope things are calving down definitively in your insides at last. It is so awful to be ill. I confess I am completely upset every time it happens to me and find myself panting with relief with I recover from it. I should very much like to hear more of the opposition to your conceptual reforms. I have gone in for pretty wholesale conceptual reforming myself and will certainly get myself into all sorts of hot waters by doing so. But I am planning a fairly comprehensive enquiry on polycentricity and I may be able to come to your rescue there, even though I have my own reservations about your views. (Not in their substance, but in the formulation you gave to them.) Well, I don't know whether I shall really do any more writing. I just finished my Lindsay Lecture (to be delivered from 4-10. March) and am enjoying the change from eternal promise by day and night. So I am repairing everything!

for a while. The more so, since there is quite  
enough to do with the Congress for Cultural Freedom.  
I only wish they could supply me with an excuse  
(and the fares) for another visit to the US ~~and~~  
Canada. I am longing to see you all again (my  
non John not excluded). Please don't worry about  
the £100. They will meet me and will arrive  
in Pickering during first week of July. I  
heard that you were on TV and did very  
well. You could make a profession of your  
gifts in that medium. I am bad at it  
Mits

Hotel Plaza, Beirut  
بلازا أوتيل

شارع الحمراء - بيروت - لبنان  
تلفون : ٣١٤٥٨ - ٣١٤٥٩ - ٢٦٩٣٦  
العنوان البرقي : بلازا - بيروت



هواة مكيف

16 May 1958

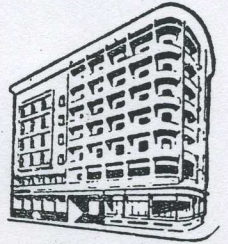
My dear K.

It is a long time since I had news from you and I am missing this very much. John who used to keep us informed seems to have become so preoccupied with his fiancee and his work that he has little attention left ~~for~~ for other people and things. You have been in my thoughts also as these Oriental experiences kept crowding into my mind. I spent three days in Tunis and five in Beirut so far, but I feel already a complete re-orientation of my conceptual framework. How immensely far all this here is from a place like Toronto! Yours a

vigorous modern city, built on an empty stretch of colonial land; here a flowering civilisation, more ancient than Europe, with the same forms of modernity superimposed on it. Some statesmen of Saudi Arabia may be still seen sitting in the hotel hall in flowing white robes, covering their heads and fastened on it by a ring like a coronet. Around them their obsequious retinue. But even such a romantic figure will call for his portable wireless to get the news about the latest moves of history. Most men you meet (and you still meet no women) wear European clothes and move about in a European idiom of thought, but their whole appearance reveals nevertheless their profoundly distinctive character. Yesterday a distinguished <sup>historian,</sup> ~~scholar~~, Jawad Bulos, called ~~up~~ on me at the hotel. He turned out to be also in the running for the

# بلازا أوتيل

شارع الحمراء - بيروت - لبنان  
تلفون : ٣١٤٥٨ - ٣١٤٥٩ - ٢٦٩٣٦  
العنوان البرقي : بلازا - بيروت



هواة مكيف

Presidency and for some reason was referred to as His Excellency. We talked about our seminar program entitled "Representative Government and Public Liberties in the Newly Independent States" and of course, also about the armed clashes now taking place in Beirut and throughout Lebanon. Jawad Bulos declared that Arab civilisation was not territorial but tribal. He himself, he declared in excellent French, felt as the member of his tribe, which in this case was the community of Maronite Christians. No tribal people could understand the principles of self government. To consult, take counsel, was one thing and ~~it~~ was in fact enjoined by the Koran (which he kept quoting) but the conception of the tribal



ruler was incompatible with any opposition to his commands. Egypt he excepted from the tribal framework, but its ruler would yet be necessarily absolute, he said. And what a stately, picturesque man he was himself, though dressed only in a dark blue double breasted suit! Every word and gesture revealed the long line of imperious ancestry to which his words were responding.

This is one meeting of many that were equally impressive. My favourites are the Sudanese. I met their ambassador in Paris and will be the Middle East ambassador's guest tomorrow in Baghdad. They are a dark black people with a gleaming friendliness and intelligence. Most of them we meet were trained in Paris or England and have been connected with university life before he take over of power called them to service as diplomats.

Tunis also impressed me deeply

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AEROGARAME

MANCHESTER  
6 45PM  
19 JUN  
1958  
S.E.



Dr Karl Polanyi

RR 3

Pickering

~~For~~ Ontario

Canada

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Sender's name and address:

Professor M. Polanyi

Mayfair, Fielden Park

Manchester 20

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

← To open cut here

18 June 1958

Karli dear, I just heard, at Carl, through  
Bé that your health is perfectly restored &  
and your work is progressing joyfully. I  
was much relieved, having been so long  
without news from you. When I saw Bé  
in Paris on 8th June she was despondent  
on account of her bodily condition, but her  
letter today tells me of a new phase in  
her treatment which has restored her to much  
better state in which she had been - owing  
to a similar treatment - for some months  
before. I expect she may recover now again  
for some similar length of time. I am  
about to subscribe for her to Encounter which  
she seems to like (judging by her opinion  
of the issues I gave her). - I am writing  
mainly to tell you that there is a slight  
uncertainty about the date at which I  
can transfer to you the £100 which are due  
to you on 1. July. I am now experimenting with a  
similar transfer and if this works, the money  
will go off in time to reach you on the 1. July  
but if it fails I shall have to postpone the  
transaction till the week beginning on 21 July when

← First fold here →

I shall next be on the Continent. Be assured that I shall do all I can to avoid this delay. I was glad to hear from Toni that you are reading Personal Knowledge. That book is really too long! I have just sent to print its slim successor, called The Study of Man, being my three Lindsay Memorial Lectures of March 1958. You know that Sandy Lindsay founded a very remarkable university (after he retired from Balliol) at Stoke-on-Trent. They have founded these lectures in his memory. I am sorry you could not deliver them (this was the first occasion for you liked him very much, but I liked him too though I did not know him well. We shall move away from Manchester on 21 July, <sup>letter addressed to</sup> The University, Manchester, <sup>book</sup> will always find me. We

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AEROGRAMME

MANCHESTER  
6 45 PM  
26 JUN  
1958  
S.E.



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

Second fold here

Sender's name and address: Mr Polanyi  
Mayfair, Fielden Park,  
Manchester 20

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY  
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OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

To open cut here

[26 vi. 58]

Manchester

My dear Karl:

This is only to tell you  
that the transfer has proved feasible  
and that you may expect the  
promised sum to arrive shortly  
after this reaches you.

Ulin

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AEROGRAMME

MANCHESTER  
7 30PM  
5 JULY  
1958



Dr. Karl Polanyi  
R R 3  
Pickering  
Ontario  
Canada

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:

Mr. Polanyi  
Mayfair, Fielder Plk  
Manchester 20

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← To open cut here →

MANCHESTER

POST  
OFFICE  
MANCHESTER  
20

5 July 1958

Karli, my dear,

The cheque for £267.54 was dispatched from P. on 3 July. I hope they sent it by air. Please let me know when you get it. We are leaving M/C for Alpbach etc on 23 July, but letters addressed to the University of Manchester will reach me till the end of my days since I shall be appointed Emeritus Professor a week after I cease to be Professor of Social Studies. The American edition (so called) of Personal Knowledge has come out with the Chicago University Press (\$6.75). If you want me to present any copies of it to a friend of yours, please let me know. I suppose you have seen the obituary of Gunnar Myrdal's in the *Iskandin. Ujsaig*... Would like to hear from you <sup>some</sup> time.



Please write if possible so as to reach  
me here before we leave. It would  
be nice. I am already starting to  
enjoy our meeting next October  
in anticipation.

Muri

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME  
MANCHESTER  
30PM  
11 JULY  
1953  
S.E.



Dr Karl Polanyi  
R R 3  
Pickering  
Ontario  
Canada

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:  
Polanyi  
Mayfair, Fielden Park  
Manchester 20

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OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

← To open cut here

11 July

My dear Karl:

I should very much like to know what the doctor told you last Monday. Will you have to be treated with radium? Will you have to spend much of the summer in bed?

I am desperately sorry that another of your letters got lost. Have you read the whole of Personal Knowledge? Or is this a tactical question? I gather you thought well of it in general terms. We shall have to talk about the particulars when we next meet in Toronto.

Please address your letters to this address till Saturday 19th.

We are leaving on Wednesday 23rd after  
the mail delivery.

I shall let you have postal  
directions for the subsequent period  
in a few days. Please write about  
the hospital by return.

Yours  
Kiri



BERG HOTEL

# Böglerhof

ALPBACH  
TYROL AUSTRIA

2. Aug 1958

Karli, my dear,

May I just write quite  
briefly to tell you happy I am to  
think of you relieved of all cares for  
your health and lustily embarking  
once more on the prospects of your  
great work. The recognition which you  
mention in your letter seems most  
gratifying. You must tell me more  
about all these matters when we shall

SOMMER- UND WINTERSPORTPLATZ 1000 m SEEHÖHE - TELEFON NR. (05337) 5214 - BESITZER: A. MOSER

be re-visited once more in Toronto.

I have just finished reading the  
proof of an excellent book by Arthur  
Koestler, <sup>who is here with me,</sup> containing a scientific biography  
of Copernicus, Kepler and Galileo, which  
wonderfully concurs to the ideas put  
forward in Personal Knowledge. He has  
not yet read this book and it will  
be interesting to have his reactions  
to it. Schroedinger is here also and  
is about to publish some lectures on  
Mind and Matter which promise to be  
interesting too. I am happy to see  
the situation in the Middle East impro-  
ving. I spent a long evening in Baghdad  
with the Minister of Education in Nuri's  
cabinet and, though I deplore Nuri's assassi-  
nation, I think that it is a good thing  
that he is no longer in office. My dearest love  
to your mother. A.C.

# Hotels Windermere

Chicago

37

16 Nov 1958

My dear K.

I am sorry I had to leave Toronto without saying good-bye, but I find such gestures increasingly hard to make, as I get old. Parting is difficult enough without them. I hope to die without taking leave.

I found our meeting particularly pleasant, peaceful and happy. It is undoubtedly sad that men are, despite of Donne to the contrary, islands to each other. But even so, there



FRONTING SOUTH ON JACKSON PARK  
56TH STREET AND THE LAKE

has been an easy communion  
of minds between us, as not  
before. Let us gratefully remember  
this ever after.

I saw Hayek here today  
and shall have lunch tomorrow  
with he — rather depleted —  
Office on Social Thought. But my  
main purpose here is to counsel  
a young physicist named Balazs  
on a very curious idea on  
which I have been working  
for a year and a half in  
the periods between ~~the~~ bouts  
of other work. The day after  
tomorrow I am off to Palo  
Alto and thence to Austin,  
Texas. It will be fun to lecture  
there for a week on Personal  
Knowledge at "Episcopalian<sup>Theological</sup>  
Seminar of the South". (What a wonderful



# Hotels Windermere

Chicago

37

I foresee that with John in Toronto we shall soon be back again here, though in view of the important discoveries he has recently made, he will probably be a frequent visitor to Europe quite soon. It is a source of particular fun to me that his discoveries lie in straight continuation of enquiries of my own. He is about to solve problems I have tried to crack open and failed. That is nice. Best wishes to both of you from all my heart,

Missi



FRONTING SOUTH ON JACKSON PARK  
50th STREET AND THE LAKE

TELEPHONE  
WHITEHALL 4843  
TELEGRAMS  
% HELLENIST (PICCY)

THE ATHENÆUM  
PALL MALL S.W.1

2 February 59

Dearest Brother,

The news reached me a moment ago that they decided to operate on you for the trouble which had started 2 years ago. Mauri wrote also that the operation has been a complete success and that you are back already to your old vigour and work. As one whose capacity for work is liable to break down so frequently, I cannot help envying your magnificent vitality.

I admire also your fortitude.  
Normal human beings are  
put out by staying in a  
hospital, but you go on  
working as usual.

However, behind all  
this there is a better feeling:  
the knowledge of your suffering  
(for the most successful  
operations are an ordeal)  
and of the disappointment  
over the continued presence  
of the disease - even in  
traces - which we so firmly  
hoped to have been out-  
rooted. I am writing in  
haste to catch a train, but  
all my heart goes out to  
you, my dear. I wish I  
could be nearer to comfort  
you.

Misi

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
1959  
ARROGRAMMA  
S.W.3.

CHE  
6  
SIXPENCE POSTAGE  
& SUNDAY AFTERNOONS



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  
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← To open cut here

my return from Tunis and Rome, was full of good news. A clean bill of health is a great encouragement, an influx of vitality, at our age. Kari's come back to academic work is a splendid achievement and the march of Tr. and L. towards its rightful place in the world of thought and learning is profoundly satisfying. I have undertaken to conduct a fortnight's discussion on Determinism in Sociology (or something like this) at the University of North Carolina from mid July to the end of the month. So I hope to visit Toronto in the first days of August. It will be a joy to hear (as I trust I will) a further set of good news on the lines of the present ones. Meanwhile I am spending many a happy moment, taking in the fact that I am back in a home again after nearly 10 months spent travelling about. Admittedly, these journeys to Tunis, Lebanon, Iraq and Persia and then to Mexico, Costa Rica, Venezuela and Brazil have enormously enlarged my experience. Our <sup>last</sup> meeting in Tunis was more revealing still. I begin to grasp that the influence of Islam is as comprehensive among those people professing it as Christianity is in the countries having a Christian part. Orthodox, un-orthodox and Europeanised Muslims all remain rooted in a manner of thinking which derives its metaphysics ultimately from Islam. In South America too, I have found public thought composed quite differently from our European ideas.

This gives a lot to think for a world wide intellectual  
movement, as that we have started in the Congress for  
Cultural Freedom. We shall have our General Assembly  
(the first since 1955) in the summer of 1960 and I  
will have to formulate the principles of our movement  
in a brief key note speech; so I keep thinking about  
this all the time at odd moments. News from Adolf  
(dated 14. April) which I found here were not very  
good. The weakness which has befallen him keeps  
progressing. Thank you for your appreciative comments on  
the Study of Man. The little book is selling fairly well

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME  
LSEA  
15PM  
9 JNE  
1959  
S.W.3.



Dr Karl Polanyi

RR3

Pickering

Ontario

Canada

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:

70 Cheyne Court  
London SW3

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← To open cut here →

[9-VI-59]

70 Cheyne Court SW3

My dear Karl:

I am desperately sorry to hear that you had a new alarm from your complaint. I do hope it is all over and forgotten again, as John told us. It is a great disappointment to me that I shall not visit the United States next July and visit you in Toronto as I expected to do. I had to call off my participation at the projected Seminar in the University of North Carolina for we have a lot of trouble adjusting ourselves to the invitation of Merton College into <sup>Senior Research</sup> a Fellowship. Though this is not tied to residence in Oxford we would like to move there, so as to benefit from this connection more fully, but to find accommodation in Oxford seems impossible. The search for it is a nightmare. The worst of it is that we are again suspended in a provisional state which makes work difficult.



However, these are not serious troubles. I am  
in close touch with Adolf and dilly since I  
visited them in São Paulo. The prospects  
have improved for them to get away ~~for~~  
and retire to Europe or US, but unfortunately  
Adolf is very weak. The last letter  
(yesterday) said he was in bed with  
very low blood pressure, but was expected  
to get better shortly. I have heard nothing  
from Mauri for a very long time. All  
my most fervent wishes to you  
Amin

← First fold here →

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AEROGRAMME

ABERDEEN  
10 30 AM  
9 JULY  
1959  
A



Dr Karl Polanyi

RR 3

Pickering

Ontario

Canada

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:

70 Cheyne Court  
London S.W.3.

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



My dear Brother,

Aberdeen 9 July 59  
at from 70 Cheyne Court SW3

I am uneasy on account of your silence  
What was the alarm which sprang up and passed away some  
weeks ago? I hope it is safely forgotten. We are spending  
a few days in Aberdeen which we have in happy memory  
since I gave my Edford lectures here in 1950/51. After this  
we shall be staying in London solidly for some time with  
only occasional bouts to meetings. My Fellowship at Merton  
is definitely non-residential and I think it extremely unlikely  
that ~~I~~<sup>we</sup> shall move to Oxford which is absurdly crowded and  
offers accommodation only subject to readiness to carry coal  
up the stairs from a cellar. On the other hand this "job"  
(which entails no obligation beyond occasional dining)  
does morally oblige me to avoid long absences from  
Europe. Unfortunately, this has meant the cancellation of  
various American engagements — one of them for this July and  
August — which would have opened me a chance to see  
you again soon. However, one way or another, I shall find  
an occasion to cross the Atlantic before next summer.  
I am engaged on various minor projects which will  
prepare me for the handling of Ethics and Social Science.  
Something of this kind will be my next major task.  
Please let me know what you are doing. What work are  
you planning, what responses are you currently evoking?  
Magda, who is with me here, asks me to pass on the  
following matter to you or Dona. Some while ago a Mr  
McLizer from Montreal sent a book present to her, addressing  
it by mistake to Mrs Polanyi in Pickering. It would be quite

important to see this book and in any case to acknowledge the ~~custody~~ of the present. Melzer is poor old Dr Géza Hollo's only support in his professional life and he (Melzer) would be pleased to be thanked by Magda, so it is important to get this straightened out. — We have been to Berlin at the end of June for a meeting of the standing Ctee of the Executive of the CCF (quite a mouthful), having been invited by Willy Brandt to have our meeting in Berlin. He is a very impressive person, full of life, humour and courage. Meetings with people were very interesting but the fact is that 14 years after the war and in spite of all economic miracles, the German towns are still lying in ruins. Most of their quarters are marked only by empty roadways. Please write soon  
 Mini

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AEROGRAMME  
AUG 29 1959  
S.W.3.



Dr Karl Polanyi  
R R 3  
Pickering  
Ontario  
Canada

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

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OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

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70 Cheyne Court SW3  
29 August 59

Dear Brother,

I was happy to hear of your release from anxiety by the test of 19th August. Magda and John (who was here when your letter arrived) ~~was~~ also shared my joy. The address of The Euro-Navy Institute for Political Research is 477, Avenue

Louise, Bruxelles (Belgium). I have requested them to send you their "Review". We shall be leaving next week for Rome where my address will be Hotel Inghilterra till 16th September.

I shall be at at Salinen Hotel, Rheinfelden near Basle from 20th to 25th September and from 29th September on indefinitely at Merton College, Oxford. We shall probably give up this flat, but this depends on alternative accommodation being found in Oxford, where we hope to stay for the rest of our time hinc inde.

My Fellowship at Merton terminates at the age of 70 (more precisely, July 1961) but my Common Room membership remains indefinite. I am posting on to you today a copy of Tibor Meray's Thirteen Days That Shook the Kremlin. Have you seen the Memorandum by Arthur Schlesinger JR The Shape of National Politics to Come? I can send you a copy of it. Encounter will carry a short piece by me in September (issued next but one). Let me know what you think about it. We had lovely weather here which made quite a difference during the past 3 months. Miss

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME



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

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Sender's name and address:

Mr Polanyi  
Merton College  
Oxford

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY  
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OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

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Merton College, Oxford  
4. Oct. 1959

My dear K.

It is a long time since I heard from you and I find it difficult to write ~~if~~ <sup>when</sup> I am ill-informed about the recipient. Of course, we have been wandering about and only returned to England a week ago. However, I have now a really fixed address, fixed till the end of my days, in Oxford at Merton College. I am staying in college ~~for~~ the better part of the week and am looking forward to the time when we shall have found a home for both of us in Oxford. But, of course, my address will always be, for safety, the college, as my college rights will survive the expiry of my Fellowship in 2 years time and transcend ~~any~~ <sup>any</sup> changes of residence due to journeys abroad. When you reply to this note, please include a word about Mauri. I last heard from her a month ago when she was about to return to New York. Has she done so safely? I have heard from friends in Sao Paulo that Adolf is sinking visibly. But he seems to be still planning a journey

to Europe next spring. If he does not come here, I may try to spend once more a few days in Sao Paulo next March.

Unfortunately, I am not so free to move about now as I was last year before joining <sup>noticing</sup> Herbert College. We shall see ...

Well, you ~~see~~ how hesitant this note is. Relieve me soon from my uneasiness by a report about yourself and Ilona and I shall respond with a fuller and more substantial message without delay.

Ever yours  
Winn

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AEROGRAMME  
OCT 1939



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

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Sender's name and address:

W Polanyi  
Merton College  
Oxford

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY  
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OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

← To open cut here

18. October 1959

My dear K.

I wish you would tell me sometime which date you have finally selected for your birthday. Its vagueness tends to reduce the dramatic effect of the occasion. However, you have enough dramatic elements in your patriarchal position, borne high by the affection of three generations. I am sure the whole lot is assembled, and these are supported by a wide circle of disciples and well wishers from a distance. And what am I? your younger brother, from an even greater distance, but to whom distance means nothing, for I am with you through the long lifetime of our past, going back, and becoming more vivid the further back I look into it. Besides, I hope I may see you again towards the end of November, for I am planning a visit to the US about that time.

Please give my love to all  
that love you and keep in  
mind in your celebration.

Mi Si

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME

15 PM  
25 OCT  
1959  
A



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

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Sender's name and address: M. Polanyi  
Merton College  
Oxford

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

← To open cut here

24. October 1959

Karli dear,

This is splendid. I much prefer to see you in Oxford than in Toronto; particularly as I may not get to Toronto. Engagements in the East are likely to multiply and I do not feel entitled to stay away from Merton for long. I am engaged on 1st November but free the following days. We could lunch out one day in town, spend the afternoon in my rooms or about town and dine (the three of us, or ladies can be included) in College the same night. You could return to London at 9.52 pm. I shall find out from the College servants in question which day of the week (beginning on) 1. November we could have dinner in our guest room. Of course, if you (K.) would dine with me alone, it should be Tuesday or Thursday, unless you want to dine in dinner jacket on a Sunday. I suggest that you send a copy of Trade and Market sooner to Professor M. M. Postan, Peterhouse, Cambridge. He has professed great interest in a paper of yours.

← First fold here →

Unfortunately, I shall be under beastly pressure to get my Eddington lecture into print. The dead-line being sharply fixed by my departure to U.S. on 16th November. (The paper has to be on sale at Bower and Bower the day after the lecture is delivered <sup>(Cambridge)</sup> on 16th February and they need 3 months to print it.) But such meetings as ours do not depend on the time spent together but on the manner we spend it and this could not be more promising. Let's hope the weather will favour us. I am delighted to think of the occasion, so near at hand. This



[55]

MERTON COLLEGE,  
30. Oct OXFORD.

My dear K.

This is to welcome you and Elona in England. Thank you for your long letter. I share your affection for Hungary and Hungarians. You may meet a number of excellent young Hungarians in Oxford, they are much appreciated here. But I hope you will revert to a more cheerful mood. I have no idea what you mean by hateful Magyar-Judaiz miscegenation of corruptions in the Hungarian emigration, or by the hideous excrescences of a lapse into immorality

of Hungarian emigrées. And I am afraid it is a thankless task to warn anyone against his friends, even if you think that they are parasites of the Cold War. (Who on earth is Cabriona's father accused of shoddy pretences of noble loyalties, to whom you think I have helped to get money?) I sincerely hope you will meet and perhaps quite like some of the people who run the Hungarian Literary Gazette, and who you think are the financial organizing staff of a festering sore. I can't believe they are that bad. I wonder whether you will find anybody here who does.

MERTON COLLEGE,  
OXFORD.

So cheer up my dear,  
and let me enjoy your  
company, while you put  
up with mine. It is not  
the first time that we  
differ a bit in our political  
judgment and I hope  
we shall still have  
many occasions to  
do so. I wonder whether  
you got my letter written  
for your birthday and have  
made contact with Prof  
M. M. Postan of Peterhouse,  
Cambridge?

Please give my love  
to the Grants. And forgive  
me my trespasses as I  
forgive them who trespass  
against me.

Cheer up and welcome  
many times over,

Mimi

John Smith 70 Cheyne Court SW3  
27. Dec. 1959

My dear Karli,

Thank you for your letter of 16th December, giving me the news of Mauri's forthcoming operation. I wish it would have reached me in time to ring her up at the hospital, but being addressed to Merton College, it reached me only after her death. I heard of the operation and its sequel only by telephone from John on Wednesday 23rd December.

When someone has lived such a long and good life, little need be said when it ends. The picture is there already, ready for its shrine in our memory. We have only to weep for the absence of the living presence, and our tears need no words. I know that in some obvious ways you lost more than I have, but actually such differences admit of no comparison of measure.

Moreover, at our age, so near to our own end, it behoves us to be passive in meeting death, even if a major part of us — as we hope to meet our own. Mauri death is of course a considerable part of our own ending. We must accept it quietly and may do so in the knowledge that our pain needs no expression. It is safe as our reliable companion for the rest of our days.

Your letter brought me also good news about your recovery, complete at last. It was a great relief after years of uncertainty. I shall pass on your advice to The Review, via Peter. I shall also find out whether they are subsidised at all by the Congress, which I doubt. I agree that the second issue was much better than the first. Have you received a copy of Kilenec Költő Versei, No 3 of Magyar Könyves Céh, London, publications? I shall let you have a copy if you have not got one.

I am returning to you your last letter written to Mauri which reached

With Pol

27 Dec 1957

Dear Karli,

I am delighted  
to hear from Mavis of  
the new award made to  
you by some Research  
Council. Can you tell me  
the name of it?

Mavis was out  
of hospital, presiding over  
the Christmas Eve party  
last night, beautiful and  
happy.

Please tell Kari  
how glad I am she got  
a Ford grant. I wonder  
what category it belongs to.  
Happy New Year Mavis