

(1957)
My dear Ucsi, your Xmas letter was
like a great light to us, the
most beautiful sight of
your temper and character.
You will of course not believe
me when I tell you that our
affectionate admiration for
your warm heart makes
us feel quite mean and
sad sometimes. Now I
have that off my chest, I
feel lighter and more at
ease to write you the long
letter that has been overdue

to over a lifetime.
The little family, Anna,
Cari and myself, now
drawn more closely together
through the moral reformation
(quodest though it be) that
has been the promise since
February this year (and
is just now NOT underway
in Hungary). Although we
do not of course agree (or even
try to agree) on all matters, our
outlook is I suppose more
nearly at one than it was there
30 years.

To night I mailed the last
bit - the Index of Topics -
of a book that sums up the work
of these last three years (which
be eight, according to how we
wish to start). I am the few
Senior editor of the work, in to
which I have contributed a
number of chapters myself
most of them having been written
by my students, who started with
me about ten years ago. (The work
which exists in MS may
come out later, but the present
one, to appear in a few weeks
is more advanced than the
just mentioned earlier MS).

The new book is to be
Trade & ~~published~~ in the
Empires & Economies
and theory. It breaks away
orthodox economic analysis
altogether and sets out an
institutional analysis that
deals with economic institutions
in the substantive sense only.
Such a naturalistic position is
of course, useless to the economist,
but not so to the economic
historian, the anthropologist
or the sociologist. In other words
we are working ~~with~~ ^{with} concepts
that are not bounded by the
market. The first step is to

approach tends to separate trade
money & market developments
and deal with them "on their
merits" (not as part of a "converti-
bility" program e.g.). In practice
this would amount to a
greater flexibility of policies and
maybe a greater ease in dealing
with the foreign trade monopolies
of the socialist systems. Peaceful
coexistence may hinge on the
possibility of a sincere, effective
and fruitful cooperation between
export monopolies and free
enterprise systems. In the external
field this does not appear
impossible, if only the perspectives
of the "free" countries adjust
to actualities and ceases to
hanker ^{too} after the past. However
as soon as my book is out
it'll be easier to discuss
these matters. To get a head
not got much beyond the
period of Hammurabi's
Babylonia in my studies.
I contemplate Adele
to her choice of a subject.
sketches out ten years ago
on a similar unorthodox
and am now proving to be

set up definitions for trade,
money and market elements
that would be independent of
the ~~market system~~ as their frame
of reference. Having taken this
step, many ~~others~~ (follow it then
becomes possible to find a frame
of reference to which the market
system itself can be referred,
and its shifting effectiveness
related to other than market
patterns through which the
economic process is instituted.
Such a conceptual apparatus
does not of course ignore economic
history, nor does it attempt to
force redistributive or reciprocal
patterns instead of market exchange
patterns on the economic process.
We merely argue that alongside of
exchange other forms of integration,
too, may be in evidence at
one and the same time. In the field
of ancient history new insights
derive from such nonmarketing
approach. The conclusions that might
be followed for foreign economic
policy are surely significant.
At present trade, monetary +
marketing questions are merged
in a general catchall
approach, a heritage of the gold
standard age. The institutional

to be right! My surmise that
Babylonia possessed no wanted
places is beginning to be
taken seriously by Anglologists.
(The consequences for Greek
economic history ^{are}
must be far-reaching. In effect,
in the "book" I have attempted
to recast Aristotle's "Economics"
in the light of that discovery.)

My life also took a fortunate
turn some seven or eight years ago,
when, for the sake of rejoicing
Homer, I suddenly decided to write
a book (1940). From the field of
found philosophy it took me into the
study of economic institutions, and
- seven years later - into research of
an empirical (using historical)
character. And there the great
engine was awaiting me: the fact
that was the true sphere of my
interest: the empirical study of
economic institutions as a part
of a meaningful interpretative
approach to contemporary affairs.
From that time onward I cease-
lessly strived to bring my equip-
ment up to the mark and to
contribute a hard money +
solid to the core of the