

John von NEUMANN ARANY (ANOS UCCA 16)  
BUDAPEST (HUNGARY)

Saint Emerica Jan 31 / Feb 1  
(midnight)

Pomocaton Bank & Trust Co

~~ST~~

8 Morven ST

Del. 667

January 25, 1935

Dear Professor von Neumann:

In Bulletin No. 3 of the Institute, issued in February 1934, the enclosed statement was made in reference to what you and your associates proposed to do this year. I wonder if you would be good enough to read this passage and, in case you wish the statement changed, let me have a revision for the next bulletin.

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann  
Fine Hall  
Princeton, New Jersey

AF/MCE

January 28, 1955

Professor John von Neumann  
162 Library Place  
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor von Neumann:

I am sending you herewith duplicate deposit slip, receipted by Princeton Bank & Trust Company, for \$791.67, which represents your salary for the month of January 1955, after having deducted your payment of \$41.66 towards your retirement allowance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Assistant Secretary

February 28, 1935

Professor John von Neumann  
163 Library Place  
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor von Neumann:

I am sending you herewith duplicate  
deposit slip, receipted by Princeton Bank and Trust  
Company, for \$791.67, which represents your salary  
for the month of February 1935, after having  
deducted your payment of \$41.66 towards your  
retirement allowance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Assistant Secretary

April 30, 1935

Professor John von Neumann  
132 Library Place  
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor von Neumann:

I am sending you herewith duplicate deposit slip, receipted by Princeton Bank and Trust Company, for \$791.67, which represents your salary for the month of April, 1935, after having deducted your payment of \$41.66 towards your retirement allowance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER B. BAILEY  
Assistant Secretary

March 30, 1935

Professor John von Neumann  
162 Library Place  
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor von Neumann:

I am sending you herewith duplicate  
deposit slip, receipted by Princeton Bank and Trust  
Company, for \$791.66, which represents your salary for  
the month of March, 1935, after having deducted your  
payment of \$41.68 towards your retirement allowance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY  
Assistant Secretary

*von Neumann*

January 18, 1935

Dear Dr. Palmer:

Professor von Neumann, who is one of the professors of the School of Mathematics of this new Institute, has given me the enclosed memorandum regarding a friend of his, Bela Kellner. I wonder if there is any opportunity of any kind for a young man of this sort either at the P. & S. or anywhere else that you know.

With all good wishes to you and your family,

Always sincerely,

Dr. Walter W. Palmer  
Presbyterian Hospital  
620 West 168th Street  
New York City

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

AF:ESB

January 15, 1935

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that the  
Institute for Advanced Study, founded by  
Mr. Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld in  
1930, is located in Princeton, New Jersey,  
and that Dr. John von Neumann received a  
permanent appointment to the faculty of the  
Institute for Advanced Study as Professor of  
Mathematics, beginning April 1, 1933, at a  
salary of \$10,000 a year.

Very truly yours,

**ABRAHAM FLEXNER**

Director  
The Institute for Advanced Study



December 31, 1934

Professor John von Neumann  
162 Library Place  
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor von Neumann:

I am sending you herewith duplicate  
deposit slip, receipted by Princeton Bank & Trust  
Company, for \$791.66, which represents your salary  
for the month of December 1934, after having deducted  
your payment of \$41.68 towards your retirement allow-  
ance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY  
Assistant Secretary

November 30, 1934

Professor John von Neumann  
162 Library Place  
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor von Neumann:

I am sending you herewith duplicate  
deposit slip, receipted by Princeton Bank and  
Trust Company, for \$791.67, your salary for  
the month of November 1934 after having deducted  
your payment of \$41.66 towards your retiring allow-  
ance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY  
Assistant Secretary

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# WESTERN UNION

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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

DECEMBER 27, 1954 19

To JOHN VON NEUMANN

Street and No. HOTEL SEVILLE

Place DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

PROOFS ARRIVED

OWEN BLAKE

*724*  
*should think this*  
*would be changed*  
*U.S.S. 9B*

Sender's address for reference

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE.

Sender's telephone number

October 27, 1934

Professor John von Neumann  
162 Library Place  
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor von Neumann:

I am sending you herewith duplicate  
deposit slip, receipted by Princeton Bank and  
Trust Company, for \$791.67, your salary for  
the month of October 1934 after having deducted  
your payment of \$41.66 towards your retiring  
allowance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY  
Assistant Secretary

October 25, 1934

Dear Professor von Neumann:

I had a long conference at the Immigration Department in regard to your citizenship application on Monday. The Director promised that he would make a thorough examination of the law and write to me within the next few days. I shall communicate with you as soon as I hear from him.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann  
Fine Hall  
Princeton, New Jersey

AF:ESB

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY  
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS  
FINE HALL  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

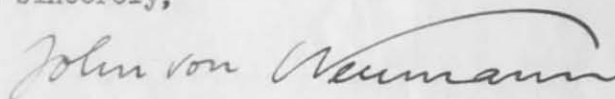
October 10, 1934

Dear Doctor Flexner:

The appointment of Dr. Martin as my assistant takes him off the Mathematics Grant-in-aid list and liberates his grant of \$1000, which our professors now propose to give to Dr. Oswald K. Sagen of Chicago, who has notified me that he is ready to accept it.

Further, I should like to mention that Dr. Conrad Shudeman, who has a Ph.D. in Physics from Harvard and is recommended by Professor Charles N. Moore of Cincinnati, who as you know is now one of the Workers at the Institute, has asked for admission to the Institute. We think that his admission should be granted. I enclose Dr. Shudeman's letter of application for admission.

Yours sincerely,



John von Neumann

Dr. Abraham Flexner, Director  
Institute for Advanced Study  
20 Nassau Street  
Princeton, N.J.  
JvN:GB

October 8, 1934

Dear Professor von Neumann:

I have yours of October 6th with reference to Dr. Schoenberg, and I have just written him a note, a copy of which I enclose.

I have also seen Dr. Martin, whose appointment is, of course, entirely a matter for your decision.

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann  
Fine Hall  
Princeton, New Jersey

AF/MCE

September 27, 1934

Professor John von Neumann  
162 Library Place  
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor von Neumann:

I am sending you herewith duplicate deposit slip for \$791.68, your September 1934 salary, after having deducted your payment of \$41.68 towards your retirement allowance.

I am also enclosing duplicate deposit slips for the months of May, June, July, and August.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Assistant Secretary



Budapest, May 25, 1934.

von Neumann

My dear Doctor Flexner,  
we are in Budapest again, but I cannot say "safely", because we had an automobile - accident en route, without being hurt seriously, however. We were driving all the way from Genoa to Budapest, and we got somewhere between Vienna and Budapest (in Hungary, at 100 miles from Budapest) in a heavy rain. Our car started skidding, and finally hit a tree. We, in

turn, hit out noses, and quite violently, too. Luckily we could be bandaged right there, and take the next train to Budapest, where we were put together "lege artis". As no glass was broken, there were no cuts, but only a few bruises, and it seems that they will disappear entirely. Mariette took it with very good humor, although it was quite painful, aggravated by the fact, that we had quite a pilgrimage of very many friends and acquaintances in

Budd, etc., so that we had not had a moment of quiet for 5 days. —

Otherwise the ocean-trip was quite good, the sea was smooth, the weather fine, and Mariette not sea-sick. Our boat did not land in Gibraltar, where we had hoped to meet the Weyls, but it did in Naples, and we had a few pleasant hours there. —

I have read the book of G. and E. Guillaume, and I can report on it now. I think, that in spite of some good and sound

idea on methodology the mathematical technique of the authors is not good enough, to carry all the theoretical and statistical structures, which they want to build on it.

I am giving some more details of my opinion on a separate leaf, if you wish, I can do it still more completely in the future. (I am sending the book back to you simultaneously but under separate cover.)—

We both hope, that you are having a pleasant time, and that you do

not suffer under the heat,  
the newspapers here are  
writing fantastic stories  
about extreme heat in  
an around New York.

Please give Mariettes and  
my best regards to Mrs.  
Fleener and to Eleanor. With  
the very best greetings  
yours truly

John von Neumann

concerning 3. and 2. Simulations  
"2<sup>nd</sup> Economic rationelle":

I think, that the basic intention of the authors, to analyze the economic world, by constructing an ~~an~~ analogical fictitious "model", which is sufficiently simplified, so as to allow an absolutely mathematical treatment, is - although not new - sound, and in the spirit of exact sciences. I do not think, however, that the authors have a sufficient amount of mathematical routine and technique, to carry this program out. -

I have the impression, that the subject is not yet

nite ( ) mean that it ( ) is not yet fully enough understood, which of its features are the essential ones), to be reduced to a small number of fundamental postulates - like geometry, or thermodynamics, or mechanics. (cf. p. 77-78.) The analogies with thermodynamics are probably misleading. (cf. p. 69, 85.) The authors think, that the "amortisation" is the analogon to "entropy". It seems to me, that if this analogy can be worked out at all, the analogon of "entropy" must be sought in the direction of "liquidity". To be more specific: If the

analogon of "energy" &  
the "value" of the estate of  
an economical subject, then  
the analogon of its  
thermodynamical "free  
energy" should be its  
"cash available". —

The technique of the  
authors to set up and  
deal with equations is  
rather primitive, the way,  
f. i., in which they discuss  
the fundamental equations  
(1), (2) on p. 81-85 is incomplete,  
as they omit to prove, that  
1-0: the resulting prices are  
all positive (or zero), 2-0: that  
there is only one such  
solution. A correct treatment



of this particular question, however, exists in the literature. —

Various other technical details in the setting up of their equations and in their interpretation could be criticized, too. —

I do not think, that their discussion of the "stability of the solutions", which is the only satisfactory way to build up a mathematical theory of economic cycles and of crises, is mathematically satisfactory. —

The emphasis, the authors put on the possibility of

state of equilibrium in economics (cf. h. 68, 69), seems to me entirely justified. I think, that the importance of this point has not always been duly acknowledged.

---

I cannot judge the value of the statistical methods, as they are given in the last part of the book, for practical purposes. Their aim is to diagnose the present status of economics, and to lead to forecasts. But I think that the theoretical deduction, which leads to them, is weak and incomplete.

April 23

March 24, 1934

Dear Professor von Neumann:

I beg you to accept my thanks for allowing me to see Professor Fowler's letter.

I am profoundly gratified by the distinction which the invitation from Cambridge involves, and I hope very much that you may accept it. I feel sure that the Trustees of the Institute will give formal endorsement when they meet towards the end of April, but you need not wait for that.

I am enclosing herewith Professor Fowler's letter.

With all good wishes and warm congratulations,

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann  
Fine Hall  
Princeton, New Jersey

1 Encl.  
AF/MCE

February 26, 1934

Dear Professor von Neumann:

I thought you and your associates would be interested in reading the minute which was prepared for the records of the Rockefeller Institute on the occasion of Dr. Welch's retirement last Autumn; so I have asked my brother to send me a few copies in order that I may send you one. It would, I think, be difficult to find in the annals of education another person who has been so wise, so useful, and so sound.

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann:  
Fine Hall  
Princeton, New Jersey

1 Encl.  
AF/MCE

February 25, 1934

My dear Professor von Neumann:

The Treasurer of the Institute for  
Advanced Study has just informed me that he has  
reported to the Collector of Internal Revenue at  
Trenton, New Jersey, your salary for the year 1933  
as \$7,500.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY  
Assistant Secretary

Professor John von Neumann  
162 Library Place  
Princeton, New Jersey

ESB/MCE

February 6, 1934

Dear Professor von Neumann:

The enclosed was sent to me this morning by an English economist. I have no idea whether or not it will be of any interest to you or your associates. I send it to you for your information.

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann  
Fine Hall  
Princeton, New Jersey

1 Encl.  
AF/MCE

February 2, 1934

Dear Professor von Neumann:

Many thanks for yours of the 1st  
containing your statement regarding your proposed  
operations next year. I am now waiting on  
Professor Veblen for his.

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann  
162 Library Place  
Princeton, New Jersey

AF/MCE

January 22, 1934

Dear Professor von Neumann:

In Bulletin No. 2 of the Institute, issued some months ago, the enclosed statement was made in reference to what you and your associates proposed to do this year. I wonder if you would be good enough to read this passage and send me a statement regarding the work which you contemplate in 1934-1935, which can be included in Bulletin No. 3, which I am now preparing.

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann  
Fine Hall  
Princeton, New Jersey

AF/MCE



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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

NOVEMBER 14, 1933 19

To BERLIN

VILHJELM CARLSON

BUDAPEST (HUNGARY)

URGENT

CLASSES OF SERVICE

*Handwritten:* Please charge to [unclear] [unclear]

*Handwritten:* \$ 1.85  
 .10  
 \$ 1.95 paid  
 Apr. 8

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY  
PRINCETON, N. J.

*J. von Neumann*

G. C. WINTRINGER  
CONTROLLER OF THE UNIVERSITY

September 1, 1933.

My Dear Mrs. Bailey,

We received your letter of August 26th., written from Canada concerning Professor von Neuman. We had the Mayor's office prepare the proper certificate and we sent it, together with the one of Dr. Flexner and Bulletin No. 2, to the address given in Professor von Neuman's letter.

We trust that this will enable him to secure his personal belongings that he wishes to bring with him to America. We enclose Professor von Neuman's letters.

Yours very truly,

*Mabel B. Hightower*  
Secretary to Mr. Wintringer.

To

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey,  
Hotel Plaza,  
New York, N.Y.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY  
PRINCETON, N. J.

G. C. WINTRINGER  
CONTROLLER OF THE UNIVERSITY

September 1, 1933.

My Dear Mrs. Bailey,

In Mr. Wintringer's absence from Princeton, acknowledgment is made of your letter of August 31st., enclosing check amounting to \$605.00, \$500 of which is to apply to Fine Hall and \$105 being the rent of the offices you occupy at 20 Nassau Street, Princeton, N.J.

Kindly accept our sincere thanks for this remittance.

Yours very truly,

*Mabel E. Rightmire*  
Secretary to Mr. Wintringer.

To

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey,  
Hotel Plaza,  
New York, N.Y.

*John von Neumann*

Magnetawan, via Burks Falls  
Ontario, Canada  
August 26, 1933

Mr. G. C. Wintringer  
Princeton University  
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Mr. Wintringer:

I trust that you will pardon me for turning to you for assistance in regard to the request contained in the enclosed letters from Professor John von Neumann, who received a permanent appointment to the faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study on April 1, 1933, and will take up his permanent residence in Princeton beginning October 1, 1933. I am enclosing Dr. Flexner's statement regarding Professor von Neumann and also a marked copy of Bulletin No. 2 as additional evidence. Will it be possible for you to have the proper Princeton official - mayor or whoever he may be - prepare a certificate to the effect that the Institute for Advanced Study is in Princeton and that Professor John von Neumann is a permanent professor and will make his permanent residence in Princeton from October 1, 1933, on? Will you be good enough to see to it that the certificate as well as Dr. Flexner's statement and Bulletin No. 2 are sent to Budapest in accordance with Professor von Neumann's instructions? Haste is important, as you will see, when you read Professor von Neumann's letter. I am cabling him that the certificate will be forwarded to him as promptly as possible.

Dr. Flexner and I will greatly appreciate your cooperation and desire you to send memorandum of whatever expense is involved to me to 20 Nassau Street, Princeton, N. J.

Dr. Flexner joins me in hoping that you have had a pleasant summer

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY  
Assistant Secretary

Magnetawan, via Burks Falls  
Ontario, Canada  
August 26, 1933

Professor John von Neumann  
Budapest  
V., Arany Janos ucca 16  
Hungary

My dear Professor von Neumann:

Thank you for your two letters of August 15, which were forwarded to me here at Dr. and Mrs. Flexner's camp. He is sending you the following cablegram:

"Letter received. Will attend to certificate immediately."

We are asking Mr. Wintringer, Comptroller of Princeton University, to procure at once the necessary certificate for you, and Dr. Flexner is sending him a statement showing your permanent connection with the Institute and regarding your permanent residence in Princeton from October 1, 1933, on.

I am sending you a similar statement from Dr. Flexner as well as a marked copy of Bulletin No. 2 in this letter, as they may be useful to you.

Dr. Flexner joins me in kindest regards to you and your wife, and we are looking forward with pleasure to seeing you both soon in Princeton.

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

August 26, 1933

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that the Institute for Advanced Study, founded by Mr. Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld, in 1930, is located in Princeton, New Jersey, and that Dr. John von Neumann received a permanent appointment to the faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study as professor of mathematics on April 1, 1933, and that he will take up his residence permanently in Princeton beginning October 1, 1933.

Very truly yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Director  
The Institute for Advanced Study

17  
I., Arany János uca 16.

My dear Mrs. Bailey!

I would be greatly obliged to you, if you could help me in the following affair, in which I have to deal with American and with Hungarian authorities.

In connection with my moving from Budapest to Princeton this fall, I want to take various objects of silver, etc. with me. Under the present currency regulations and gold & silver - embargo in Hungary, I need a special

permitted by the National Bank  
of Hungary, to do this. Such  
a permit can only be granted,  
if I can prove, that I am  
really moving to Princeton, i.e.  
that I am going to have a  
permanent occupation, a  
residence, etc. there. Moreover  
this has to be proved by  
a certificate of the local  
(municipal) authority of my  
future residence.

So what I need, is this:  
that the Institute for Advanced  
Study would obtain a certifi-  
cate from the Administration  
of the Borough of Princeton,  
which states, that the Insti-



satisfaction, that I am a permanent member of its staff, who is going to <sup>permanently</sup> reside in Princeton from Oct. 1, 1933. on.

This or a similar certificate would meet my purposes, it can of course be written in English, as I can have a translation made here.

As I am leaving Budapest around Sept. 17, and the Hungarian authorities may spend 1 week or 2 on the affair too, it would be very good, if I could have this certificate around Sept. 5. If it takes longer to secure it, you would oblige me, in

informing me of this circumstance as soon as possible, even then I would like to have it sent to Budapest to me, if it arrives here before Sept. 15. If it can only be sent so, that it arrives after Sept. 15., please address the envelope to

Dr. G. Kövesi, Budapest, V.,  
Arany János ucca 16.,

and insert a note, indicating that the certificate is for me.

Please excuse me for the work and trouble ~~or~~ which this may give you, but it is really of great importance to me. I am thanking very heartily in advance for your taking care of the matter. My wife joins me in the best greetings, and I am sincerely yours  
John von Neumann.

F., Arany János meca P

My dear Mrs. Bailey!

As it may be, that the Princeton authorities will require, that the request for the certificate, described in my first letter, should be signed by me, I am writing this second letter, by which I expressly empower you to carry this action through for me. Please show either of these letters to the authorities, if you find it necessary.

Sincerely Yours

John von Neumann.

May 8, 1933

Dear Professor Von Neumann:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of April 26, and may I ask you to thank Doctor Vambery for the copy of his periodical reviewing my book. I shall keep this copy until you return in order that you may translate it for me, - or are you under the impression that I read Hungarian?

Mrs. Bailey received your note and deposited your check at the Princeton Bank & Trust Company. She is likewise holding your insurance policy in the Teachers' Insurance and Annuity Association of America.

Of course I am in no position to say precisely what is contemplated at Washington, but most people here think that the President has asked for these extraordinary powers because they are safer in his hands than they were in the hands of Congress. I do not believe that the dollar will be greatly depreciated - perhaps hardly at all. On the other hand, there is more uncertainty and concern than we have had at any time since the War.

The whole American nation is a unit as respects the crazy performances of the German Government. Göttingen has been absolutely ruined and the University students must all be mad.

Professor Von Neumann

May 6, 1933

2

Nothing crazier has happened in human history since the days  
of the French Terror.

We are moving our offices to 20 Nassau Street about  
the middle of the month. Early in July we shall go to our  
summer camp in Canada.

My wife and family are well. I hope you and Mrs.  
Von Neumann are equally so. I rejoice that you are not in Berlin.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Abraham FLEXNER

Professor John Von Neumann  
Arany Janos Ucca 16  
Budapest, Hungary

AF:GS

D Von Neumann  
(put in file)

April 26, 1933

My dear Professor von Neumann:

Thank you for your letter of the 12th. I send you herewith duplicate of deposit slip showing that I have deposited to your credit in the Princeton Bank and Trust Company, check for \$791.67. This represents your April salary of \$833.33, minus \$41.66, your contribution to the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America. The Institute contributed at the same time to this fund \$41.67. I shall continue to deposit your checks in this way until notified to the contrary.

I hope you and Mrs. von Neumann are well, and Dr. Flexner joins me in kindest regards to you both.

Sincerely yours,

**ESTHER S. BALEY**

Professor John von Neumann  
Arany Janos ucca 16  
Budapest V  
Hungary  
ESB:GB - E

(Budapest, April 26, 1933.)

My dear Doctor Flexner!

Many thanks for your kind letter, and for your informations.\*) I received the Bulletin No. 2. of the Institute today, and I agree absolutely with your statement, that its objective and unpretentious tone is the best and soundest way to secure to this institution an outstanding place in academi public opinion, as it deserves it. —

Mr. R. Vambery, who received your Bulletin these days, and is much obliged to you for it, told me the same thing. He asked me by the way, to send you an~~st~~ exemplary of the Hungarian review "Ez a századunk" ("Our century"), which he is publishing. It may interest you, as it

\*) I wrote Mrs. Bailey ca. 10 days ago, asking her to deposit my check at the Princeton Bank & Trust Co, where I have an account.

... of your book on  
"Universities", by Miss B. Becker (on pages  
90-92). At the end of this review Vambery  
asks, whether you maintain your high  
opinion on German universities and  
education — under the present  
conditions? I am sending this paper  
under separate cover. —

The German developments are  
going bad and ~~more~~ worse, the  
papers to day wrote the expulsion  
of 36 university-professors, f.i.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of  
the Göttingen mathematics and physics  
faculty. Where will this lead, if not  
to the ruin of science in Germany? —

I am very curious about the  
present and future economical develop-  
ments in U.S.A. Is it probable that  
this much discussed "controlled inflation"  
will upset the present price-sys-  
tem? Or is it more likely, that the  
things will run in analogy with



the english appreciation in 1931 ? —

Please give my wifes best regards to  
Mrs. Fleener as well as to Mrs. Duiley  
and mine too. I am very truly yours

John von Neumann.

(Budapest, April 12, 1933.

My dear Mrs. Bailey!

May I ask you, coming back to the subject of my letter of Febr. 19., to pay my salary, when the time comes, to my account with the Princeton Bank & Trust Company, Princeton N. J.

I am, with the very best greetings, from Mrs. von Neumann too,  
Yours truly,

John von Neumann

Budapest, I.,  
Arany János uca 16.

# Magnifice Domine Rector!

62  
nominus *Joannes Neumann*  
mundus *Budapest (Com. Pest-Pilis-Solt-Kis-Ung)*  
annorum *23* religionis *nos*

operatis examinibus rigidioribus in honores Doctoris Philosophiae promoveri  
petit.

Cum autem Ordo Philosophorum supplicentem  
ex *mathematica*

ceu principali  
item ex *physica experimentalis et chemia*

tamquam subsicivis studiis ~~rite~~ ~~cum laude~~ ..... summa cum  
laude approbaverit. promovendi causa eundem, pro incumbente mihi  
munere, ea qua par est observantia, hisce propono et actus huius academici  
terminum praefigi oro.

## Magnificentiae Vestrae

Budapestini, die *12. mart* 192*6*

humilimus servus

*Arthur J. ...*

Ordinis Philosophorum h. t. Decanus.

promovebitur die .....  
hora .....

h. t. Rector.

Dr. László Gál László " " "  
 Dr. László Károly " " "  
 Dr. Rudolf Lajos " " "  
 Dr. Keresztély György László " " "  
 Dr. Mihály János Illentus " " "  
 Dr. György Pálffy József " " "  
 Dr. Keller Aurélie László " " "  
 Dr. Neumann János " " "  
 Dr. Meszlényi Mikály Cáronjari 1906. III. 20.  
 Dr. Krasznai János József " " "  
 Dr. Tilmann Jure " " "  
 Dr. Kott László " " "  
 Dr. Fejlesztői Viktor " " "  
 Dr. Erős Mária László " " "

... es van ment 1926 A  
 " Dr. Gál László László " "  
 " Dr. Károly Károly " "  
 " Dr. László László " "  
 " Dr. Keresztély György " "  
 " Dr. Mihály János " "  
 " Dr. György Pálffy " "  
 " Dr. Keller Aurélie " "  
 " Dr. Neumann János " "  
 " Dr. Meszlényi Mikály " "  
 " Dr. Krasznai János " "  
 " Dr. Tilmann Jure " "  
 " Dr. Kott László " "  
 " Dr. Fejlesztői Viktor " "  
 " Dr. Erős Mária " "

D. Schreberky György	" "	"	Mechanika
D. Frentomas Bela	" "	"	"
D. János Kulcsár	völöztud	"	János Kulcsár
D. Ebner-Rupp György	ig tud 1926. márc. 6.	"	L. Ebner-Rupp
D. Hajós József	" "	"	Hajós
D. Sánta György István	" "	"	Pósta
D. Sánta József	államtud	"	Dr. Sánta József
D. Kertész János E.	" "	"	Kertész János
D. Molnár Lajos	" "	"	Molnár Lajos
D. Molnár Lajos	" "	"	Molnár Lajos
D. Maurer László	Györgykereszt	"	Maurer László
D. Fehér Jenő	völöztud	"	Fehér Jenő
D. Fehér Jenő	ig tud 1926. márc. 13.	"	Fehér Jenő
D. W. Brovicz Antal	" "	"	Brovicz Antal
D. Fischer Gyula	" "	"	Pósta ment 192
D. Kótsi Gál László	" "	"	Dr. Gál László
D. Kótsi Károly	" "	"	Dr. Kótsi Károly
D. Ruda Lajos	" "	"	Ruda Lajos
D. Regedy Gyula	" "	"	Regedy Gyula
D. Blah János	államtud	"	Blah János
D. Pálffy József	" "	"	Pálffy József
D. Keller Mária	völöztud	"	Keller Mária
D. Neumann János	" "	"	Neumann János
D. Meszlényi Miklós	Címjegyző 1926. márc. 20.	"	Meszlényi Miklós
D. Vassvári János	ig tud	"	Vassvári János
D. Tóth László	" "	"	Tóth László
D. Tóth László	" "	"	Tóth László
D. Fejérváry Viktor	" "	"	Fejérváry Viktor

Budapest, March 18, 1933.  
V., Atany János ca 16.

Dear Dr. Flexner!

Please excuse, that I gave no sign of life from Europe for 6 weeks. We are very well, and Mrs. von Neumann had even a better crossing, than she usually has, but you will imagine, that the first weeks of our stay in Budapest were very tiring, mainly for family reasons. But now the worst is over.

Our summer-plans are not yet definitively fixed. I intended originally, to go to Berlin and lecture there this summer, but the newer german developements make me doubt, wether this is reasonable. I think, that we will drop this plan, if the conditions there do not improve essentially before May - which is not too probable.

Mrs. von Neumann sends her best regards and greetings to Mrs. Flexner and yourself,

we are so sorry, but I could not meet  
Mrs. Fleener any more in New York.  
With the best greetings, I am truly yours.

John von Neumann.

March 30, 1933

Dear Professor vonNeumann;

I have your letter and Mrs. Bailey showed the letter which you have written her. She will follow your instructions regarding the salary, about which you need have no doubt whatsoever. Your first check is due April 30. If we do not hear from you regarding the bank before that time, I shall deposit it to your credit in the Corn Exchange Bank Trust Company in this city, which is a large and very strong institution, in which you can have perfect confidence.

We are mailing you a copy of Bulletin No. 2, a simple and unpretentious statement, which has attracted attention already for that very reason.

The banking situation is, I think, now sound. On the other hand, the business depression continues here as elsewhere.

We are terribly concerned about the situation in Germany. I have a letter this morning from an old friend, telling me unspeakable things about the way in which Hitler is ruining the German Education Ministry and other cultural activities. The whole thing seems to me the act of mad men. I cannot believe that it will endure.

My wife and Mrs. Bailey join me in warmest greetings to you and your wife.

Very sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann  
Budapest, Hungary



Records of the Office of the Director / Faculty Files / Box 34 / von Neumann, John 1933-1935  
From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ

Appointed as of Apr. 1, 1933;  
(see minutes of Executive Com.,  
Jan. 28, 1933, p. 2) at \$10,000.

V. Arany János ucca 16.

My dear Mr. Bailey!

I am sending enclosed the two questionnaires of the "Teachers Mrs. and Ann. Ass. of America", with the authentication of the American Consul in Budapest. I understand from the text of the questionnaire, that the last line (certification of the date of birth), has to be filled in by the "Institute for Advanced Study" (as employer), so I didn't do anything with it. If you need ~~an~~ a documentation of my birth-date, you will probably be able to obtain it from Princeton University, and certainly from the American Immigration Authorities.

As I could not yet make up my mind, about which bank I should use, viewing the recent bank-troubles, may I ask you, to hold my salary so long, till you receive further information from me. Very probably, this will even not be necessary, as I hope, that I will be able to give

You notice on this question before end of April, when the first salary-rate is due, as I understand.

You would oblige me greatly, if you would let me know, if everything is all right in this way.

With the best regards from Mrs. von Neumann too, I am

Yours truly

John von Neumann.

Budapest, V., Arany János utca 16.  
Hungary.

March 18, 1933.

January 31, 1933

Professor John vonNeumann  
Princeton University  
Princetch, New Jersey

Dear Professor vonNeumann:

I have pleasure in informing you that at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Institute for Advanced Study held on January 28, 1933, you were appointed Professor of Mathematics in the Institute. I look forward with great pleasure to collaboration with you in the development of this new institution.

Very truly yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

AF:ESB

Records of the Office of the Director / Faculty Files / Box 34 / von Neumann, John 1933-1935  
 From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J. USA

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DOCTOR ABRAHAM FLEXNER=

VANSTITUTE 100 EAST 42 ST=

## MINUTES IN TRANSIT

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43	

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January 26, 1933

Dear Professor vonNeumann:

I have your note of the 24th. The Executive Committee will hold a meeting on Saturday at noon, at which I shall present your nomination and that of Dr. Torrence. Won't you wire me or call me by telephone (Ashland 4 - 3775) towards noon tomorrow (Friday) so that I may have more complete information about Dr. Torrence for the meeting - his academic training, his full name, his previous experience as teacher, etc.? I am inclined to fix his salary at \$1,500 rather than \$2,000, inasmuch as salaries are being lowered throughout the country, and it will be easier for a man who is getting \$1,500 to obtain a position which satisfies him than if he begins at \$2,000, especially as the appointment is only for a single year.

I thoroughly approve your representing the Institute on the editorial board of the Annals if Professor Veblen also approves. These details are matters that I should like the mathematicians to arrange among themselves.

I am delighted that you and Mrs. vonNeumann can lunch with me on next Tuesday.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Professor John vonNeumann  
8 Morven Street

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Princeton, Jan. 24., 1933.  
8. Morse Street.

My dear Fr. Flexner!

Please excuse my disturbing you again with my personal affairs, but I am very anxious to have your advice on some matters, which should be settled before I leave.

Prof. J. Lefschetz asked me some days ago, to join the board of editors of the "Annals of Mathematics", the members of which are at present E. Hille and J. Lefschetz. He informed me, that one of his reasons for this step was, that he wanted the Institute to be represented on the board of editors. Prof. Veblen was informed of this step, and agrees with this view and choice. Please let me know your opinion on this matter, I personally would be glad to accept.

As you gave me your approval in the question of taking Fr. Torrence as assistant, when I mentioned this to you on Jan. 13., I informed Torrence of the possibility of his appointment. I told him too, that if I am going to be one of the editors of the "Annals", he will have to do some clerical work for this journal (as the assistants of Lefschetz does). He accepted, and so I think, that the action to appoint him could be taken, when the moment

which appear appropriate to you comes.

Though I will not need his assistance before Oct. 1., it may be better to appoint him on April 1., because the "Annals" could use his help very well. As far as the salary is concerned, I mentioned to him the lower one of the figures you proposed, th. i. \$1,500, as probable salary, and he would accept it. On the other hand Prof. Veblen thinks, that viewing the fact, that he has the Ph. D., and various good papers written since, and that other assistants without these qualifications get \$1,500, the higher figure, th. i. \$2,000, would be more justified. So if you agree with this point of view, I would welcome an action in the latter sense. Concerning the length of the appointment, I am in favor of a period of one year. —

Mrs. von Neumann received your letter just now, and we are very sorry, that we will not meet Mrs. Fleener before we leave. It will be a great pleasure to lunch with you, and as we will be on sea on Febr. 1., we will come to meet you at your office on Jan. 31., 12<sup>45</sup>, as you proposed.

Hoping to see you soon again

I am sincerely yours

John von Neumann.



January 9, 1933

Dear Professor von Neumann:

When Professor Veblen and I saw you briefly Friday, I was mainly preoccupied with the fact that Professor Weyl had finally agreed to accept. I had, however, been greatly impressed both by Dean Biscuhart and Professor Veblen with the importance of setting your mind at rest and providing for you a permanent and important post commensurate with your abilities and promise. I said, as you will remember, that I was not clear as to whether this could be best done at the Institute or in the mathematical group at Princeton. From a practical point of view one is as good as the other, for the two groups will be functionally one, occupying the same hall, exchanging students, and keeping up the same warm personal feelings that have been characteristic of the Princeton group during its entire history.

Since returning to New York I have been thinking the whole problem over very carefully and deliberately. Now that Weyl has accepted and Biscuhart has been generous enough to part with Veblen and Alexander, it seems to me the Institute has gone as far as it ought to go at the very outset. I am just as anxious that the Princeton University group shall be strong as I am that the Institute shall be strong, and I am hoping therefore that Dean Biscuhart can

Professor vonNeumann

January 9, 1933

2

work out a plan which will give you a permanent post in his department where you will be as happy and as effective as is possible anywhere. Do not have the feeling that he and I are moving men about like pawns on a checkerboard. This is not the case, but we are trying to look at the subject of mathematics from a broad point of view so that the two institutions at Princeton may function as one and may make the largest possible contribution to the science of mathematics. I hope very much that, if Dean Eischart makes you any such offer as I have in mind, you will accept and thus enrich the entire situation.

With warm regards to you and your wife,

Always sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann  
Princeton University  
Fine Hall  
Princeton, New Jersey

AP:MB

I, John von Neumann, was born December 28, 1903, in Budapest, Hungary. I was first admitted to the United States January 28, 1930, on a non-quota immigration visa, issued to me by the United States Consul-General in Berlin in November 1929, because I had been "Privatdozent" (assistant professor) in the University of Berlin since December 1927, and I came to the United States in order to pursue the same profession, by invitation from Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.

I have been in the United States since January 28, 1930, first as lecturer, and after April 1930 as Professor of Mathematical Physics in Princeton University. Since April 1933 I have been, and am now, Professor of Mathematics in The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J.

I made my "Declaration of Intention" (first paper) on December 21, 1931, at the United States District Court in Trenton, N.J.

Since my first entry (January 28, 1930) I have repeatedly made visits abroad, namely:

April 11 to 25, 1930  
June 1, 1930 to September 28, 1931 —  
February 1 to October 2, 1932  
February 2 to September 29, 1933  
May 5 to September 28, 1934

*Self 28/36*

I have always returned with "Permits to reenter".

I am at present a citizen of Hungary. My permanent residence is 162 Library Place, Princeton, N.J.

October 15, 1934

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