

HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

January 11, 1945

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Aydelotte:

I have your letter inquiring concerning the status of our application to the National War Fund. There are prospects. There has been much working and conferring and worrying and negotiating; but I think Mrs. Staudinger should write you directly about the present situation, and therefore I am sending her a copy of this note.

Sincerely yours,

Harlow Shapley

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cc to Mrs. E. Staudinger

*Please Return to Dr. Aydelotte's file
with many thanks for his kindness in
letting me read it.*

Erin Partridge

January 10, 1945

Dear Shapley:

When I got a distant glimpse of you at the Century the other day, I wanted to ask what is the status of this application of ours to the National War Fund. Is there any news and have you any idea of the prospects?

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Harlow Shapley
Harvard College Observatory
Cambridge, Mass.

FA:KK

January 5, 1945

*file under
Harlow Shapley*

REPORT ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS OF THE
REFUGEE WORK PROJECT.

At the same time when the application of Refugee Work Relief Associates was before the National War Fund, the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Scholars also submitted a request for funds. The National War Fund therefore asked Refugee Relief Trustees and through them the American Christian Committee for Refugees to come to an agreement not only with us but simultaneously with the Emergency Committee. The War Fund wished the work of both Committees if possible to be united. In consequence of this request, Mr. Robinson (head of the American Christian Committee for Refugees) got in touch with Dr. Johnson as well as with Dr. Duggan. Because of Dr. Duggan's illness, negotiations could proceed only very slowly.

Late in October Dr. Robinson inquired of Dr. Johnson and Dr. Head of the Emergency Committee, whether they would agree to the establishment of a new committee to conduct the proposed work of the RWRA and of the Duggan Committee. This new Committee would follow the form of the Special Labor Aid Committee which gets all its funds from the Christian Committee but is a Sub-Committee of Refugee Relief Trustees. The Christian Committee influences its decisions only through the vote of one representative on a board of some eight members. Dr. Johnson and Dr. Head answered that in principle they would agree to such a committee if 1) the money could be used without any religious discrimination, and if 2) the American Christian Committee would not require the re-examination of our cases from the relief point of view. We would, however, clear our cases with the refugee agencies. Dr. Robinson agreed to this and said that he very much hoped that such a committee would be able to get, in addition to the War Fund money, substantial contributions from the National Refugee Service and from Foundations.

We studied the working organization of the Special Labor Aid Committee and found it very good. But since our work is very different from that of the Special Labor Aid Committee, we wished to retain various subcommittees for special work projects. Nevertheless, as there would not be very much money forthcoming at the start, it did not seem wise to begin with too many subcommittees. With Miss Anna Selig's full agreement we excluded the Music Committee and the Playwright's Committee in our suggested set up because Miss Selig had told us that there was good hope that money might be had for them from other sources. We hoped, however, to include those projects later if it proved desirable. It was planned to recommend the following Sub-Committees:

Anna Selig's Research Committee
The Writers' Committee
The New School Committee (and if Dr. Duggan joined)
The Duggan Committee.

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These Sub-Committees would be headed by an overall Executive Committee which would consist of one or two representatives of each of the Sub-Committees and one or two of Refugee Relief Trustees.

Furthermore it was agreed with Miss Anna Selig that the new overall Executive Committee, which would take over the work of RWRA, would not represent any institution, neither the New School, nor the Duggan Committee, nor the International Center. The Committee would be formed of individuals who have been leaders in different kinds of aid to refugees.

In the middle of December Mrs. Staudinger talked this plan over with Professor Shapley of Harvard and he agreed to it. He proposed however, that it would be simpler to carry out needed assistance for refugees in Cambridge through the Cambridge group of Professors instead of through the Duggan Group, and he therefore suggested that the Cambridge Group be added as a fifth subcommittee.

A meeting at the end of December reached the following result: Dr. Duggan, Dr. Mead, Dr. Alfred E. Cohn decided, not as members of the Emergency Committee but only as individuals, to cooperate in a common project with other individual leaders in the field of refugee work, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Canby, etc. They all agreed to form a committee for the purpose of helping refugee intellectuals and professionals of all kinds to bridge over the time of unemployment through work projects. These refugees should include scholars, teachers, other professionals such as journalists of high standing, judges, intellectuals from the rank of labor, actors, artists and musicians etc. The American Christian Committee is expected to give a yearly sum of \$30,000 to this committee's work, and National Refugee Service is expected to give the same amount. In the last meeting it was agreed that the Organizing Committee which also should serve as the Interim Executive Committee and the core of the Board to be later chosen, would consist of the following:

Dr. Johnson
Dr. Duggan
Dr. Canby
Dr. Cohn
Dr. Mead
Mr. Beck (NRS)
Dr. Robinson (ACCR)

It was expressly stated that until this Interim Executive Committee should meet and definitely constitute itself, no details of the organization of the work should be fixed. The Committee, which later would add more representatives of refugee work, would then decide all questions of organization. It was also stated that efforts would be made to supplement the funds which are in sight at present, by contributions from Foundations. It was furthermore stated that not only grants over several months or a year would be given, but also temporary aid of various kinds and single ^{or} larger contributions for trips etc.

This result of many negotiations is only the very start of the new

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organization, but it is a promising start because it is laid out in such a way that the project can include all possible kinds of work and can be kept flexible.

As soon as details can be worked out, we hope that we can get together with all the former collaborators and get their full cooperation.

July 24, 1939

Professor Harlow Shapley
Harvard College Observatory
Cambridge, Massachusetts

My dear Professor Shapley:

Your letter of July 18 has been forwarded
to me in Canada where I am spending the month of July.

The last address I have for Professor Einstein
is Nassau Point, Reconic, Long Island. I would suggest
that you write to him before going there to see him.

Professor Weyl thought that he might go to
Colorado this summer, but I have no address for him. I
am sure that a letter sent to his residence - 270 Mercer Street,
Princeton, New Jersey - would be forwarded to him, in case he
has left Princeton.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BARLEY
Secretary

ESB

HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

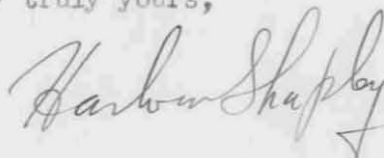
18 July 1939

Secretary of the Institute
for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear sir:

Will you please tell me where Professor Einstein is this summer so that I may communicate with him directly, or possibly go to see him, concerning some refugee problems in which we are mutually interested? Will you please also tell me whether Professor Weyl has left Princeton for the summer, and when he expects to return?

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Harlow Shapley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed closing "Very truly yours,".

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