

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

Historical Studies - Social Science Library

ITEMS REMOVED : MITRANY, DAVID - E.P. PERMANENT
MEMBER 1930 - 1934

1) "Shaws on Wells on Stalin : A Comment by J.M.
Keynes," The New Statesmen and the Nation, November 10,
1934.

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

20.Xii.1934

Dec. 20, 1934

Dear Elexner,

Thank you for letting me see the memorandum on the 'economic unit'. I have read it with great interest and profit, all the more so as it bears in many ways on our recent correspondence concerning the work of the School of the Social Sciences. Perhaps in so far I may comment on it, as an addendum to my last letter but one.

Let me say first that, like you, I disclaim anything beyond a general acquaintance with the present state of economic theory. But I have no doubt that the problem of 'durable goods' is of central importance, to judge from the widespread attention it has received. To my knowledge, modern economics has concerned itself extensively with it; and I have a suspicion that a preliminary survey, or even a private circular inquiry on the basis of this memorandum, would reveal that a large body of knowledge already exists, and that a large number of economists, here and elsewhere, are now working on this very problem.

Doubts are raised in my mind by the writer's expectation that this method of intensive attack on a partial issue will not only fill a gap in existing knowledge, but will lead to a new development of economic theory. Even the first result would seem to be conditioned, in the writer's own phrase, (p.4) by the "if one can look forward to an eventual resumption of the basic economic trends which have accompanied the ~~of~~ rise of industrialism during the past century". A big assumption, indeed.

However, on this point, if you wanted an opinion, you could get it from expert economists. What the writer feels that needs to be done is no doubt worth undertaking. What he says on how it is to be done affects all of us, however. His choice of subject and method leads him logically to certain proposals on the organization of the 'economic unit'. What do you say to them? I know that the last thing you wish is

to create another Brookings Institution, even in an improved edition, and to abandon the model of the Rockefeller Institute. (What makes these young men, like the one whom you consulted on psychology, want to start with a whole building-full of staff? You didn't like it when I asked you merely for one young assistant!) At any rate, whether necessary for the end in view or not, such an arrangement would reverse the conception you have developed for the Institute: instead of one or two men surveying at leisure a whole field, a whole department attacking by high-pressure research a segment of the field.

Now all this bears closely on that question of cooperation which you have so much at heart; and it is fortunate that I gave you my own views before seeing this paper, as else my remarks may have seemed to be directed at it, whereas as it happens, it is the memorandum that provides a good commentary on my general remarks. What room do you see for cooperation if the economic side is launched upon such a straightly specialized and technical research? What help could the historian and the political scientist, the jurist and the psychologist, offer them, and what could they expect for their own guidance in return? Perhaps in the light of your correspondent's proposals, and no matter what you think of them, you will grant that I was not trying to shift responsibility when I said that 'our' cooperation begins from you, that it rests in your hands; that the arrangements you will make, and not merely our own good intentions, will determine the chances and fruits of our collaboration. So we had better wait and see. Goodwill will not be lacking, I know.

When you get this, the New Year will be somewhere about, and I hope it may bring with it success in your work, and much comfort in your private life. To all at home our affectionate good wishes, as ever.

Yours,

J. Mitrany

Personally, I doubt whether pure economics can supply, by itself, either an explanation of the crisis or a remedy for it - for the simple reason that the gap between production and consumption has never yet resulted from an excess of production in the aggregate.

December 19, 1934

My dear Mitrany:

I have your letter in reference to library facilities. Generally speaking, I should suppose the Princeton Library inferior to the Widener, and this may be more so in the social sciences than in other branches. The Institute has the full use of the Princeton Library on very easy terms. That is, members can draw books for their own use freely. On the other hand, if you require books which the Princeton Library does not contain, the Institute will simply purchase them and in that way start the accumulation of a collection that will ultimately be adequate.

I look forward to the time - in the near future, I hope - when the social sciences in the sense of economics and politics will have a building of their own, the top floor of which could perhaps be used as a library, as is the case in Fine Hall.

Princeton is planning a new and much enlarged library. In the present library the faculty do not have offices, but their offices are in Nassau Hall - a very short distance away.

With all good wishes for the Christmas and the New Year to you and Ena,

Always sincerely,

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Winston Blount, Oxford

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

December 13, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

I ought to have answered your personal note of November 21 in my own handwriting, but I have had a cold which has kept me in bed, and I don't want to postpone longer expressing in a way that you will understand my tremendous gratification at the contents of your letter. I have had no better news this whole winter, and I know enough about things of this kind to appreciate your relief and the happiness which you feel. Between those vague lines you will have to read the rest, and you cannot read too much.

Yesterday I received yours of the thirtieth. It is probably a mistake to try to thresh out by mail the perfectly legitimate problems which you and I have raised in our correspondence regarding the School of Economics. There was no real difference between Frankfurter's memorandum and Stewart's views. Frankfurter urged, as I understand him, two things: the historical effort to understand how we had come to our present so-called laws of economics; that seems to me an intelligent procedure, and it may be the same thing as you mean when you speak of "reevaluation", and this will also disclose "biases, proclivities and unconscious deflections". Frankfurter also pointed out that "it is highly significant that the great contributions to political science were all contemporaneous documents". My own inclination is to proceed not by a preliminary "reconsideration of the whole field, staking out, etc." but to take hold of some outstanding problem and

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follow it out on the theory that the implications discovered will throw a vast light on ~~the~~ large and general principles. I think you misunderstand what has happened in medicine. Everybody who undertook to revalue the whole field in advance made an utter failure. The men, who succeeded - Pasteur, Theobald Smith, Lister - took hold of specific problems and by following them through arrived at general conclusions that were applicable over wide areas. We shall in the School of Economics and Politics be dealing with individuals. There is no reason why they should agree as to the method of procedure, though I think they should with open minds discuss the problem with one another, after which they should go, each his own way, as all first-rate minds do anyway.

Some of the phrases which you use I do not understand, as for example, "We must get a new perspective before we may hope to discover new conclusions." I am also frankly fearful of the "scopey" approach represented by Ginsberg's book on Sociology. It reminds me of ^{what} Justice Hughes once said of oxtail soup: "Isn't that going a long way back for soup?"

Like the physicists and physicians, the political scientists, I suspect, are more apt to get somewhere, not by beginning with primitive problems but by lowering their buckets just where they are and working back from that, but if you think differently, you are perfectly free to do differently. You will be in an atmosphere of absolute intellectual freedom unconstrained by me or anyone else and not hurried in the matter of time or by the pressure of students. A few first-rate minds, working under such freedom, may in the course of time get somewhere. You will undoubtedly grope about both together and separately. Out of this groping you may obtain suggestions as to what next steps should be taken. The one thing that I really fear is beginning with a largely philosophical, historical-sociological background or program. That sort of thing has been done time and again - by Comte,

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by Herbert Spencer and others, and the outcome has been very fragile.

As to the economist, I do not find looking through my letters that I have written anything that would lead you to believe that I am "inclined to choose an expert in the mathematical method". I wonder where and how you got that idea. Will you mind telling me? What I really want is an open mind, well-informed as to what has gone on before and young enough and flexible enough to make a fresh attack upon a specific problem. If there is anything at all in the history of human thought to guide us, it is this point upon which I have adverted above, but even in respect to this I am not going to interfere with the economists any more than I interfere with the mathematicians. If any one of them wants to do differently, he may, but the responsibility is his, not mine. The cooperation, which, as you say, I think "easy", comes about not because men think of it but because, as in the mathematical group, they are able, generous, communicative, kindly, and as far as the outer world is concerned, unambitious. These conditions make for intellectual intercourse, and they do not impair intellectual independence.

There is little or no resemblance between our School of Economics and Politics and the London School in its early days, for the London School ^{was} started by a small group of extraordinarily gifted people, who held, however, more or less the same creed. They were all Fabians - an essentially unscientific predilection. You and Earle and the unknown economist will have, as far as you can control yourselves, nothing in particular to start with. You are just bringing first-rate minds to bear upon economic and political problems, following them out, each in his own way, enjoying friendly discussion with one another and with others, but under no pressure whatsoever to agree in the end or at any point towards the end.

But do let me know how you came to think that I was bent upon the choice

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of a mathematical economist to start with, though as I have intimated above, I have no objection to a mathematical economist if in addition to that he possesses the other qualities of mind that an explorer needs.

This morning comes your charming note, including the extract from Nancy Hoyt's letter. It makes me very happy. I shall send it on to Jean, who, I am sure, will be glad to have it and to know that Miss Hoyt is in Washington where she can see her.

Anne and the two girls are fine, and I am all right except for this temporary disability. All of us join in good wishes for Christmas and the New Year to you and Ena.

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

P.S. #1 Do you know the Essays of Cliffe Leslie? Though he wrote half a century ago a series of disconnected essays and died relatively young, I would make him professor of economics were he alive today.

AF:ESB

P.S. #2 I have had many discussions with probably the ablest economic thinker in the United States on the subject of the new School of Economics and Politics. Here is an extract from a recent letter from him:

"In economics, my preference runs toward someone who is possessed with some concrete problem but who is prepared to deal with its general implications. This seems to me to furnish the best hope of escaping from the vagueness of superficiality which has affected so much current work in economics and of establishing a fresh approach. In fairness, however, I must quote you the comment of a friend.

"I don't think the Institute's Division of Economics should outline its topics yet. I think it should assemble a group that would just stew around for a while and wonder what it's all about. After six months or a year, probably somebody would think of something. I doubt that the world is in urgent need of more statistics, more facts, more research; or that the Institute needs to start with a clerical and statistical force. In fact, I think that the members should be required to take a vow of total abstinence from statistics, data, and maybe even facts for a six-month probationary period. This country is simply lousy with statistics; and crawling with research workers."

A.F.

December 12, 1934

Dear Professor Mitrany:

Thank you for your two good letters. I am so glad to know that Mrs. Mitrany is improving, and I can imagine how happy you are, and how happy you will be when she can be at home again.

I immediately ordered a copy of Science and Sanity for you. There was some delay in its receipt, but it is now on its way to you, and I hope it will reach you even before this letter does.

Mr. Flemer does not know Max Hombann. I wrote Jean to ask whether she and her husband could tell us about him. This is her reply:

"Paul also knows of his scholarly reputation. He is said to have the best private modern library on economics and history extant I believe. He knows many languages, has published a little, but studied a lot. Formerly at Texas, now at Michigan - decidedly he would bear investigating. His field is, I think, economic history."

From Who's Who in America I quote the following, which may be of interest to you:

"Born, Roman, Rumania, Dec. 13, 1885; prep. ed., Gymnasium, Roman; A.B., U. of Oregon, 1907; Ph.D., U. of Chicago, 1917; grad. study, College de France, Columbia U., U. of Berlin. Came to U.S. 1903, naturalized citizen, 1917. Docent in sociology, U. of Chicago, 1913; instr. in sociology, U. of Mo.; 1913-1916; prof. sociology, U. of Texas, 1917-26, prof. economics, 1926-31; visiting prof. sociology, U. of Minn., 1930-31, professor economics, Univ. of Michigan, since 1931. Special investigator for Library of Congress, 1918; mem. Com. on Pub. Information, 1918, and of staff U. S. Inquiry on Terms of Peace, 1918; dir. Red Cross Social Service Inst. for Tex., 1919; pres. Tex. Conf. for Social Welfare, 1924; mem. Nat. Conf. Social

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Work (com. on immigration 1926-32, on delinquents and correction, 1937, 28) mem. Social Science Research Council (treas. 1933-34; admn. com. on consumption and leisure; mem. com. on research fellowships); spl. investigator Nat. Com. on Law Observance and Enforcement (Wickersham Comm.). Decorated Order of Cultural Merit, Knight, first class (Roumania). Trustee Tex. Com. on Prisons and Prison Labor. Mem. Am. Econ. Assn., Am. Statis. Assn., Am. Sociol. Soc., Econ. Hist. Soc., Royal Econ. Soc., Phi Beta Kappa. Democrat. Centbr. to Polit. Science Quarterly; Hist. Outlook; Proc. of Am. Sociol. Soc., etc. Mem. editorial bl. Southwestern Polit. and Social Science Quarterly, 1926-30."

I wrote to the Massachusetts Savings Bank asking for a premium notice, which I received by return mail. I send you herewith the receipt.

With all good wishes to you and Mrs. Mitrany, I am

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

Mitrany ✓

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

7.XII.1934

Dec. 7, 1934

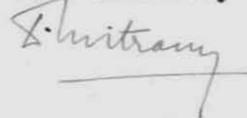
Dear Flexner,

My last letter to you was unconscionably long, yet it should have mentioned one other point, which was in my mind, and which is no doubt also in yours. When expressing my sympathy with your reluctance to start putting up buildings, I should have added, as I meant to do, that apart from one quiet room as a study, the thing that really mattered was the arrangement for library facilities. I need not say much about this, for you are yourself thinking of it.

In your report you praised the quality and utility of the Fine Hall Library. How good the Princeton University Library is in the Social Sciences I cannot know - I hope better, much better, than Widener, in my field, at any rate. One of the virtues of the mathematical library is its accessibility. I hope you can do something for us in that regard. As you know, we are more dependent on books than the mathematicians, and on a much wider range. We can rarely isolate a piece of work as closely as they, and when working, let us say, on some question in political science, we may at any moment have to check a point in economics, or history, etc. etc. Therefore we need ready access to the shelves, and a liberal allowance in the number of books we may withdraw at any one time for use, and in the period of ^{their} use. In a degree, the two things stand in a 'compensatory' relation to each other - the further away we are from the Library, the more books we shall need to keep handy. How do the Princeton faculty manage - have they got studies within the Library building, as at Harvard?

Once more, our very best wishes for the holidays.

Yours sincerely



December 3, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

Your letter of November 19th is so clear that I really do not believe that we need undertake any theoretical discussion, for we are essentially in agreement. Of course, no one objects to academic lectures or papers in scientific journals. The thing that has to be avoided by us is forensic or journalistic discussion. I do not believe that I have ever spoken with an economist who has not urged the importance of a thorough and fearless re-examination of the postulates upon which economics, government, etc. rest, and my letter only meant to indicate that such re-examination would be all the easier, the less one has put down in black and white.

There is one point on which I think I should, as far as I am informed, disagree with you, namely, as to whether sociologists are in the position of the mathematicians and the physicists. Mathematicians and physicists have known for one hundred years what they are doing and whither they are working. Their science has, of course, been in process of evolution, but its postulates are solidly based, since they are abstract. In the social sciences we are dealing with human beings, with individuals, with styles, with fashions, with traditions, with ideals, and heaven knows what besides. What the social scientist puts forth is not, I think, correctly described as "juvenile" - to use your word - in contradistinction to

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what mathematicians put forth. They simply belong to what the logicians call different worlds of discourse.

I think you and your associates, when you meet, ought to get to know one another and then work with a combination of independence and interchange of ideas. Questions of this kind ought not to be decided by the Trustees or by me. My letter was prompted by the feeling that I might venture to utter a word of warning; but, as I have said in every letter I have written you, I do not want to impede your liberty of thought and, if you think it right, of expression.

I had on Saturday an all-day talk with a young economist, whom I have frequently seen before and have had in mind for the last three or four years. He strikes me as having real intellectual ability, and it is a factor in his favor that he has been so skeptical that he had written and published little.

While the social sciences are not all equally developed or undeveloped, their general situation, especially that of sociology, resembles that of the medical sciences in America thirty years ago when the Rockefeller Institute started. At that time the Rockefeller Institute group had no organ for printing what they did and thought. Ten years later they started the Journal of Experimental Medicine, which is now the most important publication of its kind in the world. In the meantime their silence was for the most part so thick that you could cut it. Medicine is far from being a science in the sense in which physics is a science, but so much progress has been made, and the direction of progress has become so clear, that printing and speech, instead of being embarrassing, as they might have been at the outstart, are, within cautious limits, helpful.

I hope that Ena continues to improve and that everything may be favorable to our getting together a small group at the beginning of next year.

With all good wishes, in which Anne, Jean, and Eleanor join,

Ever sincerely,
ABRAHAM FRANKLIN

Dr. David Mitrany
Oxford, England
AD/MSW

Dr. David Mitrany

December 3, 1954

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P. S. Since dictating this letter I have received Ginsberg's book on Sociology - thank you very much - which I have read with a good deal of interest. The book leaves no doubt in my mind that Ginsberg is a first-rate scholar and has a first-rate mind, but, if a layman may venture to entertain a tentative opinion, I could not prevent myself from thinking as I read the book whether there is at present or ought to be even an attempt at an exclusive "science of sociology". Ginsberg himself repeatedly deplures the enormous gaps in the several sciences, which, when synthesized, would make a science of sociology. Isn't that a good deal like guessing what a jigsaw puzzle would be like when put together though two-thirds of the pieces are imperfect or missing? The old alchemists were too precipitate in trying to establish a science of alchemy before mathematics, physics, chemistry, and biology had separately developed to full stature, and these sciences were themselves terribly hampered as long as the idea of a "Science" persisted. Finally mathematicians, physicists, chemists, and biologists each got busy on his own responsibility. Quite spontaneously it came about that mathematics contained points of contact with physics, chemistry, and biology. A little later physics and chemistry were so developed that a new science sprang up, namely, physical chemistry; but, though each of these sciences is now, as a separate science, pretty well developed, nobody except popularizers like Jeans and Eddington and a few similar persons in this country believes that the time is ripe for the development of an inclusive Science. Isn't this true of the science of sociology? We need to know and can know a great deal about law, economics, ethics, religion, etc. in different countries under different conditions; but are we ready to bring any one of these together in generalized terms, and is it or is it not wise to try to bring them all together in a science of

Dr. David Mitrany

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sociology? Mr. Phipps, one of Mr. Carnegie's associates, once said, "Everyone who went into steel little came out big; everyone who went into steel big came out little." That would still be true of mathematicians, physicists, chemists, and biologists. The best of them go in fairly little and come out fairly large. Is it or is it not true of persons working in the several social sciences and sociology?

I have tried to phrase my comments interrogatively because they represent merely doubts in the mind of an untrained person who is naturally averse to "scopey" undertakings - to use a word invented by Mr. Rockefeller in reference to business enterprises.

A. F.

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

30.XI.1934

Nov. 30, 1934

Dear Flexner,

Since writing you I have received your letter of the 12th, and in answering I should like to say something also about the whole matter, as discussed at the last meeting of the Trustees.

Not having the privilege of knowing Mr. Stewart's views in more detail, I am writing under correction. But ^{what} you said of his views in your letter of the 7th does not suggest to me that they in any way conflict with the position taken up by Felix. Indeed, if I understand them rightly, their views are complementary, and equally relevant.

Mr. Stewart suggests, I understand, that we must go deeper into specific aspects of our social life and problems. Clearly, only in that way will we break away from a priori dogmatism and approach the scientific plane. But I feel sure that he would not wish those inquiries merely to duplicate the work of classical economics and politics, to start from the same assumptions and to follow the same methods. Even if we were to do it a little better, we should not be doing much if we merely do what is already being done in so many other places. The special conditions of work which the Institute will afford can be justified only by an effort to work out a fresh approach to the Social Sciences. That was always in your mind; and in the rather drastic statement which I enclose, you will find Keynes saying that in economics that is the only thing worth while doing. I do not doubt but that Mr. Stewart would endorse this reading of the task to which the School of Social Sciences should devote itself.

If we agree on that, there follows one definite conclusion as to the arrangement of our work. It follows that

the detailed investigations upon the need of which Mr. Stewart insists, and which will form ultimately the core of our work, must be preceded, if they are not to go astray, by a reconsideration of the whole field, by the staking out, however broadly, of certain tracks along which it might be freshly and more fruitfully traversed. And that is, I venture to think, what Felix had in mind when he urged the need for a philosophical-historical approach. Their submissions, then, are not different ideas, but the two parts of a common outlook. The preliminary survey would be no mere academic research, but rather a necessary means for understanding what is passing before our eyes. Not would it be an attempt to work out an elaborate programme, like the abortive mathematical programme of which you speak, but merely a survey of the field, of what has been done and how, so that we may see what needs to be done and in what ways more promising.

Let me put it in this way. In your own remarks you used a medical simile, and spoke of the clinical work needed in this field. Would you not agree, to use the same terminology, that in the Social Sciences the position at present is this: they are faced with an universal and virulent epidemic, which is defying all the available knowledge and all the accepted clinical methods. New clinical methods must be found. But in face of such comprehensive disaster to accepted knowledge, which is the scientific way to renewal: to begin at once with chance experimenting, here with a new drug and there with a new cut, or first to subject the whole field to a broad review and revaluation, to seek a broad hypothesis of what has gone wrong and why, and of what offers a prospect of spunder work - and then, with these preliminary ideas as clear and common guiding posts, to proceed to a fresh attack on the specific issues which together form the social problem? We must get a new perspective before we may hope to discover new conclusions. And what I have said also suggests that such a general review is necessary before the several members of the School begin their individual work, to determine the bonds as well as the bounds of their cooperation.

That leads me to the question of personnel, and perhaps you will allow me to say one or two things on that. I have read what was said at the meeting of the Trustees; I am delighted that you are asking Earle and I hope he can come. I also appreciate your wish to begin quietly and modestly, and that will be sound

policy for us all. Your own remarks to the Trustees induce me to put again to you the usefulness of asking Ginsberg over for the year. You are starting with a small group, and that group must start with a wide survey. Both circumstances -the wide sweep and organic nature of the field to be surveyed, and the limitation of the original permanent staff- indicate how immensely we would be helped by his presence, or that of someone else of his type. I am suggesting Ginsberg because he has exceptional knowledge of social philosophy and psychology, as well as of the sociology of primitive groups, all subjects which must be taken into account in our general survey; because he has to an unusual degree the dispassionate outlook of the scholar, so greatly needed as a check in the period of hypothetical planning; and also because, as a member of the Emergency Committee and of the Court of Governors, he knows from the inside what have been the obstacles and pitfalls to the scientific progress of the School of Economics. I would beg you to consider once more whether these scholarly and practical qualities would not be of infinite help to us just in the beginning, while digging the common foundations of the School, rather than later when we have set out upon our several pursuits. We shall be a few and we shall know a little; the other aspects of the field must be taken into account in our preliminary survey, though their detailed investigation can be left to later arrangements.

Another matter which, I confess, much worries me is the economic appointment. The economic side is of primary importance for our original inquiry. Your inclination is to chose an expert in the mathematical method, because, as you said, he should be able to deal with the present trend in economics on its own terms. The argument is unanswerable. The use of that method will be essential in the detailed work of the School. But I confess to being skeptical as to what it can do for us in our initial period of stock-taking and revaluation. On the same assumption I should myself have to qualify for the School by an ability to deal with the technicalities of sanctions and of an international police force, with the legalistic fine points of the Covenant and so on, as these are the matters now debated among experts in international government. Interesting and important matters, too; but what contribution could I make on that basis to a group aiming to think out afresh the meaning of social organization? A man may be supremely deft in working out the algebraical intricacies of 'duopoly' and of the 'marginal Firm'; but the forces of mankind

and the tides of history cannot well be reduced to the ~~stark~~ dead symbols of an algebraical formula. As Whitehead said in his recent lectures, the awareness of 'aim' is as much a fact of our experience as any sensory reaction - immensely so in any historical review and~~k~~ in any philophical valuation of economic movements; and what mathematical device could measure the part and weight of 'aim'?

It is a question, then, of the proper qualification for the appointment, in the light of our needs: a proficiency in the mathematical method, to cross foils with the most hard-boiled offspring of classical economics, or the gifts of an historical-philosophical scholarship, to strengthen our effort to break away rather from that type of social science; an ability to argue outside or an ability to cooperate inside. Possibly you may find both things united in one and the same person, though it is unlikely. Perhaps the solution lies in the appointment of two economists, representing the two aspects. But what I would most anxiously urge upon you is that for our beginning we need the second first, if you will pardon the Irishism.

This has been a field day, so to speak; I have let myself go, and that for two reasons. First, because I am not going to do it again. From the outset, as always in our talks, I felt that we shared a common outlook: that we wanted the same thing, and that we thought much alike as to the best way of getting it. In principle. For when it has come to practical arrangements it has been otherwise. In their journey from my mind to yours all my views seem to acquire a twist which make them unattractive to you, and which continually gives me the appearance of an official opposition. Your task is difficult enough without such annoyance, and my feelings for you and the nature of my interest in the Institute are maligned by such an owlish part. So I will not write again on the organization of the Institute unless to answer any specific questions you may put to me.

So far cooperation has come easy to me. In my varied employments, while holding to my views, I have always made friends of my colleagues and superiors, and you may rely on me to try and work loyally upon any basis which in your wisdom you may provide. Your last two letters are disturbing in their evidence

of how lightly you are taking cooperation by the members of the School for granted, and in fairness to myself and the others I felt that I must tell my views and my fears - this being the second reason for this long and frank letter. We shall all delight, you may be sure, in trying to live up to your expectations. In fact, you will essentially have prejudged and pre-determined the matter by the nature of your appointments. My fear is that without those conditions which I have ventured to describe, the few of us there will in all goodwill grope about together for awhile, and then in all goodwill probably drift apart again and back to our individual line and methods of work.

A few minor things. I was much interested in what you quoted from Dr. Simon Flexner. Does what he says about the influence of environment not fit in with what I said in my previous letter about the danger of formal differentiation? If the people are scholars, modesty will bloom of itself from their own sense of how little they know, rather than from being told so.

I also like what you said about housing. You might have used the example of the School of Economics, which started in two rooms in Adelphi (used, I believe, part of the day by other tenants); and one could almost say that its scholarly achievements have moved in inverse relation to its architectural glories.

Congratulations on the acquisition of Morse. I knew him a little at Harvard, to my great pleasure, and we came across each other in Paris, as it happened, last spring. By the way, I was there as a member of the British delegation to a Conference at the Sorbonne on the scientific study of international relations, and I was able to do a little bridge-building between the European groups. Now, to my surprise, the Institute of International Affairs have asked ~~me~~ me to serve ^(in the coming year) as their representative on the British Coordinating Committee for the Scientific Study of International Relations, of which Lord Meston is chairman and Beveridge vice-chairman. I am much flattered, as they have a vast supply of possible people in their membership; and considering that the Council of the Institute is stuffed with Lords and Major-Generals, I am also rather puzzled.

Our very warmest good wishes to you and Ann and the girls for the holidays and the New Year. I hope you will all keep in good health, and that the ideals to which you each devote yourselves will prosper during the coming year.

Yours faithfully,
David Mitrany

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

19.XI.1934

Nov. 19, 1934

Dear Flexner,

Very many thanks for your letter of the 7th and the extracts from the Minutes, which I am glad to have. I will ponder them over for a few days and then venture to make some comments; to-day I want to answer the questions you put to me in the second part of your letter.

I am glad you wrote me freely, as you felt. It is a difficult and delicate matter, easily leading itself to mis-interpretation unless one keeps it on the level on which you have put it. I think I understand your feeling; and I have seen enough young scholars distracted, and even mentally ruined, by executive pressure to publish; not to feel your own attitude very refreshing. Let me admit that perhaps it suits my own bias. My pen seems to have sown all its wild oats in the three frantic years with the Manchester Guardian, and not even the very hard time of the past year has tempted me, in spite of profitable opportunities, to become prolific again. But that may not be so with other of your appointees, and if you are going to have a policy in this matter, it will be well to know what is possible and desirable.

Let us take first the objective part. If you were to ask me, I would say that I hope my colleagues would refrain for a time from two kinds of writings, representing extremes. At the one end, any attempt to rush out with an elaborate 'system' would clearly pre-empt, as you say, the fruit of our cooperation. - At the other, an indulgence in topical and partisan controversies would probably disturb our family life. By all means let us call a plague on pontificalism and journalism. But is it possible to go beyond that? You would rightly dislike us to indulge in speeches on political platforms; but I am sure that occasional academic lectures could not be objected to. The 'papers' in scientific journals etc. are the written counterpart, and they may be a very useful part of our work. Some of us may write because we like to see our names in print, but that is not

always so. When we write on partial aspects of our work, it is as much to find out what others think of it. It is in a way our laboratory test. And we read what others write to correct ~~xx~~ in the light of their knowledge our own facts and hypotheses. These papers are so to speak the currency of exchange in social science. Kant's awe-inspiring example, which you bring back to mind, points the difference. We are engaged not on a critique of pure reason, to be conceived in an ivory tower, but on the study of a living and evolving society. We simply must know what others know, and whether ~~xxxxxx~~ we really know what we think we know. Would you not agree that the present conditions as distracting as they are exacting, emphasize the distinction I have tried to make? To propound 'systems' when everything is in a state of flux would hardly be wise; to join in the partisan fray when all is fire and passion would not be scholarly. But not to be keenly aware of changing facts and forces, and not to use them continuously as a reaction test for one's philosophy, would be as scientific as chemistry without the laboratory.

How are we going to do it - which is another way of asking, how could any policy you may favour be applied; - the subjective part of the problem. Some of your words almost suggest that you would like the social scientists to take a pledge of abstinence from writing, for a certain period. It might be rather an interesting experiment, in spite of what I said before, if they worked together on a set task. But that might be difficult to arrange; and in any case, I understood from you that the School of Mathematics has joined with the Princeton School in a publication for their periodical work. That has set a definite precedent. Are you intending to provide a similar outlet for the School of Social Sciences? I know that you have a weakness for your mathematicians, but I also know that you would not wish for a moment to give the impression that you regard what the mathematicians produce as mature, but what the social scientists will produce a priori as juvenile. What are the mathematicians doing about it? I can imagine some voluntary arrangement^{for} setting up an editorial committee from among the members of each School, and all the members of the School undertaking to let the committee see first anything they may intend to publish, for friendly criticism and discussion. Anyone with sense would accept this as rather helpful, while this friendly supervision would help to maintain the general standard of work published by members of the School. If they

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had a departmental review or series, this would be a matter of course; it might be a possible experiment even with things ~~xx~~ published at large. What do you think?

Perhaps, as you feel strongly about it, it might be useful to have it discussed informally among your Executive, before the new School is gathered together. I have, frankly, an open mind, and would willingly share in any experiment proposed for the Institute, as a means of furthering a cooperative standard, even if it should pinch some of my personal principles and convictions. We are embarking on a new adventure, and at such a time one must have the courage of one's convictions, but also the courage to put aside one's convictions for the sake of moving with the communal sense. A common sense, in the literal meaning of the word, is the great need for a start. That is why about the only view I hold strongly is this - that anything that might be said or done should not discriminate, either between individuals or between departments. The very first principle upon which your Institute was based would be undermined if one department were treated as a club-room and another as a nursery; in the nursery some would get melancholy and some rebellious, but the chances of mutual understanding and selfless working together would be gone. But I am saying all this merely by way of completing my answer to the questions you have put me. Your experience is such that you would not think, I know, of starting with a differentiation as a means of inspiring cooperation. But within the framework of this essential principle, I for my part am willing to accept any arrangement which the 'sense of the House', as they say in the Commons, would favour for the sake of our common purpose.

Ever yours sincerely

S. Mitrany

Dr. Abraham Flexner.

November 17, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

I have never been quite easy in mind as to how you would feel about the last two letters I wrote you. I am extremely anxious that members of the Institute should enjoy the most complete freedom of thought and opinion. I am equally anxious that the economics group should approach its problem with open minds and have as little as possible to explain away in case their deliberations change their present opinions. This is why I wrote you as I did. It has occurred to me since, however, that, as your mind will not and should not stop working, it would be a good idea for you to write down anything that you wish to preserve and might under other circumstances wish to print now, until next year when you have a chance to canvass the general subject with your colleagues.

I have this morning a memorandum from a young scholar with whom I have been in contact, which places the subject of economics in a very different light from anything which I have previously received. I am myself no judge of its merits. It may be that his point of view will influence yours and that of other persons.

With all good wishes,

Professor David Mitrany
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEISHER

November 30, 1934

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith duplicate
deposit slip, receipted by the 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 allowance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY
Assistant Secretary

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

15. XI. 34.

hor. 15, 1934

Dear Mrs. Bailey,

(1) Would you kindly have a copy of Korzybski's "Science & Sanity" sent to me? When I was a Harvard he sent me a paper on "Non-Aristotelian Logic" which impressed me greatly, and while he is unlikely to find acceptance by the orthodox logicians, his 'madness' may be of the fruitful kind.

(2) I should like to know, privately, Dr. Flexner's opinion of Max Haudman, of Anne Arbor, who is described as a sociological historian. He was mentioned to me in connection with a piece of work to be done here, and the very able American scholar also recommended him

apparently regards him as one of the
most credit men in the States:

Many thanks for both things. I have
sent Dr. Flexner a copy of Prof. Feisberg's
small book on Sociology, which has just
appeared.

I hope all is well with you, and
that Dr. Flexner is keeping fit and his
good spirits. Things are still a bit unsettled
with me, but I am hoping to be more
enlightened soon. With many kind regards
and wishes,

Yours sincerely
Shirley

November 12, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

I have your interesting letter with the two memoranda. I do not believe that I am the person to pass any judgment on the memoranda in question. They ought, I think, with other suggestions to be discussed in a leisurely and thorough-going fashion by the initial economic group with a view to determining the direction in which economic and social inquiry can be prosecuted. My general feeling as respects not only economics but any other field is that we should make a modest beginning, that we should not bite off too much, and that we should feel our way very cautiously, since we will be treading on very difficult ground.

Personally, I should like very much to bring Ginsberg over for a year, but it would, I think, be a mistake to bring him next year before you and one or two others who may be assembled have had a chance to find some point of departure. I imagine that progress in the development of the School of Economics and Politics will be much more tentative and much slower than progress in subjects like mathematics and physics which, whatever their unknown quantities, have found themselves. It is interesting to recall that, when the mathematicians drew up their initial program, it was of a very comprehensive nature. I turned it down and suggested that they begin at a definite point and work outward from that point. I suspect that in the two years since that program was worked out they have forgotten all about it, for they are now developing not from a theoretical point of view but

Professor Mitrany

November 12, 1934

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from the practical implications of what they do from one day to the next.

You will be interested in knowing that we have just rounded out, so to speak, the School of Mathematics for the time being and some time to come by calling Professor Marston Morse from Harvard. I enclose you a clipping from today's New York Times on the subject.

We are all well, and all join in affectionate greetings to you and
Ena.

Always sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

AF:ESB

November 7, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith pertinent extracts from the minutes of the Board meeting held October 8 with an additional elaboration by Frankfurter of his views. I shall be very glad to have any comment from you that this material suggests.

I have had a good many conversations recently with various persons regarding the School of Economics and Politics. One angle from which the subject can be approached, namely, the history of current or recently accepted economic doctrine is indicated by Frankfurter. Another point of view is that which you bring out in your article, which I read with great interest, namely, the way in which economic policy in one country is affected by economic doings in other countries. Finally, there are those like Mr. Stewart, who believe that the time is past when economics can be attacked as a whole by any one institution. In this respect, economics resembles mathematics. We shall have next year six or seven full professors of mathematics. Yet they are all working in adjoining portions of one of many divisions of the subject. Despite the fact that there are more mathematicians and more eminent mathematicians at Princeton than anywhere in the world, there is no geometer; there is no one interested in the theory of numbers, etc. In other words, the field is too big, and the methods of working are too highly specialized to admit of anything like completeness.

I begin to think that the same thing is true in economics. Stewart and

Professor Mitrany

November 7, 1934

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the best of our American thinkers feel that the American depression was a depression in the heavy industries. If I remember aright, about 80% of our unemployment is heavy industry unemployment. They are therefore of the opinion that instead of clinging to the old categories such as rent, interest, etc., the new economists will have to take up concrete problems such as heavy industry, etc., and this of course involves both historical and international complications.

I said above that I had read your paper with great interest. Now I am going to say something which you must be very careful not to misconstrue. The professors at the Institute have the utmost liberty of thinking, speaking, and writing. Inasmuch, however, as we are bringing together a relatively young group to attempt something like a concerted attack upon current problems, I raise the question as to whether it is not expedient and wise to refrain from printing during the period of incubation and cooperation. My concern is lest anyone may go on record in print as saying something that, when this group comes together, he may regret. This is of course a very different thing from interference with academic freedom, and, if on reflection you think that I am mistaken, I should be the first to wish you to act as your own judgment dictates. Meanwhile, I hope that you will write to me with the utmost freedom and pursue your reading and thinking without reservations of any kind. Do you recall that when Kant finally printed his "Critique of Pure Reason" he congratulated himself that he had no previous publications to explain or to explain away? Tell me honestly what you think of this way of looking at our situation at the moment.

Eleanor has been here for the past week and asks me to send you her love and best wishes. Mine and Anne's and Jean's go as a matter of course to you both.

Ever sincerely,

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

3. XI. 34.

NOV. 3, 1934

Dear Mrs. Bailey,

Ever so many thanks for the prompt despatch of the £150. - The cheque arrived yesterday morning, in record time. I am truly in your debt for your very kind help.

As to this month's salary, would you kindly, when it is paid in, ask the Princeton Bank to transfer at once \$868.88 to

"The Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.
70 Broadway, N.Y.,
for the credit of Westminster Bank, Ltd.,
Foreign Branch Office, Lothbury, London,
account D. Mitrany".

With the support of a friend, namely, I have been able to make a forward arrangement, for a few months, at the rate of 4.96 1/2, and so make sure that I get a certain fixed amount. I was frightened a few weeks

ago by the need of a fresh devaluation
of the dollar, and this arrangement enabled
me to settle my income in sterling for a
few months. Now Eva is back home, I
don't mind what happens to the dollar,
but at present I must keep an anxious
eye on it.

The transfer will leave somewhat less
than \$100 in my Princeton account. I guess
I will draw nothing else from it in the
meantime, or if I should I will let you
know in good time.

I am waiting with great interest the
copy of the minutes which in his last
letter Dr. Flexner has promised me, and
in the meantime I am keeping along
with my work. My poor wife, alas!,
is still in the nursing home, though the
doctor is full of confidence and good
promises. I shall know more in a
while, when I go to see him.

With my kindest regards and thanks
Always yours sincerely
David Mitrany

Reference given by Professor Graham Wallas to the Board of
International Studies of London University.

23.IX.1929.

I have known Mr. Mitrany well, during the last fifteen years, both at the School of Economics and as a personal friend; and I consider him extraordinarily well-fitted to hold an important chair of International Relations.

The first requisite for the holder of such a chair is knowledge. Students, mainly graduates, will come from all over the world for guidance in their studies, and the University shall hold itself responsible for seeing that such students receive the help which they expect. A professor which was merely a sympathetic propagandist, or who was himself beginning to familiarise himself with the facts of international relations, could not give that help to students many of whom will have been working for years at the subject. An international professor should have a real knowledge of languages, a knowledge which enables him to exchange ideas and impressions with men whose English is imperfect. In that respect there are very few men who are Mr. Mitrany's equal.

A professor of international affairs should also have the international habit of mind and feeling, a fresh and independent judgment, and a genuine passion for constructive political thought. All these Mr. Mitrany has.

One assumes that all professors are industrious. But there are degrees of industry; and the building up of a University Department in a new world-wide subject requires the highest possible degree. Mr. Mitrany has from his boyhood trained himself to work with that kind of rapid concentration which one associates with the name of Mr. Sidney Webb.

It is extremely desirable that the holder of such a chair should look forward to many years of continuous work; and, indeed, should look upon his duties as the occupation of a life-time. I know that Mr. Mitrany would look on his work in that way, and would not be called away by literature or politics or public administration. Finally, a professor who is also the organiser of a department of international affairs should be a man of tact, a loyal colleague, and a good organiser. Mr. Mitrany has shown, in his work for the Carnegie Endowment and elsewhere, that he possesses all those qualities.

(ss.) Graham Wallas.

Appendix II.

Testimonials.

1. The 'Manchester Guardian'.

Mr. C. P. Scott:

The Guardian Office,
Manchester.

June 24/29.

Mr. David Mitrany is, I learn, a candidate for the Chair at the London School of Economics at present held by Professor Baker, and has asked me to speak of his qualifications from my knowledge of him as a member of the editorial staff of the Manchester Guardian during the years 1919-22. The work of a journalist is in many ways different from that of a professor, but some of the more important qualities valuable to the one are equally valuable to the other. I mean more particularly judgment and knowledge. In regard to both of these Mr. Mitrany showed himself, throughout three difficult years, to be thoroughly qualified. His knowledge of European politics was never at fault and his judgment was alike independent and sound. Particularly was this the case in regard to the economic conditions so vital to be rightly appraised at that time, and it was here that he rendered the most conspicuous service to the paper.

C. P. SCOTT.

Editor & Governing Director of the
'Manchester Guardian'.

*This was sent to
Mr. D. B. Miller
in 1929.*

3. Mr. David Hunter Miller, Legal Adviser to President Wilson and American Member of the Committee for the drafting of the League Covenant:

July 12, 1929.

Professor James T. Shotwell informs me that Mr. David Mitrany is an applicant for the chair of International Relations at the London School of Economics, in view of the resignation of Professor Baker.

If it be permissible for an American to speak in the matter, I should like to express my very high opinion of Mr. Mitrany's qualifications for such a post. I have always considered that his knowledge of the subject was profound, both as a scholar and as one who has himself seen much of international doings and personalities. In addition, I think that Mr. Mitrany has in a high degree the ability, so much to be desired in a post of this character, to communicate his learning to others, both in writing and in speaking.

DAVID HUNTER MILLER.

2. The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

President Nicholas Murray Butler:

New York,
July 10, 1929.

I am advised that Mr. David Mitrany has been suggested for a Chair of International Relations at the London School of Economics. It gives me pleasure to say that Mr. Mitrany has been associated with the Carnegie Endowment for a number of years, principally in connection with the work of the Division of Economics and History for which he has carried on a number of important researches for the Social and Economic History of the World War. In addition, He has been Special Correspondent for the Balkan States of the Division of Intercourse and Education. His reports have been objective and impartial and have demonstrated his critical insight as a student of public matters. I am glad to be able to recommend Mr. Mitrany highly in the field of international relations.

NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER.

Professor James T. Shotwell:

New York,
July 22, 1929.

My dear Mitrany,

I am to-day leaving for the Far East and shall be absent from my office until the close of the year and, after that, shall have only a formal connection with the Endowment,

retaining the directorship here solely for the purpose of directing specific investigations. Therefore, our long association in the work of this Division will come to an end and I cannot let the occasion pass without telling you what it has meant to have you as a colleague during the years of work upon the Economic and Social History of the World War.

Almost a decade has passed since I first met you in my office in London and we planned together the work on the War History for Southeastern Europe. That phase of the work, however, has been perhaps of less importance than your position as General European Editor for the Central and Eastern Continental countries. Even that does not limit the field of your co-operation, for Belgian, French and Italian volumes, as well as German and Austrian texts, have been referred to you, and I have been constantly impressed with the wide knowledge of the problems in question and the scholarly sense of research in hunting out the documents necessary to check up any disputed or doubtful points. Your mastery of language is, of course, the beginning of the qualifications necessary for this kind of work, as it enables you to pick out the shades of meaning that tend to escape anyone who has not actually used the languages in daily speech. I have been particularly indebted for the keenness of detection of any belligerent tone in nationalist writers, but found your editorial hand dealing ~~im~~partial ~~in~~justice whenever we ran

upon the opposite extreme in sentimental internationalism. All in all, your editorial work has been as solid in judgment as it has been strong in scholarly insight.

It was my privilege in Rumania to see how highly esteemed you were even by the party in power to which you were frankly politically opposed. Monsieur Bratianu and his colleagues, including Monsieur Duca, the Foreign Minister, evinced a real respect for a critic who would not be swerved from his conclusions by any political allurements.

Your own volume in the War History which is now in press is one of the most important volumes in the whole Economic History of the War. I am sure that it will be recognised as a contribution of the first order in the social history of Southeastern Europe. But although your special field has been Southeastern Europe, and it is a field which may still present major problems in European history, nevertheless, during the winter that you were with me in New York, I was struck with how quickly you grasped the heart of American difficulties in ^{international} ~~American~~ relations and how quickly you pointed the way always to policies that might adjust the United States to the new era. The importance of reconsidering the principles of neutrality, now so much discussed both in the politics of Britain and of the United States, was first pointed out in the work which you were doing in this office and first stated in set terms in your own book on International Sanctions. It was in the winter of 1924-25 that you sought

to direct the attention of American students to this theme;
it has taken most of them fully three years to catch up with
you on this point.

I am afraid that this letter sounds too much like a
last farewell. It is not intended in that sense but
simply to register my indebtedness to you for your cordial
cooperation throughout these years.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES T. SHOTWELL.

7.2. E. O. Mitrany

LSE Chair

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to hear that you are interested in the LSE Chair at the University of Chicago. I am sure that you will find the position very attractive and that you will be able to do much good work there.

I am sure that you will find the position very attractive and that you will be able to do much good work there.

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

31.X.1934

Oct. 31, 1934

D. Mitrany

Dear Flexner,

When I have the copy of your discussion which you kindly promised me, I will write more fully. But I want to send without more delay a very brief statement which I have drawn up after a talk with Ginsberg, and a note by himself of a more specific kind.

If we can make a start next year, and if the ideas here tentatively put forward appeal to you, would it not be worth while to invite Ginsberg over for a year? For the kind of preliminary survey and estimate of the field his help would be invaluable, and I truly know of no other man who could give as much. He has a philosophical mind, knows a great deal of psychology, and his many years of work with Hobhouse have made of him, as regards method, a true scientist, with a quiet but increasing reputation.

He has taken no time off since Hobhouse's death and is entitled to a sabbatical year, on half salary. And I think that in getting his help, you would do him and his work a good turn, for he has taught now without interruption for a great many years, and his well-stored brain would be much freshened up by a year of quiet thinking and discussion. As he is head of his department, he would have to make his arrangements in fairly good time. What do you think?

Ever with kind wishes,
yours

D. Mitrany

While the Social Sciences are being generally pursued as highly specialized disciplines, they are increasingly making use of a common sociological method - a combination of the inductive or comparative study of institutions and factors with a theory, scientific and philosophic, of the broader aspects of social development.

Work on the inductive side has suffered from two limitations. In so far as it has been comparative it has been devoted excessively to primitive institutions, on the unfounded assumption of their greater simplicity. And comparative work of modern conditions has given exaggerated emphasis to the political aspect. The result is that we know little even on such questions as the various forms of social classes or of the institutions of property. Many other subjects, like the nature and growth of nationalism, cry out for comparative systematic study. - There are critics of the comparative method, some indeed regarding it as superseded. But that attitude can often be traced to a misunderstanding, caused in the main by a confusion of the method with a naive evolutionism. What is needed at the moment is a deeper examination of the field, for the purpose of determining the proper units of study.

The comparative study must be combined with a study and theory of the factors of change and persistence, of the biological and psychological factors. On the biological side there is much scope for the study of social selection: What is the weight and effect of inborn factors as compared with those of social environment? In how far are social institutions affected by changes in the biological composition of social groups? The extreme views of 'racialists' and 'environmentalists' probably are both capable of correction, and it would be valuable to have, as a beginning, even a reasoned estimate

of the real knowledge now available on these subjects. - Again, on the psychological side, the need is great just now to bring psychology to bear upon the comparative study of institutions. What, for example, happens to the aggressive impulses in different types of the family? Are there important variations in the relations between parents and children in different types of social structure, education and beliefs? Or variations between political groups under different types of economic and political organization? We need, in brief, a differential group psychology. - Finally, on the philosophical side, it is urgent to consider afresh the notions of progress and development ~~xx~~ in their bearing on social study. There is a feeling, by no means limited, that these ideas are outworn, and popular writings almost take this for granted. A competent re-examination of the whole question would be of real value.

In general, and in summary, these are some main aspects of the work that might be undertaken, and inter-related, in the Social Sciences:

1. Sociology - comparative survey of certain dominant institutions and factors
2. Economics - an analysis of the economic aspect of social institutions and of the social aspect of economic institutions
3. Biology - the reality of social selection
4. Psychology - the differential social psychology reflected in social institutions
5. Philosophy - re-examination and re-valuation of the idea of progress.

On the scientific side, a survey and valuation of the available knowledge would in itself be a most timely contribution, and the only sound starting point for fresh research ~~and~~ ^{as well as} for an attempt at philosophical ^{so} restatement.

Ginsberg

In 1915 a work was published entitled 'The Material Culture and Social Institutions of the Simpler Peoples' by Hobhouse, Wheeler and Ginsberg in which an attempt was made to introduce some order into the chaos of anthropology by a wide and systematic use of the method of correlation. About 500 primitive peoples were graded on the basis of their economic structure and their social institutions were then examined with a view of ascertaining whether there was any correlation between the economic grade and the institutions of the family, of government and property, war and class differentiation. Despite certain difficulties inherent in the method the attempt met with reasonable measure of success. It appears to me that a more extended inquiry on the same lines using data accumulated since 1915 would be amply justified.

What I should like to propose now, however, related^s not to the primitive peoples but ~~the~~ to the civilised ones. I should like to inquire whether the method employed in the SIMPLER PEOPLES could not be extended to deal with the more interesting and better documented peoples of the civilised world. Sociology to my mind has suffered from an excessive preoccupation with the primitives and it is time that the comparative method was applied in systematic fashion to the richer fields of the great civilisations. Sociology is full of vast generalisations which are as easily confuted as they are easily established. The method used in the SIMPLER PEOPLES is I think a good check on such generalisations and it is important to ascertain whether it could be utilised in dealing with the data furnished by the historians and by students of contemporary society.

To this end a preliminary inquiry is needed in which historians and sociologists must cooperate. The questions that arise may be provisionally formulated thus :

1. Can any units of civilisation be distinguished for purposes of comparative study ? How many civilisations are there ?

The problem of the unit was ever present to us in the older inquiry and was not quite satisfactorily solved. The difficulties are no doubt greater in the case of civilisations but possibly they may be overcome by cross-classifications when questions of borrowing and culture contact arise.

2. The grading according to economic status which was used in the SIMPLER PEOPLES will have to be revised. If an adequate classification could be achieved, however, we should be in a position to test the sweeping generalisations now current as to the influence of the economic factors on social life.

3. It may be desirable to include other institutions and aspects of mental development than were dealt with in the first inquiry. We left out for example any consideration of moral and religious ideas and practices but the relation between these and the economic and social development is a problem of the greatest interest to the student of civilisation. Will they lend themselves to study by the method of correlation ?

Should preliminary inquiry show that the method is feasible it will be necessary to secure the cooperation of historians, ^{jurists} ~~lawyers~~ students of comparative religion and morals, and historians of science and art. For the present what is proposed is a survey of the possibilities of the method and this I should like to undertake myself. It would probably take a year's reading and discussion.

October 25, 1934

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I have your notes of October 2 and 11 with enclosures and your instructions. I have today opened an account for you with the Princeton Bank and Trust Company with an initial deposit of \$1,108.33, which represents balance of September salary and your October salary after having deducted payments towards your retiring allowance:

September salary less payment towards retiring allowance					
	\$833.34	less	\$41.68	equals	\$791.66
Paid Sept.	<u>500.00</u>	less	<u>25.00</u>	equals	<u>475.00</u>
Balance	\$333.34	less	\$16.99	equals	\$316.66
October salary less payment towards retiring allowance					
	\$833.33	less	\$41.66	equals	<u>\$791.67</u>
				Total	<u>\$1,108.33</u>

I enclose receipt from Princeton Bank and Trust Company of your check, and I send you herewith a draft for £150 on Midland Bank, Ltd., London, draft No. A583966, for which there is a charge of \$749.50 against your account.

I am rushing this letter to you to catch the Europa sailing tomorrow, and I shall mail your checks to Massachusetts within the next few days. Please let me know in good time how you wish your November salary handled. I shall be only too happy to help in any way that I can.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

23. X. 1934

Oct. 23, 1934

Dear Flexner,

Your letter dated Oct 9 arrived this morning. Once more I can but say that the arrangements which you and the Trustees have made in regard to my salary are an immense help, and in my present circumstances perhaps an even greater mental than material relief. Thank you again and again.

I shall eagerly look forward to the copy of the minutes with the discussion on the work of the Social Sciences, and it is good to hear that you are now hoping to make a start next year. When I get the minutes, I will write in more detail, but I may say now that what you say of the trend of the discussion entirely coincides with what I have thought and contemplated for some time past. In fact, though quite unprepared, but with the willing help of a small band of more adventurous students, I made a tentative historical approach to certain problems of the State during my last term at Harvard. I merely wanted to set those students thinking and working from a new angle, and several of them have kept at it and have kept in touch with me, producing most promising work. One of them, e.g., using our preliminary inquiry, has written a thesis on the meaning of Security which shows how utterly nonsensical is the present approach to that problem. The moment one uses the historical method it becomes clear that the State has been perverted from an instrument of security into the object of security, and in that way instead of protecting our social life drains it to that perverse end.

However, these are but random remarks provoked by what you tell me and which makes me look forward even more hopefully than before to our work. Meanwhile, our very good wishes and kindest remembrances, to you and all yours.

Ever yours
David Mitrany

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

11. X. 34.

Dear Mrs. Bailey,

Here is the proof of attorney - I
hope satisfactory completed - with, again,
a thousand thanks for your willingness to act
for me.

In the meantime I have received
Dr. Flexner's cable, which has been most
welcome. I shall await his letter before
writing. With many kind regards and thanks
for everything.

Yours sincerely
David Mitrany

October 9, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

After the meeting of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study, held yesterday, I sent you the following cable:

"Board voted to pay your full salary beginning September first Writing."

Your checks hereafter will be made out on the basis of your full salary, and your next check will contain an additional instalment for the month of September.

I hope you can look forward to being in America at the beginning of the next academic year. I shall send you shortly a copy of the minutes of the meeting, from which you will see the point of view from which we hope to attack the problems of economics and politics. I wish you could have heard Frankfurter's discussion, for he pointed out the extreme importance of beginning with a careful study of the origin and vogue of the so-called principles or slogans by which we have hitherto been governed. Mr. Stewart had previously taken, in conference with me, the same view: namely, that if we hope to make any contribution in this field we should have to begin from a historical point of view.

We are all well and all send our love to you and Ena.

Ever sincerely,

Professor David Mitrany
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England
AF/MCE

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TIME FILED	

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

October 8, 1934 19

To Mitrany
Kingston Blount
Oxfordshire England

Board voted to pay your full salary beginning September first Writing

Flexner

Charge Institute for Advanced Study

20 Nassau Street

2.04

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

2. 8. 34.

Oct. 2, 1934

Dear Mrs. Bailey,

Thank you so much for your letter of Sept. 15th, with its enclosures, as well as for the checkbook. I am indeed most anxious to send you the power of attorney, if I am not abusing your kindness, for no one could deal so disarmingly as yourself with my overdrafts!

The delay is due to a piece of ignorance on my part. Documents are legalised here by solicitors who are also 'Commissioners of oaths', and I wanted till I had the chance to see the London man who occasionally does this kind of thing for us. As it was a matter of a few minutes, I left it to the end of the day's business, just before going to the station, only to be told that there are such animals as 'notaries public' in England, and that documents to be used abroad must be legalised by them; but they are so few and far between, that in this whole district there is only one in Oxford, and he is seldom at home, and so a few days more must pass till I get hold of him or happen to be in London.

To enable you to open the account, I am sending you the requisite signatures; and perhaps you would kindly ask the Bank to send me at once upon receiving your first deposit a draft on London for £ 150.- (one hundred and fifty pounds). This will cost roughly \$ 750, and if I am correct, there will be left over from your deposit some \$ 350. The Massachusetts premium may be anything from \$ 90 to \$ 120, but not more, and you will have the power of attorney before it is due, on November 1.

Many, many thanks for all your kind help.

I am delighted that you have had such a fine holiday - you needed it, and I hope that the Institute has now an N.R.A. code for you. I also have had a week's holiday by the sea, near Lind's nursing home, and as Tom came over on three different days and was full of life and good hope, you may be sure that I came home younger for that week.

When I hear from you formally about the change, I will write Dr. Flexner. But you may tell him privately what an enormous help it will be to me. With

Very very good wishes and gratitude,

Yours sincerely

David Mitrany

See that you catch a fast train with the other payment - I shall wait at the R.F.

September 26, 1934

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith the
Institute's check for \$475, your salary for the
month of September, 1934, less payment towards
your retiring allowance.

Dr. Fleener asks that you sign
the attached affidavit, as indicated, and return
it to me that I may send it to the National Newark
and Essex Banking Company.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER A. BOWLEY
Assistant Secretary

August 20, 1934

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith draft for
\$475.00 (U.S.) which represents your salary from
the Institute for the month of August, 1934, after
having deducted your payment of \$25.00 towards
your retiring allowance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY
Assistant Secretary

Princeton, New Jersey

July 20, 1934

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith draft for
\$475.00 (U. S.) which represents your salary from
the Institute for the month of July, 1934, after
having deducted your payment of \$25.00 towards
your retiring allowance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY
Assistant Secretary

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

3. vii. 34.

July 3, 1934

Dear Flexner,

Ginsberg will be glad to lunch with us on Wednesday, the 11th. We will follow your convenience, but it would give me pleasure if you came and lunched with me this time, at the National Liberal Club, where we could lunch in the terrace, if the war.

The suggestion in Ena's letter was all her own, but it is very sound. There is no doubt that Ginsberg is really first-rate, both in erudition and in critical power; and I also agree with her that he is a much better scholar than teacher. In fact, he is badly wasted at the school. I don't know how the idea appeals to you, and I don't know how an offer would appeal to him. He has a great sense of loyalty, and as he is head of the department which Hobhouse

created, and as Hitler, or at least he, so to speak, nominated Guisberg as his successor, the roots are fairly strong. The only thing which may make a great difference now is that things are getting from bad to worse at the school - Laski may tell you more about this - and while Guisberg is not directly involved, he is much too sensitive and just not to find the Beveridge-Hear expense very distasteful. But he is really a splendid man, in every respect; and even if it were a choice between him and me, ~~it~~ I would not hesitate to tell you that he is the man to pick.

Thank you so much for your kind hospitality. There are so many more things I want to talk over with you - I hope we can have another talk before you go to France.

Lin you & Mitrany

I am sending you the copy of the 'Leumi School' with Cannon's address.

- The official German story of the 'revolution' seems a honest or the Reichstag fire story. They say that Hitler wanted to march in the middle of the night because Röhm had asked a revolt, and at the same time they usually describe how Röhm and the other rebels were peacefully led, being a good time after their own fashion!

Princeton, New Jersey

June 30, 1934

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith
draft for \$475, your June 1934 salary, after
having deducted your payment of \$25 towards
your retiring allowance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Assistant Secretary

Princeton, New Jersey

June 2, 1934

My dear Mitrany:

I have not felt easy in mind since writing you, because I feared that my remark about Freud would not be quite clear to you. I imagine that there may be some difference of opinion in England and America as to just how important Freud is. It happens that there has been a recent meeting of the American Psychiatric Association and that two very prominent psychologists discussed Freud. I am enclosing a copy of the report of what they said which I think will show you that the whole subject is regarded skeptically in this country, though I think every one admits that there is something in it.

You have doubtless heard from Eleanor that we are not going to Canada this summer but are going abroad instead. That will give me a chance to talk not only with you but with others on the subject of the social sciences and on other subjects as well. I am not sure that I can get away as early as Eleanor and her mother, who are hoping to sail today a week on the Aquitania. I may have to postpone my sailing for a week or two longer, but I am looking forward with the keenest interest to a thorough discussion with you and with others on the subject of these confounded social sciences which puzzle me more and more the more I read and think about them.

With all good wishes,

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor David Mitrany

Princeton, New Jersey

May 25, 1934

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith the Institute's
checks for your salary for May 1934, after having deducted
your payment of \$25 towards your retiring allowance, as follows:

Draft for \$365.00
Check for 110.00
\$475.00

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Assistant Secretary

May 24, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

I have your interesting even if somewhat mystifying letter of May 14th. You are quite right in saying that this new school is going to be an experimental affair, and also that Graham Wallas perceived the psychological side of things and in an amateurish way did not shrink from them; but psychology is at present either a limited field, in so far as it is experimental, or an empirical and somewhat Christian-Science affair when it ceases to be experimental. There was a time when I myself set out to be a psychologist. I spent a year at Harvard under James and Münsterberg, followed by a year under Stumpf, where I met Kofka, in Berlin. Then I dropped the thing because I felt, as I still feel, that where it is science it is little more than physiology, and where it is not science it is empiricism and liable to all sorts of uncritical excesses.

Freud, if I grasp him aright, undoubtedly did psychology a great service in pointing out the importance of the subconscious in general, but when it comes down to hard earth, his methods - once more, if I understand him aright - are the methods of a physician adapted to dealing with individual pathological cases without broad social application, as far as the thing has yet gone. In his last books he has quite gone off the rails, and his disciples, both in England and in America, are viewed with a good deal of distrust, just as the osteopaths are, though in particular instances both the Freudians and the osteopaths accomplish extraordina

Professor Mitrany

May 24, 1934

- 2 -

valuable results. Under these circumstances I cannot follow you when you speak of bridging psychology and politics without mentioning the person who could conceivably do it. Who is he, and what evidence has he given of sanity, soundness, and an interest in society on the one hand and politics on the other?

I slept on your suggestion that we might accomplish something by bringing half a dozen people together here for a brief period to work and talk. At first sight this suggestion is intriguing, but there is danger, I should think, that the men invited would regard it as a kind of trial epoch, and that there might be some disappointment in case they were not retained. There is a second difficulty in that it would be very hard in this country to bring a group for a few months to work with them. Finally, I have my own personal idiosyncrasy: I think I do best by talking with men in turn, perhaps returning to talk with some of them over again, getting their views and trying in a leisurely fashion to digest them, placing the views of one man before another, and maybe, as I say, going back to talk with the first after I have talked with the last.

I feel, as I go on, greater and greater difficulties in grappling with the thing. The result of this is that I am inclined to a modest start, feeling our way as if we were blindfolded. Felix and Stewart will both help.

We have had some excessively hot weather lately, but it was broken the day before yesterday by a severe storm, so that the last two days have been perfectly delicious. Princeton is almost as beautiful as Oxfordshire.

We are all pretty well and all join in affectionate greetings to you and Ena.

Please do not let my doubts above expressed interfere in the least with the freedom with which you write me.

With all good wishes,

Ever sincerely,

Professor David Mitrany
Auguston Blount
Oxford, England
DE

ABRAHAM FLEENER

May 22, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

Many thanks for yours of the 26th of April, which, for reasons which you will understand, I am answering now tardily. Since I received it I have seen Horkheimer and Gumpers of the Societe Internationale de Recherches Sociales. They are considering coming to this country, but whether, without fundamental change in their organization and general assimilation to a university or a research institute, it is feasible, I question. I should myself not be willing to lend the name of the Institute to a group over whom neither the Director nor the Trustees has any influence whatsoever. It would be far better and would avoid all friction if they set themselves up independently somewhere else.

I am sorry, as you are, that Johnson made his refugees print so quickly, but I imagine that he has done so with the hope of raising additional funds. For myself I have the same feeling Mr. Gates had when the Rockefeller Institute was founded. He said to my brother, "Mr. Rockefeller won't care if you don't make a discovery for the next twenty years."

Have you read Frederick J. Turner's book The Frontier in American History? That is one of the most illuminating evidences I know of showing how social, political, and economic organization depend on other factors. Inasmuch as I am so anxious that you should understand America, I will send you my copy

Professor Mitrany

May 22, 1934

- 2 -

of it in case you are not familiar with it or cannot obtain it in London. It shows what political theory becomes under entirely new and changing exterior conditions.

All of us join in affectionate greetings to you.

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

AF/MCE

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

May 14, 1934.

Dear Flexner:

(1) Thank you for your letter of April 27th. All the issues which you have to face are in some degree experimental, and the question of including Psychology in the School of Politics more so than all the others. It is possible that we are faced with a set of considerations that were unknown to Max Weber, to Hobhouse and the best of them, and that the work of Freud may come to mean for the Social Sciences as much as the work of Huxley and Darwin has meant for Biology. Indeed more than that, because the Social Sciences are more closely affected by what is variable in human nature. Graham Wallase saw the coming change and provided the transition. But, of course, he was too empirical, while most psychologists are too technical and dogmatic. If you could find a well-equipped psychologist with a philosophical mind, it might be well worth to give him a chance to build a bridge between Psychology and Politics; and he could do the work nowhere in a more detached and unhurried way than at the Institute. Of course, all depends on the man, but the job is well worth a trial.

(2) I fully sympathise with what you say on the difficulty of starting the School of Economics and Politics. It would be nowhere easy at present to get together a group which would have both the ability and the will to make a fresh attack on their subjects. It was said of one of your politicians, I believe, that he had sweetbreads instead of brains. Too many economists and political scientists seem now to have livers instead of brains. Let me go back to something you said in your earlier letter of April 3rd., and make a suggestion that might appeal to you perhaps as an intermediary step towards a final solution.

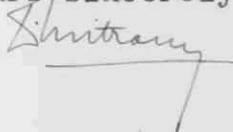
You said that you would like to follow the same procedure as with the School of Mathematics, and

A. F.

-2-

getting a group together, let them work out their own salvation; and, further, that you might gather these people in Princeton for a preliminary talk sometime after next January. You may not have your personnel fixed by then, and yet you want to explore the field, both for the sake of the work to be done and as some guidance to yourself, without too much delay. Would it not be possible to obtain the advantages of such a preliminary discussion without the disadvantage of being committed already then to the participants and what they stand for? It might be possible perhaps in this way, that you invite a group of scholars to spend three months in Princeton, from February to May next, with the addition of course of anyone you may have already appointed, to map out in free discussion a plan of work for the School. Half-a-dozen people would suffice, and those who come to my mind at the moment are McMillwain, Knight (of Chicago), Hans Kelsen (formerly of Vienna and Bonn, now at Geneva), Laski and a Frenchman. They could work with picked graduates from Princeton and with such men as they may select among applicants from elsewhere. And because the whole thing needs to have the light of every possible knowledge and experience brought to bear upon it, you might strengthen this experimental session further in this way: that during these months the School should organise every fortnight a week-end of free and informal discussions with scholars and men of experience invited for the purpose from outside - men like Frankfurter and Stewart, your brother Bernard and some of the people now at work in Washington, and so on. You will see what I mean, and how the details could be filled in. But I can visualise three months of an intense searching of the field in such a stimulating and effective way as to provide ~~that~~ an inspiration for the new School, and at the same time save it much groping about in its start. And all this, as I say, while leaving you the freedom to accept or to reject both the views resulting from this gathering and the men whom you might invite so as to see them at work.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Abraham Flexner,
The Institute for Advanced Study,

(and
hypothetically)

A. F.

P. S. I shall look forward to reading the book of Dean Gauss and I am grateful to you for sending it, all the more so as I had the pleasure of meeting him when I was at Princeton last year and because I so fully agree with the need for an historical approach which, from your words, I gather is the outlook of the book.

I had a most delightful letter from Eleanor - so charming that I had to sit down and reply to it at once on a day of abnormal midsummer heat. *Sh.*

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

G.I. 34.

May 6, 1934

Dear Miss Bailey,

Very many thanks for your note
and the two cheques. I return the
one for Dr. Frenxner, with my special
thanks to him for his kindness.

I hope that Princeton is
materially nearer the Equator than
New York - however we have an
exceptionally fine winter, but with a sting
in its tail, for the drought is getting
very serious. With many kind
remembrances,

Yours sincerely
David Mitrany

April 27, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

It occurs to me that I may not have taken in quite clearly what you meant in suggesting a professorship in psychology in the School of Economics and Politics. Did you have in mind such a person as Rivers, whose book Psychology and Politics you probably know, or Max Weber? Koffka does not fit into this category. Perhaps you can find out whether Rivers or Weber left a disciple of first-rate intellectual stature who might be enlisted in this new enterprise.

Please do not get the idea that I am hostile to or unsympathetic with suggestions.

I am sending you under separate cover a copy of a recent book by Dean Gauss of Princeton. From point of style it is not impressive, but its historical view towards political, social, and other phenomena seems to me to indicate what may be a fruitful approach to these subjects for our own School of Economics and Politics. Perhaps if the world understood better how the present order came about it would be less difficult to modify it intelligently.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm, Kingston Blount
Oxford, England
AF/MSCE

April 26, 1934

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith your salary
for the month of April 1934 as follows:

A draft for \$385.00
A check for \$ 90.00

amounting to \$475, after having deducted \$25, your
payment towards a retiring allowance.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Assistant Secretary

P.S.

I have just received your letter of April 14 and am sending Miss M. VanVleck, 48 Highland Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts, today a check for \$110 to take care of your insurance premium. I shall arrange to have your May salary paid so as to take care of that. Don't worry about being any trouble. I am delighted to attend to anything that I can for you. Indeed, that is how I earn my salary - by doing what I can for the Director, the Professors, and anybody else on the staff of the Institute.

Dr. Flexner wrote you recently, so that you have already learned of his loss. You had undoubtedly often heard him mention his oldest brother.

With kind regards to you and Mrs. Mitrany,

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

26.IV.1934

April 26, 1934

Dear Flexner,

I very much liked Earle's letter, which you so kindly sent me. And I agree with you that the economists have flopped badly. The recent performance of the Seven Harvard Economists is truly amazing - the claim, at this stage of the day, that economics had laws as rigid as gravity, and that they must not be touched. 'Scientific' economics, as matured into the extreme of algebraic economics, has all along sold its soul to production; and when the technicians produced all the rabbits we wanted out of the traditional hat, the economists were left standing and are now much scandalized at this heretical interference with 'scarcity'. At this stage economic production has no sense if divorced from biology and psychology; and economics have to be integrated into a philosophical-sociological view of society. (Incidentally, I wish Johnson had not pushed his refugees into print so quickly - the first number of the review was disappointing. German economists more than any others had worshipped since the War the 'big' rationalized unit of production; now they try to prove, just as 'scientifically', that the big unit is irrational in times of crisis.)

Borkenau's book has come. I was under the impression that he was living in Prague, but if it's Paris I can see him in four weeks, as I have been asked to join the British delegation to a conference on the study of international problems, in Paris, at the end of May. I will let you know.

You have somewhat misunderstood me about books. I wanted to collect what is being published in Europe and what may be useful to us; also, there is a chance of buying many German books second-hand.

I will write again, but I dearly hope you can come over. Meanwhile all my good wishes for you and all at home, as for the Institute. And kind remembrances to kind Mrs. Bailey.

Always yours
J. Mitrany

April 25, 1934

My dear Mitrany:

Thank you for your kind note of April 4th. I myself know Koffka. Indeed, he and I were students of Stumpf at the same time thirty years ago, though I was of course much older than he. I am not inclined at present to move in the direction of including psychology in the School of Economics and Politics. I realize the part that it has to play in both subjects, but the interests of the psychologists seem to me at the present time to lie far away from any helpful contact.

There is no reason why you should not subscribe to the Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung for the next year. You will find it in the library here when you come to America. Perhaps it might be even better to get it month by month, as we are hoping to avoid unnecessary duplication both of books and periodicals. Let Mrs. Bailey know the expense involved and she will reimburse you.

I am making slower headway with economics than I did with mathematics. The truth is that the School of Mathematics has set so high a standard, as you will see from glancing at the list of workers in the first year, that it is extremely difficult to begin the social field with anything that will be nearly as impressive. I am not concerned particularly about its being impressive at the start, if I can only feel that we have a few men of really first-rate ability

Professor Mitrany

April 25, 1934

- 2 -

who would come to the subject with open minds and make their contributions in their own good time.

As I conceive the School of Economics and Politics, it will re-examine the postulates of economic theory and take a very objective historical view of political theory and government. You are at home in the history and theory of European governments. You ought, I think, in this next year, to familiarize yourself with what has happened in America since the beginning of its colonization. To this end you will, in the first place, have to know American history from the outside; from the inside it is interpreted most satisfactorily, so far as I know, by men like Frederick J. Turner, The Federalist, The Life of John Marshall, the history of the Supreme Court, the ups and downs of the slavery controversy, and the opinions of Brandeis, Holmes and Stone. Frankfurter is, of course, an infinitely better informed guide in this field than I am. The present administration is trying to live up, as far as they can, to the opinions of Brandeis and Holmes, and the so-called "brain-trust" is made up of men whose general point of view is derived from them and from teachers like Frankfurter; but, of course, as a professor in the Institute, your position with reference to the experimentation that is going on in Russia, Italy, America, and elsewhere ought to be absolutely objective. We ought to know the facts and to understand their genesis rather than endeavor to run the show.

This last week has been somewhat difficult for us. Our eldest brother died after a long illness, and, though it was not unexpected and he was in his 77th year, he had been a father to the rest of the family, and the parting has not been easy.

Give our love to Ena, and believe me

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm, Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

April 19, 1934

My dear Mitrany:

Thank you for your kind note of April 4. I myself know Hoffka. Indeed, he and I were students of Stumpf at the same time thirty years ago, though I was of course much older than he. I am not inclined at present to move in the direction of including psychology in the School of Economics and Politics. I realize the part that it has to play in both subjects, but the interests of the psychologists seem to me at the present time to lie far away from any helpful contact.

There is no reason why you should not subscribe to the Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung for the next year. You will find it in the library here when you come to America. Perhaps it might be even better to get it month by month, as we are hoping to avoid unnecessary duplication both of books and periodicals. Let Mrs. Bailey know the expense involved, and she will reimburse you.

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D.M.

April 19, 1934

2

who would come to the subject with open minds and make their contributions in their own good time.

This last week has been somewhat difficult for us. Our eldest brother died after a long illness, and, though it was not unexpected and he was in his 77th year, he had been a father to the rest of the family, and the parting has not been easy.

Give our love to Mna, and believe me

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

AF:ESB

P.S.

This postscript should really have been in the body of the letter.

As I conceive the School of Economics and Politics, we are going to try to re-examine the postulates of economic theory and to take a very objective view of political theory and government. You are thoroughly at home as respects the history, the theory of European governments. You ought, I think, to familiarize yourself with what has happened in America since its founding. To this end you will have to know American history, in regard to the soundness of our expansion as it has been explained mainly by Frederick J. Turner and the history of the Constitution and the Supreme Court, the main authorities being The Federalist, the Life of John Marshall, the slavery controversy, and the decisions of Brandeis and Holmes. Frankfurter, of course, is a much safer and better informed guide in this field than I. The present Administration is trying to do many of the things that have been implied in the opinions of Brandeis and Holmes for many years and may mark very distinct development in American political theory.

This is a tall order for you, but you shall have all the time you need. The books are all available in England, I am sure. If not, we can send them.

Mitrany

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

14. iv. 34.

April 14, 1934

Dear Miss Bailey,

Thank you ~~much~~ for your letter of ^{yesterday} the 31st. which came today (how queer are the mails - Dr. F's letter of the 6th. came yesterday). And thanks also for the cheques, and for your statement of my accounts.

I return the cheques to Dr. Flemer - please thank him again warmly for his very kind help and patience. There remains the \$90.- if you have not already instructed the Treasurer to change the present arrangement would you kindly let him continue just this once more? My Boston insurance is due in May; again, and if you could send Miss M. Van Vleck (48 Highland St., Cambridge, Mass.), who is kindly looking after my Cambridge affairs, a cheque for \$110.-, this and that money she has of mine should suffice to pay the premium. Then the \$200 cheque would cover the two payments to her, and we should then be square.

This, of course, is ~~an~~ suggesting for my convenience

to save me buying drafts here. But I don't wish it
 done at the price of too much inconvenience to you,
 so please let your instructions stand, if you should have
 asked the Treasurer already for drafts of 385 + a cheque
 of 40 dollars, and kindly give me warning, so that
 I may send the money for her. I understand that
 I have thirty days' grace.

Thank you also for the two books which
 you kindly ordered for me - (I have so many
 things to thank you for, I shall have to arrange
 to do it wholesale, twice a year). I was glad
 to get the interesting new Bulletin - and also the
 pamphlets, which I am glad to have.

It is good to have you out that Dr. Pléneau
 is making such good progress. I very much
 hope that he may feel like a trip across the
 water, for there are many things to talk over
 with him. Though I admit that Europe is
 not a cheering place just now. I have been
 invited to be a member of an English group which
 is attending a small conference on the study of
 international problems, in Paris, at the end of
 May, so I shall have a chance to see how
 things are over there.

The spring is coming with a rush - but
 that will happen to the British Constitution when
 English gentlemen no longer can have a bath each
 morning - a likely prospect - I shudder to think.

in many parts the conditions have fallen far below
 the level of suffering!

with various kind of reports,

a large part of it

Mitrany

April 6, 1934

My dear Mitrany:

Please do not let anything that I write "prick your conscience". I am persuaded that you can do nothing better this entire year than lie fallow. Don't make an effort to think. Read, loaf, let your mind wander, and sooner or later something will occur to you. There is no need for "activity" in the American sense of the word. Nor is there any particular thing that I want you to discuss with Felix and Woodward. There is a general feeling in the air that our American economists, perhaps European economists as well, have fallen down. They did not foresee 1929, and they have been in a fog ever since. Can we do anything to make a fresh start with unprejudiced minds in the realm of economic and political theory? I am sending you a copy of a letter which I had recently in answer to this sort of question addressed to Professor Edward M. Earle of Columbia, perhaps the ablest of the younger history group in this country. It is this sort of thinking that is perhaps most helpful to us at this particular moment.

We have had some beautiful spring days lately, and I am feeling correspondingly better. Whether I shall go abroad or not depends on developments at the forthcoming Board meeting April 23. I shall let you hear in good time.

With all good wishes from Anne and Eleanor and Jean, as well as Mrs. Bailey, for you and Ena,

Ever sincerely,

Professor David Mitrany

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

4. W. 34.

April 4, 1934

Dear Flexner,

If you have not already any settled views on the psychological member of your Social Science School, it may interest you to have a look at Koffka, who is now at Ixworth. He is not a young man, and has not specialised in social psychology. But that science is still in its infancy, and K. has both ability and vision.

With reference to my previous letter, may I subscribe on behalf of the Institute to the 'Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung'? It is the organ of the Institut für Sozialforschung, formerly at Frankfurt, and now at Geneva, and the review has a valuable survey of literature. The matter of German (and Italian & American) books is most difficult; I had best seek a new book by Wilhelm Sauer, who has done much able work in juridical sociology, and found that his latest work was devoted to the discovery of a 'Gothic soul', with

Richard Wagner as prophet. It is impossible to rely
 on the sanity of anything coming from Germany.
 Fortunately, I have been able to come to a
 practical arrangement with Bumpus - they order
 any book I want to see, and they give me about
 a week to look at it. If I don't want it, they
 send it back, and I pay only the postage. But
 for this I should have had to give up former
 books altogether, especially as they are becoming
 incredibly expensive, probably because of the
 shrinking of the market.

Looking forward to hearing about your plans
 and yourself. I am as always with many
 good wishes.

Yours sincerely
 Dmitri Mitrany

C O P Y

THE LOWER FARM
KINGSTON BLOUNT
OXFORD

4.IV.34.

Dear Flexner,

If you have not already any settled views on the psychological member of your Social Science School, it may interest you to have a look at Koffka, who is now at Smith. He is not a young man, and has not specialized in social psychology. But that science is still in its infancy, and K. has both ability and vision.

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Looking forward to hearing about your plans and yourself, I am as always with many good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

D. Mitrany

April 3, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

I have your two letters of March 16th. In the first place, let me say that I am delighted that Ena is better. How wonderful to feel that she will in all probability be stronger in the future than she was before she was taken ill!

As to the Institute, you will by this time have received a copy of Bulletin No. 3, which is a simple and factual account of the way the thing has worked out this year. There are more advanced workers than I had any idea we should receive, but they have made relatively small demands on any single professor of the staff, because they are all seasoned students who have required little personal attention. What they get is mainly the inspiration from contact with one another, from discussions at afternoon tea, and from the weekly meetings of the Mathematical Club. The professors, as you see, carry on their work each in the way he thinks best. I am hoping to call a joint meeting of the Princeton group and our own in the near future for the purpose of finding out whether, in their opinion, our experience this year suggests any changes in the future. I am inclined to think that they will want to leave things as they are.

In any event, I should pursue with the economic group the same policy - namely, bring a few persons together and let them do what they please. Inasmuch as the subject lacks the definiteness of advanced mathematics it may be necessary

Dr. Mitrany

April 3, 1934

- 2 -

for a year or two to make no particular efforts to surround them with workers. However, that decision will be one for them, not for me, to make. Of course, there is no reason why a professor in the School of Economics and Politics should not have the kind of assistant with whom each of the professors in the School of Mathematics is provided. It might be a good idea for you to ask deVisme to get in communication with me and to say that I would like him to come over here some day to lunch with me - of course, at our expense. One day in the week is as good as another as far as I am concerned, and you can also suggest to him that he make no permanent arrangement, without first consulting you, and you can, of course, inform me. I have the feeling that these assistantships should not be viewed as permanent appointments. If an assistant turns out to be extraordinary there is, of course, no reason why he should not be kept permanently; but at the Rockefeller Institute they have found over a period of thirty years that these appointments should, in the first place, be temporary, or else the road is blocked and they are in a position of rendering no help to other institutions. Many of our assistants should, I think, look forward to becoming professors in other colleges and universities and thus start elsewhere the type of investigation and teaching which is developed in the Institute.

My summer plans are still uncertain. Of course, if I go abroad I shall come to England first of all, and that will give us an opportunity for a good talk - and several of them. In any event, we cannot start the School of Economics at the beginning of next year, though it may be that in the course of the next year - after January, perhaps, or later - it may prove well to bring together here in Princeton those who are to start the school in the following year.

As far as books are concerned, all you need to do is to let Mrs. Bailey know what you want and she will see to it that they are provided.

Dr. Mitrany

April 3, 1934

- 3 -

I shall be delighted to hear from you later, as further thoughts occur to you.

We are all very well, Jean busy as a bee in Washington and often in field work, Eleanor just finishing the year's work with the Apprentice Theatre, and Anne polishing off a play, the future of which, of course, is dubious, as is the future of all plays. I am feeling better than earlier in the winter, but the severe weather of February and March unquestionably held me back.

Yesterday we had a lovely Easter Sunday and we have a fine day again today. With the continuance of the good weather and the opportunity to get out and walk daily, I feel sure that I shall recover my full strength before long.

Give our love to Ena, and believe me,

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

AP/ACE

P. S. I am sending you herewith some correspondence which I have had with Laski, and also Borkenau's volume, which, in size, etc., is thoroughly German. Can you find time to examine it on its merits and also find out from Laski whether Borkenau speaks English? I do not find his curriculum vitae in Laski's letter, but Laski can tell you all about him.

D. Mitrany

March 31, 1934

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany,

I am sending you herewith your salary for the month of March, 1934, for \$475, after having deducted your payment of \$25.00 towards your pension.

I received your kind letter of the tenth and immediately ordered a copy each of Coker's Recent Political Theory and Morris Cohen's An Essay on Logic and Scientific Method to be sent directly to you. I hope that you have received them by this time.

After a beautiful day yesterday it is cold and rainy again today. If you are fearful of a drought, we can easily spare some rain for you.

I am glad to report that Dr. Flexner is better. He expects to be fine when the warm weather arrives. He joins me in kindest regards and best wishes to you and Mrs. Mitrany.

Sincerely yours, ESTHER S. BAILEY

~~ABRAHAM FLEXNER~~

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

March 25, 1934.

Dear Flexner:

Since writing you recently I have received your kind letter of March 1st., which rather pricks my conscience. I should of course be more active in writing you about possibilities for the School. But perhaps I am really not quite as guilty as I feel, for I naturally have been waiting for general guidance from you and for news of any arrangements you were making or contemplating, but I gather that your unfortunate illness has delayed progress. My own temporary disabilities and the natural wish of Felix to steep himself into the life of Oxford, has caused us to meet so far less than we should have liked; and on the few occasions when I was with him there was other company present.

I am indeed most anxious to be active in this matter, for the work that lies before us is urgent and immense. The best proof of my desire is that just about ten days ago I got hold of Woodward (who told me that he was writing to you), and agreed with him that he and Felix and I should get together as soon as Felix returns and have a good talk about the problems of the School. That will not be until towards the end of April, so that if you would wish us to discuss any particular thing, perhaps you would kindly let me know.

Ever with good wishes, *for you and all at home, and kindest regards to Mrs. Baslog*

Yours very sincerely,

D. Mitrany

Dr. Abraham Flexner,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
20 Nassau Street,
Princeton, N. J.

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

16.III.1934

March 16, 1934

Dear Flexner,

It has been a great pleasure to get letters from you, after a long silence, especially because I take them to be a sign that you are really better, and in harness again. Your next job may have immense significance for the future, and we cannot afford to have you thus hampered while you are on it - which is, you may think, an altruistically-selfish sentiment.

May I plunge straightaway into the issue raised in your letter of January 22? I want to plead with you to consider afresh the question of assistants in the Social Sciences, because your decision may make all the difference in the effectiveness of your second School. Whether you will get few or many students, I cannot judge. But I take it, from what I know to be your point of view, that this is a secondary aspect with you - that you want us not to compete with other Universities in attracting a large body of students, but rather to guide them in the working out of a new and more satisfactory approach to the formulation of the Social Sciences. If I am right in thus interpreting your position, then I can deal with the question of assistants not in relation to the eventual quantity of students but to the quality and needs of the School's work.

From this standpoint I feel confident that, when you will look into the question, you will yourself be anxious to give us rather generous treatment in the matter of assistance. Without it we may find it difficult to fulfil your rightful expectations; and, at best, none of us could do more than devote a lifetime to a narrow section of the field. It is a field in which only the surface has been scraped so far and which, if we are to do something worth while, will need digging more thorough and arduous than even that of the archaeologist. Think of how bewildering is the task that confronts a social scientist, compared with that of a worker in one of the exact sciences!

In the exact sciences an individual phenomenon can be isolated for study and solution, but not in the social sciences. Here a phenomenon has in most cases somewhat differing origins, development and effects from another phenomenon closely similar but having occurred a century or more ago, or occurring at the same time at the antipodes. We can only through a careful synthesis of the mass of surrounding circumstances discover the common central element in something like a scientific fashion. Because of the ^{usual} conditions of academic work, at present that is being done only in a very inadequate fashion, and if we are to produce something better we must attempt a synthesis which shall lead to the formulation of theory only after projecting it against the whole background of social causation. That is a formidable undertaking. Of course, each of us must specialize and then cooperate; but in the social sciences no one can specialize intelligently without an understanding of at least the fundamentals of the whole field. Unless we have reliable assistants, whom we can depute to work up some facts or aspect which may crop up suddenly as relevant to some line of inquiry, we should be continuously diverted from this main work.

And that is not all. When McMillwain published last year his splendid book on the Growth of Political Thought, Laski reviewed it critically in the Harvard Law Review on the ground that it gave insufficient weight to economic and social factors. What Laski did, in fact, was to state a basis for the ideal study; what he overlooked was that our knowledge of the economics and social relations of the period with which McMillwain was concerned is still fragmentary and often erroneous; and that only now is their true nature being gradually disclosed through the efforts of scholars all the world over. The social scientist who is not merely a historian, but who ambitions to be also a constructive philosopher, must therefore be constantly on the lookout for such new discoveries. And, needless to add, he must keep an eye on the whole field not only in his own country and language, but on the work of scholars in all civilized countries. This again would be a harrowing and wasteful occupation without the help of an assistant.

I am sure that you will readily see the justice of this standpoint. In fact, at Harvard I was provided with an assistant as a matter of course, though I was a passing visitor, and before they well knew how many students I would have.

And you will remember from your close acquaintance with German scholarship that almost every original work published by a German professor acknowledges the help of the Assistant. In passing I might also point out that we shall not be able to get the same help as the mathematicians etc. from yearly visitors, because in our field the problems cannot be so exactly delineated, or sterilized of subjective influences, as is easily possible in the exact sciences. It is important therefore, to have assistants whose minds we know and who know our minds; and preferably people whom we have trained ourselves or who are still intellectually malleable. That is why I made inquiries of you about young deVisme. From the above it is clear, and you will agree with me, that linguistic qualifications are all-important for an assistant; my experience with otherwise able graduates at Harvard have been appalling in this respect, and deVisme was a solitary exception.

There is, of course, no question of my saying anything to him unless you definitely authorize me to do so. He does not even know that I am coming to you, as you will see from the enclosed letter. You will also see that my estimate of him is not exaggerated. But he would in any case not be available now until next year; and if he should get one of the new Junior Fellowships, not until later. If my plea, on general grounds, meets with your approval, I should like to give him a hint that he should keep himself free; but I could not in fairness to him do so unless you told me that I may do ^{it} ~~so~~.

There were other things in your letters, all weighty and difficult questions, but I must not start on them now or else this letter would acquire medieval proportions. So I would leave the other points for a later day, wishing you in the meantime good health and all satisfaction in your work.

Ever yours

D. Mitrany

IRSAY (S.d') Histoire des Universités françaises et étrangères
des origines à nos jours, Tome I : Moyen âge et renaissance,
8vo, x+372 pp. with xx.pl., subscription price to complete
work (2 vols.), frs 95 ; publisher's half cloth frs 119
Vol.II. (L'Epoque moderne) will be ready shortly. The price
of the complete work will be increased on completion.

12 SUYDAM STREET
NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

February 7, 1934.

Dear Dr. Mitrany,

I meant to write you again long before this and am sorry not to have done so. Perhaps the best personal news item since you wrote me your very kind letter is the fact that I passed my General Examinations in November. I am also glad to say that Professor Elliott told me I did brilliantly. My board was a hard one: Sorokin in Sociological Theory, Elliott in Political Theory, Wilson in International Law, and Friedrich in Comparative Government. I had these examine me in the order named. The first hour was so intensely interesting that I almost forgot I was being subjected to a General Examination and was even bold enough to attack Elliott's theory of myths.

Wilson was as concrete as one could possibly be and we went over case after case in the greatest detail. It was partly because of his natural bent in that direction and partly to offset the very theoretical hour with Frobenius and Elliott. I had no trouble until I got to Friedrich. The latter, however, gave me a painful half-hour. He spent his entire time examining me on sources and bibliography of France. I felt as if I did very badly, so I was greatly surprised when he made some flattering references to my examination a few days later. I still think I made a poor showing in Comparative Government usually one of my best fields and he must have been talking "in general."

I have grown exceedingly fond of Professor Friedrich. He has been intellectually very stimulating and become increasingly friendly toward me. I think he is one of the most charming as well as brilliant men I have met. My assistantship with him ceases this semester since the second half of Nov. 8 will not be given until next year owing to the fact he was given leave of absence to do research. He will remain in Cambridge, however, so I hope to see him off and on. The situation is thus favorable to my studies since I shall devote my entire time to my thesis. The latter has not progressed as much as it might have because of my health

12 SUYDAM STREET

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

which has been giving me trouble again. For more than two weeks, I suffered from a severe attack of chronic bronchitis. The specialist I went to consult in Boston sent me home for two weeks. I am to follow his prescribed regime, medicine, and rest to get some weight and resistance.

The prospects for next year are very bright. Professor Holcombe has assigned me to a Gov. 1 assistantship and Professor Friedrich to the 2nd, but I declined them because I want to get on with my thesis. Professor Holcombe has recommended me for one of Lowell's Junior Fellowships and was actively supported by Friedrich and Elliott. I am also down for a Sheldon Travelling Fellowship and, in case I should get neither, Elliott said a University Fellowship has been earmarked for me. Furthermore, Friedrich told me not to worry about a position later because the Department would see that I got a good one. All this sounded like a fairy tale to me. It is certainly wonderful to be so sympathetically supported. It is entirely up to me now to justify all this by writing a first-rate thesis. If I only could get a Junior Fellowship, I would have plenty of time to do it well.

As soon as I received your letter, I transmitted your request to Fesler and Weiss (and to Radcliffe likewise) but they had to type them over so I don't know if you have received them yet. I hope your leg is entirely all right now.

Sincerely and cordially yours,

Rene D. de Tisseau

P.S. Thank you very much for the book sent by Yale containing the lectures you gave there. I shall write you some of my humble comments later if you wish. Do you know that Professor Emerson used some passages of it in examining my friend Lionel Loring for his Harvard?

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

10. III. 34.

March 10, 1934

Dear Miss Bailey,

Many thanks for the two cheques. I refer
that for Dr. Flexner, with grateful thanks for his
kindness & patience.

I am glad that he is making good progress,
but I fear that your severe winter has not helped him.
As for us, it has been a great pleasure to be
able to ask American visitors whether they were
not glad of the good chance to enjoy an English winter:
it has been an amazing year, with much snow.
But we may pay for it in other ways, as the drought
is getting worse.

May I beg you to send me two more books -
I take it that those requests are in order, & I am
accumulating here a small collection which I will
bring to the Institute when I come over.

With many kind regards to your mother,

Yours sincerely
David Mitrany

I am writing to Dr. Flexner in detail, in a separate letter.

p.t.c.

F. Coker - Recent Political Theory.

Morris Cohen - An Essay on Logic + Scientific
Method

both just published.

March 1, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

Thank you for sending me the copy of The Sociological Review containing Hobson's interesting review of your book. I read it very eagerly, both for your sake and his, as well as my own. I wonder what you have to say as to the final question which he asks. We are, of course, a good deal disturbed by the Austrian situation, as well as the uneasiness in France and the continued tension in Germany. If the League of Nations cannot bring about disarmament I wonder if the Old World will not have to resort to some overwhelming alliance, like England, France, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and perhaps Russia, for the purpose (1) of enforcing pacification and (2) revising the territorial clauses of the Versailles Treaty. I am not urging the latter, but is it better or not than it is to have the sword of Damocles hanging over the world's head?

I shall be interested to know how your lame foot is doing, how Ena is, and how you are occupying yourself. Do you see Felix occasionally and talk with him on the problem of realizing this School of Politics and Economics?

We are all well, Jean very busy in Washington and Eleanor having a grand time with her theatrical work. All of us join in affectionate greetings to you both.

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. David Mitrany
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England
AF/MCE

February 27, 1934

Professor David Mitrany
Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith your salary for the month of February 1934, \$475, after having deducted your payment of \$25 to the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America on account of your pension.

I also send you herewith a statement from the Teachers Insurance Association regarding premiums received in 1933. I may say that the payment made the end of December will be credited in 1934.

We have much snow and look like arctic regions instead of Princeton.

Dr. Flexner is improving. He joins me in kind regards and best wishes to you and Mrs. Mitrany.

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Assistant Secretary

February 20, 1934

My dear Mitrany:

Mrs. Bailey handed me your check, and the same day the book on the University of Paris arrived. Thank you very much for them both.

I quite agree with you about the new German literature. It is all crazy. With these latest disturbances in Paris and in Vienna it would seem that England and the United States are about the only countries in which a civilized man can sleep without a gun under his pillow.

We are having a terrifically severe winter, the worst that I have ever known. As a result I am staying indoors a good deal, reading books that I probably should never have read otherwise - among others, some of the works of the Spanish philosopher, Ortega, translated into German or English, very well written indeed, but literary rather than philosophical. He seems to me quite naive in his ignorance of what has been written in England and America on the subjects with which he deals. It is quite obvious that his education is exclusively Spanish and German.

Jean is having the time of her life in the thick of all the excitement connected with The New Deal, and Eleanor and the little group, with which she is associated, are busily planning the resurrection of the American theater. Anne and I look on indulgently and greatly watching them in the hey-day of their enthusiasm.

Mrs. Bailey and Anne join me in affectionate greetings to you and Ena.
Ever sincerely,
ABRAHAM FLEXNER

February 6, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

Many thanks for sending me the clipping regarding the calculating machines. It just happens that recently the mathematicians have been debating the relative merits of calculating machines. Whether or not they have acted I do not know, but I am forwarding the clipping to them.

I have been thinking a great deal about your last letter, and against the background of what is now happening in Europe and in the United States, it seems to me that there is a fundamental issue that has come to the surface, viz: the importance of the individual versus the importance of the state as an entity. Am I right in thinking that the progress of humanity has been due to the freedom of thought and expression on the part of individuals? Of course, this does not mean that every individual is free to act as he pleases, for when it comes to action other considerations come into view. If what I have said then is true, isn't our prime need at this time some clear thinking on the subject of political theory as stressed from one or the other postulate?

Always affectionately,

ABRAHAM FLEKNER

Dr. David Mitrany
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

AF/MCE

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

4. II. 34.

Feb. 4, 1934

Dear Miss Bailey,

Many thanks for the two cheques, one of which for £100 I return for Dr. Flexner, with my very sincere thanks to him.

The two books you kindly sent me have arrived, and I am collecting some others for the Institute. I have much difficulty with new German books, some of which may have scientific value. But I have wasted my money on so many which proved to be just a scientific Nazi acquisition, that I am getting reluctant to order any at all. I have sent Dr. Flexner a new book on the University of Paris, which I hope may give him some pleasure.

With many kind regards

Yours sincerely
David Mitrany

January 26, 1934

Professor David Mitrany
Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith your salary
for the month of January 1934, \$475, after having de-
ducted your payment of \$25 to the Teachers Insurance and
Annuity Association of America on account of your pension.

With all good wishes, in which Dr. Flexner
joins, I am

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Assistant Secretary

January 22, 1934

Dear Mitrany:

I am delighted to learn from your letter that things are brighter for both you and Ena, and I do not think that an Achilles tendon is any worse than a neuritic shoulder. You classify them properly when you put them with the Nazis. I had four utterly idle weeks in New York, simply resting my left arm and shoulder, and did not return to Princeton until the end of last week. The weather is not good today, and my shoulder serves me notice of it, precisely as a barometer would do, but the arm is much better and will, I am sure, recover if let alone.

At the moment Jean is with us here, for she had an infection of some sort that kept her in bed in Washington for three weeks, half the time in a hospital. She is still a good deal run down, has a good appetite, and is taking a little more exercise each day. It is lovely to have her here, though I do hate to see her only partially herself physically.

I am glad that you are "lying fallow", though I realize the difficulty of keeping quiet in this crazy world. The financial situation in this country is such that, though the Institute is in clover, so to speak, I hesitate to take a step forward until I know more clearly than I now know what is going to happen to our currency. I think it improbable that we shall start the School of Economics and Politics next autumn. If we do, I shall let you know in good time. If we do not,

D.H.

Jan. 23, 1934

2

you can occupy yourself in any way you please for another year on the same basis as the present year. I am incompetent to pass an opinion on the general outline which you send me of what is passing in your mind. Talk it over with Felix and Woodward and perhaps some of your former associates at the London School.

I do not see just what you will do with an assistant until you come to this country, nor am I quite clear as ^{to} what you would expect of him when you come here. If we should begin the School of Economics and Politics a year from next October, we should be fortunate if we had a half dozen advanced workers. Of course, we should have to make our announcement early next winter or we would have none at all and that would involve my selecting two or three men in addition to yourself as a nucleus. My mind has been playing around on that subject and even making inquiries, but thus far I do not see my way clear to a choice. I am impressed by what you write about de Visme and by his letter. I do not think that there is any danger that he will become permanently stuck at Harvard if it turns out that ultimately we want him in the Institute. On the other hand, a couple of years of undergraduate teaching would be an excellent experience for him before he ascends to the higher level at which the Institute hopes to work, so my inclination would be for you to keep in touch with him without at present making him any offer.

Please give our love to Ena as well as to Felix and Marion when you see them, and believe me, with all good wishes for the welfare of you all,

Ever sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

P.S.

January 23

Since dictating the above, twenty-four hours have passed, and I have had a chance to think further. There may be absolutely nothing in what I am going to say, but I should like to get your opinion and perhaps that of Felix and anyone else you

AF:ESB

D.M.

Jan. 23, 1934

3

talk with. When we speak of physical science and when we speak of political science, the word "science" seems to me to have two quite different connotations. There is no such thing, for example, as Austrian physics or Russian physics or German physics or English physics or American physics. Physics is physics, but in the sphere of politics and economics is it not conceivable that you would have one kind of economics and political theory, if, let us say, the Russian experiment succeeds and another kind if Hitler and his movement held its own and still another kind for contemporary England, and perhaps still another kind in some ways for contemporary America? In other words, one may hope to develop a unified physics. Can one hope to develop a unified economics or political theory?

A. F.

AF:ESB

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

5.1.1934.

Jan. 5, 1934

Dear Flexner,

A note from Miss Bailey, just received, tells me that you are troubled with neuritis, and I am very sorry indeed to hear that. It is not only that I regret the pain and discomfort that it must be causing you, but also that we cannot afford at present to have your powers of work impaired. So that my good wishes for quick and complete escape from that bother are both for your sake and for the Institute's. I hope Mrs. Flexner and the girls are well and happily active.

Things are a little brighter for us, too. Ena is much better, and both she and I would have liked to leave it at that and resume our ordinary life. But her doctor is so hopeful that he can cure her altogether, so as to free her of the milder troubles from which she has suffered all her life, that he has induced her to continue the treatment for a while longer, though she finds it a great strain. I dearly hope that her patience and courage will be rewarded. - My foot is almost normal, though I cannot yet walk as I am accustomed to do. An Achilles tendon seemingly is as impervious to ordinary reason and treatment as a Nazi. For this ~~and~~ reason, especially, I have only had two or three short glimpses of Felix and Marion, but I am probably going to stay with them for a day or two soon, so as to have a good 48 hours' talk. They seem very well and happy, especially now that the threat of an operation no longer worries Marion.

You must have been very busy starting the Institute and your own new personal arrangements, and I do not know what chance you have had of considering your next move. Is there any prospect of seeing you here when the Institute closes for the summer? There is so much to talk over that it would be good to get hold of you at leisure. In any case, I trust you will make use of me whenever you wish. For the moment I am doing much as you suggest "lying fallow", though times are too restless for complete

detachment from current affairs. But I am looking on rather than meddling in. Meanwhile, a plan of work is taking shape within my mind - rather ambitious, I fear, but one has to be a bit 'mad' in one's day-dreaming. I do not want to bother you with my ideas at present, but I feel that we must devise the principles of a political science which shall ~~maximize~~ not be conditioned by transient political divisions and institutions - just as the principles of any other science, which stand in their own right. At present, in the political and social sciences, their principles are pre-limited by their application (national, international; socialistic, individualistic), instead of guiding that application. What I aspire to do is to work out the basis of a political science which shall be valid, in its general principles, for any form and size of political unit, instead of the several parallel sets of principles now accepted for national and international politics, and so on. It is really a program for a life's work, for it will mean recasting the factual material as now used in politics and economics, and filling in gaps, but I am beginning to see light, I think, as to a possible method of work. Perhaps I am foolish, and I should stick to loaves and pigs, but you have encouraged me to try and grow wings, even at the risk of a mighty flop.

a kind of 'political
relativity'

At present, as I say, I am reading somewhat loosely and playing about with ideas. By the autumn I should like to start work systematically. Would it be possible to let me have an assistant then? I am asking this now not only because the work will need it, but also because I have my eyes on a young man who is working for his doctor's degree at Harvard. I am rather proud of him, for I picked him out from the great mass and quickly got him to the top in the first year, in the second year I made him my assistant, and now Friedrich (who thinks a lot of himself and is the most difficult man in the department) has made him his assistant, so that he has an almost certain chance of being kept there. But, apart from our friendly personal relations and intellectual understanding, he may be willing to come to us because his mother teaches at Rutgers, and they are greatly attached to each other. He has a first-rate critical mind, which would help to keep my feet on the ground, he is a hard and conscientious worker, and above all he is a good linguist (he is half-French), both in French and German, and Spanish, so that he would be a great help in keeping an eye on the immense literature that is coming out now. The enclosed letter says something about his work and character.

Once more, our affectionate greetings and good wishes to you and all the family, and prosperity to your 'new deal' in University work. *Yours devotedly* *David Mitrany*

Professor David Mitrany

THE LOWER FARM,

KINGSTON BLOUNT,

OXFORD.

26.XII.33.

Dec. 26, 1933

Dear Miss Bailey,

Could you very kindly procure the two little books named below, and let me have a chance to see them? Many thanks.

With all sorts of good wishes for the

New Year,

Yours sincerely

D. Mitrany

- Ch. Beard, *et. al.* A Charter for the Social Sciences.
- Chas. A. Ellwood, *Methods in Sociology*
(Duke Univ. Press)

December 23, 1933

Professor David Mitrany
Lower Farm
Kington Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith your salary for
the month of December 1933, \$475, after having deducted
your payment of \$25 to the Teachers Insurance and Annuity
Association of America on account of your pension.

Dr. Flexner joins me in the season's greetings
to you and Mrs. Mitrany.

Sincerely yours,

ESTABLISHED 1864
ESTABLISHED 1864

Assistant Secretary

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

2. XII. 33.

Dec. 2, 1933

Dear Miss Bartley,

Thank you very much indeed for your letter of the 24th. & the two enclosures. Of course, the arrangement you made is satisfactory to me - I was only trying to think of some way of saving you trouble, and of not keeping Dr. Flexner waiting too long. But your assurances are comforting, and I am very grateful to him - and to you. I enclose the cheque for \$200, endorsed as you instructed me.

I am also sending you separately a calendar, as a contribution for your office, from one who is eager to see it. Please remember me very kindly to Dr. & Mrs. Flexner, and my good wishes to you.

Yours sincerely
David Mitrany

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

24. XI. 33.

Nov. 24, 1933

Dear Miss Bailey,

Just a line to acknowledge your kind note of the 14th. to say that we are insured as both prints.

As regards the Doige book, I had asked the Yale Press, some time ago, to send copies to you & to Dr. Flexner. My inquiry to you was to know whether you wished me to do more; and I note that you think that what I have done is a pleasure & enough also as a duty.

As to the money, I am glad of any suggestion & arrangement, if I am not causing you additional inconvenience. And, of course, I am anxious to repay as quickly as possible Dr. Flexner's generous loan.

I wish I were with you in Princeton. I am

I am at work, but here the tugs to one's
 feelings and loyalties are many and I don't
 I have today had a letter from a high official
 of the I.L.O., who has written a generous review
 of my little book, in which he says that he
 can't help feeling a bit impatient; for
 his job demands 'not the truth, but what
 people will accept as the truth', and he
 wishes I had been more helpful in the second
 way. Dr. Flexner will appreciate this.
 However, so far I think I am still sober,
 in spite of the Nazi revelation.

Many good wishes & kind regards to
 you, and please give my warm remembrances
 to Dr. Mrs. Flexner.

Yours sincerely
 David Mitrany

The Rothschild quartet is here, from
 Vienna, and they are full of affectionate
 queries on Dr. Mrs. Flexner & Eleanor.

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

10. XI. 33.

Nov. 10, 1933

Dear Miss Bailey,

What a nuisance I am to you and to Dr. Flexner! I am terrified lest Dr. Flexner be hauled before the Senate investigation etc, and for extravagant foreign banking operations. I am so sorry - let me see what I can suggest.

I should like you to keep the whole of the January check, and then again the whole of the March check, for Dr. Flexner's account. If it can be done in no other way, I will sign them and return them. But if the Treasurer will accept this note as stating my firm will and intention, perhaps he may be willing to write the check out in Dr. Flexner's name. Or if you are good at make-believe, why not sign my name on it - this is my authorisation - and solve the problem?²

You are both very kind & patient. I will see that in future I make in time arrangements for insurance etc. that will not impose any inconvenience on you. My humble thanks & apologies for the past.

I can well imagine how attractive Princeton must be in the fall. It must make it difficult even for a philosopher not to become poetical. Surely, Dr. Flexner has been justified in being so careful in making his choice. And I am delighted to hear that the peace of Princeton is doing so well for him. That in itself was worth while. You almost make me restless to be there and see the seed beginning to sprout. All success in your work. I am getting into my working stride again. It is a difficult and perplexing time over here, for all our ^{old} institutions seem barren in this time of change; and yet I know that merely to shout 'Damn with its head' will do much good, except perhaps to one's vanity.

Did you write to you about your work, and
 Please again for your kind reply.

Very sincerely

D. Mitrany

December 8, 1933

Dear Professor Mitrany:

Thank you for your kind letter of November 24 and also for a copy of your book, which I am very happy to have. I shall read it at my earliest opportunity, though I am not sure that I have sufficient wisdom to understand it all.

A copy is also here for Dr. Flexner, who at the moment is away from Princeton. He will be writing you about it when he returns.

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farns
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

November 24, 1933

My dear Professor Mitrany:

Our letters crossed, but I hope you will approve my letter of November 14, for the Treasurer has acted upon the suggestion contained therein. I shall therefore send your salary in two installments monthly, until there is no balance due Dr. Flexner. I am accordingly sending you herewith your salary for the month of November 1933, \$475, after having deducted your payment of \$25 to the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America on account of your pension. I have indicated which check is to be mailed to Dr. Flexner after you have endorsed it, etc.

Please do not think that this has been any trouble at all either for Dr. Flexner or for me - or for the Treasurer. We wish to do everything we can to make things run smoothly for our professors, and I assure you that it is a great pleasure to me personally if I can be of assistance to you in any way.

Dr. Flexner is in New York at the moment, but I know that he and Mrs. Flexner would wish me to add to mine their greetings and best wishes to you and Mrs. Mitrany.

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount

November 14, 1933

My dear Professor Mitrany:

Thank you for your most kind letter of October 25. I shall be greatly honored to receive a copy of your Dodge lectures.

I think it would be very kind of you to send one to Dr. Flexner but suggest that you do not include Mr. Renberger, Mrs. Fuld, and other Trustees of the Institute, for once you start it is hard to determine where to stop. I have talked this over with Dr. Flexner and this is his opinion.

I have made an arrangement that I think will be satisfactory to all parties concerned. I shall ask our Treasurer to make your monthly payments as follows: one check for \$200 and one draft for \$275. I shall send them both to you. You can endorse the check over to Dr. Flexner and send it to him, until your account is paid or until you instruct me otherwise.

In a topsy-turvy world Princeton seems really serene. I wish you and Mrs. Mitrany and your German friends were here to enjoy it.

Dr. and Mrs. Flexner join me in all good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

ESTHER S. BAILEY

October 31, 1933

Dear Professor Mitrany:

I have your three notes of October 10, 13, and 17. I am so sorry that I was not able to follow out your request about the payment on the life insurance policy precisely as you wished. The difficulty is that the Treasurer in New York draws a check or draft to your order for your salary each month, and I have no right or power to change that check, except should you wish \$475 (U.S. dollars) worth of pounds, francs, or other exchange. I therefore sent Miss VanVleck the \$90 in good time, but Dr. Flexner advanced the money, as you will note from copy of my letter to Miss VanVleck enclosed. When you wish to reimburse Dr. Flexner, you will have to send him money from England or you can endorse over to him your salary check for any particular month, but you will have to receive the check first. It cannot be done here, because it will have to have your signature. Have I made this clear at all?

The Weber Gesammelte Aufsätze zur Wissenschaftslehre has not yet reached us. We have Volume I of d'Irsay's book, but not the Simon volume to which you call our attention.

I send you herewith your check for October salary, which you need not acknowledge. You need only let me know if you do not receive a

Professor Mitrany

October 31, 1933

2

salary check at the proper time.

We are delighted to hear that you are improving and hope that you will be fully recovered very soon. We are sorry that Mrs. Mitrany is not yet well and hope that she will be in excellent health in the near future.

Princeton is a very delightful place. We are all very, very happy here and find it difficult to leave even for a necessary business trip to New York for part of a day. We enjoy the peace and quiet and beauty of the place, and everyone connected with the University has been most cordial to those connected with the Institute, so that the relations are quite ideal. Mr. Flexner has improved greatly since he and Mrs. Flexner moved to Princeton in the autumn. He is being very careful, as you advise, but I shall say no more now, for he will be writing you himself.

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

25.8.33.

Oct. 25, 1933

Dear Miss Bailey,

I am having a copy of my small volume with the Dodge lectures sent to you, with the prayer that you will accept it as a small sign of my gratitude for all your many kindnesses to me.

If Dr. Flexner should wish copies for Mr. Baumbach or Mrs. Field, or any of the Trustees, the Yale Press will send them, at your request, for my account. I do not want to do anything without knowing his wishes.

And could you kindly find out whether it would be agreeable to him if you deducted, after this month, \$200 a month from my cheques, till my debt to him is repaid? if that is too slow an arrangement, please

advise me what he would prefer. It was good of him to help me, and I don't want the arrangements for repayment to be a nuisance to him.

Things are rather restless over here, and the whole world seems in a state of nervous. We are having with us some German friends who have been sacked, although they were war veterans, and it is painful to be able to do so little for them.

With many kind regards,

Yours sincerely
David Mitrany

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

17. X. 33.

Dear Miss Bailey,

Very many thanks for your letter of the 29th., and for the September cheque. I do not know whether you will me to send you on each occasion a nice formal receipt - I will comply with your instructions.

Yes, please, would you kindly keep the T.I. policy with you (I know I should be asking you for some service or other before long) - it will be much safer in your hands.

Thank you also for your friendly wishes. I am myself almost recovered, still only limping, but so is the whole world. My wife is not as well as I could wish, but she is making a brave effort, and we are hopeful that she will soon get the health

and peace which I deserve. Thank you
again.

And you? Are you happily settled in
Princeton? Are you going to live there? I
hope so. Prof. Frankfurter sent me
an article for a magazine, with a good
tale about the Institute, some fine
pictures of the rooms which are out there.
But Einstein's saying is much better than
the translation given in the article.

I hope Dr. Flenner is both well and
careful about himself. He may

kind regards. Yours sincerely
E. Mitrany

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

13-X. 33.

Dear Miss Bailey,

Would you be so kind to send from my October salary \$90.- (ninety dollars) to

Miss M. G. Van Vleet
48 Highland St.
Cambridge, Mass.,

so that she should have it, if possible, on the last day of the month? I am sorry to trouble you with this, but when I left Cambridge there were all sorts of odd-ends of accounts to settle, and Miss Van Vleet kindly undertook this for me. She needs that additional amount to pay the life insurance premium due on Nov. 1., and then everything will have been cleared, so that I shall not worry you again. (That's a rash promise which I am likely to break, for your kindness invites delinquency.)

I will write you shortly about the money I owe Dr. Flexner, to make arrangements for its repayment. I hope that you are pleasantly settled down in Princeton, that all is well and promising. With many thanks & kind regards,

Yours sincerely
David Mitrany

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

10.8.33

Oct. 10, 1933

Dear Mr. Bailey,

Dr. Flexner maybe interested in
these two books. if you wish, i could
easily get them for you.

Yours very truly
David Mitrany

i hope that the Webb's Book reached you safely
i got yet

Irsay (S. d') Histoire des Universités françaises
et étrangères des origines à nos jours,
Tome 1: Moyen âge et renaissance, Svo,
x.+372 pp. with xx. pl., subscription price
to complete work (2 vols.), frs. 95, publisher's
half cloth frs. 119

Vol. II. (L'Époque moderne) will be ready about
the end of the year and price of the complete work
will be increased on completion.

you have
this.

C.S.D.

Simon (P. Voraussetzung u. Wesen d.
mittelalterlichen Universität, Svo, 34 pp.
(Die Universität 2) Mk. 1.35

September 29, 1933

Professor David Mitrany
The Lower Farm
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

My dear Professor Mitrany:

I am sending you herewith draft for
\$475, your salary for the month of September, 1933,
after having deducted your payment of \$25 to the
Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America
on account of your pension.

When your policy from the Teachers Insurance
and Annuity Association of America comes, do you wish
me to hold it here for your arrival? I have done that
for some of the other professors.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Assistant Secretary

XXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Magnetawan
via Burks Falls
Ontario, Canada

July 26, 1933

My dear Mitrany:

I had your recent letter and your still more recent postcard. I do not see why you should not speak and think in the most objective and candid fashion of the Economic Conference. I am utterly disgusted with Roosevelt's conduct and that of the American delegation. Roosevelt invited foreign representatives to be his guests at the White House and afterwards issued a statement telling us that he and his guests had reached an understanding. The American Delegation combined to recommend a course of action. He turned it down in the most boorish and impertinent language that has ever issued from the White House. If there had been a man of spirit in the American Delegation, he would have resigned on the spot in language that would have sounded throughout the world, but they are all politicians, and God knows that I do not understand the game they are trying to play.

A few things Roosevelt has done that show courage and intelligence but for the most part he and his family have been noisy, vulgar, and unprincipled, as for example, in the deletion of the word "gold" from contracts solemnly entered into by previous governments. You will have a big job to convert the American people to internationalism when you reach America!

I am glad that you and Woodward like one another. Woodward has sent me a memorandum which will be followed by another in course of time. I shall not come to any conclusions regarding you and ^{his} ~~your~~ suggestions until I have had a chance to go over the correspondence with you in person.

D.M.

July 26, 1933

2

For the present I am doing my best to enjoy the calm and quiet of the Canadian woods and to regain the strength and vigor to which I am accustomed and which I am glad to say has practically returned.

We are all delighted that Ena has so greatly improved. Give her our love, and keep us informed about her.

Anne went through her cure at Gastein with good results and then came home promptly. She is in splendid form.

Jean has had no vacation as yet, because she is working night and day with Miss Perkins.

Eleanor with thirteen or fourteen associates is at Dublin, N.H., studying and rehearsing continental plays which she and other members of the group have translated from the French or German. They have a possibility of producing a series of them in New York next winter.

Mrs. Bailey, who is with us here, joins us in sending you warmest regards and best wishes.

I should like to see, by the way, the little book of Webb's on Methods in the Social Sciences. Mail me a copy and charge it to the Institute.

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. David Mitrany
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

AF:ESB

July 14, 1933

My dear Mitrany:

I can imagine you are in England by this time and that you are keeping an eye on the doings of the Economic Conference. When the thing breaks up or is postponed, write me what you think. From this point it looks like an outbreak of nationalism which has given internationalism a black eye. Roosevelt seems to me to have acted short-sightedly and rudely. Tell me quite candidly what you think.

Since I saw you, I have had to have my tonsils out as a result of another attack of neuritis. It proved an unpleasant experience, but I have about recovered from it, though I am taking things very easily.

Let me know please how Ena is doing.

Mrs. Flexner has arrived today from Gastein very greatly improved by her cure there, and Eleanor has about concluded that the only way to live is to sit in front of the Cafe de la Paix and sip aperitives. She has had a grand time.

With love to Ena,

Always sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. David Mitrany
Kingston Blount
Oxford, England

AF:ESB

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

4.VII.1933
July 4, 1933

Dear Flexner,

You are having, I trust, a restful holiday, away from the barren bickerings of bankers and politicians. I must refrain from commenting on the Economic Conference, for I wish not to be blasphemous. On this occasion, at any rate, American policy has been more selfish, narrow and fickle than anything our people have done; and it has treated its own spokesmen with callous levity. They made their experts insist that stabilization must be put first on the agenda, and now they will have none of it; and they allowed, most unkindly, Cordell Hull to open with an impassioned plea for wide and immediate international cooperation, and now they say that that must wait till their national experiments have borne fruit. But I must shut up. No one in London expects now anything real from the Conference, and no one knows what will follow. I fear an extension in some way of 'national-socialism' to central and south-eastern Europe. In all those countries the economic and political upper-structure is cracking audibly, and if there is anything to save, the national middle-class will try to get it for itself by throwing national and religious minorities overboard. Appeals to high principles and humanism are useless and, knowingly or not, specious. It is useless to assume that we can develop an extreme nationalism in the things of the body and at the same time promote a broad internationalism in things of the mind. The simple truth is that we are not yet ripe for an international society. Those of us who believe in its coming can only remain wide-eyed and tolerant observers of the frailties and failings of our time, and do what one may to prepare for the aftermath.

A few days ago I went over to Oxford and had a good talk with Woodward, which gave me all the more pleasure because we seem to have thought along much the same lines. He has sent you, I understand, a rough outline of his ideas, and perhaps you could kindly let me have a look at that, with your opinions. In due course I will venture to submit something of my own, but I shall not hurry, for the doings of the moment throw an added responsibility upon anything you will undertake at the Institute. With W. I talked more about personnel, that is its character and

ways of work. Of course, many of his ideas are ingrained principles with you - as his feeling that personality rather than speciality should determine the choice of members. We also agreed on the difficulty of covering the whole immense ground, and of the need, therefore, of providing for assistance of a technical, and variable, kind; and also to leave room for temporary collaboration, by inviting someone over for a year or two, for special needs. In this connection he put forward an additional idea, which I had not considered, and with regard to which your experience will offer a better judgment than my momentary reaction. He said that it might be profitable to complete the personnel with part-time, but permanent, appointees who are already engaged in teaching in various Universities. That, of course, would leave you a wider range of choice. But I am not clear whether it is sound, or even practicable. For if they are teaching, they could hardly get regularly enough leave of absence to come to you; and if they are researching, what is the purpose of splitting it? Perhaps I am biased, because W.'s one concrete example happened to have been an unfortunate one (though I did not say this to him). He mentions C.K. Webster, who was at Aberystwith and also each year for half-year at Harvard; and the truth is that Webster has held down for a number of years the Aberystwith job simply because it gave him ample free time, but has not written a page of original thought in all those seven or eight years on international politics. He has done none of the research which he was supposed to do, and has prevented others from doing it. I also have a feeling that it would be in a way unsociable that one man should hold two jobs at a time when so many able scholars have none. However, you will be able to appreciate this proposal in the light of ~~his~~^{your} talks with Woodward.

I am going, gradually, to try and survey the field, both as regards subject-matter and personnel, and will try to give you all the help that may be in my power and in your desire. The more hopeless seem the workings of our present institutions, the greater, I feel, are the opportunities and responsibilities for the work of the Institute. I am not going to budge from here, and I will be at your disposal at any time.

I found Ena in excellent physical health, and more alert than ever mentally - reading and apparently enjoying, if critically, Whitehead's latest book. But the doctor thinks he can help her to get rid of certain nervous difficulties, and is anxious that she should stay on for awhile, to which we have of course both reluctantly consented. She has begun to write again, and follows with close attention the doings of the world. Her book is just out in America, from Duttons, and she is pleased because the National Society for the Blind have chosen

it to be transposed into Braille - an honour that she accepts in much humility. She is very interested and encouraging about my proposed work, and it has made an enormous difference to her state of mind to feel no longer that she is a drag on me.

I have not had any news of Anne and Eleanor, but I still have some hope that the Nazis will drive them to England before they return to you. It would be so nice to have them here. I very much hope that Anne is getting help from her cure. Please remember me to them, and to Jean, and accept our very affectionate good wishes for yourself and your work. I hope that rest and the sun is helping your arm.

For Miss Mitrany

My best remembrances to Miss Bailey, and thanks for the books. The Webbs have published an interesting small volume on Methods in the Social Sciences.

Charge to the account of INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

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

May 8, 1933

Dr. David Mitrany
John Winthrop House
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Call me by telephone Thursday morning Do not curtail your
stay in New Haven

Abraham Flexner

\$.44

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

6.1.33.

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

May 6, 1933

Dear Flexner,

Thank you so much for your note. At present, my plan is to go to New Haven on Tuesday morning, to see Virginia, and to go through certain papers concerned with Chart's work in the Near East. I had promised her to spend a few days here, but I find so many things that still have to be done here, that I can only by hard pressure get away on Tuesday.

Wednesday night I am dining with Shubert, and I am not intended to get to New York until 6.45^{PM} (staying at the Harvard Club). But if you cannot see me on Thursday or Friday, then I must certainly stay in New Haven and come to N.Y. in the early afternoon, on Wednesday. Would you kindly send me a line w/o. Virginia to tell me your wish, or call me up there on Tuesday night? Thank you. Write the kids love you and love the children. I am
D. Mitrany

May 1, 1933

Dear Mitrany:

I am very glad indeed that Ena is well enough to permit your sailing on the southern route and thus seeing your mother. Eleanor and Mrs. Flexner are sailing on the Aquitania May 10. Of course Eleanor will see you in England. I am sure they would both love to see you here before you sail. I shall be available at any time.

Always your friend,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. David Mitrany
Department of Government
Harvard University
Cambridge, Mass.
AF:GB

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Ms. A. 33.

April 28, 1933

Dear Flexner,

Thank you ever so much for your thoughtfulness in telegraphing me, and for the letter amplifying the message. I need not say that it all means to me - tons. Now I must think of the work.

I am sailing on the 13th on the 'Rex'. Even I doing so well, that we have agreed that I should make a dash to Rumania now, to see my mother, rather than going, as I had intended, later in the summer. So I am going via Genoa.

I intend going to New Haven on the 9th, and coming to W. on Wednesday evening the 10th. Could I pay you a visit either on Wednesday or Thursday evening? Of course, I shall be free any time during the day, but I hope I can see Mrs. Flexner & Clara, too. I must spend one evening with Deborah, so I am writing him by the same mail.

I have passed on your message to Mrs. Brown.

I am much looking forward to a quiet talk with you - these last days have been so strenuous, but relieved by usual kindness at the hands of my friends. Till we meet,

Best yours
David Mitrany

Appointment letter from
Hekner to Mitrany dated
April 24, 1933 filed in
Director's office in
Mitrany file 1938-45 in
the back of the file.

*... here in CHRON FILE BOXES but
unable to locate letter dated 4-24-33
Re: Appointment. Unclear where "D" file,
Mitrany 1938-45 is or why this letter
would be there. A copy of the letter is
filed here.*

Mitrany
1933

✓1933

4/24

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS	Academic Organization
MITRANY, DAVID	Biographical
GENERAL	Finance

Biographical data re: Mitrany, pp. 4-5.

Appointed Professor of Economics and Politics, p. 8:

"That Dr. David Mitrany be appointed Professor in the School of Economics and Politics beginning September 1, 1933; that his salary be fixed at \$6,000 a year, of which he will contribute 5% to the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America, the Institute contributing an equal sum monthly; that he spend the year 1933-34 abroad on the above salary; that, whenever he takes up his residence in the United States, his salary be raised to \$10,000 a year; that, unless his term of appointment is prolonged by mutual consent, he retire at 65 years of age; and that no public announcement of his appointment be made at this time but that he devote himself, in cooperation with the Director, to studies preliminary to the organization of the School of Economics and Politics whenever the Board of Trustees shall authorize such action."

Vol. I, No. 13, Minutes

✓1933

4/24

APPOINTMENTS	Academic Personnel
BENEFITS	
MITRANY, DAVID	Biographical

Flexner to Mitrany, April 24, 1933, after a telegram to Mitrany telling him that the Trustees had confirmed his appointment.

Appointment

~~Term~~ to begin September 1, 1933, salary to be \$6,000 a year, 5 per cent contributions to TIAA by Institute and professor. He was to spend the year 1933-34 abroad on the above salary. When he took up residence in the United States his salary would be raised to \$10,000 a year. Unless his term of appointment were prolonged by mutual consent, he would retire at 65 years of age. No public announcement was to be made of his appointment at that time, but he was to devote himself in cooperation with the Director to studies preliminary to the organization of the School of Economics and Politics whenever the Board should authorize such action.

This letter to be filed in D file, Mitrany 1938-45 in back D, Mitrany, David. of file.

April 24, 1933

Dear Mitrany:

I have an unanswered letter from you which I shall get to in the next few days. The last fortnight between Germans and the Institute I have been almost crazy. I have just wired you as follows:

"Trustees met today and confirmed your appointment. Please keep confidential. Am writing."

The following is a quotation from the minutes:

"The appointment of Dr. David Mitrany was confirmed on the following terms:

That Dr. David Mitrany be appointed Professor in the School of Economics and Politics beginning September 1, 1933; that his salary be fixed at \$6,000 a year, of which he will contribute 5% to the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America, the Institute contributing an equal sum monthly; that he spend the year 1933-1934 abroad on the above salary; that, whenever he takes up his residence in the United States, his salary be raised to \$10,000 a year; that, unless his term of appointment is prolonged by mutual consent, he retire at 65 years of age; and that no public announcement of his appointment be made at this time but that he devote himself in cooperation with the Director to studies preliminary to the organization of the School of Economics and Politics whenever the Board of Trustees shall authorize such action."

I am very happy over this final solution for both your sake, Mrs's, the Institute's, and our own. More later.

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

P.S.

April 25

Digging down through my mail, I have this moment come to your letter of the fifteenth. I shall be delighted to see Professor McIlwain, with whom I had a very interesting talk a year or two ago. Ask him to telephone me (Ashland 4 - 3775) when he reaches New York, and we shall have no difficulty in making an appointment that is mutually agreeable.

I look forward eagerly to seeing you before you sail.

With all good wishes to you and Ena,

Ever yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor David Mitrany
John Winthrop House
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

AF:ESB

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NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

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WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

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

April 24, 1933

Professor David Mitrany
 John Winthrop House
 Harvard University
 Cambridge, Massachusetts

Trustees met today and confirmed your appointment

Please keep confidential Am writing

Abraham Flexner

414

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS SOLVE THE PERPLEXING QUESTION OF WHAT TO GIVE.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

15.IV.1933

April 15, 1933

Dear Flexner,

Yesterday I spent an evening with McIlwain, and we came to talk about the 'cooperative' study of the social field. It all arose out of a review of McIlwain's book which Laski wrote for the Harvard Law Review, and in which he put forward such a basis of study as indispensable. McIlwain quite accepts that criticism of his own work, but he rightly asserts that no individual has the knowledge and means to treat political history in that way unless he limits himself to one country and perhaps a generation or two of its history. There is also another point which Harold somewhat overlooked - that we do not know enough about the economic and other aspects of the life of earlier periods to proceed as yet to a safe synthesis. The controversy which rages round some recent writings on the economic evolution of England, in modern times, shows the difficulty. But that does not, of course, invalidate the standpoint as an ideal, and McIlwain pointed to the scientific achievement of the Benedictines as showing what a group of people, in continuous contact and not harnessed to daily jobs, can produce. So I told him about your own plans for the new social section (without any reference to myself, of course) and he was much interested and excited. You might like to have a talk with him, and it so happens that he will be in New York on May 5 and 6 (after attending some Princeton dinner on the evening of the 4th), so if you wish you might arrange to see him on one of those days.

How are you? I hope very much that your ears trouble you no more. I am getting through the end of my work here and expect to sail on May 12 or 13; I shall be in New York for about two days then, and of course hope to see you and all at home. Ena writes very cheerfully and confidently, and I hear from various people that she has been visiting them and shows a keen interest in life. Her immediate desire would seem to be for a chance to have a personal talk with Hitler and tell him a piece of her mind, but I think the debate in the House of Commons has done ^{just} that in a most satisfactory and effective way.

With many good wishes for yourself and all at home,

Ever yours

D. Mitrany

D. Mitrany

February 25, 1933.

Dear Mitrany:

Thank you for your letter.

I am very glad to learn that you know Woodward's books and like him. He does not leave England until the end of June. I shall write him telling him that you will get in touch with him, and that I have asked you to prepare suggestions for him. I do not think it is necessary to say more to him.

When you pass through New York on the 20th I may myself go down to Princeton for your lecture. I want to talk to you on the subject of retiring allowance and insurance. You ought, I think, in addition to the retiring allowance and pension provided by the Institute, take out additional insurance covering disability, your death, etc. The salaries have been fixed at their present level in order that the men might thus additionally protect themselves.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. David Mitrany,
John Winthrop House,
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

AF/E

Mitrany

JOHN WINTHROP HOUSE
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

24.II.1933

Feb. 24, 1933

Dear Flexner,

I have to acknowledge three letters from you -the official letter confirming my appointment, and your two private and friendly letters.

As regards the first, there is nothing to add on my part. I appreciate your confidence and the chance you are giving me, and I am yearning to get down to real work. If I fail to produce anything worth while, it will not be for lack of interest or effort. I will look in due course through the booklet which you kindly ~~sent~~ sent me, concerning the annuity. Needless to say, I leave the financial side altogether in your hands, for I could have no better protection. Nor am I much interested in what happens after retirement, except in so far as it provides for Ena in case something happens to me. But all this can wait till I have time to go into it.

I have followed your instructions concerning Harvard and Yale. The matter now remains private as far as I am concerned.

The reference to Yale in Ena's cable was due to the fact that she had not realized that you were making it possible for me to work at home next year in comfort. In the circumstances there is no question of our going to Yale or anywhere else except in connection with my work for the Institute. I am so anxious to get all other things speedily out of the way that I am asking the authorities here to release me from examinations, which would mean that I can leave as soon as my lectures are over, in the second week of May, and then Ena need not make the long journey this time and can rest at home.

I do not know Woodward personally, but I know and like his writings. I should much like to have a talk with him, and in the meanwhile see what he has written you. Since our meeting will be above all for discussing the work of the Institute, perhaps your decision as to how much you tell him about me should depend on what will make discussion freer. Perhaps you could write him a line, saying that I expect to be back about the end of May and that you wish us to meet, and then I can get in touch with him soon after my return.

With very many thanks for everything and my sincere good wishes

Ever yours

Mitrany

I have since made the happy pattern clear to her.

John Winthrop House
Cambridge Mass.

24. ii. 33.

Feb. 24, 1933

Dear Mrs. Bailey

I was sorry not to see you, and regret the cause which called you out of town. I hope the trip was not too much of a strain.

You may imagine how pleased I am that I am going to join you at the Institute. When I came through, in March, I should like an opportunity to have your advice about that insurance etc. - as I don't know the system. ✓

Dr. Flexner asked me to claim expenses for my last trip to N.Y. if you like to send me a check for \$25 I shall buy a present for my wife, in celebration.

With many thanks for your help and kind regards,

Yours with affection
David Mitrany

February 23, 1933

Dear Mitrany:

I am returning herewith Ena's telegram. What a wonderful person she is,-- so thoughtful for you, so regardless of herself! Of course I am inexpressibly happy that we are to work together, but you may feel, and you may assure Ena, that the decision was arrived at in the most objective possible fashion. It has occurred to me that you might also say to the Yale and Harvard people that I had had you in mind for this task long before the Yale offer was made. You will be the best judge as to what Ena says in reference to a year at Yale being "good for your career", but I suspect that the best thing for you will be to lie fallow.

Do you know Woodward of All Souls? I wrote him some time ago, telling him that we were going to enter this field and asking him for suggestions. I shall send you a little later a resumé of what he says and thinks. He is going to prepare a memorandum for me on this subject. Do you think it would be worth while for me to write him saying that you are coming into the group, and asking whether you and he might have lunch together someday after you get back to England? He is going to Japan in July, stopping at our camp on his

Prof. David Mitrany - 2

February 23, 1933

way to Vancouver. During our time at All Souls he was the embodiment of kindness, courtesy and helpfulness. He is well informed on European history, which is his specialty. Be sure to do exactly as you think best about this.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Prof. David Mitrany
John Winthrop House
Cambridge, Mass.
AF:GB

NOTE

LETTERS OF APPOINTMENT TO MITRANY DATED
FEBRUARY 21, 1933 and APRIL 25, 1933 ARE FILED
IN THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE UNDER MITRANY IN THE
BACK OF THE FILE 1938-1945.

72
February 21, 1933

Dear Professor Mitrany:

After informal conference with the individual members of the Executive Committee of the Institute for Advanced Study who are within reach, I have decided that at the forthcoming meeting of the Board of Trustees to be held on April 24 I shall nominate you for a professorship in the School of Economics and Politics - or some such terminology - at a salary of \$10,000 a year. Of this sum you will pay into the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America 5% monthly, the Institute making a similar contribution, thus actually increasing your salary by the amount of the Institute's contribution. The amounts paid into the Teachers Insurance Fund will accumulate and will be long to you whether you remain in the Institute or leave it. On your retirement this accumulation becomes available to you and your wife in one of the several ways described in the Handbook enclosed. You will retire at 65 unless your tenure is extended by mutual consent.

Your professorship will begin September 1, 1933, and your salary will be payable at the close of each month. During the next year at least and perhaps for an additional year or part thereof you will be on leave of absence with a salary of \$6,000 during the period of your leave. This sum will be expected to cover salary and such traveling as you wish to do and such books as you feel it necessary to purchase.

Professor Mitrany

February 21, 1933

2

You will shortly receive a copy of Bulletin No. 2 issued by the Institute. It is proposed for the present to begin formal work October 1 and to close May 1. You will be the judge as to how many and what students will be admitted to your work. It is my earnest hope that we may succeed in bringing together a group of unusually able and congenial men, who, each in his own way, will attack in a coöperative spirit some of the unsolved problems in which economics and politics in their broadest sense abound.

With all good wishes,

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor David Mitrany
John Winthrop House
Cambridge, Massachusetts

AF:ESB

February 21, 1933

Dear Mitrany:

I received your letter this morning on my return from Baltimore and wired you as follows:

"On reflection I believe that Felix is right in regard to Yale. I had simply not given the matter any particular thought. Am perfectly willing for you to follow his suggestion. Ask them to treat the matter in confidence as negotiations have not been entirely concluded. Warmest greetings."

If now you tell as much as this to the Yale people, it would seem to me that you would have to be equally candid with Holcombe. It would not do for the Harvard people to hear of the thing via Yale. In both cases I would suggest that you represent the matter as tentatively as you can, saying that no public announcement is to be made at present and that your main task for the next year would be that of assisting me in organizing the school with which you expect to be associated. I am enclosing a more formal communication.

I do hope that both Felix and Stewart will agree to come on the Board. They would be sources of great strength, and their counsel will be invaluable.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Professor David Mitrany
John Winthrop House
Cambridge, Massachusetts

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

AF:ESB

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WESTERN UNION

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The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

1933 FEB 21 PM 7 27

BB965 8 NM=CA CAMBRIDGE MASS 21

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

DR FLEXNER=

INSTITUTE ADVANCED STUDY 100 EAST 42 ST NYK=

WILL FOLLOW YOUR ADVICE KIND REGARDS AND THANKS=

MITRANY.

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

EGB

Thursday morning

Feb. 16. 33.

Dear Mrs. Bailey,

I gather from Dr. Flexner's letter that it would suit him to see me Saturday morning, at your office. As the sun has in the meanwhile come out, I may therefore come perhaps by boat, which I find more restful (if the sea is). In that case I would arrive Saturday morning, and I would not need a room - and I know you will forgive me the inconvenience I am causing you. But I am going to be cautious and see how the weather is tomorrow. If I decide to come by boat, I will telegraph you tomorrow, Friday, morning. If I do not telegraph, it means that I am coming by train, Friday night. Please excuse the trouble. With many kind regards

Yours sincerely
 D. Mitrany

David G. A. S.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Jul. 15, 1933

15. U. 33.

Dear Flexner,

Many thanks for your letter. I have no doubt that your standpoint shows the way how cooperation can be made to succeed - and ^{the} dogmatism ^{examples} you mention prove it. It isn't the difference of view, but dogmatism which has made the social sciences such a hotbed of conflict. And, in fact, it must have been your experience, too, to find that sometimes people with different philosophies work together more fruitfully than 'camarads' in ones - because the first work with an open mind, but the latter with a set purpose. Isn't that true of most economic-political scientists at present? But we must break away from that fatalism.

The arrangements you suggest suit me perfectly. I will leave here as

Friday at 3 pm. I will arrive at 8:30. If you are free that evening, and not too tired, I could come to your house. But I have no desire to travel by night, so I shall in any case stay till Saturday, so that Saturday morning would do equally well for me. I will call you up when I arrive and you can tell me your wishes. I have to be back here sometime on Saturday afternoon.

I am so very glad you like the Dodge lectures. It is not easy to try and open up new views and yet keep one's feet on the ground, but it is a great encouragement to have the sympathy of people like you and Howard. Thank you. Till we meet.

Yours very sincerely

D. Mitrany

February 14, 1933

Dear Mitrany:

I have just received your telegram. I have a luncheon appointment Saturday, but am free during the morning. If, however, you do not wish to take the midnight train, you could arrive here Friday evening and see me Saturday morning, and take train to Boston sometime during the day. Or, if you prefer, you can see me Friday evening at home, and take the night train to Boston, which however I do not recommend.

I received your letter of the 10th, and I find that you, Felix and I are in thorough accord, namely that the problem of society has got to be attacked by a congenial group from various angles. The real problem is not to sacrifice brains and originality to amiability and second-rateness or congeniality. We have in this country two outstanding examples of institutions in which persons have been selected with brains, but in which at the same time highly differentiated persons have gotten along happily and beautifully,- namely, Johns Hopkins Medical School and the Rockefeller Institute. I suspect that getting along depends largely upon the head and his attitude, his generosity, character, etc.

Dr. David Mitrany - 2

February 14, 1933

In Baltimore, Dr. Welch has known to perfection how to select first-rate men, all very different in temperament and outlook, who have gotten along like a happy family over a period of more than forty years. Simon has done the same thing at the Rockefeller Institute. Dr. Buttrick and Mr. Gates did it at the Rockefeller Foundation and the General Education Board. None of these men wanted anything for themselves, or had any pride of opinion. They had their eye on something outside themselves, bigger than themselves, and all their associates were subdued to their bigness and largeness and selflessness. I have had good training under Dr. Buttrick, and his example is one which I never lose sight of for a day.

I read your Dodge Lectures with the greatest interest and sympathy. They represent an extraordinary achievement. I should never have guessed that they were written under pressure. With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. David Mitrany
John Winthrop House
Cambridge, Mass.
AF:GB

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

10 Feb.
10.II.1933
Feb. 10,

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Flexner,

I had lunch with Felix to-day and we talked about your conception of a section of Economics. As you are going to see him yourself in a few days, there is no need to write at length about his views. But one or two points which had occurred to me, since seeing you, and with which he appears to agree, I should like to suggest for your consideration now.

My impression is that Felix would endorse without reservation your general view. It is perhaps inevitable, given the complexity of the problems and the mass of the material to be mastered, that we should all specialize in some field. But at a time when the whole nature and purpose of modern society needs to be thought over anew, there is need that someone somewhere should attempt a synthesis of the social field, and your Institute would seem to offer an ideal opportunity for such a purpose. I cannot see how it could possibly be done in an ordinary University.

The nature of the task suggests certain things as to the nature of the personnel. You know no doubt from your wide experience that certain individuals, however capable, seem to be temperamentally incapable to cooperate, and I am sure that, as always, you will not be indifferent to this 'human' factor. But, in addition, it seems important that the members of the group should start with some sympathy of outlook upon their common road. That does not mean, in my opinion, that they must be agreed from the outset upon method and principles. The quality of their agreement needs to be rather of a negative kind - namely, they should not be already bound individually to some dogma or school. Is not this the trouble with most economists? They seem more anxious to prove a particular dogma than to discover truth. It so happens that the School of Economics illustrates both attitudes. In its days of glory, when it was in all truth a fountain of light, there was every shade of political opinion among its workers. The founders were Socialistic, but there were passionate Conservatives like Hewins and Mackinder and Mrs. Knowles, Liberals like Hobhouse and Cannan, and they had no difficulty in working together, simply because they were willing to be searchers. Now there is politically less distance between Beveridge and Laski, between Robbins and Tawney, yet there is a bitter feud going on all time, which has come down to personalities and is ruining the work of the place. So that scientific detachment is all that is needed. But it seems to be most difficult to find among economists - and for that reason, and to prevent misunderstanding of your ends, would it not be preferable to give your new section a wider name than Economics? These are just jottings. If you should wish it, I could try sometime to develop the positive part of my memorandum.

*Figure these brief lines
by assistant has
collected - or? even
working overtime.
Can with foot wishes
with hands for your
hospitality
Yours ever
S. Mitrany*

East Sandwich

Mass.

78. I. 33.

Jan. 28, 1933

Dear Flexner,

Mussolini sents for me. I was offered to meet Roosevelt. But I bow my knees, when I meet next night - so I will be there on Saturday morning, in the hope of seeing Eleanor. Any arrangements you may make will be welcome, as I am making none myself.

Thank you for your friendly words, and I am much looking forward to consulting you.

Yours very truly
David Mitrany

January 26, 1933

Dear Mitrany:

Your letter reaches me this morning. I shall be delighted to see you Saturday, February 4, as you suggest. I can meet your convenience in the matter of appointment, and that may depend largely upon your method of transportation, that is, whether you prefer to come down on the night train or Saturday morning. The real problem is Eleanor, for on Saturdays she has both a matinee and an evening performance of Alice in Wonderland. You might get a glimpse of her between the two performances or, if you come on the night train, before the afternoon performance. She would love to see you. We might even try to see the play Saturday afternoon if time permits.

Looking forward with great pleasure to your visit and with all good wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. David Mitrany
East Sandwich
Massachusetts

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

AF:ESS

East Sandwich
Mass.
Tel. Sagamore 82-11

25.I.1933

Jan. 25, 1933

Dear Flexner,

Thank you so much for your letter. I rather agree with what you say about Ena, but it was all done after I had left; and it is useful in so far as it will get her to let certain things out of her system, having all her life tended rather to suppress them. That is how she looks upon it herself, and her letters are both instructive and amusing. But I should be glad, now that I have spoken, to have your advice.

From every point of view it would be a help to me to see you fairly soon. I have indeed had a letter from Yale, with general inquiries as to my work at Harvard and my willingness to go to Yale next year. And I have heard through my Cambridge hosts that the Harvard people would also feel inclined to make me an offer, if they can find the money. But that is neither here nor there; they are all in financial difficulties, and the inevitable result, given their system, is to add to the share of work falling upon each individual. At any rate, I should much like to see you; and if it be agreeable to you, I propose to come on Saturday, February 4th. I could be in New York either in the morning, or I could call upon you in the afternoon. I do not intend to see anyone else (in fact, I would be obliged if you did not mention my coming to

any of our common friends), so I can follow wholly your convenience. Would you kindly ask Mrs. Bailey to send me word which you prefer?

I am glad that I shall also see Mrs. Flexner, and I hope she is fully recovered. But is there no means of getting a glimpse of Eleanor, even if I were to write for an audience?

With many good wishes,

Ever yours sincerely

D. Mitrany

January 23, 1933

Dear Mitrany:

Thank you very much for your letter and for letting me see the communications from Ena which I have shown to no one. They are returned herewith. I do not consider that you have been fibbing at all, for I realized before you wrote that she was below par, partly perhaps from worry, partly perhaps from over-stimulation as a result of writing two books in quick succession. Whether a psychiatrist of the type you mention is best for her or not I do not know. If she does not improve very much within a reasonable time, it might be best to put a different type of person in charge of her.

The Princeton lecture was really the result of a question which Poole asked me, and your original interpretation of it was correct, but that does not modify anything which I said in my letter of January 17.

I should be delighted to see you at any time that is convenient to you, but, inasmuch as we cannot possibly make a start in your field this year, I wonder whether it is worth your while to make the trip in February. I should, if possible, try to be in Princeton myself when you are there in March, and we could talk both there and here, but as to this I should like you to do whatever you yourself prefer.

During the last few days I have heard your name proposed as a possible

D.M.

Jan. 23, 1933

2

successor to Howland, so that you have more than one string to your bow. You can therefore, I think, assure Ena that she may dismiss from her mind all fear that you will not have opportunity for the prosecution of your work.

I am delighted to know that Felix has seen your memorandum and approves of it. I am trying to get hold of him myself to talk about another matter, but I shall find time to discuss your memorandum too.

Do let me know if Ena prospers.

Mrs. Flexner is coming back this week, thoroughly recovered from the consequences of the grippe.

With all good wishes,

Ever affectionately,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. David Mitrany
East Sandwich
Massachusetts

AF:ESB

JOHN WINTHROP HOUSE
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

21. I. 1933

Jan. 21

East Sandwich,
Mass.

Dear Flexner,

Thank you so much for your letter, and for so kindly telling me about your plans.

I am delighted that what has been going on in my mind so closely fits into your own trend of thought. The reference in my previous letter to Hobhouse will of itself suggest that I agree with the need for an all-round approach, social rather than technical, to economics. Our present difficulties are not due to technical obstacles, but to a conflict of social ideals. And our egalitarian outlook, our intricate economic interdependence, and the scale of our economic activities - they all present a combination of conditions without parallel in human history. Our picture of society therefore needs re-thinking all over and freshly again; and that can be done intelligently only by such a literal putting together of heads as you contemplate.

As you mention Frankfurter, I may say that I showed him my memorandum, before sending it to you, because it was written under some personal difficulties and I wanted his keen and candid mind to discover any bad holes there may have been in the argument. After some general comments, he wrote: "Your 'Notes' really excited me. I am sending them back, but I should like to have a copy for further reading and reflection. You have put the knife deep below the surface. With the program for your inquiry and the thought which you outline, I not only do not quarrel; I find myself heartily in accord." One may presume therefore that he would fully appreciate your standpoint.

I should greatly welcome an opportunity to talk with you of all this. I am not going to Princeton until March 20. (I confess not to have connected their friendly invitation with the Institute. They mentioned your name, and I hope I thanked you for your intercession, as I meant to do; but as they want me to speak on topical matters, somehow my mind failed to make an association between such a lecture and the Institute.). My course resumes on February 6, and I intend staying here until the 4th. So I could come any time between now and then, and most conveniently for me on February 4th, before I return to Cambridge. Would you tell me whether this would be agreeable to you, or whether you would prefer that I came before that date?

Always yours sincerely

J. Mitrany

January 17, 1933

My dear Mitrany:

You may have guessed from the fact that you have been asked to come to Princeton that I am approaching the making a start in the field of economics and government or political theory. This winter I have devoted myself to mathematics, and I hope that before the winter is over I shall have the mathematical group in shape so that I can turn my attention to another field.

I have chosen economics in a very broad sense and in it I should like to include precisely the kind of study which you briefly outline in your memorandum. I should like also to have the so-called economic group contain a lawyer like Frankfurter and a historian so that economics could be viewed not as a separate science concerned with exchange or transportation or profit or loss but as one factor in the organization of society. I know of no one who would fit into such a group more adequately than would you and, if, as I hope I can, I devote my attention next to forming a nucleus in this field, I should, I think, without doubt want you to be associated with it. Is this enough for the next few weeks? I should like your critical reaction to the scheme as I have outlined it above, and I should like also to talk with you about it and your possible relation to it on your way to or from Princeton or earlier.

I should have moved more rapidly but for the fact that Anne has been

D.M.

Jan. 17, 1933

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unwell and that I have myself had this miserable neuritis which has diminished for the time being my working power, also I have been handling a couple of very temperamental mathematicians, who, however, are now, I think, off my shoulders. Of course, the financial situation has led me to proceed more slowly than I otherwise would, but our funds are fortunately thus far intact and our income has been but slightly affected, though it is from the American point of view a modest sum.

This morning comes your note which crossed mine to East Sandwich. The Princeton people have been marvelous. I did not know that there was in America or indeed anywhere else an academic group so wedded to the promotion of knowledge as to be willing to make great sacrifices in order that this new scheme might succeed. I suspect that the Harvard Society of Fellows has been conceived more or less under the influence of what the Institute for Advanced Study is trying to do, and I wish it well. Things of this kind are rarely thought out thoroughly in America. We leave too much to impulse or competition or mere motion. That by the way is another reason for my slow mental functioning.

I hope that Ena continues to improve. Anne is much better and will be returning next week. My arm has also improved. There is a good time coming yet.

Ever sincerely,

Dr. David Mitrany
East Sandwich
Massachusetts

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

AF:ESB

East Lansing

15. 1. 33.

Jan. 15, 1933

Dear Flexner,

Your friendly letter came just after I had posted my ministerial envelope to you. This is just to say that I am so glad your shoulder is better, but sorry that I am unwell. When only mine fall ill - well, it looks suspicious. But I wish her quickly well again.

I had seen the announcement in the 'Times' with much interest, especially the indication that the relations with Princeton are working so happily. You are a biological marvel - you produce an infant who, at the same time, gets wedded, and even begins to procreate grandchildren. The seed which you have dropped is already beginning to make the soil of academic America stir uneasily. I know that this was deep in your mind. I don't know that the 'Society of Fellows' will come to - no one knows, because under Lowell nothing grows by common effort; it is ordained. I know nothing less like a 'society' than the present. What a tropy-tropy situation the universities have got themselves into, when they have to distinguish the scholars by not giving them degrees!

I will certainly make use of your permission to send your letter to Sue. She

will enjoy it. I had yesterday a furious note
from her with a cutting from a 'Times' in which
the Bishop of Gloucester writes in support of
the present Yugoslav régime - she is getting
lively again, the dear child.

Dear me, very good wishes - special ones
for over this time - good luck in your
work

Yours ever
D. Mitrany

JOHN WINTHROP HOUSE
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Personal

East Sandwich, Mass.

14. I. 33.

Jan. 14, 1933

Dear Flexner,

I hope the enclosed, though a surprise, will not be too unwelcome. Rightly or wrongly, I really think I see 'light' and I feel full of work. I feel in spirit younger than I did at 24, and intellectually much excited about the problems of our time; but materially they are exhausting my nervous strength, for I have to keep four irons in the fire at the same time. I have never yet had a chance to work for work's sake, and these are the best years of my life.

Even so, I would have felt it unusual to trouble ^{you} were it not that a concern which is very near to my heart is pressing me on. You would appreciate it, but it is personal and therefore not admissible to your decision. But if it be in your mind to give me a chance at the Institute, please do it now. It is not a question of a public appointment now or of a salary - that can wait your convenience. But

there are other reasons - well, you will do what
 you think is proper for your work. Our affectionate
 good wishes for it and for your personal well being
 will follow you in any case as closely as ever.
 I write with the great reluctance and deep
 hesitancy, and I trust to your kindly tolerance
 to wipe the whole thing out of your mind if
 I have trespassed upon your good will.

Yours

Amitrany

Please, keep in any case this memorandum ~~for~~
 private. It was written for you, on the
 spur of the moment - though the ideas
 have been kicking about in my mind for
 some time - and I should not like such
 a tentative excerpt of my thoughts to fall
 into less congenial hands.

JOHN WINTHROP HOUSE

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Private.

January 14th, 1933.

Dear Dr. Flexner:

The enclosed memorandum contains a statement which I have drafted, more for my own mind, on work that needs to be done in the field of political science. The history of the memorandum is brief. Last winter, in response to an inquiry from the Social Science Research Council, I wrote a short memorandum on the International Implications of National Economic Planning; whereupon I was asked to consider a study on these lines. To get a picture of the field I looked over during the past summer the relevant literature, especially the more recent output, in the major languages. I then became aware of the curious fixation which has cast its spell upon political writers. Whether they like it or not, none appear to be able to get away from the State. Hence the need, in my opinion, of a study of Politics from a purely sociological angle, untrammelled by any a priori association with existing political divisions and institutions or by any impulse to provide argument for or against them.

Unless I am greatly mistaken, here is a line of study which both needs to be followed and is immensely worth following if political science is to deserve its claim as a humanistic discipline. It is a work "de longue haleine"; and work that will demand all the breath that an individual could command. Nor could any individual claim to possess all the

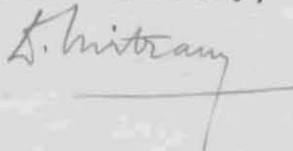
qualifications required for such a task. The only man of my acquaintance who might have been justified in doing so was my late teacher and lamented friend, Professor Hobhouse. But the work is too important, and the opportunity that is in your gift too rare, that I should stand on false modesty.

Even so, I should have hesitated to approach you thus, had you not expressed on various occasions the wish that it may prove feasible to associate me with the Institute. Let me hasten to add that those expressions of goodwill were never in the nature of a formal offer, or in any way in the least binding upon you or myself. I took them merely to mean a friendly acceptance of my fitness to be a part of the Institute; and it is in the nature of things that such an acceptance, when it comes to appointments, should be relative to the claims of other scholars whom you may have in mind. The Institute has become for us too much of an ideal that I should wish this to be otherwise.

I am moved to write you, and to write as I do, not by personal claims, but by the claim of the work. No academic appointment could offer the freedom and facilities for such unorthodox study; especially as in this field academic teaching now requires much attention to the problems and institutions of the moment. I must therefore make up my mind fairly soon. If I should find an opportunity to pursue the study which seems to me to open up such promising vistas, I should like to take a year off -- on my own resources -- from teaching and writing so as to make a preliminary survey of what is bound to be an arduous task. Whereas if I cannot find that

opportunity, I must deliberately set aside all idea of a pursuit which, if it is not to fall into generalities, so easy in the social sciences, cannot but claim the undivided devotion of anyone undertaking it.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'D. Mitrany', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Dr. Abraham Flexner,
New York.

P.S. I do not want to burden you with my writings. But should you wish to see a tentative applied discussion of the ideas expressed in the memorandum, I could let you have the MS. of my Dodge lectures.

Mitrany

JOHN WINTHROP HOUSE
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

January 15, 1932

Dr. Abraham Flexner
100 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Flexner:

Many thanks for your much too kind words. There is of course no objection whatever to your using my memorandum for your Committee. That is the internal use for which it was meant.

I am perfectly well again and the best proof of it is that I am feeling very lazy. I had a cable from Ena today saying that she is having a hard struggle with Cape who are demanding certain changes by which they hope to make the book a best-seller. But she is refusing and I gather that she has mobilized the opinion of Woolf, Brailsford and others behind her.

My very good wishes to you and all at home, in the hope that we may meet again before long.

Yours sincerely,

D. Mitrany

M:H

Military

January 5, 1932

Private

Dr. Abraham Flexner
The Institute for Advanced Study
100 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Flexner:

I am venturing to express a few opinions on the subject mentioned in your letter of December 17. Needless to say, my remarks are based primarily on English experience and anything I may say on American conditions is likely to be categorical because based on comprehensive ignorance.

America
for many the

1. To begin with, the question of location. Since coming to Harvard I have been struck with this problem which seems to me more difficult to solve in America than it would be in any European country. As you know, even at Oxford and Cambridge, notwithstanding their traditional detachment, one is always in close and continuous contact with the problems of the moment. At Harvard, though close to a big and active city, one feels completely isolated; and I may say that this point has been made to me also by quite a few of the more keen-minded students. You will be better in a position to estimate the reasons. But speaking mainly with an eye on Humanistic studies, I feel very strongly that it is of great importance to have the Institute so placed that teachers and students should be able to remain in touch with everyday life. At the same time, one wants to avoid, if possible, the excessive pressure of a metropolis. I always remember the determined position of our late friend, Mr. C. P. Scott, to any suggestion for moving the "Manchester Garden" to London. While admitting the advantage from the point of view of getting news, he maintained that as a paper it could never have kept its detachment if it had worked in the feverish surroundings of a capital city. I do not know to what extent it is possible to combine the two points so as to get the best of them on American soil. But with all due reservations, it seems to me that Washington or its neighborhood might come very near to an ideal solution.

2. Concerning material conditions. I know that

Dr. Flexner

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January 5

you are keenly aware of the fact that scholarship does not thrive on discomfort and so I need not labor the point. Present day academic salaries are altogether inadequate. Some men, of course, will never be satisfied. But from my knowledge I would say that a majority of the professors are forced to seek additional outside occupations simply because they cannot make ends meet. It seems simple sense to give scholars a chance to remain scholars. I do not mean to imply that academic salaries should attempt to compete with salaries paid by business corporations. Universities could not do it, and it would not be much use if they could. Those men who are lured by the larger purse probably would in any case end in some kind of lucrative employment. But I do not think that is true of the great majority of scholars.

The actual size of the salaries, apart from general considerations, should be conditioned by the other arrangements that may be adopted eventually by the Institute. Apart from the needs of the moment, there are, to my knowledge, three circumstances which are likely to place a professor in difficulties. First, a case of illness, involving a considerable expenditure. Some kind of insurance against sickness might be feasible without a severe burden on the budget of the Institute. Secondly and more especially, there is the problem of retirement. At present a professor is penalized for having chosen a scholarly rather than a money-making career; when he retires he has to drop usually several degrees in his scale of living. A generous super-annuity scheme seems to me, therefore, a very desirable arrangement, especially as it may also help to solve the problem of retirement. An artificial age limit generally does as much harm as it may do good. (Most scholars, I should say, would have the sense to retire of their own accord when they feel their usefulness declining.) If they hesitate at times, it is just because they are dependent on their regular salary. By making it possible for them to retire without severe material loss one may also prevent the possible difficulty of their staying on to the intellectual loss of the Institution.

3. Finally, there is another point in connection with material conditions which it might be desirable to deal with apart from the question of salary. Any man and woman who has a live mind needs as a relief and stimulus occasional travel, etc. For a scholar engaged in some Humanistic discipline travel is frequent-

Dr. Flexner

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January 5

ly a necessity. In any case he has to keep, by one means or another, in contact with the men and currents of his time. They are to him what the laboratory is to the chemist and the physicist. Yet, Universities will make ample provisions for the latter and none whatever for the former. The mass of undigested books on social subjects written in the limitations of a study are the best proof for the need of active work in the great human laboratory. More generous salaries would of course go a long way to remove this drawback. But I am not sure whether it would not be desirable to provide a definite means, with corresponding obligations for their use, for field work--means which would have to be used in some systematic way and would have to be accounted for. It may indeed be a worthwhile experiment to go a step farther in this direction. Many endowments and foundations are now providing numerous traveling fellowships for students. It is seldom that a student does not derive some good from such a trip. But I venture the opinion that from a scholarly point of view most of the money is wasted. The student has neither a sufficient command of his subject, nor a sufficient understanding for his new surroundings, to get the best value out of the trip. This would be very different if the trip and the attending studies were undertaken under the guidance of a professor. What I have in mind, is the possibility of providing, so to speak, a field seminar in the Humanistic disciplines, where a few selected students would go out together with their professor for a certain period of time and investigate and study a particular country or problem in a systematic and intensive fashion on the spot. Both as a training ~~and~~ method and, especially, as a means of acquiring some insight into the human element which enters into Humanistic studies, such an experiment might prove of much greater value than individual rambles by unprepared students; and also probably a useful corrective to ex-cathedra statements by dogmatic professors. If the idea seems at all practical and desirable perhaps it might be possible to enlist, for carrying it out, the cooperation of some of the institutions who are now distributing individual fellowships.)

End

I feel that this is a very inadequate contribution to the difficult problems which you have to solve. But I trust it is not altogether futile and I will gladly attempt to deal further with any point which you may care to put to me.

Yours sincerely,

D. Mitrany

M:H

Mitrany

NOTES

on

THE SCOPE AND METHOD OF POLITICAL SCIENCE.

Political philosophers have been more fortunate in their popular reputation than is usually the lot of the lawyers. Lawyers are assumed to be, at best, narrow Conservatives. Political philosophers are looked upon, as a rule, as big-hearted seers. Every period and every new movement found some writer who had sensed in good time and voiced its own aspirations. And though Morley is safe in arguing that "it is events, after all, that make the fortune of books, rather than books that create events" -- nevertheless, the fact that every political event of note had its prophet has nourished a popular belief that all political philosophers have been prophets.

In that way they have secured credit beyond their deserts; ~~of~~, at any rate, for what they were not. For on closer scrutiny it is but obvious that most political theorists, hardly less than the lawyers, have at all times placed their wits in the service of the powers that were. Dilke asserts, from intimate experience, that the task of the legal officers of the Crown is to find legal arguments for the policy preferred by the Cabinet. Political theorists have been no less skilful in finding philosophical arguments in support of the dominant power. They upheld the Monarchy as of divine right

against the People; and with equal persuasiveness they showed it to be the embodiment of the People against the divine right that is in humanity. If, on the whole, the name of the group is fair, that is because some of them were always quick enough to speed the looming change-- and, no doubt, also because of the magic that is in words, which has caused a 'lawyer' to suggest a twisty mind and a 'philosopher' a guileless soul. But there is always in political thought a 'lag', which in periods of marked change is more substantial than the spurt. Political theorists, on the whole, are slow to break away from the mould in which their views have been set. Like the average chemist or physicist, they try to analyze and shape new elements with the apparatus -- their political notions and institutions -- which they find at hand; until disaster overtakes them or the invention of a keener mind saves them therefrom. The political theorists at the beginning of the modern era, dismayed spectators of the undoing of the medieval world, were slow to realize the meaning of the new world that was being born. They prayed and pleaded for a return to that constricted formal unity in which alone their ideas had any currency. And most political writers of our time gaze with similar dismay and reluctance upon the débacle of our political world. They strain and strive to devise some adjustment that might still allow them to use their wonted individualist principles and doctrinal canons for the shaping of our communal existence.

2. In a way, the plight of present-day political theory is much worse. The medieval theorists were guided by a harmonious philosophy, which enabled them to apply their principles with consistent logic to internal as to external society. Modern political theory has succeeded in using the same principles to justify two opposite kinds of society. Though it starts from the same philosophical premises, it arrives in the national field to conclusions that are diametrically opposed to those which it draws in the international field. It rests ultimately in every case upon natural law, from which it has extracted the all-pervading individualism of its outlook and the ideas of formal equality upon which our political institutions and laws are built. Yet the social results of these ideas are startlingly discordant. Within the State, the recognition of the individual meant that he was given a right to define the duties to which he was to be subjected. Between states, the same premise has given individual states a title to refuse any duties at all. Within the State, equality was a starting point for the creation of a society holding authority over the whole. Between states, equality was interpreted as implying that no society and therefore no authority bound the peoples together.

The quixotic result of that supposedly rational philosophy is that, with every advance of society, the

discrepancy between theory and practice deepens. If we cling to our present theory, the civilized world will get more disrupted. If we pursue our better practices, our political theory will get more disjointed. For our present theory, and the policy derived therefrom, is such that every degree added to the cohesion of the State means a corresponding dilution of its ties with other States. Ideally, the achievement of 'autarchy' would mean absolute external insulation. Principles and practice of our political life are therefore self-contradictory. For no group of population or slice of territory forms such a perfect organic unit as to warrant the assumption that what is desirable internally must be avoided externally.

Yet that is the implication of our modern political theory. It is so arbitrary, that social life has in fact gone against it and, in spite of it, has evolved similar societies in both the national and the international spheres. The modern trend broke up the fixed social groups of guilds and estates and set up in their place the individual as a political unit in his own right; in the very same way old and newer empires were broken up to be replaced by individual state units. Nationalism was for the peoples what democracy was for the individuals. The nineteenth century -- ending with the new arrangements brought about by the Great War -- was peculiarly a period during which the political individuality of nations was discovered and recognized. It was a period

during which an ever greater number of nations was enfranchised; in the same way in which an ever greater number of individuals was enfranchised within each nation. And as that process of citizen-making moved step by step with the discovery of new worlds and with the revolution in our economic life, the states of the world like the citizens of each state were bound increasingly together by a growing division of labor. In the light of that living interdependence among states the idea of their independence became a fiction; and, in keeping with that, their formal sovereignty was sacrificed by them more and more upon the altar of their social needs. The extensive web of treaties and conventions which in the last hundred years has spread over the civilized world is nothing else, in a different sphere, but what the mass of social laws has come to be in the national sphere. Until the inescapable demands of their existence have now led the nations—"half drawn, half succumbing," and with truly sovereign disregard for their formally still absolute sovereignty, to gather into a society with a Constitution, with a system of representation and with organs of administration in no way differing in their nature from those which form the political skeleton of every State.

3. Political science is clearly concerned with the life of that emerging society. Its task is nothing less than to discover from it and for it principles which would

provide a continuous channel for social progress. They would have to be principles free from the innate contradictions which lurk in modern political theory: which would relate any advance within a group to that between groups; which when used in one place would by their very nature further their use all round; which, in brief, would correlate rather than isolate action within the various units of government.

It is a serious and urgent question whether political science can do that, as long as it persists in the present tendency to submit to a filial connection with jurisprudence and political theory. That there is something wrong in the very material and tools with which the latter works is seen from its apparent inability to escape from one of two extreme alternatives. Taken in groups, political theorists may be said either to abhor or to worship the State. Life is in none of its aspects as absolute. But political theory is led to try and make political life so, because it finds itself caught in the dilemma of an inherent and growing incompatibility between form and function in the modern State. One can see very clearly its trials and failings by looking at the difficulties which confront living English theorists, from whom I might select three to illustrate my point, because they can, in a general way all be described as progressive and universalist in their ideals.

Professor Ernest Barker is different in so far as he works with individualist principles. His doctrine, as stated as recently as 1928, insists that "a true internationalism . . . must recognize the existence of the State in all its fullness, and it must strive to comprehend states in its fold without any derogation from the fullness of their being." Professor Laski is, by contrast, a pluralist and a collectivist. In an essay first published in 1929 he argued that states have no claim to predominance over groups and associations within them, but that international authority must possess absolute predominance over states. Professor Laski tries to set aside the sovereign title to the State and, with formal logic, to transfer it to the civitas maxima. Like Professor Barker, he still accepts the State as a solid unit, which can only be tamed by being chained. Moreover, his theory provides only a basis for the defiance of one authority and for the definition of another, but not an active principle of political development. Above all, the argument would seem to suffer from a philosophical contradiction: for if groups within a State have a claim to autonomy, why not nations or other groups under a world authority? The answer is supplied, without intent, by another collectivist, Mr. Bertrand Russell. Mr. Russell having come to politics by choice rather than by training drives straight to his goal, untrammelled by democratic inhibitions, and unwittingly shows where we might

end with such a political theory as Mr. Laski's. He, too, believes in a World State. But being a practical reformer he demands, in his latest book, a world system of education which should inculcate allegiance to that World State; echoing Professor Miles Walker who, in his presidential address to the Engineering Section of the British Association, last summer, pleaded for a World State in which one and the same language should be taught in all schools.

A number of other distinguished writers, like Duguit and Krabbe and Kelsen, have questioned the ability of our traditional political theory to guide the evolution of the modern State; their own ingenious political theories, no doubt, would make a State more congenial to some of us than Hegel's. -- . . . The so-called sociological school--not only the Marxians, but others, of whom Oppenheimer is the best known--have gone beyond that. They set aside all political theory in examining the State. But they have been concerned almost wholly with the origins of the State; and they were thus concerned, moreover, to discredit the State's genealogy by showing it to have issued from conquest and ~~and~~ oppression. Their conclusions may be unanswerable. But they do not teach us much about the evolution of the State as an instrument of social life, and nothing at all about its present problems. -- . . . Perhaps the most instructive attitude for our argument is that of the 'geo-political' school. Having been started as a

gentle plant by Ratzel and Kjellén it has, since the War, grown suddenly into a very forest, mainly in Germany, with many textbooks and a learned periodical of its own. Its aim is the study of political evolution in the light of geographical factors. Here, if anywhere, one might have expected a free-thinking approach to politics. So far one discovers instead a tendency to create a natural science of the State, which is studied as "a living personality" in "whose nature it is to grow."

All these views, therefore, so diverse in their sources and trends, have yet in common what psychoanalysts would call a 'state fixation.' They all assume the State to be a rigid, organic unit and proceed therefrom to argue, in keeping with their ultimate ideals, either that it must be maintained as it is or destroyed altogether. That is inevitable as long as these views stand upon the basis of modern political theory. In contrast to medieval theory, the ideas which underlie our modern government link up lay authority with a territorial jurisdiction. The State is the most developed product of that union which we know -- a supreme territorial authority, with comprehensive functions and jurisdiction within those physical limits. Even those, therefore, who now see its shortcomings or believe it to be an obstacle to progress can only think of new institutions still built after its own image. They may wish them to be national or imperial,

to be merged into continental units or into a global unit; but they still assume that our political life must inevitably rest upon such a union of authority and territory, and informed by the tenets of a rounded body of doctrine. And when faced with the contradictions which spring from their very theory, they seek a temporary escape in proposing, as the case may be, either to contract or to expand the functions and the relevant power of the State, in forlorn alternation. To that is due the seemingly wilful swinging of our political outlook from collectivism to individualism, and back again; and the apparently insoluble conflict between social equality and individual liberty. They are not due, in spite of all appearance, to the vagaries of our temper and tastes, but rather to the linking up of political life to a comprehensive territorial authority. Clearly, such a combination bars the way to more selective and realistic solutions. An authoritarian period, with the State claiming a say in every aspect of social life, gives way as a reaction to a period of laissez-faire, with the individuals confining the say of the State to the least; until war or some other communal problem ushers in a fresh period of collective control, when the need for social action outweighs again and for the time being the desire for individual liberty. But always the State, having spacial jurisdiction, has to be held either to great or to small power over life within those limits. Doctrine is

definite and cannot allow that power to be hybrid. The State, like the Church, cannot be both high and low. Its power cannot be strong enough to ensure social equality without being too strong to allow individual liberty. And so the burthen of political philosophy shifts perennially from the dangers of anarchy to the dangers of obedience, from an exaltation of the State to the execration of the State -- because the State apparently is so omnipresent and all-pervading that you must either love it or hate it.

4. It is not easy to explain the vice in which the idea of the State holds modern political speculation. One can but suspect that our supposedly rational philosophy has in truth a dogmatic core. Though described as a perfect social unit, "existing for itself and through itself alone", the State is really so unfulfilled as an individuality that we cannot understand the nature and life of any one State unless we study them in the light of its relations with contemporary or former states, and of the general trend of history. Though it is supposed to be the creation of "irresistible natural forces", the modern State has to use continually the most unnatural means to maintain its internal cohesion and its external form. The State, as we have it, was not known to the ancient and, especially, to the Eastern World; and even in Western Europe it is but of recent origin. Now only is it spreading to the East, just when vigorously attacked and

disparaged in the West; for we at the same time are finding out, with all the reluctance and resistance of a mystic tradition, that our new social ends cannot be satisfied through the State. That much is clear from the difficulties in which the attempt at a new international system finds itself. The problem has not been simplified -- in a way it has been made worse -- by the creation of the League. For the League is based on a system of states and is pledged to their maintenance and protection. But one cannot maintain the State in its "fullness" without investing it with power; and one cannot invest it with power without its becoming in the same degree recalcitrant to any superior authority.

No matter, therefore, what angle we may give to our customary instrument of theory, the difficulties which arise in social life from what I have called our State fixation recur in one form if not in another. We might continue with the present endeavor to build a new world upon the basis of the national State. But we must then face, first, the difficulty of fitting the structure and the legal status of the State into an international system. And, secondly, even if we were to succeed in that, the danger will always remain that under the stress of some serious difference or crisis the new society may revert to its present individualism. Alternatively, a World State would avoid the first difficulty, but not the second. For unlike the ancient and medieval worlds,

when conceptions proceeded from a Whole to the particular, the modern world has to start from the particular towards the Whole; and any reassertion of those particularisms would mean the break-up of the unified structure. A World State could only escape the Scylla of that division by rushing into the Charybdis of an imposed uniformity, just as the national State has everywhere found it necessary to create by arbitrary means a cohesive and reliable national outlook; with the only difference, that the degree of uniformity and of constraint would have to be increased with the number and variety of the groups involved.

If the ultimate end of society is to enrich the personality of its members, then the prospect opened up by such a solution is not ideal. It matters little from that point of view whether the heavy hand which chokes that quintessence of social progress is that of a foreign or of a native ruler. It matters just as little whether it will be wielded by a national or by a universal State. Hobhouse points out that the word 'humanity' has a double connotation -- which well indicates that the physical collectivity of the human race is merely the vehicle for its spiritual elevation. The most satisfactory possible expression of modern political theory, the World State, might come to comprehend the first only to misrepresent the second. One cannot so raise the standing and extend the limits of an authority without a grave danger, if its jurisdiction remains comprehensive, that in caring for our material

needs it may show little sense and tolerance for any spiritual needs that might complicate its task.

That danger is greater under present conditions than it would have been in earlier times. Our society is made infinitely more complex now by an extreme division of labor, both national and international. At the same time, it is no longer held together by those fixed rules of conduct which once were derived from religious or caste or guild discipline. Nowadays lay authority has both the task of coordinating our extremely complex social life and the right to impose the correspondingly wide and hard rules which may be needed to that end. In order to escape the pressure of authority, which inevitably follows from the performance of function, the revolutionary period which put an end to Benevolent Despotism chose the looser bonds of the laissez-faire State. International relations, too, which only became intense with the Industrial Revolution, were on the whole carried on during that period on a basis of laissez-faire and free trade. Our time, however, has seen the débacle of laissez-faire philosophy. In every field and in every direction the sails are set full towards organized social life. But the change came about through the pressure of conditions, accidental and cataclysmic. It was not ushered in, as even revolutionary changes have been in the past, by the deliberate and insistent philosophical preparation of our outlook and of our schemes. We have been caught in a torrential stream of utterly new conditions and

problems without having had occasion, or time, to devise as yet any other basis of political organization. Hence, the not unnatural tendency to follow the line of least resistance and to guide the new current into the only effective political channel we know -- the territorial State; with merely such variations in scale as the more idealistic or more sceptical reformers think desirable.

5. It should be the task of political science to study in a more rational sense the problem of government in human society. It should be its aim to seek those principles and instruments of government which would seem best fitted to serve the twin ends of social life: the effective organization of our material conditions as a means to the fuller development of our spiritual life. That does in no way mean that political scientists are called upon to construct and support any particular form of government. On the contrary, their function is to show, in as detached a manner as may be humanly possible, how certain things might be done and others avoided; and their work and conclusions would have to rest, therefore, upon a basis of experience and observation which could be adapted by others and tested by others, and not upon a doctrinal system which must be accepted or rejected as it stands. For if a Weltanschauung is indispensable, as a general canvas, to every humanistic discipline, that does not imply an equal need for a doctrine concerning the political form of

society. We could not, indeed, remain faithful to our social philosophy without constantly changing our political doctrine, or cling to our political doctrine without a continuous compromise on our social philosophy. A consistent social philosophy almost postulates a variable political instrument, for conditions of life and therefore problems of government are in perpetual evolution.

If this general assumption is sound, then one may lay down as a preliminary conclusion that the principles and method of political science must begin by breaking away from those upon which political theory now relies. Since the break-up of the medieval empire, political theory has been continuously engaged in defining the place and power of the new political factors exercising authority in the State. It has had to settle the juridical relations between State and State; and internally between the State and its subjects. In passing it may be noted that it is implicit in such a task that it should operate against a background of conflict. Attribution of power to one factor inevitably means in a corresponding degree reduction in the power of another factor. Hence the theoretical conclusions of political theory represent at each stage an attempt to strike a balance of power between the contending factors, and practical application has often been concerned more with checking the use of power than with guiding it. Even such friendly ideas as 'general will' and 'social

contract' were in the hands of political theorists not so much ploughshares as swords. Even the discussion around laissez-faire was conducted with arguments not as to what was desirable for society, but as to what was permissible or not to authority. In other words, political theory has concerned itself primarily with the possession of power rather than with the use to which that power was put. But government is now increasingly a performance of functions and services. The governed seem willing to concede any powers that may be needed for the service they desire; while always inclined to question the possession of the first without the performance of the second. Hence, our politics are concerned no longer with a static division of powers, in accordance with a Constitutional pact, but instead with a dynamic and variable concession of powers in accordance with the specific requirements of individual acts of government. This clearly indicates the scope of the work that needs to be done. We need, so to speak, a study of political relativity -- of the relation between power and function at the seat of government. Such a line of inquiry would be scientific rather than juridical; and its conclusions would have to be stated not in constitutional doctrines but rather in sociological formulae.

In the second place, one may lay down that the acceptance of existing political divisions and forms would be both inadequate and misleading as a starting point for such work. It would bring in, however subtly and unconsciously,

the national and other prejudices on which we have been bred. If 'scientific' means the elimination of irrelevant factors, then economic and political issues cannot be examined and valued scientifically when linked up to the accidental background of existing political divisions, issued from some distant historical situation which may no longer have any meaning for the social life of that particular community. And such a starting point would be also inadequate, for it would offer no true standards with which to measure when an authority is assuming too much or too little power. A true scientific inquiry would take no political rules and institutions for granted. What is permanent, is the need for social action. The character of that action, and the nature of the instruments through which it is performed, is as eternally changing. The first task of political science should be to throw light upon the needs and conditions which brought into being certain political instruments. It would have to do so through comparative inquiry, both in time and in space. That would provide a systematic body of knowledge, being in a way the results of past experiment. On that basis political science could proceed to an analysis of our own times, so as to find out in what manner and degree the conditions which brought past or existing political institutions into being have changed. Then, and only then, could it venture to formulate those sociological formulae which would attempt to state what kind of political

institution and authority would be best fitted, under given conditions, to perform a particular social function -- when and in so far as it may be desired to have it performed through public authority. If one may venture a hypothesis at all, it is that such a line of work would tend to show that not all social functions can be effectively performed by one and the same type of authority: that certain mechanical arrangements, for the satisfaction of material needs, might best be devised upon the largest possible scale; and that other arrangements, which come nearer to our personal needs, would give better satisfaction on a scale even smaller than that upon which they are carried out in the national State.

But one cannot well anticipate the result of a line of work which being so unorthodox must also be patient. If political science, however, is to deserve its name and to earn its bread it must be bold enough to break up new trails. It must refuse to concern itself any longer with ways and means which might justify and sustain certain political institutions. It must explore instead the nature of political institutions which would be fitted to carry out certain social functions. It should neither praise nor disparage the State: it should ignore it; and conduct its work and state its conclusions without regard to existing popular beliefs or with the intent of creating new ones. It should be neither for nor against the State, but above it; for it should be in the service of lasting ends and not of ephemeral instruments. Political theory

has tended -- perhaps more by its treatment than by its substance -- to look upon political institutions as ends in themselves. It has merely varied the object of its interest in consonance with historical changes -- from imperial and papal power to monarchy, from monarchy to the sovereign people and the democratic state. But in regard to each of them its devotion has been as absolute and its creed as rigid at one time as at another. It might be said indeed that while the Western peoples have conquered their political institutions, the institutions themselves have remained bound to the dogmatic intolerance of former years. The autocratic State was never so well guarded by the watchdogs of theory as is the popular State. The rational emancipation of political life has in fact merely changed the object of veneration, but not the habit of veneration; and the supposed political freedom of Western society is in truth but a servitude once removed. We are the slaves no longer of kings but of constitutions. So far, the change from rule by deity to rule by an ordained prince and, finally, to rule by the hallowed demos has kept throughout the seat of power in the teleological sphere. But now that we have come to look upon government no longer as something to be feared but as something to be used, it should be possible at last to link up authority to a function rather than to a fetish. If we are to establish a political society that will approach as nearly as possible to the ideal ambiance for the fruition of human personality -- by offering it

equality of opportunity and freedom of expression -- we must make our institutions as free of dogma as we have made ourselves free of our institutions. Political science, the science of organized society, has before it the inspiring task of showing how the great achievements of the exact sciences might be used for the continuous progress of the human race.

January 9, 1933

My dear Mitrany:

Many thanks for your extraordinarily clear, suggestive, and helpful letter of January 6. Everything that you say is sound and sensible. I can appreciate your reasons for wanting the communication to be regarded as confidential. I am wondering, however, whether you will allow me to show it to the members of the Committee on Site, marking it "confidential" and not giving your name - simply describing you as a foreign scholar now lecturing in one of the most important American universities. An expression of this sort from an outsider would be more objective and hence more impressive than from the inside views I am getting.

I hope that the last vestiges of your cold have disappeared. I had hoped to be writing Ena this week, but I have been so busy that I have not gotten to it. Next Friday I may be starting for Pasadena to be gone a few weeks. I shall write her before I leave.

Anne and Eleanor join me in affectionate greetings and best wishes.

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Dr. David Mitrany
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.
6.II.1931

Jan
Mitrany

Dear Dr. Flexner,

'Bulletin No.I.' was most welcome, as a tangible evidence of your work. It has pleased us greatly, but has also made us feel rather small - it is somewhat awe-inspiring. More power to your elbow.

All well here. Ena's book is due on March 9. We will send an early copy. We haven't seen much of Eleanor, alas, ^{as} she seems to treat the Oxford rule; but we carry on a sporadic and pleasant correspondence. At first she seemed gently disenchanted with Oxford; now she is boisterously critical - so she obviously is beginning to enjoy it. Inevitably, too, she has started reforming it, quite usefully, both for Oxford and for herself, ^{as} in that way she has quickly come upon the hidden being of the place, which most students not even suspect to exist.

with great respect;

The enclosed fails to do justice to the really stunning book you sent us. Ena can't read more than two pages at a time, because her supply of exclamations then gives out. But I think she will have a try at it herself sometime.

Laski will be crossing before long, and then you will get a truck-full of scandal at first hand. The School has been in a state of feverish inventiveness since the beginning of Lent term. The Rockefeller people are coming, and each department has been working up schemes, vigilantly watching its neighbour so as not to be outdone. Between them, I think, they will manage to produce a bill of hope amounting to four or five hundred thousand dollars; though one scheme, I understand, was suppressed at the eleventh hour, which has deprived the department of social biology of the thirty monkeys it had hoped to maintain.

for experiments in the basement. It won't be long, I am sure, before Malinowski will put in a claim for a selection of aboriginees on the roof.

But spring is coming. Already buds are furtively breaking in the hedges. In a little while we are going back to our home, as Ena thinks she is strong enough to start work again, and then, I trust Eleanor will be coming out more frequently for the day. All good wishes to Jean; we had regular bulletins, and are delighted that she has made such a fine recovery.

With very many good wishes and kind regards from both of us for you and Mrs. Flexner

Yours sincerely

D. Mitrany

Kingston Oxlamit
Oxford.

17. XI. 30 .

Dear Dr. Flexner,

Many thanks for your cable. I am communicating your wish to the sons of Mr. Wolf, but I doubt they will be able to produce a list or catalogue. As I said in my last letter, they are anxious to get rid of the books quickly - in fact, I believe they have to evacuate the room soon, and therefore it might have been possible to get the lot for a low lump sum, which would have meant a bargain even if one discarded one-third or more of the books. I am not surprised that you wish to know what you buy, but the circumstances are such that my chance of buying has chiefly depended ^{probably} on a quick offer. I will see what they say.

Yours sincerely
David Mitrany

THE LOWER FARM,
KINGSTON BLOUNT,
OXFORD.

15.XI.1930

Mitrany

Dear Dr. Flexner,

Did my cable cause you to have doubts as to my sanity, coming out of the blue? I'd better hurry to tell you the story.

As you know, Lucien Wolf died suddenly about three months ago. It was expected that he would leave everything to his wife, who worships the soil he trod and cares for all his belongings, even if they are of no interest to her. But like so many active men, he left only an old and indifferent will, in which the non-Jewish books are left to his sons. (The valuable Jewish books and prints go to the Jewish Historical Society.) The sons merely want to make the most out of everything, but in view of my friendship with their father they have given me the first refusal of the books. It is a small collection, about 1500 volumes, and a bookseller might only pick out a few which are out of print. I wondered, however, whether they might not be of use to you for your Institute. There is no rubbish among them, and some things -like a collection of political biographies, and one of English State Papers- may be very useful in any college library. There is a complete set, I believe, of the diplomatic documents published by the German Foreign Office after the war, and as they are now rather expensive, they alone would be worth about half the total cost. If they interest you, I think I could get the whole for about £30, and personally I should be satisfied to know that the books will be kept together.

Thank you very much for the letter to both of us. We are much impressed by the note paper, and

like the name you have chosen for your Institute
May it prosper according to you views and wishes

Ena is in town, having taken up her MS.,
ready for printing. It is due out in the spring
Now that it is gone she will no doubt write to
you soon.

We had a homely note from Eleanor and hope
to see her next week. She seems happy but a
trifle too busy with invitations. We have left
it to her to come when she pleases, and we will
see that she has a peaceful time when she comes,
until she is her own lively self again.

With lots of our warmest wishes for your
success, and kind remembrances to Mrs. Flexner
and to Jean

Always yours sincerely

D. Mitrany

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Kingston Blount
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Mitrany

Have first to see catalogue of Wolf Collection Many thanks

Warmest greetings

Fleming

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