

Committee on the 25th Anniversary
Celebration. 1954-1955

CROSS REFERENCE

FILE: 25th Anniversary ~~Dinner~~

RE: Arrangements, publicity, etc.

LETTER DATED:

SEE: Inst Gen : Twenty Fifth Anniversary Dinner
Bibliography Project.

LAW OFFICES OF
MAASS, DAVIDSON, LEVY, FRIEDMAN & WESTON

HERBERT H. MAASS
WILBUR C. DAVIDSON
MONROE L. FRIEDMAN
DAVID J. LEVY
DAVID C. WESTON

100 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

TELEPHONE
MURRAY HILL 6-2676

February 4, 1955.

Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

If your letters were addressed to me in the first instance they would receive more prompt attention.

I think the invitations should read "The Officers, Trustees and the Director of The Institute for Advanced Study invite ..."

I shall make it a point to call you early next week as I understand you are going away for a short time.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert H. Maass

HHM:g

*over
re to
call*

LAW OFFICES OF
MAASS, DAVIDSON, LEVY, FRIEDMAN & WESTON

100 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

HERBERT H. MAASS
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TELEPHONE
MURRAY HILL 6-2676

January 31, 1955

Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer
c/o The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Oppy:

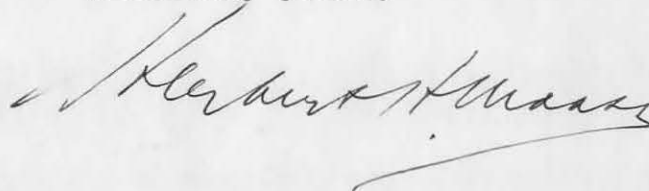
Enclosed herewith I send you a request from the University Library at Louvain, Belgium, with which I trust you will comply promptly.

With respect to your letter of the 29th inst. addressed to Mr. Leidesdorf, of which a copy came to me, I do not see how you can seat even the limited number of guests in the dining room and think that dinner should be served in the Common Room.

I shall prepare some sort of history of the founding and early days of the Institute. Whether I shall read this myself or ask someone else to read it for me is another question. As to dress, it does not seem practical to require formal attire. This would mean that every lady and gentleman from out of town would have to bring a suitcase with a change to formal attire, and this seems very impracticable.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



HHM:k

1977. I am going down the night before & stay with the Hochschilds. *the way he would. H3 v 9 am going*

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Left

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

January 29, 1955

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

At your request, I am putting down my understanding of the arrangements to be made for April 6th. On that date the Finance Committee will meet at Noon, and the Trustees will convene at 1:00 for luncheon for the Annual Meeting of the Board and the Corporation.

The celebration in the evening will consist of a small and simple dinner. We shall have cocktails in the Common Room at 6:30 and sit down about 7:00 in our dining room. We shall invite to the dinner all members of the Board of Trustees, friends and relatives of the Bamberger family, all professors, professors emeriti and members of long term at the Institute. We shall ask the wives or husbands of these invited guests.-----Question No. 1. Should we invite former Trustees? *I would hope so.*

The arrangements for the dinner will be simple. Either you or Mr. Maass will talk about the early days of the Institute, and the Director will give a word of greeting and appreciation. The Bibliography will be available. We should be able to rise before 9:00.-----Question No. 2. Should we dress for dinner? *

It would seem natural for the invitations to be sent either by the Chairman of the Board, or by the Director and his wife as his resident representative.-----Question No. 3. Which do you prefer?

As soon as we have your comments and those of the other members of the Committee on this plan, and your answer to these questions, we shall proceed.

With every good wish,

Robert Oppenheimer

Mr. S. D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Copy to Members of the 25th Anniversary Committee

* No: it would be a nuisance, & to get dressed for a 6:30 dinner always seems to me rather forced & self-conscious, a melancholy echo of a time when people dressed for dinner regularly. *USL*

YALE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
333 CEDAR STREET · NEW HAVEN CT · CONNECTICUT

Department of the History of Medicine
Historical Library

31 January 1955

Dear Robert,

Many thanks for sending me a copy of your letter to Sam Leidesdorf about the arrangements for 6 April. I shall be there for the Trustees meeting at one, and shall look forward to meeting the professors of the Institute and the members and friends of the Bamberger family at dinner.

As for your three questions, I think it would be an act of grace to invite former Trustees, such as Lew Douglas and Dean Acheson. I hope we won't be obliged to dress for dinner but it might be a pleasant gesture in view of the occasion. I shall await your instructions. Finally, I think the invitations should come from the Director and his wife, rather than from the Chairman of the Board.

It is always a pleasure to see you and Kitty, and I continue to look forward to meetings at the Institute.

With best wishes,

Yours,



Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

January 29, 1955

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It would seem natural for the invitations to be sent either by the Chairman of the Board, or by the Director and his wife as his resident representative.-----Question No. 3. Which do you prefer?

As soon as we have your comments and those of the other members of the Committee on this plan, and your answer to these questions, we shall proceed.

With every good wish,

Robert Oppenheimer

Mr. S. D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Copy to Members of the 25th Anniversary Committee

14 January 1955

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

There is one quite obvious point that I, however, forgot to mention in my letters yesterday. We should certainly invite Miss Lavinia Bamberger, and any other members of the families of the founders who might wish to come.

With every good wish,

Robert Oppenheimer

Mr. S. D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

13 January 1955

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

You have asked for my thoughts about the twenty-fifth anniversary celebration for the Institute on April 6th. Of course, this could appropriately be rather a large and formal affair, in which we invited not only those directly connected with the Institute, but representatives of the principal academic institutions. My own preference is for something a little smaller and a little more in the family, in which we have a dinner to which we ask all members of the Board of Trustees, and all of those here, professors, professors emeritus, and long term members, who have an enduring connection with the Institute.

I would think that there should be a minimum of speeches, and that it would be particularly nice if we could have an account of the early days, the founding of the Institute, and its beginnings. I would think that it would be civilized and appropriate that this be a dinner for men and women, and I would be glad to try to arrange it, either at the Institute, if we can manage that physically, or at the Inn if the Institute will not hold us.

At the time, we should have available the anniversary publication, and I think that will make a rather impressive document and perhaps cause pleasure for all who are there.

I do not think that we should complicate the occasion by elaborate formalities, or by music, or by orations, and I think we ought to arrange it so that people from out of town can get home that evening if they absolutely must.

These are my thoughts, for what they are worth, but I have no great sense that they are the right thoughts.

I have one other question: on the last pages of the book, "Publications of the Institute for Advanced Study", we will list our permanent members and professors and trustees. I believe that since the bibliography is cumulative we should list all of those who have been connected with the Institute in these capacities, with the dates, so as to distinguish those who are currently active. Do you approve of this arrangement with regard to the Trustees also?

With every warm good wish,

Robert Oppenheimer

Mr. S. D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

13 January 1955

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

It seems to me quite appropriate that the Trustees of the Institute have the privilege of bringing with them one or two guests, who are or are likely to be interested in the Institute and helpful to it. I do not think we should carry this too far, and I am sure that it will not be a good occasion to talk about our financial needs, to appeal for funds, or in any way to raise money; but to have a few friends could certainly do no harm.

I do not like to make selective invitations of people from Princeton, or other universities, since we are sure then to hurt a good many feelings, and in some measure to destroy the intimacy which I hope the evening can have.

With every warm good wish,

Robert Oppenheimer

Mr. S. D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

Tn. Leidesdorf

January 3, 1955

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

This is to remind you well in advance of our next Trustees meeting on January 26th that you are the Chairman of two special committees, one to which you have devoted so much time, entrusted with plans for the Institute housing, and the other to make arrangements for the Institute's anniversary. The remaining members of this latter committee, other than you and me, are Dr. Fulton, Mr. Galpin, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Schaap. As to the housing, I think you and I have kept each other fully informed, and Veblen knows where matters stand, but I have not been in communication with Mr. Galpin. As for the Institute celebration, I have discussed the plans for the forthcoming publication with Mr. Lewis and Dr. Fulton, the Bibliography and the Directory are in press, as is my foreword. I would like to have a final page listing the Trustees and the Faculty and Permanent Members. I have made no plans for the visit of the Trustees to the Institute on April 6th. But I have a copy of Mr. Galpin's letter to you. It seemed to me possible that you would want to call a meeting of one or both committees prior to the meeting of the Trustees, or to communicate with the members as to their views.

This is an occasion for me again to wish you every good thing for the New Year, and to thank you for the pipe and to thank you for very much else besides.

Robert Oppenheimer

Mr. S. D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y.

The Grant Foundation, Inc.

Fourteen Forty-One Broadway
New York 18, N. Y.
†
Longacre 4 - 1040

December 8, 1954

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, Director
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

I am sending you copy of a letter that I have sent to Mr. Leidesdorf today about plans for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Institute. My intention is just to have something on paper that can be discussed and criticized.

May I add that I felt Mr. Breuer made a good impression on the group on Monday.

Sincerely yours,



Perrin C. Galpin

PCG:prg

December 8, 1954

Mr. Samuel D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

Here is an informal suggestion for discussion by your Committee about the twenty-fifth anniversary celebration of The Institute for Advanced Study.

How about an afternoon or evening meeting and reception in Fuld Hall at which all of the members, fellows, trustees and Institute family would be invited?

This meeting should not be a long one. The bibliography can be unveiled, a tribute paid to the founders of the Institute by some appropriate person, and I would also think some chamber music would be in order. Refreshments could be served. I do believe the meeting part should not take over one hour.

You will see that this plan would be just a "family" party to which certain persons in the Princeton community such as the president of the University, the Mayor of the town, and other friends of the Institute might also be invited.

The date as I understand is to be April 6th when the Institute will be in session. The annual meeting of the trustees would be held on that same day at Princeton.

Sincerely yours,

Ferrin C. Galpin

PCG:prg