

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

69 Alexander Street
Princeton, New Jersey

December 30, 1937

Dear Abe:

I have just come back from the annual meetings of the American Historical Association where I had a rollicking good time and renewed a number of old acquaintances and made some new ones.

You will remember that last fall you authorized me to approach Professor Langer of Harvard informally concerning the possibility of his coming to the Institute for a year with no further commitments on either side. I was delighted to find that Langer received the idea most cordially, although he is very happy at Harvard. He has recently been made Archibald Cary Coolidge Professor, a chair named for his dearest teacher of undergraduate and graduate days. He is in my judgment the ablest man at Harvard in history or international relations.

Langer said that the ultimate decision would depend upon a number of practical considerations such as housing, cost of living, the schooling of his boys and similar matters which he felt he and I were incompetent to discuss alone. He asked, therefore, whether Beatrice and I could come to Cambridge to talk with him and Mrs. Langer about matters such as these. I am sure that you will be willing to have me do this, but I hesitate to go any further without definitive authorization. It will be understood, of course, that neither Langer or the Institute is obliged to go any further with the enterprise if for any reason it is not thought feasible.

I had several conferences with Mr. Beard and Mr. Crane, the latter of the Social Science Research Council, concerning my memorandum on Military Policy and Statecraft. Beard told Crane that he thought it was, in his judgment, the most important project in international relations which could be undertaken at this time and he urged most strongly that the Council support it. We both told Crane that the objective was not more monographs, but rather short and illuminating memoranda posing the problems to be met and providing the historical and critical background which might suggest solutions. We also emphasized that the study would not be a "project" in the sense that

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the Council usually interprets that term, but rather a wide field of investigation with considerable latitude to the scholars who may be engaged.

Just before I left yesterday Mr. Crane told me that he would throw all of his influence behind the plan which I have proposed and that he is as certain as he can be of anything that it will be carried out. He urged me, therefore, to begin to consider ways of procedure and the personnel. As you know, one of the persons I should like to have associated with me if possible is young Bailey at Stanford. You told me about three weeks ago that it would be agreeable to you for me to go to California later in the month and see Bailey. I should also like to canvass the possibility of taking over ^{for a year or two} Professor Sprout of the Department of Political Science at Princeton, who would be most useful and who badly needs relief from his routine undergraduate instructions. Here again I need make no definite commitments beyond the expenses which will be involved in my seeing Bailey, who unfortunately was not at the Philadelphia meeting.

The Political Science Quarterly will publish in March an article which I am preparing containing the substance of the typewritten memorandum which you have. It will, of course, have to be re-written for a different purpose, but I know that you will be glad that it will have a wider audience.

I am sending to Ben in this mail a number of letters containing the first comments upon my edition of The Federalist, which I hope has been forwarded to you from Princeton.

I hesitate to write you while you are on a holiday. If it is inconvenient for you to write about these matters, I shall be glad, of course, to have you telephone at your convenience.

This brings to you and your family every affectionate good wish for a Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,



Edward Mead Earle

*I have just heard that you wish to see me here on Monday,
but I thought you might like to see this letter before that.*

December 22, 1937

Dear Ed:

Many thanks for yours of the 21st,
enclosing the memorandum on "Military Policy and
Statecraft". I shall take it to town with me and
read it in its revised form with even greater
pleasure than I experienced when I read the original
draft.

With all good wishes,

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor Edward Mead Earle
69 Alexander Street
Princeton, New Jersey

AF/MCE

P. S. Thank you for sending me a copy of Michael
Wey'l letter, which is really most discriminating.

A. F.

Earle

CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY POLICY AND STATECRAFT

A Proposed Field for Study in International Relations

In the discussion leading to the Pact of Paris the phrase "war as an instrument of national policy" became the basis of the discussion of international affairs. The fundamental question raised in the present memorandum is whether national policy has not now become an instrument of war.

This is no mere rhetorical device to catch the ear and the eye. It is a statement of fact in the light of which otherwise confusing phenomena become quite intelligible. For example, economic policies which, judged by the accepted criteria of economics, border on the insane become altogether rational if considered as quasi-military measures. Governmental controls of the press, the radio, the church, the school likewise are understandable by reference to the obvious fact that under modern conditions almost all phases of life must be subordinated to the exigencies of war. The extension of political authority, especially military authority, into almost every domain of human relations, is of profound significance. In Germany, Japan, and Italy, the concept of the totalitarian state and the concept of the totalitarian war are inextricably connected; in fact, it is difficult to determine which is cause and which effect. In the democratic nations the relentless pressure of the authoritarian states and of their concepts of economics, international law, and political ethics is having results of far-reaching importance. Every accepted tenet of pre-war society is being challenged with noisy belligerence not only in the press and on the air and in diplomatic correspondence, but by the much more serious measures of economic autarchy which in part grow out of preparation for war. It is difficult to see how, in particular, the cherished heritage of Anglo-Saxon political freedom can be maintained in a world so thoroughly

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dominated by war and the war mentality. There is serious doubt that democratic institutions can successfully wage war, and there is even more serious doubt that democracy can survive war, even if successfully waged. In any case, there probably will be such fundamental compromises between political freedom and military necessity that a post-war society will be revolutionary in character.

"War", of course, is here used as a relative term. Heretofore war customarily began with a declaration of hostilities; no such formalities now seem necessary, as two good-sized wars are going on without legal status. Furthermore, preparations for war have assumed such magnitude as to raise the question whether peace exists in more than name. In truth, the world may now be said to be in various stages of mobilization for war, of which armed hostilities are merely the most aggravated form. During mobilization, whether it be called rearmament or preparedness or what you will, military considerations obviously take precedence. Some states have established in times of so-called peace a degree of war-time controls which would have delighted the military autocrats of the Great War, and demands for similar controls are being pressed elsewhere. Imports and exports are being controlled and raw materials are being allocated in the interests of the war industries. Labor organizations have been suppressed, and labor has been conscripted. Boycotts, exchange controls, and the like are preliminary trading-with-the-enemy acts. Food is rationed. Taxation and military expenditures have reached astronomical proportions. The civilian population is kept in a febrile state of emotional excitement which only war can produce. War is now frankly a process of attrition, and the race against exhaustion already is under way. Hence national resources are conserved or expanded with one end in view, national self-preservation or aggrandizement. The concept of the nation in arms has become all-embracing.

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This may be in some respects an exaggerated and distorted description of the world in which we live. But it has enough of truth to warrant the careful attention of the student of international affairs. In fact, it is difficult to see how any study in international relations can proceed without recognition of the prime fact that some governments, at least, look upon war rather than peace as the normal law of life. This appears to me to be the truth, however tragic.

In short, military policy dominates statecraft, completely in some states, partially in others. But military policy is not yet beyond conscious control; insofar as it can be intelligently directed, success may be achieved in avoiding or, at least, in mitigating what appears to be the impending catastrophe of universal militarism. The extent to which military policy may be subordinated to statecraft, instead of vice-versa, will of course be conditioned by a variety of factors -- historical, geographic, ethnographic, economic, psychological. But some definition of national military requirements and their objectives is imperative if a semblance of order is to be brought out of the prevailing chaos -- what Mr. Roosevelt recently has called international anarchy*. The difficulties of obtaining a frank definition in each instance will be proportional to the degree of mobilization (in the sense in which I have used the word). Of the so-called Great Powers it might be said that the United States represents one extreme, Japan the other. In some countries it is quite possible that the momentum of war (including, as has been said, preparation for war) is so great that it cannot be retarded much less stopped. But there is no reason to believe that that stage has been reached as yet in the United States. Certainly the recent increases in American military and naval expenditures, great as they are, have not irrevocably committed the American people to any definitive course of action; in fact, no one seems to know precisely why these specific

* The term is not new, of course. It was used fifteen years ago by English writers to describe pre-war Europe and the armaments race.

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expenditures have been incurred. Therefore, it is suggested that, everything considered, it might be wise to confine the scope of investigation to American policy, although an exploration of general historical backgrounds would be desirable. This is not to say that study of other countries might not be useful. It is rather to raise the question whether it is altogether practicable at the moment and whether it is likely to be so fruitful in results.

There are encouraging signs that the American people would welcome enlightenment on their military policy and the means by which it might be circumscribed in the national interest. Despite all its weaknesses, and despite the abuse and ridicule with which it has been greeted by the sophisticated, the so-called "neutrality legislation" represents an earnest attempt to define the place of the United States in this bewildering world. The form of this legislation may be imperfect, and some of its objectives may be mistaken, but the impulses which produced it are powerful and in the best American tradition. It would be a tragedy if those impulses were not utilized and intelligently directed before it is too late. There is no indication that Americans are less likely than others to defend their vital interests, provided always that there be some reasonable agreement on what those interests are. It is apparent that the American people will not fight to preserve the territorial integrity of China, but it is fairly obvious that they would fight to defend the territorial integrity of Canada or Mexico. In the one case a nebulous policy is involved, in the other a clean-cut instance of military self-interest. It is doubtful if generalized terms like "rights" and "defense" and "honor" and "international law" will move the United States to warlike action; we have learned in the bitter school of experience that the pursuit of abstractions

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leads to trouble. But a clearly-thought-out national policy, resulting from adequate debate, may reasonably expect unified national support. The comparative geographic isolation, the size, and the potential military power of the United States make the formulation of such a policy relatively less difficult than in the case of almost any other nation.

It may be doubted whether the United States has any officially recognized military policy. A major-general of the United States Army has said that, insofar as the War and Navy Departments are concerned, the only consistent policy is more and bigger appropriations. That is an exaggeration, for the General Staff, at least, has plans for ~~the~~ contingent wars. But its plans are said to be founded upon the last war -- that is, a large expeditionary force landed on friendly soil, supplied from friendly ports, and transported in all probability ⁱⁿ ~~by~~ friendly ships. The policy of the Navy is more obscure. Whether these plans are realistic or acceptable to the American people is another matter. Furthermore, there is no evidence of intelligent liaison between the several branches of the Government -- how far, for example, is the reciprocal trade program consistent with our military policy and with the military policies of other nations?

It will be objected, with some justification, that national policies cannot be defined for unforeseen contingencies. Certainly the very recent official and public attitude toward the neutrality legislation seems to bear out the contention. But this does not imply that a policy of drift should be the course chosen in respect to military affairs. The number of unforeseen circumstances is not infinite -- the United States is not likely, for example, to have war with France or Czecho-Slovakia. At present wars are limited in
^{PROSPECTIVE}
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number and their character is dimly defined and acted upon by American military and naval authorities in conjunction with the Department of State. Military and naval strategy in relation to national policy does not now, and will not, proceed on mere improvisation for unpredictable contingencies, some of which are impossible and some absurd. Military policy in some respects does and will control the view taken of contingencies. Hence the accumulation, coordination and interpretation of relevant facts are necessary unless there is to be a surrender to forces of chance and irrationality. The processes of research and interpretation are indispensable to the plan and control of military and naval policies.

For example, do we wish to fortify the Aleutian Islands and Alaska as air bases? If so, with reference to what larger purpose? Is the answer to be in terms of military strategy alone or with some relevance to the more far-reaching political questions which such fortifications are certain to raise in the Pacific? And, in any case, with what officials responsible or irresponsible is the decision to rest? In short, is it not true that an examination of these questions might not have the important effect of averting crises, or at least of altering the character of crises, which may arise with Japan or Russia? Again, suppose that by some rare prescience Woodrow Wilson had had before him a critical study of the laws of neutrality and their applicability or lack of applicability to changing conditions of commerce and warfare (an amplification, let us say, of Mr. Lansing's doubts concerning the principle of visit and search as it involved armed merchantmen and the submarine). Is it not true that the character and spirit of our debate with the British and German governments might have been different?

It must be remembered that what is being suggested is not a project

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but a subject for research. To this subject, the several branches of the social sciences might each make its contribution. Economists, students of international law, historians, psychologists, and others would have something to suggest. It would be best to leave to each group the character of its study, although cooperation among them should be maintained throughout. And it would probably be desirable to invite the participation of military and naval technicians. Some new data would have to be accumulated, although there is a vast body of undigested material available -- for example, reports of the War Industries Board, the war mobilization plans of 1932 and 1936 as revealed by the Nye Committee, the report of the War Policies Board, and the like. It may be doubted that additional monumental collections of documents and mere facts is of material usefulness. But there is need for additional interpretative studies such as those of Mr. Beard in his Idea of National Interest and The Open Door at Home or of Professor Langer's volumes on the diplomacy of imperialism. Work of this sort has great importance of and for itself, and in addition, stimulates thought, controversy, and further independent work.

In the past there has been a superabundance of research on the machinery of international relations, especially as they involve the League of Nations and collective security. Valuable as these studies may have been at the time, their further pursuit has little relevance to existing conditions; in any case they should be supplemented by equally extensive and persistent study of military policy. As Mr. Mitrany pointed out in his memorandum prepared for the Council, it is altogether possible that even at the time they were undertaken these earlier studies may have been mistaken in their objectives. The subject of investigation here proposed has at the moment great intrinsic importance and according to all signs will have increasing importance for the future. Although the inquiry would have a frankly utilitarian purpose, it should be conducted under the most

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rigorous canons of scholarship. If scientific investigation be valuable in itself, and if, in addition, it render the public service of clarifying national policy in a highly explosive situation, it may be said to be justified by any standards. Pressing as many purely domestic questions may be, none is fraught with more significance for American life than the nature of military and naval policy and its bearing upon statecraft.

Edward Mead Earle

November 18, 1937

Dear Ed:

I have read with a great deal of interest your memorandum on Military Policy and Statecraft. It strikes me as being forceful and sound. Have you showed it to Mitrany? The field is one in which he is also largely interested.

As you put it, it looks as if modern states were getting things upside down. They are living for war instead of for peace, for all their far-sighted preparations - or supposedly far-sighted preparations - are based upon the probability of antagonism instead of the probability of living peacefully together, as the United States and Canada have done.

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor Edward Mead Earle
69 Alexander Street

October 15, 1937

Dear Dr. Flexner:

Mr. Riefler, Mr. Mitrany and I have been over the credentials of Dr. Martin Weinbaum, which were submitted to you by Professor Laski. We are all impressed by Dr. Weinbaum's obvious abilities and Mr. Mitrany has heard some things of him at first hand which are altogether favorable. However, the subject of Dr. Weinbaum's research is altogether outside the competence of any of the three of us.

We feel very strongly that we should concentrate rather than diffuse our energies in the choice of workers in the School of Economics and Politics. We are eager to have students of ability, working however in the fields in which we feel we can cooperate most fully. Dr. Weinbaum as you can see does not come within this category.

We share with you a respect for anyone who Professor Laski recommends and we are, therefore, particularly reluctant to suggest that Dr. Weinbaum's work might be better conducted elsewhere than with us at Princeton.

Sincerely,

Edward Mead Earle

October 4, 1937

Dear Ed:

I wish you would read the essays in this book by Ascoli, either in part or in whole, and let me know how he impresses you as compared, for example, with Mittrany. Do his essays strike you as those of a man who has learnt something of America, and, if so, how much?

Always sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor Edward Mead Earle
69 Alexander Street
Princeton, New Jersey

AF/MCE

Magnetawan, via Burks Falls
Ontario, Canada
August 6, 1937

Dear Ed:

Thank you for your letters of July 24 and August 3 and for sending me Schmitt's request. I think you are quite right to decline opportunities of this sort, though I am sure that they are all well meant. It shows how rapidly the news of your complete comeback has spread. You can afford therefore to take your own time and to produce something which satisfies your highest ideals.

I read Dennett's Life of Hay when it appeared. The subject is of course not a first-rate one so that the book could not be first-rate. I imagine that Dennett made as much of it as was possible, but a first-rate historian ought to be able to find a better topic. There is, I suspect, more in his resignation than we know. As far as I knew him, he seemed quite capable of making a thoroughly satisfactory president of a college like Williams.

Our lovely summer continues, though we miss Anne, who has joined a party of friends going to Salzburg to hear Toscanini conduct a dozen operas. She was torn between two desires: one, to stay at the camp; the other, to attend the Salzburg Festival. But Toscanini is getting on in years, and I knew how much it would mean to her not to miss this opportunity.

We have meanwhile a pretty full house. Tom Jones is here for a month from London. Mrs. Bailey is a combination of guest and secretary, though I shall reduce the latter function to the smallest possible compass. Jean and Paul, Eleanor, and one of the heads of the Oxford Press are also here, and, as the crowd melts, some friends of Eleanor will come up from New York for brief stays, so that we are not likely to be bored.

I gave Jean a letter of introduction to you to Howard Beale, who is a professor at North Carolina and who is spending the summer in your neighborhood. He will undoubtedly look you up. He is a nice boy, and I imagine well trained for his years.

I hope that you continue to gain in strength and vigor.

Don't overdo anything, not even reading. I am taking the same advice I am giving you. Never have I had a lazier holiday, and never have I slept more hours. I am in bed by ten and not infrequently sleep until eight the next morning. Quite a feat for me!

Give our love to Beatrice and Rosamond, and believe me

Always affectionately,

Professor Edward Mead Earle

Canaan, New Hampshire



AF:ESB

ABRAHAM FLEXNER
MAGNETAWAN, VIA BURKS FALLS
ONTARIO, CANADA

August 21, 1937

Dear Ed:

Thank you very much for your inquiries regarding the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth. Unfortunately the Leidesdorf boy is not a college graduate so that he is not eligible. I have written his father, however, suggesting an alternative to ~~which~~ this next year can be advantageously put, in the hope that at the end of the year he can enter the Wharton School at Philadelphia.

I am sorry that the Earle Family has been afflicted with colds but of course delighted that you have all thrown them off.

We continue to have a summer free of vexatious illnesses. Our camp is pretty full inasmuch as Eleanor has a number of her theatrical and dramatic friends here. Tom Jones is greatly enjoying the continued quiet and peace of the lake and spends his mornings writing reminiscences, and in the afternoon we indulge in ping-pong, log-sawing, and ride about the lake. Mrs. Bailey and I put in a few hours of work in the morning, which, alas, entails work on her part for the afternoon as well, but we manage to get her into the water for a daily swim, and she is developing great form at pingpong. An international tournament seems to be intimated.

My last news from Ben and Mim is good, coming as it did from Simon who visited them both. I hope myself to see them sometime shortly after September 10 when we shall be leaving camp. I have no doubt that you will be in communication with them both.

We had a cable from Anne announcing her safe arrival in Genoa, but no letters as yet.

Give my love to Beatrice and Rosamond, and believe me, with best wishes,

Always affectionately,

Professor Edward Mead Earle

Canaan, New Hampshire

AF:ESB

Ahe

EDWARD MEAD EARLE
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
Canaan, New Hampshire

10 July 1937

Dear Abe

All continues to go well, although we have been having some pretty hot weather here these past few days. Fortunately, it gets cool enough at night for us to require blankets, so that we are having no acute discomfort.

Please remember me to Kitty and Sascha. Tell them we saw their and our friends the Marx Brothers in a mad movie the other evening.

Our immediate neighbors are twenty miles away, the Dartmouth people at Hanover. Shepard Clough, the young Columbia professor whom you met about a year ago, is reasonably close. And we have had some visitors from New York and Princeton for the night.

We really are happy being alone. I bring stacks of books home from the Dartmouth library--fiction and otherwise-- and read busily away. At the moment I am rereading Lecky's and Trevelyan's books on the American Revolution, the former being part of the History of Civilization in England in the Eighteenth Century. My reading list for the summer is so long that I realize I shall not be able to get through it.

My doctor in Hanover is satisfactory for the mechanical task of administering pneumothorax. Of course, I know nothing of his general technical proficiency. Should any question arise needing especial attention, I am only a comfortable overnight jump from New York and Edgar Mayer.

I have just read the proof of the introduction to The Federalist and think it a creditable piece of work. I have informed Nevins that I cannot collaborate with him and have a most gracious note in reply.

We all love this place. And we all join in affectionate wishes from this sylvan retreat to yours.

As always

E.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

(FOUNDED BY LOUIS BAMBERGER AND MRS. FELIX FULD, 1930)

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20 NASSAU STREET

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

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LOUIS BAMBERGER

MRS. FELIX FULD

June 25, 1937

Dear Ed:

I came to Princeton yesterday to clean up my mail preparatory to "beating it for the tall timber!" I am dictating this line to wish you and Beatrice and Robin a happy summer and a glad reunion with us all in the early autumn.

I want also to say that someone - for the life of me I can't remember who it was - told me that Allan Nevins had also agreed to coöperate with somebody else - I cannot recall whom - in writing the biography of somebody - again my memory fails me. It looks to me very much as if Nevins was being yanked in the direction of making money by his biographical talents, and I am more and more persuaded that that is not the kind of an arrangement for you to make.

Your attitude on the Hallgarten business was correct.

Your introduction to the Federalist will prove to everyone that you are back in the running, and the really important thing is not that you should within a year or two participate in a more or less popular book but that, when you do write and print, it should be something of which you and the Institute can be proud, so my advice would be not to go in with Nevins or for the matter of that with any one else. Let your first publication be one hundred per cent E.M.E.'s, and I know in advance what its quality will be, and there will be no adulteration. Don't bother about the time element. It doesn't matter a darn.

E.M.E.

June 25, 1937

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We are going to Canada Sunday evening, so that henceforth our address will be Magnetawan, via Burks Falls, Ontario, Canada.

With love to all three of you,

Ever affectionately,

A.J.

Professor Edward Mead Earle
Ski Heil Lodge
Canaan, New Hampshire

AF:ESB

Dear Professor Earle:

Miss Wise gave me your messages, which I have since repeated to Dr. Flexner over the telephone. We are so happy to know that you have been having such a good trip and that you have found comfortable quarters at Ski Heil Lodge.

Do have a grand summer - all of you.

With cordial greetings,

Very sincerely yours,

Esther S. Bailey

Earle



Hanover Inn
AT DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
HANOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE



23 June 1937

Dear Abe

Just a line to let you know that we finally have found a place for the summer. It is a ski lodge situated 2100 feet up on the side of Cardigan Mountain. It has not heretofore been rented for the summer months, and it took the owner two weeks to make up his mind to let us have it. It is very near and dear to his heart, but he finally said we might have it for the large sum of fifty dollars a month. It is quiet and peaceful, and we anticipate a pleasant and cool summer.

Our address hereafter will be Canaan, New Hampshire. There is a telegraph office there and also a telephone in the lodge should you ever need to reach me.

While Mr. Gordon was deciding whether we might have the lodge, we went to Quebec (where we saw a ceremonial guard mount for Lord Tweedsmuir) and to Montreal (where we did some household shopping). Now we settle down.

They are being very cordial to me at Dartmouth. They have given me a faculty study in the Library and the free run of the stacks. As Canaan is only 20 miles away over excellent road, I plan to spend at least two days a week here.

We shall be here until about September 20. Then I plan to go to Chicago on an errand for the Social Science Research Council. I shall be back in Princeton, of course, on October 1.



Hanover Inn
At DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
HANOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE



The experience with Hallgarten was a heartbreaking one for me, as our decision obviously was to him. The lad is up against it; after four years of exile he is almost desperate. He has so many good qualities that it was only with the greatest regret that I came to the conclusion that he was not for us. My chief consolation is that both Langer and Beard confirm my judgment. I do wish there were some way in which he could be financed for a year of independent study without our accepting the least responsibility for him. I tried to explain to him that the refugee problem was overwhelming us, but he seemed to feel, quite naturally, that his own problem was of transcendent importance. I cannot feel, however, that we would be in any wise justified in having him at the Institute, more especially so as he would be our very first worker.

This morning I have a very depressing letter from Prague (from my friend Professor Gerold Robinson) who says that he is convinced he is seeing Europe as we know it for the last time. After witnessing a gas defense raid—which he calls a full-dress rehearsal of the destruction of the lovely city of Prague—he finds himself in a state of nausea. Sometime later I shall send the letter along for you to see.

Meanwhile my every affectionate good wish to you all for a happy summer.

As always

June 14, 1937

Dear Professor Earle:

Thank you for your letter of the twelfth and for your letter to Dr. Flexner who is now in New York. I wrote for Dr. Flexner the letter to Dr. Hallgarten as I thought it inadvisable to have the letter mailed from New York.

I am sending herewith a check for \$44.40 in accordance with your statement of June tenth.

I hope you will have a splendid summer in Vermont, and I thank you for your good wishes. If you are in the vicinity of Blue Mountain Lake, it would be great fun to receive a call from the Earles.

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake
New York

ESB:MBG

The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, N.Y.
June 12, 1937

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey, Secretary
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton
New Jersey

My dear Mrs. Bailey

I am sending you enclosed a brief memorandum of some expenses which I ~~am~~ incurred for the Institute account since I left Princeton. Most of them, as you will see, are connected with the visit in Saranac Lake of Dr. Wolfgang Hallgarten. As he is desperately hard up for funds, Dr. Flexner has graciously consented to our paying the expenses of his trip up here.

I shall be here until the middle of next week when we all go to Vermont to seek a house for the summer. I shall let Miss Wise know our address promptly. Meanwhile mail will be forwarded from this address.

I hope you have a delightful holiday at Blue Mountain Lake and wish we might be near enough to see you while you are there.

Sincerely yours



Edward Mead Earle

EME:EC
Enc.

The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, N.Y.
June 12, 1937

Dear Abe

It was nice to talk to you over the telephone Wednesday evening and to know that you feel as I do about Hallgarten. Since then I had a telegram from Langer which confirms much of what I said in my last letter to you. I think, therefore, that we are making no mistake in rejecting him.

As Hallgarten is a difficult person to shake off, I wonder if you would mind writing him at the Allerton House, 143 East 39th Street, New York, to the following general effect:

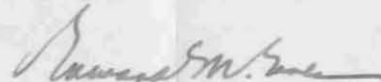
"It is with regret that I have to inform you that the Institute for Advanced Study will not have funds available for the coming year to make it possible for you to continue your studies as a worker in the School of Economics and Politics.

"Professor Earle has spoken very highly of your scholarly qualifications and he, Professor Riefler and I all hope that it may be possible for you to find a position which will enable you to continue the valuable work in which you are ~~now~~ at present engaged."

As I told you Wednesday night, it is a painful experience to have to send this young man away empty handed, but I feel more strongly than ever that we would be making a great mistake to take him on. Also, there is the fact that if we did, we should have to face the same problem next spring and perhaps the spring after as well.

You will be hearing from me shortly after we get settled in Vermont or New Hampshire. Meanwhile, all affection and good wishes to you and Anne.

Always sincerely



Edward Mead Earle

EME:EC

Dr. Abraham Flexner
20 Nassau Street
Princeton
New Jersey

June 5, 1937

Dear Ed:

I received this morning your very interesting and discriminating letter about Hallgarten. Although I do not feel myself competent to pass on his merits, I have the feeling that you have made a fair evaluation of them. It would I think be a mistake to bring anyone here to work in a field in which library facilities are defective.

I got the impression in talking with him that he was pushing, but this may well be due to his eagerness to get a position. On the other hand, we must be absolutely objective, and you are wise in concluding that our first worker in your field must be a person who possesses your complete confidence as to his personality, his equipment, and his outlook from the very beginning. One could hardly say this of Hallgarten, if your estimate and impression are correct. Langer would undoubtedly be the right person for him to be associated with, for their subjects overlap, and Langer possesses all the necessary facilities.

We shall be very happy indeed to pay the expenses of Hallgarten's

Professor Edward M. Earle

-2-

June 5, 1937

visit to you. Drop me a note and let me know what they are, and Mrs.
Bailey will send in a check. With all good wishes.

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor Edward M. Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF:MG

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LIFE TRUSTEES

LOUIS BAMBERGER

MRS. FELIX FULD

June 4, 1937

Dear Ed:

I was delighted to receive your note of April 27 which, however, I did not get until I went to New York after giving the Commencement address at Bryn Mawr.

You can imagine how pleased I am that you were so generously and cordially received by your Harvard colleagues and that their attitude towards the Institute is so sympathetic. We must do everything in our power to cooperate with them as we do with others.

We have had a couple of hot days here, and yesterday and today the weather has been glorious.

I am writing briefly because I am plunging through the notes accumulated/and letters of several days.

Take care of yourself and, even if you have ups and downs, don't bother. Keep me informed about yourself and Beatrice and Robin.

Anne joins me in love to you all.

Ever affectionately,

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF:ESB

E. S.
2

Earle

The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, N. Y.
June 3, 1937

My dear Abe

I have been seeing a good deal, during the last two days, of Dr. Wolfgang Hallgarten whom you referred to me. Hallgarten is a brilliant young man of thirty-six, who has had excellent training and most unusual opportunities for research. I have been over some of his work which is impressive in a number of ways. He has an alert mind and will, I think, prove to be a competent scholar.

He is a German refugee without financial resources and will have to have the equivalent of a fellowship if he is to continue work in America. I am by no means convinced, however, that he would fit into the scheme of things at the Institute for Advanced Study. To begin with, he would be seriously handicapped by the lack of library facilities in his particular field at Princeton. Mitrany and I undoubtedly could be of great assistance to him, although Langer and Fay at Harvard would be the logical persons for him to work with.

Dr. Hallgarten has a good deal of youthful effervescence but I am not sure that his judgment is always sound. He places great stress upon the economic interpretation of history, with which, of course, I am in general sympathy, but at times he shows a lack of proportion. He is a little bit sure of himself and would not be altogether open to suggestion and criticism. There is something about his personality which I do not quite like, but which I cannot readily put into words. Indeed, the more I see of him the more I feel that he might not be an altogether easy person to get along with.

From what I have seen of other workers at the Institute, I should think that we might find better prospects for the School of Economics and Politics. I should very definitely not want to see Dr. Hallgarten added to our staff and I am not sure that he would be the best person to have as our first worker. Nevertheless, I am making some further inquiries about him of Beard, Fay and Langer and shall write you again soon. In the meantime, of course, I should be glad to have any comment which you may see fit to make on the basis of the situation as I have described it.

Dr. Abraham Flexner

6-3-37

- 2 -

In view of Hallgarten's limited financial means, I have thought it might be gracious to pay the expenses of his entertainment here. If you do not think this is a legitimate charge against the Institute, I shall, of course, be very happy to bear it myself.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Win Riefler whose comments I also hope to have.

Sincerely



EME:EC

Edward Meade Earle

Dr. Abraham Flexner
20 Nassau Street
Princeton, New Jersey

COPY

27 May 1937

Dear Abe

This is just to let you know of the delightful time I have had here. Everyone has greeted me with the utmost cordiality and enthusiasm and has acted as if I never had been away. I am glowing with satisfaction at the apparently sincere admiration some of these men have for my work and at their confidence that my best work is yet to come. It will certainly be worth my while next year to get around this way and to come up here again for a week or so.

Everyone inquires with the greatest interest about the Institute. Yesterday at the staff luncheon I was bombarded with questions about our work and our plans. There is respect here for Mitrany, whom they know well of course. A Professor Walsh of the Department of Mathematics spoke most enthusiastically of his year as a worker at the Institute.

All told, it has been a gratifying and revivifying experience for me. And the interest in the Institute makes me especially proud of my association with it. And I knew you would be happy to hear of the respect in which we are held. This place is a respectable institution of learning, and I am glad that they have nothing but goodwill toward us.

I am not a bit tired and am very happy.

Always affectionately

Signed (Ed)

20 NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Saranac Lake
24 March 1937

Dear Abe

As Beatrice has told you, it is my plan to come down on April 1 for two weeks at the New York Hospital. Price is very eager that I should see Mayer for a general physical check-up. And as things are not moving along as rapidly as I could wish, I too should like very much to see whether Edgar has anything to suggest. As you know, I have every confidence in him.

Also, I should like to see just a few friends like you and Dr. Sabin, and Win. But I am going to do no gallivanting around and plan to spend a very quiet time.

Ben tells me that he is going to Louisville for a few days about the first of the month, but I shall still be in New York when he and Mary return.

Always affectionately



Dr. Abraham Flexner
Princeton

March 22, 1937

Dear Ed:

I will answer your line with several lines. I am delighted to know that you are making steady progress and I am not a bit disappointed to know that it is slow. I have just had a little personal experience which proves to me that convalescence, even for a minor affair, is apt to be slow. Two weeks ago, as I was going to New York on the train, I was attacked by a toothache as suddenly as a revolver shot, and by the end of an hour, when I arrived in New York, my whole head was aflame, so that I would have welcomed decapitation. I got hold of a dentist and he took a couple of x-rays, which showed that I had an abscessed tooth and that the abscess had suddenly burst. The extraction was a simple matter, but the palate and the cavity of the tooth are still sensitive and require daily attention. Now if it takes a tooth two weeks to make up its mind to depart with all its "bag and baggage" in the shape of discomfort and pain, how much longer does it take in a case like yours?

Of course, when you come down to New York I shall be delighted to see you, but wait until the weather is entirely settled, and if you come down to Princeton come with the intention of taking things very slowly. I almost envy you the fun of getting back to work after your long siege. We shall do everything in our power to make you comfortable and happy, and I foresee great things as the result of your activities in years to come.

Ben and Mary, whom I saw in New York Saturday, are really better than they have been in a long time. This Supreme Court business seems to

E.M.E.

March 22, 1937

- 2 -

have given Ben something to chew upon. Isn't it an outrageous proposition? I have been told that there are not six men in the Senate who honestly favor it, but between patronage and relief votes the country is sold on Roosevelt and the number of those in Congress who have the courage to defy him and current opinion is small. I trust, however, that the measure will be talked to death if it becomes obvious that the Senate will not vote it down. My sympathies are, of course, on the liberal side, but not at the price which Roosevelt is willing to pay.

With all good wishes,

Ever affectionately,
ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF/MCE

20 NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

The Santanoni
Saranac Lake
17 March 1937

Dear Abe

Just a line to let you know that things continue to go well. I just did too much at the start three weeks ago, although not more than Price wanted me to try. But I now am proceeding more slowly and making steady progress. I may come down to the New York Hospital to see Edgar Mayer next month, but I have made no definite plans as yet. I can see no reason now why I should not be at work in the autumn about as good as new.

I do a good deal of reading and am ~~having~~ ^{enjoying} a good deal of fun in getting back to work again.

I talked with Ben and Mary the other evening and also with Dr. Sabin, who was with them for dinner.

Always affectionately



Dr. Abraham Flexner
Princeton

20 NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

4 March 1937

Dear Abe

I thought you might be interested in this: Three weeks ago Leon Fraser told me over the telephone that the labor policy of U. S. Steel was going to be thoroughly overhauled. He said that at that time only one director (a man who had come "up from the ranks of labor") was opposing the change.

The New York Times yesterday said that Fraser and Jackson Reynolds were perhaps more responsible than anyone else for this startling development. A few liberals in high office can accomplish a good deal. I understand that Myron Taylor and John L. Lewis first met in the offices of the First National Bank, although I am not sure of this.

As always



I would prefer not to have this repeated generally.

20 NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

The Santanoni
Saranac Lake
4 March 1937

Dear Abe

I have appended to your catalogue announcement a statement of the work I should like to do next year. If this seems to you inadvisable in any way, I shall be glad to have you say so frankly. I have thought over very carefully the suggestions made in your letter of the 26th February and in your telephone conversation of this morning. In the long run, I think, it would probably be best for me to do the work in which I am most interested and for which I have the best capabilities. This does not mean, of course, that I shall be hermetically sealed as far as the interests of Mitran and Riefler are concerned; in fact, I should be much disappointed if we all three could not be of great assistance to one another.

Please forgive me for having delayed this reply. I have just been getting adjusted to new glasses and have been conserving the use of my eyes.

I shall take your advice not to consider a visit to Princeton next month as of any importance as compared with the larger objective of being in the best of condition in October.

Always affectionately



Dr. Abraham Flexner
Princeton, New Jersey

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

February 26, 1937

To Edward Mead Earle

Street and No. The Santanoni

Place Saranac Lake, New York

Just arrived from Arizona and find your latest letter Also talked with Beatrice
this morning Impossible to express our joy over the victory which your courage
and patience have won but go slowly now and take no risks Affectionately

Abraham Flexner

Charge Institute for Advanced Study

Sender's address
for reference

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DELIVERY OF NOTES AND PACKAGES.

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number

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LOUIS BAMBERGER

MRS. FELIX FULD

February 26, 1937

Dear Ed:

I returned from Arizona late yesterday afternoon, and the one letter brought to me was yours of February 23. My telegram sent this morning will tell you as nearly as words can how we all rejoice at your splendid improvement. Beatrice spoke to me over the telephone this morning and told me of her letter from you telling her that your temperature is below normal. Don't let it sink too low so that they will have to inoculate you with typhoid or "flu" or smallpox in order to bring it back to the home plate.

I am sure that whatever difficulties your justifiable enthusiasm creates Dr. Price will hold you down and pursue a conservative policy. While it would be splendid to have you here for a visit in April or May, the great thing is next year; so take no chances on next year for the sake of a month's visit this spring.

We are now getting out our annual bulletin and I think it would be appropriate to include a note regarding the way in which you expect to spend next year. It can be phrased in very general terms, so as to look towards coöperation with Riefler and Mitrany. I am enclosing a copy of the paragraphs in which they describe their work. Is it possible for you to attack the historical background of the ideas with which they are working?

Professor Earle

February 27, 1937

- 2 -

I feel that the School needs perspective and that you alone can contribute. Sheer historical studies can perhaps be best conducted in great universities, libraries, or in Washington; but if you think you can interest yourself in looking at the sort of things Riefler and Mitraný are doing from the point of view of how it all came about, you would, I think, be making a unique contribution. However, the decision is entirely in your hands and you have perfect freedom to devote yourself to any subject in which you feel that you can excel; but a mind like yours can, like a searchlight, be turned from one direction to another, and I have myself no doubt that you will do it brilliantly if you arbitrarily select the history of the Third Reich or the history of Mexico, as you would if you continued your former interests; but let me repeat that I put no pressure upon you of any kind. Think this suggestion over and disregard it if you think it is without foundation or if your own inclination leads you elsewhere.

We had a brief but very successful visit with Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld in Arizona and came back greatly refreshed. However, it is our luck to find two inches of snow on the ground here and almost the coldest weather of the winter, but it won't last.

With all good wishes,

Ever affectionately,



Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF/MCE

THE SANTANONI
SARANAC LAKE
NEW YORK

Wednesday morning
17 February 1937

Dear Albas

Here I am back in my apartment after what I am sure will prove to be a most successful operation. They severed six adhesions (by electro-cautery) which were holding the spot and preventing adequate collapse. Of these six, only one showed in the X-ray. Dr. Wells, the surgeon, and Dr. Price both feel that this will mark a great step forward - more than they had anticipated.

It will be about three weeks before we can tell by another X-ray just how much additional collapse we have obtained. But I feel that we now have this thing really under control and still it outlook for my being in Princeton in the autumn is most excellent. In fact, I hope that I can start moving around on Friday and that I may be able to come to Princeton for a month beginning April 15.

Patricia is here with me and will stay until
next week. We are both well and happy and looking
forward to the spring sun once more.

We are having a lovely sunny day after a heavy
snowfall and are enjoying the fairy-like
surroundings.

Love loves to your both

As always

Ed.

Dr. Abraham Flexner

Phoenix, Arizona



Sat. P. M.

Dear Ed.:

On reflection I am a bit
afraid that my letter dictated this
morning may have been somewhat
unfelicitous. Let me repeat: I don't
want in the least to interfere with
the subject or direction of your work
next year or at any subsequent time.
May I add, in explanation, that I have
often wondered just through how

historical processes we have come
from time to time to believe in
the state of affairs they find them-
selves in, e.g. feudalism, mercantile
system, free trade, ^{capitalism} "fold" standard,
Federal Reserve Board etc. Has
any one ever traced this evolution?
At least, one never hears about it.
But if it doesn't really attract
you as the thing you want to do,
forget it. Just supply me with

a paragraph in general terms
that is sufficiently elastic & yet
indicates the general nature of
the question or questions you
propose to attack.

I meant to say the above: but
I'm afraid I failed to do so.

I'm going to N.Y. for Sunday
to see Eleanor, but I return to-
morrow evening. Hope everything
continues satisfactory.

Congratulations to Dr. Price
- love to you. As ever, A. J.

20 NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

November 16, 1936

Dear Ed:

A thousand thanks for your lovely telegram, which touched me very deeply. It seems never to occur to people like you that as a matter of fact it is your intelligence and bravery and high ideals that have enriched my life and kept me young and hopeful. I need you a "darn sight" more than you and your friends need me. What a fossil I would have been but for you and Beatrice and Meritt and Riefler and Jean and Eleanor and the other kids who have surrounded me, and the secretaries who have so often kept me from making a darn fool of myself.

Thank you also for the Whitlock volumes which I received from you and Beatrice. As a school friend in Louisville once said, "You shouldn't ought to have done it." But I know from of yore that there is no restraining your generosity.

I do hope that you are improving. Some day this week I will call you by telephone so as to have the pleasure of hearing your voice.

You and Mrs. Einstein were greatly missed at the party the other evening. You will be the real heroes when the next one rolls around, for you will be there with health and vigor and you will enjoy it all the more for the sacrifices which you have undergone and the high courage with which you have met and conquered illness.

Always affectionately,

Al

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF/MCE

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LOUIS RAMBERGER

MRS. FELIX FULD

November 2, 1936

*Please return
Manuscripts from me
about 1st.*

Dear Ed:

I received your note of October 24, but as I was going to town I did not answer immediately. While in New York I got hold of Edgar Mayer and he told me that he expected to see Price as the latter passed through New York. Saturday evening he talked to me at length over the telephone. He tells me that Price is confident that you have no active process, that one lung is perfectly sound, and that there is an excellent collapse in the other. In Price's opinion it is important for you now to begin moving around. Whether Price is correct or not, of course I am not in a position to say. I wonder whether there is anyone else in Saranac whose opinion you could ask Price to get; also whether it could possibly harm you to make the effort to get out of bed and move around. Mayer told me that he intended to write Price several suggestions that he had in mind, because of course he and Price are just as anxious as you and I and Beatrice are to start you off on the same road which you traveled so happily last spring. We are, I think, as anxious for you to be here as you are to come, but of course we do not want to make any mistake that may set you back. Between Mayer and Price and perhaps some other consultant up at Saranac it ought to be possible to find out whether there is some trifling process going on somewhere or not. In any event, it can't be much or they would

Professor Earle

November 2, 1936

- 2 -

find it out. Keep up your spirits and make the effort that Price thinks it would be well for you to make.

Things are running on quite smoothly here. Meritt and Capps are now installed in 69 Alexander on the second floor. On the first floor are Riefler and Mitrany. Mitrany is in excellent shape - the greatest possible contrast from last year. I think the lecture I gave him before he left may have had some effect. On the other hand, he may have seen for himself that he was not quite playing the game last year. However, I can easily forget and I am more than happy that he has caught on to what/^{is}the spirit of the Institute, namely, independent work; for the task which he has undertaken is one of extreme difficulty, with which no one can assist him at this juncture.

Anne has been through a siege with her sinus, and though she is coming out of it, it has been necessary for her to be in New York a good deal the last few weeks, and she is there now, but I am hopeful, as she is, that before many days she will be able to return to this quiet and charming village.

I saw Beatrice this morning for a moment as she was driving with Mrs. Riefler. She tells me that Robin is heartbroken over the loss of the dog. Well, in the present state of the world we might all be very happy if nothing more serious happened to us than the loss of a dog.

Isn't Europe a mess? And whocan one vote for tomorrow with a really clear conscience? I am strongly minded to stay in bed or to take to the tall timbers. Though I cannot pretend that I read many of the speeches by the candidates, I think I have read enough to feel quite confident that neither of them said anything that was worth the trouble.

With love and best wishes and all good luck for a quick comeback,

Ever affectionately,

A. J.

2.000

September 16, 1936

Dear Professor Earle:

Thank you for your letter of the fourteenth. We were scratching our heads to keep within our budget in equipping 69 Alexander Street, and a \$100 item was greatly bothering us. At this critical moment your letter came and saved the day. How splendid to have such coöperative professors! Your stock, as you know, has always been very high with the Institute group, but it is now even higher if that is possible. Thank you very, very much. We shall of course procure bookcases, shelves, whatever you need to make you comfortable, etc.

We are looking forward to seeing Mrs. Earle and Rosmond at the end of September and you a little later in October.

With kindest regards and all good wishes to you all,

Very sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Professor Edward Mead Earle
170 Park Avenue
Saranac Lake, New York

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Susanne Liker, M.A.
14 September 1936

My dear Mrs. Bailey

It is good of you to write me about the
furniture for my office. I am going to suggest
that you buy nothing for my office until after
Beatrice has come to Princeton. The reason is
that I have a desk and desk chair and two comfort-
able wicker chairs in storage. I also have a
steel filing cabinet which will be adequate for all ^{present needs.}
I shall need space for my books, but Beatrice will
be able to tell you about that, too. She expects to be
settled in our newly- rented house 57 Cleveland
Lane about October 1. When I shall be able to
come is, as your daughter-in-law knows, still uncertain.
I hope it will not be long. I am reasonably
sure that to plan I suggest for furnishing my

Office will be adequate for the immediate present.

Please remember me cordially to Miss
Richardson and Miss Wiese. And to give very good
wishes

As always

Edward Mead

Mrs. Estlin S. Bailey
Princeton

September 12, 1936

Dear Professor Earle:

I shall be ordering the furniture for your office very soon, and I assume that you will approve a desk, swivel chair, ^{two} other chairs, two bookcases, and filing-cabinets similar to those of Professor Riefler and Professor Mitrany. Will you wish more than one filing-cabinet at the start? I prefer to keep our orders down to a minimum, but of course we do not wish any of our professors to be really handicapped by lack of equipment. Also, when we have larger offices, there will be more room. The room we have assigned to you at 69 Alexander Street is 15-6" by 13-4".

With kindest regards and best wishes to you all, I am

Sincerely yours,

Professor Edward M. Earle
170 Park Avenue, Saranac Lake, N. Y.

ESTHER S. BAILEY

September 1, 1936

My dear Professor Earle:

I have your note of August 30 and shall be veryhappy to deposit your salary checks with the Chemical Bank and Trust Company, 165 Broadway, New York City, as you request.

I am glad to know that you are improving and am looking forward to seeing you all when you reach Princeton. I was unable to go to Blue Mountain Lake after all and spent the entire summer in Canada with Dr. and Mrs. Flexner.

With kind regards to you and Mrs. Earle and Rosmond, I am

Very sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Professor Edward Mead Earle

170 Park Avenue
Saranad Lake, New York

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

30 August 1936

My dear Mrs. Bailey

I wonder if, effective at the end of
September, you would be good enough to
deposit my checks with to ^{Chemical Bank} ~~Chemical Bank~~
and Trust Company, 165 Broadway, New York,
instead of to the Bank of the Manhattan Company
as heretofore?

As I presume you have seen my letters
to Dr. Thomas, I shall not write further news.
The summer has had a number of disappointments,
but they will straighten out and, I think,
very shortly.

We all send cordial good wishes

As always sincerely

Edward Mead Earle

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey

ABRAHAM FLEXNER
MAGNETAWAN, VIA BURKS FALLS
ONTARIO, CANADA

August 24, 1936

Dear Ed:

I had a letter from Dr. Mayer on Saturday, from which I quote every word he said of you:

"I saw Ed Earle in Saranac Lake and I want to report: I examined him thoroughly with Dr. Price and ^{he} finally has a good collapse. His general condition is very good. He had had slight elevation of temperature but that was practically gone. He was, of course, nervously upset about his confinement to bed which was due to the fact that his lung had reexpanded during his visit in New York.

My own feeling is that he should certainly be able to take up his work in the Fall. Perhaps it may be better to wait until the middle of October or toward the end of that month, because of the fact that he has been confined to bed. Dr. Price and I have agreed that he should immediately get out of bed and start on a routine of slowly graduated exercise. I promised him I would write my findings and so accordingly I am doing so."

This seems to me to be a very encouraging report, and of course you will follow the advice which he and Price give, namely, make no effort to return to Princeton until the middle or latter part of October, depending upon Price's judgment, inasmuch as he is on the spot.

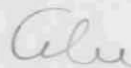
Our own vacation is drawing to a close. Eleanor returns to New York next Monday, and Anne and I want to be there to meet her, so we will break camp at the end of this week and arrive in New York Sunday morning. It has not been a perfect summer on account of the excessive temperatures, high and low, the awful drought, and forest fires, the last-named being the worst we have ever known. However, during the last ten days we have had abundance of rain, the fires are out, and all danger over for this season.

Drop me a line to 20 Nassau Street, Princeton, for they will know there just where I am, letting me know how you and Beatrice and Robin are and what Beatrice's plans are, if she has any.

With all good wishes, in which Mrs. Flexner joins,

Ever affectionately,

Professor Edward Mead Earle
170 Park Avenue
Saranac Lake, New York



AF:ESB

ABRAHAM FLEXNER
MAGNETAWAN, VIA BURKS FALLS
ONTARIO, CANADA

July 28, 1936

Dear Ed:

Many thanks for your kind note of July 23 with the enclosure from Einstein, which I am returning to you.

I can appreciate your disgust at this little upset, but I have the utmost confidence in the Price-Mayer combination and, if they assure you that the thing is of no permanent significance, you can believe it.

We have a nice note from our niece about you and your family. I hope that you will soon be well enough to drive over to see them.

When Edgar Mayer sees you, let me know his judgment. Meanwhile, you are so near the end of the whole business and your future is so happy and secure that you have absolutely no occasion for anything more than to utter an occasional "damn."

We are having a very quiet summer in this neck of the woods. The hot weather in New York followed by the sudden drop in temperature up here flattened us all out. Anne has about gotten back to normal. I am distinctly better and am taking some exercise in the form of log-sawing every day.

Mrs. Bailey is our sole guest and seems oblivious of all external conditions.

Von Neumann spent three weeks with us, an experience which we shall never forget. On the assurance of Veblen and others I had always believed him to be an extraordinary mathematician, but during his visit here I discovered that in range of knowledge, in acuteness of perception, and in soundness of judgment he comes pretty near to being unique. How a boy of thirty-three, spending most of his life in Europe and getting his preliminary education in Budapest should, for example, possess his knowledge of American history and the details of the revolutionary struggle and the Civil War which he possesses passes my comprehension. His powers of intellectual concentration are incredible. Day after day he would leave the breakfast table, sit at a desk, be absolutely regardless of the hammering (for we are putting in a bathroom) and, with the exception of stopping for lunch, work on until dinner in the evening. Then the whole thing would drop from him and for a couple of hours we would play poker for matches, he being once more, as far as one could see, the boy of eighteen or twenty. He read, as I am now reading, with great interest Little's Life of George Washington, which you were good enough to recommend to us. It is admirable. I am telling you something of the breadth and the depth of von Neumann's interest in the hope that when you get to know him, your acquaintance may go deep beyond the social amenities with which men in different faculties are altogether too apt to stop. You can talk to him about anything - present, past, or future.

Our last news from Mim and Ben, received yesterday, was very encouraging,

Professor Earle

July 28, 1936

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and we have splendid news from Jean and Eleanor, each of whom is in contact with people in London who interest her most.

I hope that Rosmond and Beatrice are well and that you may arrange your dinner with Einstein before long.

Anne joins me in affectionate greetings to you all.

Ever yours,

ale

Professor Edward Mead Earle
170 Park Avenue
Saranac Lake, New York

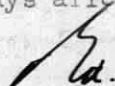
AF:ESB

*Just rec'd a letter from Jean. She was about
to start for Russia & is now there!*

have been a more pleasant summer for us all three had I been up and around as much as we anticipated. But we are trying not to be disappointed and to concentrate our hopes on the autumn and Princeton.

We all send love and good wishes to you all

Always affectionately



Dr. Abraham Flexner
Magnetawan, Ontario

Your letter was a great comfort to me. Although my heart is set on being in Princeton in autumn, it is pleasant to know that I do not have to be.

170 PARK AVENUE

SARANAC LAKE

N. Y.

23 July 1936

Dear Abe

Something over two weeks ago I wrote Einstein asking him to come to lunch some time at his convenience. I received the enclosed very cordial reply—which please return to me at your convenience. As yet, however, I have been unable to see Einstein, as Dr. Price wants me to keep quiet until this disturbance subsides. It is a very discouraging and disappointing upset, but both Price and Mayer (who has kept in touch with the situation by correspondence) feel that it is of no permanent significance. As soon as I am given a little more freedom and have a little more energy, however, I shall see Einstein.

Your niece Hortense is here in Saranac Lake with her husband Wincey King, and we have had the good fortune to talk with them over the telephone a good deal. King has been to see me three times and Hortense once. She is, as you said, a darling and we have enjoyed their company immensely. We are to lose them today, as they have found a more suitable place over at Lake Placid.

I am hoping that Edgar Mayer will be up here early in August so that he can send you a report. My most recent ex-ray films show the left lung in excellent shape. And although we may have a smouldering fire in the collapsed lung, it can never be a conflagration. This upset may, in the long run, be a good thing because it has shown that we must maintain a firm collapse in the right side for some time longer.

We enjoy our house immensely. Of course, it would

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Magnetawan, via Burks Falls

Ontario, Canada

July 14, 1936

Dear Ed:

I received yours of July 6 on my arrival here last Saturday. We had had two or three days of terrific temperature in New York City, and I had been under the mistaken impression that by the time I left Toronto I would be feeling the cool breezes from the Arctic. To my horror and surprise I found it as hot in Magnetawan in the depths of the woods as it had been in Wall Street - an absolutely unprecedented experience, of which the oldest inhabitant has no memory. The heat had suddenly started here on Tuesday and continued unbroken day and night until suddenly this morning the thermometer had dropped about fifty degrees, and we are breathing deliciously cool air and feel that Magnetawan at any rate has not gone back on us forever. I hope very much that the heat did not invade Saranac, but I am afraid that it really covered the entire continent like a hot blanket.

I am sorry that the adjustment of the pneumothorax is proving a little difficult, but I am sure from what Edgar Mayer told me that it is of no real significance. It will not make the slightest difference whether you report at the beginning of October or not, except to us personally, for we should love to have you there, but your position and salary will not in the least be affected. Lowe, by the way, is remaining abroad until January to finish some work in the continental libraries. Dismiss all concern on this score from your mind for once and all.

I saw Ben and Mim just before I left New York. Mim is very much better. Ben has his ups and downs but looks extraordinarily well. Anne is back again and is in fine shape. We have had steamer letters from Jean and Eleanor. Any day, however, will bring us a letter from London.

Von Neumann is with us here for a visit, as he could not return to Hungary because his naturalization is not yet complete, and he is liable for military service. He is for his years one of the most remarkable persons I have ever known. Yesterday we got to talking about American history, and I was amazed at the extent and definiteness of his knowledge, but this is simply characteristic of his equipment in every subject in reference to which I have ever heard him speak.

All of us join in love to you and Beatrice and Robin.

Ever affectionately,

Professor Edward Mead Earle

Alie

170 Park Avenue
Saranac Lake, N. Y.
6 July 1936

Dear Abe

Enclosed I am returning Win Riefler's letter. It shows what we already know: that he is a fine lad and that you were very wise in insisting that he go abroad at this time. The trip quite obviously is going to be of great value to him and to our group at the Institute.

This morning I have written a note to Einstein saying that I wanted him to know that I would be glad to do anything to make his stay here pleasant but that I had no desire to encroach on his seclusion. We shall invite him to lunch or tea or dinner as soon as things have settled down a bit for him and for us. Every move Einstein makes here is eagerly watched by the newshawks and curiosity seekers, but I think he will be left alone after a few days.

I have been having a very trying time for the past few weeks. My pneumothorax got ^{out} of adjustment while I was in Princeton and New York and while Dr. Price was ill after my return. It is a very delicate thing to maintain just the proper pressures, and I think we have learned from this annoying experience. However, both Price and Mayer are absolutely confident that I shall be all right in the autumn. Mayer will be here later in the month and will report to you. There is, as you know, always a slight gamble that I shall not be able to report for work in October; and I want you to feel perfectly free to change your decision about paying my full salary as of July 1 if you have the slightest reservation in this respect.


I am glad that you consulted Mayer about Hortense. I have great faith in Mayer's acumen as a physician aside from his special knowledge of pulmonary diseases. At my suggestion a diabetic patient under the care of Dr. Stillman has recently had Mayer in consultation with most excellent results.

What you write about the house in Alexander Street is very gratifying. It is also gratifying to know that, however far you may carry your system of espionage, you nevertheless are willing to trust us out of your sight. Do you think you can be trusted out of ours?

I am sending this to Canada, hoping that you have arrived in your forest retreat and that you will shortly be greatly refreshed. You must come back in the autumn full of vim, vigor, and vitality, as usual.

Please remember me to von Neumann, Mrs. Bailey, and Anne or to each of them as he or she arrives.

Always affectionately



Dr. Abraham Flexner
Magnetwan, Ontario

July 1, 1936

Dear Ed:

I am in Princeton for what I hope will be the last and final day this summer. The weather is cool and delightful, but I am tired and want to get to Canada. However, there were just enough odds and ends to finish up so that I really had to come here.

The house at 69 Alexander Street is being done over and will be extremely attractive and will, I suspect, furnish large, beautifully lighted and beautifully ventilated rooms for the whole economics group plus Lowe and Meritt and maybe others. It will be on my way to 20 Nassau Street, so that I can stop in early in the morning and late in the evening to see that everybody is working hard. I can also stop in in the middle of the day and see how much time it takes an economist to eat his lunch, and from every point of view it is wonderful from the standpoint of espionage.

I saw Professor Einstein this morning and he was very happy to know that you and Beatrice are at Saranac Lake. He is hoping, however, on account of Mrs. Einstein's health, that they can keep the house perfectly quiet. I suggested that you and he might walk together or that he might go to see you. I would suggest that when your little household is in order, if you are equipped for entertainment on a very simple scale you ask him to lunch or dinner. That will break the ice and the rest will take care of itself. He remembers you very distinctly and very pleasantly.

I spent the week-end with Ben and Mim. They are both doing well. They have a charming place in Katonah. It is hard for me to realize that Ben is past seventy and that I am rapidly climbing towards it.

Professor Earle

July 1, 1936

- 2 -

Jean and Eleanor sailed on the "Aquitania" - tourist - Saturday and I saw them off. They have rented a flat by cable and are going to keep house near some of their old friends. They are just about as excited as you will be when you come down to Princeton next fall.

I saw Edgar Mayer the other day because I wanted to get his advice about a niece of mine. Incidentally, we of course talked of you and I told him of my recent letters from you. He is absolutely certain that you are 100% well and that when you get to Princeton in the autumn you will completely forget that there is any such thing as a symptom, and, having been through the thing, I think he knows whereof he speaks.

We are going to Canada the beginning of the coming week. von Neumann is going with us because he found while giving his lectures in Paris that if he returned to Hungary he might be taken into military service, as he has still six months to live in America before becoming a citizen. So he came back and was at loose ends. As soon as I heard of it I asked him to come to camp with us and occupy the two rooms over the boat house. Marietta and the baby have gone to see her people. I saw him this morning and he was quite enthusiastic about a month or two in the woods.

Give my love to Beatrice and believe me

Ever affectionately,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor Edward Mead Earle
170 Park Avenue
Saranac Lake, New York

AF/MCE

P.S. I am enclosing a letter which I have had from Riefler. Won't you please send it back to me when you and Beatrice have read it?

A. F.

150 East 72nd Street
New York City

June 24, 1936

Dear Ed:

I learn that the Einsteins are leaving on June 30, and their summer address will be Glenwood, Saranac Lake. I shall therefore wait until next week and write them to their summer address and tell them that you and Beatrice are going to call on them. ✓

With love to you and to Beatrice and Robin,

Ever affectionately,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

AF:ESB

My dear Professor Earle:

Thank you for your note of the 22nd regarding your address and telephone number, which have been noted at 20 Nassau Street and 150 East 72nd Street.

I am delighted that you are having such good weather. It has been pretty fine in both New York and Princeton ~~too~~, and tell Mrs. Earle and Robin, now that the locusts have departed, Princeton is again very lovely. I am spending most of my time in New York with occasional days in Princeton.

With kindest regards and all good wishes to you all, I am

Very sincerely yours,

ESB

Professor Edward Mead Earle
170 Park Avenue
Saranac Lake, New York

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New York City
June 23, 1936

Dear Ed:

I am sending you just a line to say that I feel very certain that Einstein will be delighted to have you call on him when he reaches Saranac. I am going to communicate with Princeton to find out when he is to arrive there. Then I shall write him and tell him who you are, for I should doubt very much whether he knows that you are a professor in the School of Economics and Politics. He knows his own colleagues in mathematics, but he may be a little hazy as to whether some of them belong to the Institute or to the University. Blessed are those who don't give a darn!

I am happy that you and Beatrice and Robin are together. Now just be good children, all three of you, and stay together, and don't bother about the past - gratitude, appreciation, or anything else. I know how you feel, and you know how I feel, and now we will set our faces resolutely to the future.

Park Avenue sounds like a very swell address to me for an Institute professor - but of course it only carries on the tradition which you began when you put up at the St. Regis here in New York. I can imagine Beatrice in a white duck skirt, flouncing down the broad stretches of Park Avenue, looking fit to kill - not herself - but those who behold her.

Ben and Mim are doing very well. As soon after the first as is practicable, I shall be going out to camp. Professor von Neumann is going with me, for the

E.M.E.

June 23, 1936

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prospect of compulsory military service in Hungary has brought him back to this country. He had no idea of how to dispose of himself, since Marietta could safely go on with the baby to see her parents in Budapest, but Johnny will stay with us until she returns.

You will be hearing from me again as soon as I have word from Princeton.

With love to you all,

Ever affectionately,

Professor Edward Mead Earle
170 Park Avenue
Saranac Lake, New York

E.M.E.

AF:ESB

THE SANTANONI
SARANAC LAKE
NEW YORK

27 June 1936

My dear Mrs. Bailey

This is to let you know that tomorrow
we leave here to move into the house we
have taken for the summer. Our address
will be 170 Park Avenue and the telephone
number Saranac Lake 1124. Will you
please let Dr. Thurnes have a memorandum
to this effect.

We are having delightful crisp cool
weather which we wish would continue indefinitely.

We all send every cordial good wish
As always sincerely

Edward M. Earle

As I think Miss Wise has been forwarding some of
my mail, she will want this new address too.

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PROFESSOR EDWARD MEAD EARLE

THE SANTANONI SARANAC LAKE NY

HAD LONG TALK WITH MAYER WHO IS ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT

THERE IS NO TROUBLE WITH YOU WORTH THINKING OF AND

THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO COME TO PRINCETON AS

WE PLANNED LOVE AND BEST WISHES

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

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The Santanoni
Saranac Lake
13 June 1936

Dear Abe

It was wise of you, I think, to incorporate in a memorandum the substance of your recent conversation with Mitrany. That you have seen fit to put it in the form of a letter to me is an assurance that it will remain confidential. I am pleased that you should have chosen to do it this way.

I very much hope, and I am inclined to believe, that this situation will work itself out next year. If it does not, we shall be in a better position to know what to do than we are now.

"I read in the public prints" that you have recently been the recipient of honorary degrees at New York University and elsewhere. Needless to say, I am happy for you and for the Institute.

Beatrice and Robin are coming next week, and we are all three looking forward to being together again. We are planning to take a house for the summer, the address and telephone number of which I shall send you later.

It was my ill fortune to have Dr. Price taken ill the day after returned here. He was confined to bed with bronchitis for three weeks, with the result that my pneumothorax treatments went awry. As a further result, I have had a perfectly miserable few weeks of fatigue, which will continue until we get this thing adjusted. I have been keeping in touch with Edgar Mayer by letter and telephone, and Price has sent him my most recent ex-ray films. Both he and Price feel that this is a little upset which will pass over in the next few weeks. It is, however, discouraging, as I had planned to do more rather than less throughout the summer. But I shall adopt whatever regime may be necessary to have me back in Princeton for the autumn's work.

Mayer tells me that you are planning to see him next week, and I shall be eager to hear from you and from him the results of your conversation insofar as you feel free to report it.

My affectionate wishes to you all.

As always



Dr. Abraham Flexner
New York

My telephone number here is 433-J, and I shall be here until about June 25.

20 NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

June 6, 1936

Dear Ed:

Many thanks for your very interesting letter regarding the life of Washington. I am surely behind the times if my latest knowledge of biographies of Washington is forty-five years old, but it is something to have a reed upon which to lean, as I have leaned upon you in this instance.

Eleanor and I had dinner with Ben and Mim the night before last and they both look extremely well. They are coming here to dinner tomorrow in the middle of the day.

Yesterday afternoon "our mutual friend", Mitrany, came to see me to say good-bye, as he was sailing this morning. He thoroughly enjoyed his southern trip and had already communicated with me through Mrs. Bailey in a very wholesome and happy manner. Eleanor was with us for a while and served tea. I then inquired about his wife, and I must confess that he is in about the same predicament as respects her doctor as you were at one time in respect to Dr. James Alexander Miller, and it may be that that accounts for some things that looked inexplicable; but after all there is no reason why I should have had to bear the whole brunt of it while he was being pleasant to everyone else in Princeton. We talked at some length about his wife and I gave him an introduction to the most distinguished of English neurologists, for I think he has about lost confidence - as I surely have - in the doctor now in charge. We then talked of the south and discussed quite freely the question as to whether the analogies which he thought he perceived between the south and the Balkans would stand a thoroughgoing knowledge and analysis, and he proposed to go much more deeply into the subject historically, socially, and economically before making up his

Professor Earle

June 6, 1936

- 2 -

mind. The moment seemed very opportune and I took advantage of it to say that it had been a matter of very great concern to me that he had apparently not been happy in the Institute, and particularly not with me, and that I could have understood it if others had felt the same, but as far as I could learn no one had. For perhaps one-half hour we traversed the entire situation in the calmest and most friendly spirit. Out of it it emerged that two things had been "eating him". First, he wrote me, perhaps two years ago, suggesting that we should invite Ginzberg of the London School to lecture. I replied, as nearly as I can remember, that at the moment we had nobody for him to lecture to and that for the present I was concerned in building up very gradually a group comparable to the mathematics group, the building of which really dates back twenty or thirty years to the time when Fine became professor of mathematics; that when we had once got a group we could get workers and perhaps then we would have something to go on. His reply was that though I had said this in my letter I had also intimated or implied that he would probably not have made the suggestion but for his very close personal friendship with Ginzberg. I have no recollection of saying this, though I think it is the truth - but I didn't say that to him. I said, "If this did really offend you and has been gnawing at you all these months why on earth did you not come out frankly and tell me?" I then told him that on one occasion I had said something jestingly which one of the young men in Fine Hall did not like. Dean Eisenhart was kind enough to tell me about it, whereupon, against Eisenhart's judgment and wishes, I put on my coat and hat and accompanied him to Fine Hall, sought out the aggrieved young man and told him that I did not remember making the remark, explaining that in any case it was in jest and that not for the world would I hurt his feelings. He shook hands and said, "Forget it". I then went on to say to this young man, "You can do me a great favor. It may well be that

Professor Earle

June 6, 1936

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I will repeat this blunder and that it will come to your ears. Will you promise me that if ever you hear that I have given any offence to anybody that you will tell me in confidence and give me the opportunity to apologize, for the last thing in the world I want is to tramp on anybody's sensibilities?" "Since then," I said to Mitrany, "the man in question and I have been warm friends."

That cleared the slate so far as this incident was concerned. I said, "Is there anything else on your mind?" "Yes," he said, "there is." I said, "What is it?" He replied, "I have the feeling that you regard me as inferior." So I said, "Whenever a person is inferior he is inferior to somebody else. Now I will be perfectly frank with you; you are inferior; you are inferior to Einstein. So am I. So are a lot of people. Now, for all I know, you may be Einstein's superior potentially. All you have to do is to show it. As far as other people are concerned, the question of inferiority and superiority has never entered my mind. How on earth can I tell whether you or Earle or Riefler are inferior or superior to one another or to Panofsky or Morey or Johnnie or Alexander or Lowe, etc.? Do you suppose that professors at Harvard or Columbia try to grade themselves and suffer from grievances because they think that President Butler or President Conant thinks about a question of this sort? It is ridiculous." He looked shame-faced and admitted that I was right and that he had been imagining things on this score.

Having thus cleared the ground I went further. I said, "You and Ed Earle are the only persons in the Institute who were my warm personal friends before the Institute was started. Earle and I have been closer in friendship and happier with one another since the Institute was started, whereas you and I have drifted apart. Now maybe the fault instead of being mine is yours, though if it is mine and you can put your finger on it all you have to do is tell me

Professor Earle

June 6, 1936

- 4 -

and I will treat you precisely as I treated the young man in Fine Hall."

I then went further. I said, "There are two things we are trying to accomplish - an intimate coöperation with Princeton and at the same time a forward movement beyond what any American university undertakes as its exclusive concern. Riefler has come to know all the economists. Earle will come to know the historians. You have made no effort whatever as far as I know to know and to coöperate with the two men in your own field, Poole and Corwin, one of whom (Corwin) is so distinguished a man that he is one of the very few Americans who are to get an honorary degree at the Harvard Tercentenary." About this point he was fairly well knocked out and admitted that he had not made any effort in this direction. But he said that I never came in to consult with him. I said, "No, I do not go to advise or consult with anybody. You made the great mistake of making up your mind about a lot of things before you came to Princeton and found out what the Institute is. I have never had my foot in McCormick Hall, and only on the rarest occasions have I gone to Fine Hall. On the other hand, Panofsky and Morey and all of the professors in Fine Hall come to see me when they need or want my advice. The schools are autonomous. What does that mean? They run themselves, and it would be a piece of impertinence on my part to try to guide you, though if ever anything arises on which my judgment is worth while or necessary, as may be when it comes to calling in new men, it is your business to come to me, precisely as the art folks and the mathematicians have been in the habit of doing. "

"Now," I said, "I am a good forgetter. Let's forget last year and the year before. Let's forget ^{the} Frankfurter episode and Laski's rehashing it to you. They, in my judgment, are responsible for all your difficulties. If you knew the inside of the Frankfurter episode you would see that the Board either had to let

Professor Earle

June 6, 1936

- 5 -

Frankfurter go, because he was incapable of working with a team, or the best persons on the Board would have resigned. However that may be, let us look forward. If you can come back to Princeton next year and work with the enthusiasm, interest and happiness which, as you see, is characteristic of Earle and Riefler, everything will be all right. If you cannot, there is no place in that Garden of Eden for you, and next year will have to decide." To my surprise he said, "I think you are right. If I cannot show and feel the same spirit that the others show and feel then I must look elsewhere."

We then turned our talk in other channels and he left well pleased and, as far as I could judge, cognizant of the fact that he had shown very little sense or judgment. I am writing you this in great confidence because knowledge of it may help you next year, and I shall keep a copy to show to Win in the autumn. I hope sincerely that we will never hear of it again and that if Frankfurter or Laski tries to undermine his confidence he will have sense enough to show them up.

I have not been in Princeton for a fortnight, so that I do not know whether Beatrice and Robin and you are together or not, but I hope you are. Mrs. Bailey may know, for I think she talked with Beatrice, but she (Mrs. Bailey) is visiting her mother now and I am dictating to Miss Eichelser.

We have fine news from Anne.

All of us join in affectionate greetings to the Earle family.

Ever affectionately,

alo

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF/MCE

P.S.

The date of this letter is misleading. Mitrany sailed on June 5, and we had our interview on June 4. I dictated this letter the morning of June 6. A.F.

June 2, 1936

My dear Professor Earle:

I have just received your letter of May 21 because I have been spending the past two weeks in New York - not at the St. Regis - but at the Barbizon, which is very convenient to Mr. Flexner's residence in New York. I see that Mr. Flexner has already replied to your letter, but I hasten to speak for myself, now that I am back in Princeton for a few hours.

I send you herewith the Institute's check for \$36.48 to cover your statement of May 21 for books and periodicals, telephone and telegraph, postage and express charges.

There will be someone at the office all summer - Miss Eichelser in July and Miss Wise in August - and either one will be happy to do such typing as you need done in ~~xxx~~ connection with the bibliography upon which you are now working. It sounds most interesting. Perhaps all the secretaries will begin reading or rereading the books that you mention.

I have just talked with Mrs. Earle, who reports that she is fine, that you are perfectly splendid, so that I shall return to New York and make these good reports to "the chief".

The weather has been unusually good, and I can imagine how lovely it is in the Adirondacks.

Thank you for your good wishes. I shall help Mr. Flexner all I can in New York and then shall go to Canada with the family for the month of July. I shall have my vacation in August and have a reservation at the Blue Mountain House at Blue Mountain Lake. I have suggested to Mrs. Earle that you should drive down to visit me while I am there. It would be great fun to see the Earle Family.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

ESTHER S. BAILEY

The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, N. Y.
30 May 1936

Dear Abe

It was good to get your letter of the 28 and to hear of your visit with Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld. I am glad if they liked me, for I have a profound admiration for their sweetness and modesty.

It is not difficult to answer your friend's question about a biography of George Washington. The volume in the American Statesman Series is, as I recall, by Henry Cabot Lodge; it is not bad, but it was written about forty-five years ago and shows no knowledge, of course, of recent researches in the Revolution (particularly from British sources) or of the more recent scholarly viewpoints in American history. I would not recommend it. Of the older books the best are, I think, those by Worthington C. Ford, Paul Leicester Ford, and Norman Hapgood.

But the best single-volume life of Washington is by Shelby Little, published in 1929 and recently re-issued at a popular price. It is a substantial volume based upon the best available materials, and I think it would prove to be interesting to almost any reader. Although the book was a scholarly ^{and literary} success, it ^{apparently} was a publishing failure. It can be obtained in a one-dollar edition from the Arden Book Company, 220 West 42 Street. It is well written and tells the whole story. Your friend also should read the article by Allan Nevins in the Dictionary of American Biography; if this is not readily available to him, he can have a photostat copy made by the New York Public Library at small cost. And if I were reading up on Washington, I should not overlook the fascinating two volumes by Rupert Hughes. For some reason—I suppose because the author was a popular novelist—this book was denounced even before publication as a "debunking" biography. Actually it is a beautiful scholarly work in which the author's literary craftsmanship has been an asset. If your friend is a country squire or anything of the sort, he might find some additional interest in Paul Leland Haworth's "George Washington, Farmer". If his time is limited, I should recommend the Little volume above any of the others, but I should dislike to have him overlook Rupert Hughes.

I am having great fun with the bibliography for our German friends, but it is getting to be "quite a proposition". I am including historical fiction and biographies, as well as more formal treatises. Ben plans to have it printed for wide distribution when it is finished. It will not bear the name of an author or editor, as this is a labor of love.

I came across this little gem last night. When old Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes began practicing medicine in Boston in the early part of the nineteenth century, he had as his motto "all small fevers thankfully received." I thought I knew his work, but this was new to me. In all probability you will have heard it long since.

Always affectionately

Dr. Abraham Flexner

Please return to

150 East 72nd Street

New York City

May 28, 1936

Dear Ed:

A very intelligent friend of mine in the early thirties writes me as follows:

"Somehow or other I have never read a decent life of George Washington - in fact I have read hardly any thing about him. Recently I have been doing some studying about the Revolutionary period and at last am resolved to get at least a little acquainted with Washington. I wonder would you recommend to me a really good biography of Washington."

What shall I tell him? I thought of the life in the American Statesmen series, but there may be something better and more recent. Let me know please.

Last night Eleanor and I spent at South Orange with Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld. We had a lovely time. They spoke of the visit which you and Beatrice had paid to them and the charming letter which you had written them. You have "sold yourself" completely to them, if I may be permitted to use an awful Americanism.

Mitrany is to visit them Sunday. I don't feel quite so certain that he will be equally successful. I have not seen him since he returned from the South, but I imagine I shall see him before he sails. I wish nothing more than that I may feel that the nightmare of last year has been dispelled forever.

Riefler and I lunched with Walter Stewart on Monday and had a good long talk. There is not a doubt in my mind about either you or him.

We have good news from Anne, and Eleanor and I are fine.

I went to Baltimore Sunday and brought Mim back. She is once more in first-rate shape.

All of us join in affectionate greetings and best wishes.

Ever yours,

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York
AF:ESB

A.T.

130 East 72nd Street

Long.

New York City

Article by Allan Nevins in Dictionary American Biography

Dear Ed:

Norman Hapgood

Shelby Little

Paul Kellogg Hawthorn, ~~George Washington~~ ^{George Washington}

Paul Cicuto ~~Paul Cicuto~~ ^{Paul Cicuto}

Washington D.C.

Rupert Hughes (1 to 1777)

as follows:

know please.

last night Eleanor and I spent at South Orange with Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld. We had a lovely time. They spoke of the visit which you and Beatrice had paid to them and the charming letter which you had written them. You have "sold yourself" completely to them, if I may be permitted to use an awful Americanism. Mitty is to visit them Sunday. I don't feel quite so certain that he will be equally successful. I have not seen him since he returned from the South, but I imagine I shall see him before he sails. I wish nothing more than that I may feel that the nightmare of last year has been dispelled forever. Riefler and I lunched with Walter Stewart on Monday and had a good long talk. There is not a doubt in my mind about either you or him. We have good news from Anne, and Eleanor and I are fine. I went to Baltimore Sunday and brought Milt back. She is once more in first-rate shape. All of us join in affectionate greetings and best wishes.

Ever yours,

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Sentimental
Germans Lane, New York
AP:ESS

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PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

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LIFE TRUSTEES
LOUIS BAMBERGER
MRS. FELIX FULD

May 23, 1936

Dear Ed:

Your charming letter reached me in New York the other day. I have the same feeling that you have about your visit to Princeton. I feel that you have passed from one sphere to another, and I know that the rest of your career will be the happiest portion of it, partly because of your associations and partly by reason of contrast with the long siege which you and Beatrice have endured with such consummate courage.

I have been in New York all this week, but I came down yesterday to look over the mail of the week. Among other things I saw your note to Mrs. Bailey. She will reimburse you towards the end of the month.

I am returning the Clough material to him. Though his stuff is good, I have the feeling that we ought to wait until our plans are clearer and until he has done something really striking off his own bat - no pun intended about "strike" and "bat."

At the Inn last night I met Max Farrand. I told him that you might be going to Pasadena next winter and doing some work at the Huntington, and he was positively delighted.

Everything that your note to me says of Veblen, Riefler, Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld is sound and true. Indeed, it rather falls short of the truth.

Professor Earle

May 23, 1936

- 2 -

We have assembled a glorious group. Late yesterday afternoon Einstein came to the Inn to talk with me about a matter. Speaking of the Institute he said, "How fortunate you have been; you have a great array of scholars and everyone of them is a perfect gentleman and perfectly happy." That is the line that Brother Mitrany is going to have to toe, for, while I live, the harmony and dignity of the Institute are not going to be impaired. Now you see how I expect you and Beatrice to behave also! No Butler-Beard business, eh? D'ye understand? For my one fear arises from your previous associations. "Evil communications corrupt good manners." Beatrice survived. Have you?

Ever affectionately,

A. F.

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF/MCE

P. S. I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Dr. Clough.

There will be someone here all through the summer, so there will be no difficulty about having any typing done in connection with the bibliography which you are preparing.

A. F.

Copy for Professor Earle

May 23, 1936

Dear Dr. Clough:

I am returning under separate cover the material which you were good enough to send me. I regard it as distinctly promising, but I feel it would be unwise for you, as it would be for us, to make any further move until Professor Earle has settled down into his work here. You need not fear that he will forget you. Just how the detail will be worked out is something that it takes time to determine.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Shepard B. Clough
547 Riverside Drive
New York City

AF/MCE

The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, N. Y.
21 May 1936

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey, Secretary
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Mrs. Bailey

As you will see, I have arrived safely in this mountain retreat and am settling down to a peaceful and lazy existence. We had the rare experience yesterday of being treated to a heavy snowfall, but on the whole the weather has been beautiful and the foliage is much farther advanced than is usual at this time of the year. Today is spring again, and there are no signs left of yesterday's wintry blast.

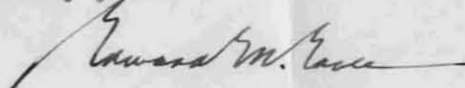
The enclosed is a bill for the last of my miscellaneous expenditures during the current academic year. The numerous erasures are due to my transition from the old-style to the new-style Corona; in the former I had to use upper case for numerals, and I find myself doing it constantly on this standard keyboard with the result that I get parentheses, quotation marks and the like where I intend fives and sixes.

You will remember a young Mr. Clough from Columbia whom I had down to Princeton to meet Dr. Flexner. Subsequently he sent Dr. Flexner copies of some of his publications. I have a letter from Clough asking whether it would be possible to have them returned, as they are marked copies which have special value to him. I am sure you can arrange this. Clough's address is: Dr. Shepard B. Clough, 547 Riverside Drive, New York.

I am busy, among other things in preparing a bibliography for Mrs. Weyl and Mrs. Panofsky of American history, biography, fiction, and the like which will acquaint them and their families with certain phases of the American scene. It has occurred to Mr. Bernard Flexner that it would be advisable to print this for the use of others who have to come to make America their home. I shall need some typing done in this connection. Will Miss Wise be at Princeton most of the summer. And if not, will there be someone there to do this for me if necessary?

I hope you have a pleasant holiday whenever you go away and send you, meanwhile, every cordial good wish.

Sincerely yours



EDWARD MEAD EARLE - THE SANTANONI - SARANAC LAKE - NEW YORK

16 May 1936

Dear Abe

That was a very touching letter you wrote me the other day. I am happy if my visit to Princeton pleased you. As for me, it was one of the greatest experiences of my life. I am a kind of Lazarus or Rip Van Winkle, and I sometimes wonder whether anyone ever can enjoy life as much as I am enjoying it now and as much as I shall enjoy it.

I was very much impressed by the Institute and am proud to be a member of it. I liked Veblen immensely, and I cemented a warm friendship with Win Riefler. Our faculty meeting was a rare experience judged by any standards. And the countryside seemed to bloom for my especial benefit. Needless to say, I am counting the days until October, busy as I am meanwhile.

The letter from Mitraný is gratifying in a number of respects. ^{so and is} Whether his analogy between the South and the Balkans is _^to me less significant than that he has put his teeth into something and has had his intellectual enthusiasm aroused. I shall talk with you further about this in the autumn.

Edgar Mayer is an extraordinary young man. Last night I was talking with him over the telephone concerning a young man whose case was flubbed by Miller and Brown; this man is now a patient in the Harkness Pavilion under the care of Dr. Stillman (for another ailment). He insisted that Mayer be called in consultation concerning his chest, and I have heard from the patient that Mayer made a profound impression on Stillman and others at the Columbia Medical Center.

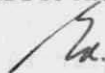
One of my most rare experiences was meeting Mr. Bamberger and ^{Mrs.} Fuld. They are sweet people of a type

one rarely meets in this noisy, self-assertive world. I went to South Orange feeling, in a sense, that I had to justify the confidence of the Institute in me. I found, on the contrary, that with a charming modesty Mr. Bamberger and Mrs. Fuld were trying to show that they were not very important but that you and the faculty really were. Their profound respect for scholarship is impressive in a world which places no too great emphasis upon it.

Do have a pleasant summer. You are a very important person in the world for those of us who love you for yourself, and you are also an important person for the future of the Institute. I shall let you hear from me from time to time.

It will be a happy experience for Robin and Beatrice and me to be living together again without all the strain and the worry of a serious illness hanging over us like a sword of Damocles. It is not yet all cakes and ale, but we have passed, literally, through the Valley of the Shadow of Death and life will be sweet. And Beatrice will be a new person freed from the responsibilities of her all-absorbing job. We are proud of what she has done, but we shall be glad to have a little more family companionship and leisure.

Always affectionately



Dr. Abraham Flexner
Princeton

May 13, 1936

Dear Ed:

I am sending you Mitrany's letter, as I promised.

I am not absolutely sure that the analogy to the Balkans is as genuine as he finds it on first impressions, because each of these two situations has a history, in the light of which it can alone be understood. I hope therefore that having gotten a visual impression Mitrany will study the history of the South and learn it as he knows the history of the Balkans. Then perhaps in a second journey to the South he may find himself on absolutely firm ground. What is your opinion? In any event, the letter is wholesome and has the right ring.

With love and best wishes,

As ever,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

P.S.

I am sending you a copy of a Memoir of Alfred Hess. Read with care the account of his research technique. It is worth while.

A.F.

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF:ESB



The St. Regis
New York

Monday evening

Dear Abe

I go back to the North Woods with great regret but happy after a very successful visit here and in Princeton. I see no reason at all now why I should not be in residence in October, and I am looking forward to it with great eagerness.

Edgar Mayer had lunch with me today. He is very happy, as he has every reason to be, with the success he has had with my case. As to plans for next winter, he is willing and so am I to consult Dr. Longcope and you as to what had best be done when the time comes.

I need not repeat that I know I shall be happy as a member of the Institute staff, and I believe that in time I shall be able to produce work of which you will be proud and, also, influence the work of others.

You will be hearing from me from time to time during the summer. Meanwhile, every affectionate good wish for a happy and restful holiday.

As always

Dr. Abraham Flexner
Princeton, New Jersey



The St. Regis
New York

Monday afternoon

My dear Mrs. Bailey

I expect to leave here for a few days in Westchester County beginning tomorrow. It would probably be best, therefore, to forward any mail to Mrs. Earle for the balance of the week. By next Monday I should be back in Saranac Lake for the summer, at the same address.

It was very good to see you again. I hope you have a delightful holiday. And in the autumn I shall be glad to be at work in 20 Nassau Street.

Always faithfully

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey
Princeton, New Jersey

20 NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

New York, Thursday

My dear Mrs. Bailey

Could you send a copy of Bulletin No 5

to :

Miss Anna Tefft Bogue
1172 Park Avenue

New York

with my compliments?

Miss Bogue is confidential secretary
to Mrs. Leonard Elmhirst (Dorothy Whitney)
and is interested in what we are doing.

It was a wonderful week in Princeton
and was a great pleasure to see you again.

Always sincerely

Edward Mead

Mrs. Esther I. Bailey

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LOUIS BAMBERGER

MRS. FELIX FULD

May 12, 1936

Dear Ed:

I was sorry not to see you again before you left, because I wanted to tell you what a rare and beautiful experience your visit to us was. You came out of the mountains like an angel and blessed us with the sight of your courage and good humor and physical vigor. Now, with a light heart, you have gone back to your retreat, from which I am sure you will emerge finally and forever when you come to us in October. Let the date of your coming depend wholly upon the weather. You need not be here on the 1st unless the weather is ^{cool} ~~cold~~ and you are sure that all conditions are favorable.

I had an interesting objective letter from Mitrany this morning. Perhaps this experience will do more to convince him than all the talk that has been lavished upon him during the past year.

By all means, let me hear from you from time to time briefly during the summer. I need not adjure you to take care of yourself first and foremost.

Towards the end of this week I am going to New York, but I shall be coming back to Princeton from time to time until perhaps the middle of June. Some day while I am in New York I shall see Edgar Mayer in order to tell him how grateful I am to him for his boundless kindness to you.

I have good news from Anne and the children. My sister Mim has not been entirely well, but I saw her Saturday and found her distinctly on the upgrade.

With all good wishes,

Ever affectionately,

LS

April 18, 1936

Professor Edward Mead Earle
Hotel St. Regis
Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth Street
New York City

My dear Professor Earle:

Thank you so much for your letter
of the seventeenth congratulating me on the
promotion. It was indeed kind of you to write me.

I am sending a complete set of Bulletins
to Professor Hayes with your compliments. Let me
know if you think of other persons who may be
interested in the Bulletins.

Very sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

P.S.

I hope the circus is a great success and lots
of fun!

CABLE ADDRESS "SAINTREGIS NEW YORK"



Hotel St. Regis.

Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth Street

New York

17 April 1936

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey, Secretary
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Mrs. Bailey

It is with the greatest of pleasure that I acknowledge your letter of the 15, informing me that effective July 1 I become a member of the Institute staff in full standing financially as well as otherwise. As I told you this morning, the greatest satisfaction of it all comes to me in the knowledge that I am to return to my beloved work in October.

May I take this opportunity, also, to congratulate you on your promotion to the full-fledged rank of Secretary? It is not until just this moment that I noticed that you signed as such, or I should have congratulated you the sooner. You know, I am sure, how pleased I am.

Would it be much trouble to send copies of bulletins Nos. 1 and 5 to Professor Carlton J. H. Hayes, 427 West 117 Street, New York, with my compliments? This morning I have an acknowledgment from Miss Bogue (secretary to Mrs. Leonard Elmhirst) of the bulletin you sent her; I hope it will do some good.

Always faithfully yours

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edward Mead Earle", written in a cursive style.

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LIFE TRUSTEES
LOUIS BAMBERGER
MRS. FELIX FULD

April 15, 1936

Professor Edward Mead Earle
St. Regis Hotel
Fifth Avenue and 55th Street
New York City

My dear Professor Earle:

I have pleasure in informing you
that at the meeting of the Board of Trustees
of the Institute for Advanced Study on April 13,
1936, your salary was increased to \$10,000, per annum,
beginning July 1, 1936.

Very truly yours,

Esther S. Bailey
Secretary

Earle

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Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

April 3, 1936

Miss Amity Perkins
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

Please forward mail Hotel St. Regis New York until further notice

E. M. Earle

(2)

Charge Institute for Advanced Study

484

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PERCY S. STRAUS

OSWALD VEBLEN

LEWIS H. WEED

LIFE TRUSTEES

LOUIS BAMBERGER

MRS. FELIX FULD

March 28, 1936

Dear Ed:

I am terribly sorry that Anne and I cannot be here to welcome you to Princeton. We went over to Swarthmore Thursday to hear Sir Arthur Salter lecture and Anne is staying there over the week-end. I have not seen Jean in months, and as I have a committee meeting next week-end I must either see her this week or the Lord knows when; so I am going down to Washington this afternoon to spend this evening and tomorrow with her ^{and} /to adjust some immigration matters connected with workers in the Institute on Monday morning, returning here Monday afternoon. I will get in touch with you and Beatrice as soon as I return to Princeton.

It is a long lane that has no turning, and I am sure that your lane has turned for good and all. My one desire is that we shall take every precaution to safeguard your future, as we did some years ago with Eleanor. The patience which Eleanor exhibited after she was pronounced well has made her as husky a brat as lives. It is one thing to be pronounced well by the doctors and another thing to break rock. I hope that we can so manage affairs that before another year is over this long and heroic experience of yours will have shrunk to a pin-point in your consciousness. Meanwhile, bravo to you and Beatrice, and affectionate wishes from both Anne and myself.

Professor Edward M. Earle
Princeton, New Jersey
AF/MCE

Always yours,

E. F.

EDWARD MEAD EARLE - THE SANTANONI - SARANAC LAKE - NEW YORK

25 March 1936

My dear Mrs. Bailey

Could you send with my compliments a copy of
Bulletin No. 5 to each of the following persons:

Mr. William Griffin ✓ *Mar. 29*
140 Cedar Street
New York, N. Y.

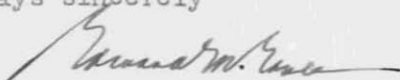
Dr. Shepard B. Clough ✓
547 Riverside Drive
New York, N. Y.

It is not altogether easy for me to be calm
and coherent these days, as I realize that in two days
I shall be seeing (in chronological not climactic order)
Lake Champlain, my beloved Hudson, New York, my loved
ones, Princeton, the Institute, and all my friends and
colleagues including you. It still seems in the realm
of the occult.

As advance publicity I send the enclosed
snapshot for Dr. Flexner. I am hoping I may be able to
make a debut at the faculty meeting Tuesday.

Always sincerely

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey
Princeton



20 NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

March 16, 1936

Dear Ed:

Bea tells me that you are imitating Barney Oldfield on the roads around Saranac and that soon you will be flying into Princeton in your own plane. All power to you and may you speed the day. However, don't, don't, don't overdo.

I am sending along a copy of my memorandum of last fall (at least, I will if Miss Wise can find one). It already has acquired a certain amount of obsolescence and I am now in the process of evolving a new model for 1936 which I will send or tell you about when you are here, provided that it passes the preliminary road tests and is not relegated directly to the scrap heap. The essential principle of it is that there is an opportunity opening up for the Institute to secure real leadership in the various disciplines associated under the heading finance, if it desires to do so. I have been importuned from many sides to sponsor a really comprehensive attack upon the theoretical problems raised by the financial mess of the last fifteen years and assured of cooperation rather than competition from most of the other elements, if we should do it. I think the opportunity is really first class. The only rub is that it implies a degree of commitment on the part of the Institute so far as the work in economics is concerned that is certainly larger than anything I have contemplated before and also probably premature. Aside from that, the character of the actual work would be much the same as we outlined in the memo Mitrany showed you--the main addition being that there would be much more of it and that other institutions would cooperate in assigning personnel and carrying part of the expense, if we would assume general sponsorship.

Here's to you and to good spring weather over the next month.

Win

Professor Edward Earle
The Santonini
Saranac Lake, New York

Att. memorandum filed V. White S.E.P. E

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LIFE TRUSTEES
LOUIS BAMBERGER
MRS. FELIX FULD

February 8, 1936

Dear Ed:

I have your fine letter of the 6th this morning and it gave me a great kick. To begin two-thirds of the way down, I am delighted with your account of yourself. To know that the fellow who a year ago saw David Copperfield from a stretcher is now walking, climbing stairs, and actually enjoying sub-zero temperature - well it is enough to make an optimist out of a person who has become a confirmed pessimist in consequence of three weeks of the damndest weather that you can possibly imagine. There is something decent about snow and cold weather at Saranac, but three weeks of snow and cold and slop, with a fine layer of fresh snow covering treacherous ice on streets and sidewalks, is simply disgusting. You may find Princeton an awfully good substitute for a Saranac winter if we have another such winter next year as we have had during the three years we have been here. Maybe the weather man is under the impression that you are here already. I shall try to get into communication with him in order to inform him to the contrary.

I am delighted with Westermann's opinion of the recent appointees. Campbell is - so Morey says - the best of the young archaeologists in America, and I am banking on his judgment for I have never seen Campbell myself.

As to new books, you are quite right that we should keep each other

Professor Earle

February 8, 1936

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informed about what we buy, but the devil is that we cannot keep each other informed about what people present us with. My copy of Langer is a present. I am not likely to do much buying of books in the next few months, because my birthday and Christmas brought me a rich harvest, which will ultimately fall into the library of the Institute. If you can let me know in advance what you expect to buy I can always tell you whether or not I have it.

Though I have no professional competency, Langer's work strikes me as very careful and scholarly, but it has given me a terrible case of the "blues". What is to be expected of statesmen who carried on in the way in which the European statesmen acted between 1890 and 1902 and probably continued to do up to the war? Mitrany thought there was a gleam of hope when Sir Edward Hoare said, before his unfortunate escapade, that England was prepared to consider a redistribution of colonies, but that notion, in which I took very little stock at the time and so told Mitrany, was dissipated the other day by the government's refusal to call a world conference on that subject or anything like it.

I would have made you a bet when you told me of your interest in the Neutrality Bill that you would get very little satisfaction out of anything done in Washington. I really think that a scholar like yourself wastes himself on practical politics. The approach is too direct to be useful. Let the scholar produce a book like Langer's or a book like Mahan's Sea Power and he will affect legislation because he affects public opinion. Laski has been trying all his life to affect English politics and has confused his scholarship in consequence. The university physicists and the mathematical physicists have the right attitude. They are indifferent about immediate results. They know

Professor Earle

February 8, 1936

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that if their work is correct it will produce results. The real credit for the radio, for example, belongs to a young German Jew working in Helmholtz's laboratory in 1890, with no thought whatsoever that his work would have any practical application. He did it and printed it and died without seeing it used. Then a clever inventor came along in the shape of Marconi and reaped a fortune out of it. Had Hertz tried to make practical application he would have ruined his fame as a mathematical physicist and would have accomplished nothing as a practical man.

I share your astonishment at the attitude of John Bassett Moore. He must be in his dotage.

Last night Anne and I had a real feast. James Franck, a Nobel Prize winner and Director of the Physical Laboratory at Goettingen, who walked out on Hitler, is here making a brief visit. Ladenburg, a professor of physics here, and his wife gave a dinner for Franck last night. There were present Einstein, Pauli and his wife (he is in his early forties and is visiting professor of mathematics this year), Franck, Anne and myself. The men retired to Ladenburg's study after dinner to smoke. Franck, Pauli and Einstein got into a discussion, which was far too abstruse for me to follow in detail, on the nature of space and other metaphysical concepts. Nevertheless I knew enough philosophy to be able to understand what they were saying in a general way. The absolute simplicity with which those three men spoke gave me such a thrill as one gets only from reading fine poetry or hearing fine music. They were at it until almost eleven o'clock, and I went home so intoxicated with admiration of the quality of their thought and language that I couldn't sleep. Can you imagine a discussion on mathematical physics keeping me awake?

Professor Earle

February 8, 1936

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Beatrice is fine, and the whole town is buzzing with the forthcoming dance. Next year you will be the hero of the Institute dance. Ben and Mim are coming down for it - a good sign that both are better.

With love from us all,

Ever affectionately,

Me

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF/MCE

P. S. I forgot to comment on your remarks about the purchase. We have had the feeling that when good times return there will be a building boom at Princeton and that therefore we ought to acquire a considerable tract adjacent to the Princeton campus, so that we will protect Princeton and at the same time be able to build when the time comes; but we have no plans whatsoever for building. Dodds asked me a question about it the other day and I told him that I had never given it a thought for my mind was wholly concentrated upon men and fields of study. He remarked, with a laugh, "You are the least "buildingest" institutional head I have ever met in my life." I told him I thought that was the highest compliment I had yet received.

I do not understand the allusion to Tenny Frank. What's the matter with him?

Don't misunderstand what I wrote above about scholarship and practical interests, but I have a profound conviction that an Institute devoted to the advance of knowledge cannot concern itself with day-to-day policies. No matter what the field, we are interested in the study of phenomena, whether they be astronomical, archaeological, or political. The moment we interest ourselves in policies the spirit and disinterestedness of our scholarship is impaired. In addition, as I have said before, we will have infinitely more influence upon the course of events if we study them, report them, criticize them, as Langer does, and yet not try to put any particular solution across. It is, for example, a great weakness of Oxford that there many of the men get scholarship and politics mixed up, with the result that their scholarship is too apt to be impaired and their influence on public affairs is really very slight. I find that Mitrany has got to be educated to this point of view. Riefler has it already very clearly and incisively.

A.F.

Saranac Lake, N. Y.
6 February 1936

Dear Abe

You are very good to keep me in mind always about new books. As it turns out, I had already purchased Langer's book for the Institute. Perhaps there ought to be some way of our avoiding duplication in this way; if, for example, ^{you purchase and} you were to send me a memo from time to time concerning books which might fall in my field, I could postpone reading them until after you have finished. I have high regard for Langer's work; of these volumes I have thus far read only the chapters on the Near East, and they are excellent. I do not always like his strictly chronological treatment, and he does not like the topical treatment in my Bagdad Railway; but we are in that friendly state of agreeing to disagree, as Becker says, because we are both professors.

Needless to say, I am thrilled to hear of the purchase of the site for the Institute and am eager to hear of plans for the development of Olden Manor (I like the name) when you are prepared to make them known. Of the new appointments Westermann writes me as follows: "E. A. Lowe is absolutely an ace as a Latinist, an American, I think, who has been at Oxford since his young manhood. Herzfeld could not be improved upon in the field of Middle Eastern art. I am sorry I do not know Campbell the young archaeologist. I must say that Flexner has shown admirable judgment in his selections thus far among the men known to me." Then, humorously, he says it is a joy to find you making selections in the field of archaeology without choosing Tenney Frank of the Hopkins.

We are in the midst of the second day of a blizzard with high winds and sub-zero temperatures. As for me, I don't mind it. I am in training—walking, climbing stairs, and the like—for the appearance of the movie "Rosemarie" here about the middle of the month. Just a year ago I saw "David Copperfield" from a stretcher; I expect to walk into the theatre this time without benefit of clergy. Of course, I have ups and downs—last month was all down because of a cold—but I look forward with some confidence to being with you at Princeton next autumn.

The neutrality bill is now in such a mess that I see no hope of doing more than renewing the present statute for a year or two. When we want to go isolationist, it does not please Borah and Johnson; when we wish to join the League, they want to go isolationist. It is disheartening. Even more disheartening is the, to me, utterly irrational position of my beloved old teacher John Bassett Moore. I think I have accomplished a few things by my activities of the past few weeks by way of clarifying some disputed points; of this I shall have to tell you when you next see me, as it is too long a story to write.

Always affectionately



February 3, 1936

Dear Ed:

Have you read Langer's Diplomacy of Imperialism?

I have just finished the first volume, a most depressing account of the diplomatic chess game played by all the great powers none too scrupulously between 1890 and 1902. If it would interest you, I will send the first volume on and send the second volume when I finish it.

I saw Beatrice the other day and thought her looking extraordinarily well.

We have now had two weeks of unusually severe cold, but there is some slight moderation day though the air is damp and uncomfortable.

With all good wishes,

Ever affectionately,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

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LOUIS BAMBERGER

MRS. FELIX FULD

January 21, 1936

Dear Ed:

I am returning to you this morning The Heavenly City, which I read over the week-end with great interest and admiration. Becker is a fine scholar and handles his vast accumulation of learning with ease and grace. I have, however, in reference to books of this sort something of an underlying skepticism. It traverses a huge period of time and enormous development of thought and action within the scope of a few pages. Does not this necessarily involve an oversimplification? For example, the latter pages, in which the Russian Revolution is compared to the French Revolution, seem to me out of focus, and your own annotation, "What he would say of the Nazi Revolution!" shows the inherent weakness of such breadth of treatment. However, I owe you ungrudging thanks for letting me see the volume, and I am more than ever impressed by Becker's scholarship and poise.

Beatrice told me over the telephone yesterday of her conversation with you. I am so glad that you are better again. This is mean weather. Do be careful of yourself. After a horrid week-end of snow and sleet we are all praying for spring.

With love from us all,

Ever devotedly,

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

A. J.

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LIFE TRUSTEES
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MRS. FELIX FULD

January 13, 1936

Dear Ed:

Many thanks for your charming note and for the perfectly wonderful snapshot of you and Beatrice which it contained. It would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer to make out that either of you has ever been ailing in any respect. On the basis of this snapshot you ought to be digging ditches or doing some other equally agreeable form of light labor, while I am being cared for at the Adirondacks in order to attain something like your vigorous appearance.

I came to Princeton today after several busy and ineffectual weeks in New York. I say ineffectual because, though one is always busy there, one never gets the sense of having finished anything. Here in Princeton today I am dictating with the sunlight streaming into the room, with perfect quiet prevailing outside, and with the feeling that in a couple of days I shall have mastered the accumulated mail of the last four weeks.

I read Becker's book, Everyman His Own Historian, with the keenest interest. He is a scholar as well as a writer of genuine distinction. His defense of Liberalism seems to me unanswerable. I get precisely the same feeling in reading Fisher's History of Europe, a three-volume resume of European history, marked by great scholarship and told with that quality of style and dignity of demeanor that is so characteristic of Oxford men at their best.

Professor Earle

January 13, 1936

- 2 -

I shall call Beatrice this evening and learn how she and Robin are, but I have no doubt that they are entirely well. I want to see her in the near future and have a talk with her about the way you and she spent your Christmas.

With all good wishes,

Ever affectionately,

Al

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF/MCE

P. S. Have talked with Beatrice: she reports herself & Robin "fine"; her voice was triumphant.

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LIFE TRUSTEES
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MRS. FELIX FULD

January 1, 1936

Dear Ed:

I am sending you under separate cover a copy of the Windelband book. I myself do not know what is the best disposition to make of it. May I leave it to you after you have made a cursory examination of the book?

I am spending New Year's Day in perfect quiet at Princeton answering the letters which have accumulated since I left ten days ago. It is so lovely here when there is nobody around the place, but that does not mean that it won't be even lovelier when I can hear the pitter-patter of your feet after your arrival.

How happy you and Beatrice and Robin must be in what is the most promising New Year you have had for many a day!

All is well with us, and all join in wishing you and your family the happiest of New Years.

Ever affectionately,

A. J.

Professor Edward Mead Earle
The Santanoni
Saranac Lake, New York

AF:ESB