

Berkeley, April 2nd, 1962.

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mario,

Forgive that we have not replied to either of your kind letters before. Unfortunately, there is only too much ground for excuse. Our stay in Berkeley has been punctuated by a series of greater and smaller catastrophes, and I see no reason why this should not go on until we are back in England.

Karl's health, the climate, housing conditions (not to mention working conditions), and expenses, in any and all of these we have been very unlucky. You will remember that Karl is allergic to smoke. He left London pretty run down (after having worked through the so-called Christmas holidays on the proofs of the Conjectures\*) and with a slight cold. After 17 hours in an overcrowded plane where everybody smoked incessantly, he arrived in Berkeley with pneumonia. We arrived at the beginning of a period of almost torrential rains which lasted for 7 weeks (now it does not rain any longer, but the weather is anything but pleasant). The housing dept. of the University had, with the kind help of Fejerabend, rented a place for us. It was not suitable. (So much so, that we have not succeeded to sub-let it, and are now paying the rent for two houses in Berkeley and for Fallowfield, of course.) The house we are in now is in a quiet place, with a little garden and a Steinway baby grand. Apart from this, it is extremely primitive, the rain came in, every time in a different place, and on Karl's bed uncomfortable - it was very dirty when we moved in - and there is no working space except the top of the Steinway.

\* These proofs were the worst we have ever had. Our friends kept saying: you must delegate work - Karl did, and it meant far more work, of course.

September 1952

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I always thought that working conditions in Fallowfield were poor but it has needed California to show me that this is not the case. I shall also no longer feel kind of apologetic if anybody talks about 'English' kitchens (or bathrooms).

However, all this would not have been so bad if Karl had been able to make a proper recovery from his pneumonia. But he felt very poorly all the time (too much work, of course, as usual, and no time for <sup>request for testimonials and all sorts of departmental problems</sup> the Postscript), and unfortunately, while we were still in England, Karl had accepted an invitation to Lake Arrowhead (University Extension weekend course). Flight to Los Angeles, 3 hours drive in a car, no rest during the night (Lake Arrowhead is 5,500 feet and the heating arrangements were quite insufficient), then lecturing for two days, and the strenuous return - of course it was too much. Again the plane was full of smoke. Karl collapsed on San Francisco Airport, ambulance, hospital; needless to say, this second catastrophe within 8 weeks has taken it out of him, and he is very miserable. (It happened a little over a week ago.) The weather continues unfriendly. Karl is going again to a doctor today. What he would need is a comfortable holiday or at the seaside in the mountains/but I know only of one hotel somewhere in the Bay of Monterey which would provide comfort, and this we could not afford. I am sorry about this tale of woe, but I felt that unless I tell you what actually happened you might feel that we have let you down. I shall ask Karl about the various problems you touch in your letters, and I shall do my best to transmit the answers! Victor Kraft article: Karl has tried, but unsuccessfully, to find a translator. (We have no translator for the ~~English~~ Appendices to the Exercises L. of Sc. D.; the German Neuasgabe has been held up for almost 2 years because of that.)

Keep on pouring in

Franklin County

Faint, illegible text covering the majority of the page, possibly a document or report.

FEDERAL

In 82663  
Co 303-2

Now about your queries: Kraft-article translation - we know of no solution, unfortunately.

Biographical data: I have mentioned to Karl that I think that though you can make use of the facts contained in the enclosed biography,\* it would be quite inappropriate to quote it in a Festschrift - unless indeed it has ~~unpublished~~ actually been published which <sup>we</sup> have been unable to find out. And Karl quite agrees with me on this point.

Since this biography is not up to date, I also enclose a sheet where I have tried to collect his academic data. All this is only for your information and we both feel that unless you feel otherwise, all this should be used sparingly.

You do not mention the list of publications (Karl's publications) But I have worked pretty hard collecting a reasonably complete list and I have sent it to London for typing (this typewriter is borrowed only for a few hours). I expect we shall have a copy in a few days, and I shall send it to you. I think it would be both interesting and useful to have such a list in the Festschrift and I think that Karl would like it too.

*am reading (as printed matter) a copy of "Cambridge Opinion" etc.*  
I ~~also enclose~~ the photo you want. It was taken in 1946; I believe you have either an identical one or one that is <sup>only</sup> slightly different

*Love from both of us to both of you,  
Helenie,*

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\* May I have it back if and when you do not need it any longer?

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