

ERNST PÖPPEL
BRUNSWICK, OTHIO
(for a few days)

Brunswick, Maine - 5. April 85

Dear Mario,

the meeting on the "Leib-Seele - problem"
that I mentioned to you will take
place in München in October, 7.-8.

I hope you can come. The official
invitation will be sent sometimes
during the summer - I guess in June -
by the "Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft".
Of course, your travel expenses will
be paid by the DFG.

A German philosopher (Bieri - the
name tells you that he is Swiss)
and myself have proposed to the
DFG that in such a meeting
philosophers, neurobiologists and
psychologists should gather to test
the possibility whether the
initiation of a "Forschungs-
Schwerpunkt" would be
worthwhile. We guess that

(2)

approximately 40 people are participating
- 10 of those would present
a paper - 1 of those should
be you.

My hope would be that - although
this is a hot topic - communication
between ^(participants) is fruitful and not too
aggressive. When I talked to
some people on the phone, it became
clear to me that the mind-
body-problem is intimately
linked to the limbic system -
I got too many emotional responses.
One person could not stop laughing
when I told him we are
planning a meeting on the
mind-body-problem. Another one
simply said: The problem is
solved - I send you a paper
I have written (he is not
going to participate).

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Most of the people, however, are quite enthusiastic about this enterprise.

We hope that this will result in a "philosophic research project" that enables philosophers to learn about neuro-biology and psychology and that enables people like me to learn to think straighter (do I spell this word correctly?). If this will not happen, at least we should try to understand the languages used by the different specialties and to point out what the problem is.

I am spending a few days in Maine together with my son. It became suddenly necessary to discuss with him some aspects of his studies; he is so widely interested that it is difficult for him to choose between mathematics and Chinese (Chinese is probably better). Christiane and one

(4)
daughters are fine - Christians
got rid of her back problems
by systematic exercise.

I am impressed that you have
written two new books -
congratulations. I just got a copy
of the translation of your
"Leib-Seele-Problem" back in
Thunich. - As an experimentalist

I am happy when I have
finished a 5-page report for
Nature; am ten times as happy
of course, if it is accepted
for publication.

When you come to Thunich in
October, please make sure to stay
a few extra days!

Cordially

Ernst

