

22 ALEXANDER STREET  
PRINCETON, N.J.  
Jan. 31, 1961

Dear Tenure Professor,

It was most pleasant to find your letter on my desk when returning from my winter vacation on Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>. But you will understand that I was buried, under a mountain of other letters and bills which only gradually could be worked off and away. Moreover, a few days after my return I had to go to Cambridge for a D.O. meeting, all of which coincided with railway strike and snowstorm and a biting cold of hardly above zero. Hence my long delay in answering your long letter of January 8th.

Needless to tell you that I am very glad about the solution of your callitis. At long last you do not have to worry where to open your lecture-note-books next semester, but are somewhat settled and that is worth quite a lot. It will be good for your nerves and therewith your ulcers, and it may turn out to be good for your work as well.

What you write about our Eastern friends was interesting to me. Michael [Cherniavsky] phoned me a few days ago to tell me that the invitation from Chicago had arrived and that he was definitely for it and decided to accept it. So you have someone now living "midway" between you and the East. He sounded quite cheerful, of course, and is now rather impatient to start his Vita Nuova in the Middle West. On account of the climate I myself might have declined Chicago. But as a university it ranks certainly high and Michael will have to live up to the new standards. About Bobby [Benson] I know, as usual, very little. But he is certainly obsessed by some hysteria which prevents him from publishing his book. His is a difficult case, I am afraid, and his position in Middletown does not seem to me free of all hurdles at all. Šev[čenko] I have not seen nor spoken [to] over the phone; I only saw Kurt Weitzmann who told me that Ihor had been a great help on Mt. Sinai. [John] Mundy I met once or twice, and I liked him, although we had no talks of any profundity.

Your plans for the next years are interesting. Like those of most people they circle mainly around the notions of "sabbatical leave" or "Europe" or otherwise "away from the routine" which has hardly started for you. It is as though all of you started on an academical career only in order to get rid of it or circumvent it. Harold [Cherniss] and I have quite often talked about that phenomenon which came into existence with that multiplicity of fellowships and other grants which are now available to scholars young and old and prompt them to keep their eyes on this carrot with a glassy stare. It was not at all so in my days, for the simple reason that there were no fellowships at German universities and that there was not even a sabbatical year—an institution of American universities which we found enviable, but non-existent at home. About

your own plans for 1962~63 we may talk when you are here in April, and I expect you on Thursday, April 13th, for dinner. Is there enough material on *La Justice ne cesse pas* at the royal funerals? Probably you will have some places up your sleeve which I don't know at all. We shall then also discuss the possibilities and the advisability of applying to the Institute. Don't fire that gun prematurely, because there will be hardly a repetition except after 10 or 12 years. You should have seen how we turned down all the applicants who had been here before within the last 10 years, the "revenants" as I call them. Moreover, our modern history has practically ceased to exist. Woodward is emeritus, and George Kennan goes as Kennedy's ambassador to Tito. So our chronological line stops with the Middle Ages, that is, with me. But we may discuss all that when you are here.

I had a very pleasant time in the Caribbean and find that the surplus of sun radiation makes me more resistant to the nasty winter that has been bestowed upon us this year. A D[umbarton].O[aks] paper of mine has come out and a copy of it went to you. It is not in your line, but never mind. Of the Panofsky *Festschrift* only one copy, so far, has reached the shores of this country and that was given to Pan while I was away. The other copies, and the very few offprints, will not be available before March. By that time the Madison Symposium should be published too, the one which I missed on account of my kidney, where my paper was read by Gaines Post. The "Gods in Uniform" are ready to go to the press (*Philosophical Society, Proceedings*); I am waiting only for photos from Athens, Palmyra, and Alexandria. Though I should probably make the Detroit paper on the Burgundian Dukes and the Renaissance ready for the press, I am fooling about now with the old Synthronos paper which bores me and gives me some head-aches as well. Metaphysically only, because my health is all right and I can still bend my right arm.

Nothing else occurs to me and my letter is almost as long as yours. Have an easy burden this coming semester and take all my good wishes.

Love

EKa. [Signed]