

New York, 15 February 1939.  
Hotel Paris.  
West End Avenue/ 97th Str.

Mr. Bernard Flexner  
570 Lexington Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Flexner,

Referring to our conversation this morning I should like to give you some items as to my present situation.

In July 1938, being then in Berlin, I received a letter from Dr. Demuth asking me whether I were prepared to apply for a professorship in California. (cfr. enclosure I) I answered in the affirmative handing over to him a *curriculum vitae* (cfr. enclosure II) and applied immediately for a passport. After having received invitations from Harvard, Yale and Smith College to read a paper when coming to this country, I was granted finally, on November 29th, 1938, a passport and a visitor's visa to the U.S. On December 6 I left for Oxford, where I was staying with the Warden of Wadham College, going then to London, where I lectured at the Courtauld Institute (University of London) in January 1938 [*read*: 1939]. Then I crossed to the U.S., arriving at New York ten days ago.

My intentions in this country are:

- (a) to read the papers I was asked to read, that is to say, at Harvard, Yale and Smith College as well as at Columbia University, New York. One or two other invitations are supposed to follow.
- (b) to wait and see, whether I should be elected by the California State University or not. By some odd chance I learnt from Professor Byrne (Columbia University) that the prospects may turn out not to be too bad, after all. He had been consulted on my person and my work by the Faculty some months ago, and he was kind enough to offer me his help for my coming in touch with the University at Berkeley, suggesting an invitation so as to give some lectures at that place.
- (c) to try and get some other appointment should I fail to get the professorship in California. In this case I would prefer by far more than anything else, to have the opportunity of making ready to go to press and translating into English a volume of about 400 to 500 pages containing my researches on the History of Mediaeval Thought and Education. This book would contain several studies I was not able to publish in Germany, for instance, on the Bolognese Rhetors and Writers in the 12th and 13th Century such as Guido Faba, Pierre della Vigne and others; on Abélard and Petrarca; on the transformation of the Nature of Time in the 13th Century; on the Five Senses; on the problem of the revival of Stoicism in the 12th and 13th Century; on the question of acquiring Nobility by Education; on the Imperialism of Charles of Anjou; on the Italian Renaissance at the Court of Charles the Bold; the edition of an unprinted work of an Oxford Humanist in the early 15th century; and besides that several papers on liturgical subjects. I would love to be in a position to make those papers ready for the press and to publish them, as they represent a considerable part of my work during the last four years. I suppose a year's time would be

sufficient, if I were at a place where a good library was available. I believe my prospects of getting a professorship, they too, would improve, if this volume could be published.

That is about all I have to tell you about the present state of my affairs. My address, where letters always would reach me, even if I am not in New York, is:

c/o. Professor Dr.Kurt Riezler

270 Riverside Drive.

May I add how very grateful I am for your taking this interest in my affairs.

Yours very sincerely

[signed] Ernst H. Kantorowicz