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26 July 1951

Dr H. Staehle,
Economic Commission for Europe,
Palais des Nations,
Geneva.

My dear Staehle,

A Dutch economist of a good reputation, aged 57 and specialized in the field of problems on wholesale and retail trade and middle class problems, asked me for additional information on the vacancies in the E.C.E. research and planning division. In particular he was interested to know whether his age would be beforehand an obstacle to his being appointed. Next, he was interested to know, since he has a flourishing advisory business, whether it is possible to be appointed at once definitely without a period of only provisional nomination. Of course he understand that this will depend very much on his qualities, but if it would be beforehand impossible for these reasons he would not apply at all.

As to his personal capacities I should like to add that he is in fact an able man. He started his career in wholesale trade and later wrote a thesis on the tendencies to eliminate wholesale trade. He is still an energetic man and only planning to leave his present work since he feels that retail traders as a group are rather inaccessible to his advices, given their special social and mental structure.

I should highly appreciate your giving me some details if possible on the above questions, and I hope that I do not disturb you too much.

With best personal wishes,

yours very sincerely,

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