

13 October 1954

Dr Hans Staehle,
Palais des Nations,
Geneva

My dear Staehle,

I intended to write you yesterday and for lack of time had to postpone it until today. Fortunately so, because I just got yours of October 11.

It goes without saying that my wife and I are also looking forward to see you. Since Dr Haenni offered me accomodation for the two of us I accepted, and I think this is the simplest solution as to this point. Thank you very much for your kind offer nevertheless !

It will be a great pleasure to me, as you will understand, to give a talk to your economic discussion club; in fact, one of the reasons why I am looking forward to my visit in Geneva is that I hope to have some discussion with my colleagues in Geneva. If your group is primarily interested in direct Statistical research, the only thing I would have to offer is a critical examination of Leontief's highly interesting article in the proceedings of the American Philosophical Association, September 1953. It deals with the question whether

American exports are in the average more capital intensive than imports and he finds them not to be so.

If your group is not primarily interested in direct numerical research I have some other points to offer as alternatives. I somewhat concentrated myself on the question of the theory of economic policy and worked out some criteria for the desirability of centralization or decentralization as the case may be in the handling of instruments of economic policy. This could be announced as "Centralization or Decentralization in Economic Policy".

Finally I could, of course, give a talk on recent Dutch developments. Please, let me know what you would prefer.

With best personal regards to Mrs Staehle and Georgi and yourself,

yours as ever,