

Geneva, October 7, 1941.
132, rue de Lausanne.

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WER/AG.

Dear Dr. Johnson:

Dr. Hans Mayer, a former student of this Institute, who is at present detained at a labor camp for refugees in Switzerland, writes that several of his friends in New York, including Professor Whitton, are endeavoring to persuade you to invite him to your School and that you seemed favorably inclined towards his candidacy. He asks me to support Whitton's recommendation.

I do this very gladly as I look upon Mayer as an exceptionally gifted scholar. He is one of those all too rare cases whose scholarship is not only the result of conscientious work, but in whose make-up there is also a spark of genius. If you should find it possible to make a place for Mayer on your staff, you would both be doing an act of mercy in favor of a German Jewish refugee who has had his full load of suffering in the course of the last years and save for historical science a truly exceptional man.

If you would care to have any further information concerning Mayer who, I understand, is already well known both at your School and at the Rockefeller Foundation, you would always find me delighted to supply you with it.

With renewed thanks for all you are doing for the unfortunate fraction of humanity whose undeserved sufferings have been the occasion of all my correspondence with you throughout these years, and best wishes for the future, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

Rappard

William E. Rappard.

Dr. Alvin Johnson
Director, New School for Social Research
66 West 12th Street
New York, N.Y.

Extract of an letter

GRADUATE INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Geneva, October 7, 1941
132 rue de Lausanne.

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Yours very sincerely,

(Signed)

William E. Rappard.

Dr. Alvin Johnson
Director, New School for Social Research
66 West 12 Street
New York, N. Y.

DR H. W. SCHWERIN

15 East 86 St.
New York, N. Y.
October 6, 1942

Mrs. E. Staudinger
New School, Annex
21 West 12 St.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Staudinger:

In answer to our telephone conversation of this afternoon, I would like to advise you of the following facts concerning Dr. Hans Mayer.

I do not have a curriculum vitae despite repeated request for same. However, I am in possession of the following information: Dr. Mayer is about 35 years old; doctor of philosophy and law; author of various excellent articles on juridical, sociological, and literary subjects. Before Hitler came to power he was a lecturer at Cologne. After that he was forced to leave Germany because of racial persecution. He then went to Geneva, about his work there Professor Whiton will be able to give an exact report. Before the outbreak of the war Dr. Mayer lectured at Paris, I believe.

For years now he has been sent from on of the so called "work-camps " to another and has been forced to do work that he is unable to endure morally and physically for an indefinite time.

Since in his writings he attacked the Hitler regime he fears that under the present circumstances he might be returned to Germany.

His present address is not known to me; I think it would be best for you to forward the letter to Professor Rappart, Director of the Institute Universitair des Hautes Internationales, Geneva, Switzerland. However, to make certain the letter reaches his destination, it might be advisable to send a copy of the letter to his publisher, Dr. Emil Oprecht, Baeme Strasse 5, Zuerich, Switzerland.

I hope this information will prove valuable in rescuing Dr. Mayer.

Very truly yours,

Hans W. Schwerin
Dr. Hans W. Schwerin *M. W.*

Dictated by Dr. Schwerin
but signed in his absence.

HWS:mu

CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME **Mayer, Hans**
DATE OF BIRTH **c. 1907**
NATIONALITY **formerly German**
FAMILY
FIELD **Philosophy and law**
ACADEMIC POSTS HELD
Lecturer, University of Cologne, Germany

PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

**Studied at the Graduate Institute of International Studies.
Lectured in Paris.
Author of various excellent articles on juridical, sociological
and literary subjects.**

LANGUAGES **French, German, English**

REFERENCES **Professor J. B. Whitton, Professor W. E. Rappard**

PRESENT ADDRESS

**c/o Professor Rappard, Director of the Institute Uni-
versitair des Hautes Internationales, Geneva, Switzerland.**

ADDITIONAL REMARKS **2. Address: Dr. Emil Oprecht, Baeme Strasse 5, Zuerich, Switzer
land, who is his publisher.**

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May 6, 1941.

Dear Dr. Hambro:

I have your letter of May 4th about Hans Mayer. From the record as you give it, he is not eligible for a non-quota visa, and I should be very doubtful that a man who had been active in the communist party would get any kind of visa for the United States.

I fear I should be unable to help him even if I still had resources at my command. We have issued so many invitations that we have virtually reached the limit of the Foundation's grant.

Sincerely,

Alvin Johnson,
Director.

AJ:blh

Dr. Edvard Hambro,
Department of History,
Northwestern University,
College of Liberal Arts,
Evanston, Illinois.

Dr. H. W. Schwerin

August 5, 1941.



The Sulgrave
PARK AVENUE AND 67TH STREET
NEW YORK

Rh 4-3600
Sa 2-6243

My dear Professor Whitton:

I am taking the liberty of writing to you having received a letter from Dr. Hans Mayer from Geneva a few days ago in which he asked me to tell you how greatly he would appreciate your help with his immigration to the United States.

Hans Mayer is in a very sad situation in Switzerland. Not only does he feel endangered politically but also financially since the institute of Horkheimer was closed a short time ago.

I know that it is very difficult right now for anybody to come to America but I hope that you, my dear Professor Whitton, will find a way of help.

Trusting that I am not causing you too much trouble I remain

Yours very sincerely ,

H. W. Adams

ES

PRINCETON LISTENING CENTER
Study of Political Broadcasting

August 10, 1941

Dr. Alvin Johnson, Director
New School for Social Research
New York City

Dear Dr. Johnson:

I thank you very much for your recent letter, setting forth the principles governing the choice of refugees for aid by your institution, and I quite understand why Professor Scelle, suggested by me, could not come within the purview of your regulations.

May I bring to your attention another case? This is that of Dr. Hans Mayer of Geneva ^{was} ~~was~~ for two years was a member of my seminar at the Rappard School. He was the most brilliant man at the institute Rappard, possessing an extraordinary synthesis of philosophy, history and law, and was very highly regarded by all his professors, especially by Kelsen, Rappard and Bourquin. I am sure that any assistance you could give him would bear rich fruit. I understand that his present situation in Switzerland is very precarious. I enclose herewith a letter just received from Dr. H.W. Schwerin of New York, telling of Dr. Mayer. He is also well known to Edvard Hambro, and I understand that one of his former professors, Dr. Pitman Potter, will soon be in this country.

Very sincerely yours,

John B. Whitton
John B. Whitton

C O P Y

Extract from letter to Dr. Johnson from John B. Whitton

Princeton University,
School of Public and International
Affairs,
Princeton, New Jersey.

Princeton Listening Center
Study of Political Broadcasting

August 10, 1941.

Dr. Alvin Johnson, Director,
New School for Social Research,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Johnson:

Dr. Hans Mayer of Geneva was for two years a member of my seminar at the Rappard School. He was the most brilliant man at the Institute Rappard, possessing an extraordinary synthesis of philosophy, history and law, and was very highly regarded by all his professors, especially by Kelsen, Rappard and Bourquin. I am sure that any assistance you could give him would bear rich fruit. I understand that his present situation in Switzerland is very precarious. I enclose herewith a letter just received from Dr. H. W. Schwerin of New York, telling of Dr. Mayer. He is also well known to Edvard Hambro, and I understand that one of his former professors, Dr. Pitman Potter, will soon be in this country.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) John B. Whitton

August 20, 1941.

Dear Professor Whitton:

In May I had a letter from Edward Hambro, who suggested that I invite Dr. Hans Mayer of Geneva. I had to answer Dr. Hambro that according to the record which he gave me, Dr. Mayer does not seem to be eligible for a non-quota visa and that therefore I unfortunately was not able to invite him.

I am very sorry that there is nothing I can add to this.

Sincerely,

Alvin Johnson,
Director.

blh

Professor John B. Whitton,
Princeton University,
School of Public and International Affairs,
Princeton, New Jersey.