

460 Prospect Street,
New Haven, Connecticut,
U.S.A.

November 29, 1930.

Quincy Jones
to society

Dear Professor Frisch:

In reference to our circular letter of June of this year regarding the establishment of an international society for the advancement of economic theory, we are glad to inform you that we have received answers from practically all those consulted. In general, the answers and suggestions received are very encouraging. It, therefore, seems desirable to proceed at once with the actual formation of the society.

Of course, any final decision must be made by the society itself when formed, but to help forward its organization, we venture, in advance, to express our own tentative suggestions.

The opinions expressed in the answers received seem preponderantly in favor of giving the society a rather distinct character, namely as an international society for the advancement of economic theory in its relation to statistics and mathematics. This is also in accordance with our own views. The main object of a society formed on this basis would be to promote studies that aim at a unification between the theoretical-quantitative and the empirical-quantitative approach to economic problems and which are penetrated by a constructive and rigorous way of thinking similar to that which has come to dominate in the natural sciences. Any activity which seems susceptible of ultimately furthering such a truly scientific unification between theory and factual studies in economics would be in line with the scope of such a society.

If you are ready to help form the society, we invite you to attend an organization meeting which will be held at the Statler Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio, U. S. A., at 8 P. M. on Monday, December 29, 1930. Information regarding the room where the meeting will be held may be obtained at the information desk

of the hotel. At this meeting the formal enactment of the society will, in all probability, take place. We realize that it will be impossible for many Europeans to attend at this time. But, on the other hand, it will be difficult to get a majority present at any organization meeting, and it seems that in this respect the date and place suggested is the best we can get. Practically all Americans and those Europeans who are now in America and who will be interested in the formation of the society will be in Cleveland at that time, since the American Economic Association, the American Statistical Association, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science will meet there.

In case you will be present in Cleveland we would appreciate it if you would communicate with any of the undersigned, at the Statler Hotel, some day before the organization meeting of our Society.

At the meeting various practical questions regarding the organization of the society will be discussed and the constitution of the society will be voted upon. Enclosed you will find a tentative draft of such a constitution. From this draft you will notice that we now suggest two groups of members, regular members and Fellows, the latter category alone being subject to any strict requirements for eligibility. This is done in order to give a larger group of persons an opportunity of joining the society and thus give their support to the work which the society fosters.

Have you any criticisms or suggestions to make regarding this draft? Any such criticisms or suggestions will be given thorough attention and we will be glad to submit them at the organization meeting in case you are unable to attend.

At the organization meeting, a President of the society and a Council will probably be elected. If you wish to propose candidates for the Presidency or for the Council, will you please communicate the names to us as soon as possible?

The Council will probably be elected with the understanding that it is to act as the responsible authority of the society until a body of Fellows is established. Very likely this cannot be done until sometime next year. It may also be

well to give the Council the authority to incorporate the society if the Council deems this advisable. The Council will also have to appoint a Secretary for the Society.

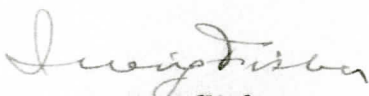
As to the name of the society, we consider it essential that the name should indicate quite clearly the specific object which the society has in view. If the society is formed with the scope we have suggested, it seems advisable to coin a word, since no current single word will connote exactly the correct idea. So far, we have been unable to find any better word than "econometrics". We are aware of the fact that in the beginning somebody might misinterpret this word to mean economic statistics only. But if the complete subtitle of the society is always given in the official publication and in the letterheads of the society, and if the members and Fellows of the society persist in using the word "econometric" and "econometrics" in their proper sense, we believe that it will soon become clear to everybody that the society is interested in economic theory just as much as in anything else.

Will you kindly at your earliest opportunity let us know whether you would like to have us propose your name as a charter member at the organization meeting? Your answer to this question will not entail any financial obligation on your part. In case your name is accepted, the formal invitation to become a charter member will, of course, be made later by the Council, and if the organization meeting decides to have dues (annual or otherwise) this will be stated in the invitation.

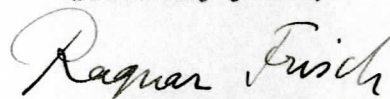
Will you also let us know whether you expect to be present at the organization meeting in Cleveland on December 29, 1930?

We look forward with keen anticipation to your reply and suggestions.

Sincerely yours,



Irving Fisher
Yale University



Ragnar Frisch
Oslo University
(pro tem Yale University)



Charles F. Roos
Cornell University

Frisch

List of persons who received the invitation of November 29, 1930 from Irving Fisher, Ragnar Frisch, and Charles F. Roos to attend an organization meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, on Monday, December 29, 1930 and to help form The Econometric Society. To the invitation was attached a tentative draft of the constitution of the Society, prepared by Fisher, Frisch and Roos.

- * E. Altechul (Dr.), Frankfurter Gesellschaft für Konjunkturforschung, Frankfurt, Germany
- * Luigi Amoroso (Prof.), University of Rome, Rome, Italy
- Oscar N. Anderson (Prof.), Handelshochschule bei der Handels- und Industriekammer, Varna, Bulgaria
- Etienne Antonelli (Prof.), Université de Lyon, Lyon, France
- Bagge (Prof.), Stockholms Hogskola, Stockholm, Sweden
- Olegario Baños (Prof.), University of Santiago, Santiago, Spain
- Boninsegni (Prof.), Université de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland
- * L. v. Bortkiewicz, University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- G. H. Bousquet (Prof.) Université d'Alger, Alger, Algeria
- E. B. Bouvier (Prof.), Université de Lyon, Lyon, France
- Pierre Boven (Dr.), care of Université de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland
- * A. L. Bowley (Prof.), London School of Economics, England
- H. E. Bray (Prof.), Rice Institute, Houston, Texas, U.S.A.
- John B. Canning (Prof.), Stanford University, Stanford University, Calif. U.S.A.
(Prof.)
- T. N. Carver, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.
- Gustav Cassel (Prof.), Stockholms Hogskola, Sweden
- Chin Tau Chen, 5 Pao Chu Li, Recreation Road, Tientsin, China
- J. B. Clark (Prof.), 407 West 117th Street, New York City, U.S.A.
- J. M. Clark (Prof.), Columbia University, New York City, U.S.A.
- * C. Colson (Prof.), École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, Paris, France
(Prof.)
- * François Divisia, École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, Paris, France
- * G. C. Evans (Prof.), Rice Institute, Houston, Texas, U.S.A.
- Mordecai Ezekiel (Dr.), Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.
- * Irving Fisher (Prof.), Yale University, New Haven, Conn., U.S.A.
- A. W. Flux, Royal Statistical Society, 9 Adelphi Terrace, Strand, W.C.2, London, England

M. Fréchet (Prof.), Faculté de Sciences de l'Université de Paris, 1 Rue Pierre-Curie,
Paris 5, France

* Ragnar Frisch (Prof.), 100 Howe Street, New Haven, Conn., U.S.A.

Corrado Gini (Prof.), University of Rome, Italy

Gottfried Haberler (Dr.), Doblinger Hauptstrasse 55, Wien, Austria

L. Hamburger (Dr.), Dedelstraat, The Hague, Holland

Hudson B. Hastings (Prof.), Yale University, New Haven, Conn., U.S.A.

Friedrich A. Hayek (Dr.), Osterreich, Institut für Konjunkturforschung, Wien, Austria.

Henderson (Prof.), London School of Economics and Political Science, London, England

Harold Hotelling (Prof.), Stanford University, Stanford University, Calif., U.S.A.

G. T. Jones, c/o Laura Spelman Rockefeller Foundation, 61 Broadway, New York City, U.S.A.

Charles Jordan (Prof.), University of Budapest, Budapest, Hungary

John M. Keynes (Prof.), University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England

W. I. King (Prof.), Fayerweather Hall, Columbia University, New York City, U.S.A.

Kondratieff (Dr.), Institut für Konjunkturforschung, Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Otto Kühne (Dr.), Werfstrasse 2a, Stralsund, Germany

Wassily Leontief (Dr.), Kiel University, Kiel, Germany

Hans Mayer (Prof.), University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

Wesley C. Mitchell (Prof.), Columbia University, New York City, U.S.A.

H. L. Moore (Prof.), Columbia University, New York City, U.S.A.

Jacques Moret (Dr.), 4 Rue d'Agnesseau, Paris, France

Oskar Morgenstern (Dr.), Zeitschrift für Nationalökonomie, I Schottengasse 4, Wien,
Austria

Tobias Moscoso (Dr.), Escola Polytechnica, Universidade do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

M. d'Ocagne (Prof.), École National des Ponts et Chaussées, Paris, France

William Ogburn (Prof.), University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.

Bertil Ohlin (Prof.) Handelshögskolan, Stockholm, Sweden

F. Pearson (Prof.), Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, U.S.A.

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A. C. Pigou (Prof.), University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England

* Umberto Ricci, University of Rome, Rome, Italy

- E. C. Rhodes (Dr.), University of London, London, England
- L. C. Robbins (Prof.), London School of Economics, London, England
- D. H. Robertson (Lecturer), University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England
- J. H. Rogers (Prof.), Yale University, New Haven, Conn., U.S.A.
- * Charles F. Roos (Prof.), Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, U.S.A.
- Jacques Rueff (Prof.), Institut de Statistique, Université de Paris, France
- Ewald Schans, c/o Social Science Research Council, 250 Park Avenue, New York City, U.S.
- Henry Schultz (Prof.), Chicago University, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.
- * J. Schumpeter (Prof.), Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.
- W. A. Shewart, Bell Telephone Laboratory, New York City, U.S.A.
- N. J. Silberling (Dr.), 21 Wheeler Hall, University of California, Berkeley, Calif.
- Eugen Slutsky (Prof.), Institut für Konjunkturforschung, Moscow, U.S.S.R.
- Piero Sraffa (Prof.), Kings College, Cambridge, England
- Hans Staehle (Dr.), 129 Rue de Lausanne, Geneva, Switzerland
- S. Takagi (Prof.), Keiojuku University, Tokyo, Japan
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- Thompson (Prof.), 98 Howe Street, New Haven, Conn.
- de Pietri Tonelli (Prof.), University of Venice, Venice, Italy
- Willem L. Valk (Dr.), Gentschestraat 50, Scheveningen, Holland
- Gustavo del Vecchio (Prof.), R. Università Commerciale, Trieste, Italy
- G. F. Warren (Prof.) Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, U.S.A.
- J. Wedervang (Prof.), International House, 500 Riverside Drive, New York City, U.S.A.
- Otto Weinberger (Dr.), Erdbergstrasse 8 2/y, Wien, Austria
- R. B. Westerfield (Prof.), Yale University, New Haven, Conn., U.S.A.
- Harald Westergaard (Prof.), University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- A. C. Whitaker (Prof.), Stanford University, Stanford University, Calif., U.S.A.
- W. B. Wilson (Prof.), School of Public Health, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.
- Holbrook Working (Prof.), Food Research Institute, Stanford University, Calif., U.S.A.
(Prof.)
- * Wl. Zawadski, University of Wilno, Poland.

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