

August 26, 1935.

Dear Art:

I have been meaning to answer your letter for a long time but probably would not have gotten around to it even this early had it not been that last Monday night I went to Boston and addressed the Harvard Business School's summer session, that is, what there were of them present, on the present economic situation and the possibilities of stabilization in the near future.

I talked for about an hour and then Watenman threw the meeting open for questions, and I got along pretty well until a tall fellow in the back of the room rose and assured me that he was a competent physiologist and he wondered if I had ever considered that the human body was very similar to the body economic. I immediately jumped on him with both feet and told him that I had a friend who had written an entire article on the subject and who, although he was a competent physiologist himself, spent a good deal more time worrying about the body economic than he does about the human body. This made quite an impression and after the meeting was over, the chap whose name and address I got, was much pleased when I told him I would mail him a copy of your study. However, I told him that while it was a very good study, I did not agree 100% with the principles adduced.

I am glad to hear that you are still pondering on monetary theory and am delighted to hear that you are about to produce some good ideas. However, from my experience, I am afraid you will not get any from talking to professors of economics, so would follow the general course at the University of Toronto of avoiding them as much as possible. You are much more likely to get a good idea on monetary theory from the Department of Anatomy than from the so-called department of political science. Apropos of your mention of Dorothy's long conversations with the leader of the C.C.F., I hope you read my article on the New Canadian Central Bank which was published in the Toronto Globe as well as in Montreal papers. I would be very interested to hear some time what the C.C.F. leader thought of my ascribing to their influence the actual passage of the Bank of Canada Act, insofar as they constituted the balance of power in the Canadian Parliament. Along the same line I hope that you read carefully my review in the last Economic Forum entitled "The Nemesis of A Stable Society" in which I poke a little fun at my good friend A. A. Burle, Jr.. My only reason for mentioning it is that I think if you were seriously interested in correlating the new banking bill in this country with contemporary economic thought and in endeavoring to appraise how thoroughly insipid a great many of the ideas embodied are, that book is a good starting point.

I had hoped that you were coming down to play in the National Tournament this year but discovered that aside from Laird Watts, there are no Canadians entered, so take it you are confining your activities to study of monetary theory. Incidentally, I hope you have been doing well in the stock market recently. Several times I considered writing you and urging you to take the smallest position along with the rest of the boys out west in several of the low priced steels but have been so swamped with work that I never quite got around to it, and in the long run I am convinced you will be better off not speculating anyhow. I had a call this morning from our

old friend Roland Nerd who wants to play me for the championship of Ohio. Although I am in too bad condition to play any serious tennis, I am planning to take him on Wednesday afternoon and will think of you when I do. I think he feels he is a considerably better tennis player than either you or I. However, I assured him that you were entirely out of his class so I hope you will do the same for me when next you see him. I told him he was drawn against Perry in the first round and he is rather upset about it and when I told him that you had taken two sets off Perry on the Riviera two years ago, and that shortly after that I had beaten you, I had him quite low indeed.

This has been a very interesting summer for me and although I have had no vacation I have never enjoyed myself more. I am still just as crazy as ever and if you want any proof of that, can guess what your reaction will be on discovering that I spent two nights a week this summer taking a course in New Testament Greek with a group of very amusing prospective preachers at the Union Theological Seminary across the street from Columbia University. The course was taught by an exceedingly intelligent student of Greek and has been very much worth while from a cultural standpoint though I got more and more disgusted with the Theological viewpoint. Three of the fellows in the course used to walk down to 72nd Street from 118th trying to convert me to the faith though I am still at a loss to discover what the faith was, after every meeting. As a matter of fact I came to the conclusion that I personally believe twice as much as most of the budding D.D.'s. I think most of them would have been very surprised to know what my profession was.

Your friend Jean Burritt bumped into me at Forest Hills Saturday and told me about your trip to California. I think she was hoping that I would ask her to play tennis as she is trying to round into shape for the Women's tournament which is being run co-incidental with the Men's, starting Thursday. However after my experience last year, I did not bite even if she is your friend and left her with many assurances of how tied up I was likely to be this coming week. Somehow or other she annoys me as I wrote you last year.

Well, I think I have done pretty well by you and have about covered all the gossip which would be of interest. Garrold, Pres, Gray Brown, their wives and about half the people playing in the tournament are descending on me from Saturday to Monday with a good many of them apparently under the impression that I am putting them up. However, I am glad that the above mentioned are all married as I can't possibly put married people up where I am living. I am beginning to think marriage is a great institution and am sure you will be glad to hear it. I may try to come to Toronto for the week-end around the first of October but things are still just as vague as ever as in my new job I cannot be away from New York on either Wednesday or Thursday and seldom on Fridays before three o'clock. This will last until the 13th of May, 1936, so that I am pretty well tied down here. Still I don't mind this at all as my time is my own except for that necessity and the work which I am doing becomes increasingly more interesting. It is the old story when your work is interesting, hours of labor mean nothing and particularly when there is the added compensation in feeling that in a small way you are actually accomplishing something.