

September 25, 1940

Mr. Peter F. Drucker
92 Liberty Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Drucker,

I have delayed a long time in replying to your letter with its generous offer to come to Bennington to speak. I wanted to be sure of the organization of our meetings for this semester before making a definite suggestion as to time and subject.

As you know, Dr. Polanyi is here and is already engaged in giving a series of five lectures. I am enclosing the outline which indicates something of their nature. Following them, we are having four meetings led by members of the faculty which will deal with American problems of foreign policy, and economic and political organization, somewhat related to the issues of the election; but going behind these issues to what are the fundamental problems more or less revealed in an election discussion. Then there are to be three lectures by Sir Norman Angell, dealing with the following topics: 1) The Ethics of Resistance to Violence; 2) The Place of Force in the Maintenance of Peace; 3) Where Education Has Failed and Why, in relation to War and Peace.

It seemed to us that there would be a need and desire for some meetings dealing directly with the re-organization the country is going through in creating the defense program. We are having an industrialist and a member of the faculty to deal with the industrial mobilization. I wonder in what field you are doing your work. Would it be at all along the line of your thinking and work to make an analysis of the problem of morale and unity in a country such as the United States? In the broadest sense this is part of the defense program. Or would you like to make a suggestion in the light of the meetings I have described of something more or less related to them for the evening when you are here? The following dates are free for a lecture at 5 in the afternoon: Thursday, November 28th and Thursday, December 5th. We would of course want to have you stay here as long as you can and we will provide for your travel and other expenses. I hope very much that you can come. Dr. Polanyi is looking forward eagerly to your visit.

Sincerely yours,

EB

Robert D. Leigh
President