

AUG 28 1940

Refugee Scholars

## INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

FROM: RBF

DATE: July 25, 1940

TO:

COMMENTS:

AG	JUL 25 '40	KY
RAL		RM
OTB		O'B

SUBJECT: Refugee Scholars

The docket recently passed by the Executive Committee contained the following statement: "The Foundation is not attempting to face up to the whole problem which Europe presents; it is simply trying to save a small part of what it considers to be the most productive and potentially useful section of the population."

It is difficult to lay down exact criteria. It seems evident, however, that in reaching decisions the following considerations should be borne in mind:

1. Action should be taken only with respect to outstanding scholars who are still in their productive years. This means that men who would qualify under Foundation fellowship programs or the former program for deposed scholars would not necessarily qualify for emergency action at the present time.
2. If a man is still at his post and finding some opportunity to continue his work - even though his situation be an unhappy one - Foundation action is not indicated. In general, we should concentrate on men who have lost their positions and who are perhaps in some danger.

In order to prevent confusion, correspondence and recommendations between the Foundation and the New School will be handled by TBA. In accordance with our agreement, actions may be initiated either by the New School or by any one of the four Foundation divisions concerned. TBA will assume responsibility for assignment to the appropriate division of actions initiated by the New School. The division will have the right of veto, but it is hoped that these cases will, in general, result in grants to the School from the division.

In MS and NS, actions need not necessarily be to the New School. In many instances, other institutions will act as the sponsoring agency and the grant can be made to them. In SS and H, all grants will be made to the New School.

In the case of grants made to the New School, it must be remembered that Dr. Johnson has veto power. It is suggested, therefore, that before a grant is made the division send TBA a detail of information which can be referred by TBA to Dr. Johnson. No set form is recommended, but the sheet should be prepared in duplicate and separately for each scholar. In so far as possible, the following points should be covered:

Personal Data: Age, marital status, children  
 Nationality  
 Political Affiliations  
 Present address  
 Languages  
 Former posts  
 Scientific fields and achievements,  
 publications, etc.  
 Relation to RF (former fellow or recipient  
 of grant in aid)  
 Origin of request and supporters  
 Friends in Europe  
 Possible location in the United States  
 Possible future  
 Comments



As soon as Dr. Johnson approves each scholar, TBA will notify the division concerned in order that the grant in aid can be made in the amount which Dr. Johnson estimates is necessary. It should be noted that the cost of travel will sometimes have to be provided, and that stipends must always be assured for two years. Otherwise, visas cannot be obtained.

In all cases which are expected to result eventually in a grant to the New School, there should be no correspondence by Foundation officers with the scholar. The School is prepared to make every effort to extricate the scholar from Europe and to bring him to this country.

Not only because it believes the New School to be a more effective mechanism for rescuing scholars, but also upon grounds of general policy, the Foundation desires to remain anonymous and to have all relations either with the State Department or with the individual scholar in the hands of the New School.

R. B. F.