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Vorträge im Umfeld von *Capitalism, Socialism & Democracy* (1927 – 1942)

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Sozialökonomie im Banne der *Langen Wellen* –Vorbemerkung des Herausgebers

Vergleicht man den im September 1928 im *Economic Journal* erschienenen Fachaufsatz *The Instability of Capitalism* mit den Zeitungsberichten, die ein Jahr vorher über den faktisch gleichnamigen Vortrag Schumpeters *The Instability of Our Economic System* (Tagung der *Britisch Association for the Advancement of Science*, Leeds) [1] erschienen sind, dann begegnet man einem bemerkenswerten Umstand: 1928 trägt er nur zum Schluss und gleichsam nur andeutend vor, was 1927 im Mittelpunkt seines Vortrags stand. Ging es ihm im *Economic Journal* abgrenzend darum "[…] ausschließlich rein ökonomische Faktoren und Probleme […]"[2] zu berücksichtigen, hatte er im Vortrag einen weit umfassenderen Blick gewagt und jene möglichen Bruchlinien zwischen der kapitalistischen Wirtschaft und der Gesamtgesellschaft skizziert, deren entwickelter und ausformulierter Gestalt wir dann in *CS&D* begegnen.

Für das Verständnis dieses perspektivischen Unterschiedes scheint mir sein Bemühen maßgeblich zu sein, das Verhältnis von ökonomischer und soziologischer resp. sozialökonomischer Betrachtungsweise mit Blick auf eine Erfahrung zu justieren, die er offensichtlich im Anschluss an seine Vorstellung des Unternehmers in der Erstauflage der *Theorie der wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung* machen musste und die ihn – wenn man an sein Plädoyer für ein fächerübergreifendes Arbeiten im Schmoller-Aufsatz[3] denkt: wohl auch zu seinem Missvergnügen – darauf verwies, die Disziplinen bedingungsweise strikter zu separieren. In diesem Sinne spricht er im erwähnten Aufsatz ausdrücklich davon, eine gewichtige Quelle von Einwänden gegen sein Konzept sei „[…] der Verstand jedes gut ausgebildeten Ökonomen, den die Erfahrung gelehrt hat, einer […] Beimengung von nach Soziologie schmeckenden Auffassungen zu misstrauen.."[4] Im englischen Original ist von „intrusions" die Rede, es geht hier also durchaus um disziplinäre Grenzen und um mehr als um „Beimischungen", vielmehr darum, das Eindringen disziplinär fremder Anschauungen zu vermeiden.[5] Dem entsprechend hat er 1926 mit der zweiten Auflage der „Theorie…" vor allem den kultursoziologischen Entwurf und damit das ganze 7. Kapitel der Erstauflage gestrichen. Nicht etwa, weil er aus der Sicht Schumpeters mangelhaft oder inzwischen überholt war. Es gehe vielmehr, wie er im Vorwort sagt, um „ökonomische Theorie" und der soziologische Abschnitt in der Erstauflage habe „[…] in mir durchaus unerwünschter Weise […] gewirkt."[6]

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1 Am 17.9.1927 schrieb Schumpeter aus Baden-Baden an Gustav Stolper über Leeds „[…] mein Vortrag wurde sehr freundlich aufgenommen, von allen großen Zeitungen in schlechten Auszügen gebracht, überhaupt war Alles riesig nett […]."

2 Joseph Schumpeter: Die Instabilität des Kapitalismus. In Joseph A. Schumpeter: Beiträge zur Sozialökonomik. Herausgegeben, übersetzt und eingeleitet von Stephan Böhm, Wien 1987. S. 67

3 Vgl.: Richard Swedberg: Joseph A. Schumpeter. Stuttgart 1994, S. 125ff.

4 Ebenda S. 61

5 "Apart from this source of possible objections, there is a much more serious one in the mind of every well-trained economist, whom experience has taught to think little of such intrusions into theory of views favouring of sociology […]." Joseph Schumpeter: The Instability of Capitalism. In: The Economic Journal, Vol. 38, No. 151 (Sep., 1928), p. 379

6 Joseph Schumpeter: Vorwort zur zweiten Auflage. In: Joseph Schumpeter: Theorie der wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung, Dunker & Humblot, Berlin 1964, S. XI

Da Schumpeters Pionierleistung von 1911 wesentlich dem von ihm unmissverständlich als „soziologisch" bezeichneten Rückgriff geschuldet war, die Struktur des im engeren Sinne bürgerlichen Produktionssubjektes neu zu thematisieren und den Unternehmer als Träger einer spezifischen sozialen wie psychologischen Energie[7] *neben* den Kapitalisten (den persönlichen Eigentümer von produktiv investiertem Geldvermögen) zu stellen, besteht kein Zweifel, dass ihm die soziologische Betrachtungsweise von vornherein sehr wichtig war.

Setzt man das 1927 /1928 deutlich erkennbare Problembewusstsein Schumpeters voraus, das ja zur die Publikation von zwar miteinander verwandten aber thematisch getrennten Publikation ökonomischer und soziologischer Schriften führte, dann wird wohl auch plausibel, warum Schumpeter Mitte der 30ziger Jahre – und zwar parallel zur Arbeit an den *Business Cycles* – die sozialökonomischen resp. soziologischen Implikationen des in den *Cycles* thematisierten Problemkreises *gesondert* in Angriff nimmt: die Frage nach der historischen Perspektive des Kapitalismus. So gesehen bilden *BC* und *CS&D* ein thematisch einander bedingendes Paar, wobei die *BC* in diesem Gespann notwendige theoretischen Voraussetzungen für die in CS&D entfalte Perspektiven liefern. Denn die Frage danach, ob es nun *aus* ist mit dem Kapitalismus, wird für Schumpeter relativ zu der in den *BC* entfalteten ökonomischen Theorie der Kondratieff-Zyklen, genauer gesehen erst mit dem Ausbleiben der nach dem (theoretischen) Tiefpunkt der Weltwirtschaftskrise zu erwartenden Kondratieffeerholung zu einem *aktuell* herausfordernden Thema. Ich komme darauf zurück und halte hier zunächst fest, dass mit der wohl 1934 einsetzenden Beschäftigung mit dem Sozialismus-Buch (*CS&D)* die soziologische Arbeit zwar neben, systematisch gesehen aber im Gefolge des dominant ökonomischen Studiums zur Aufgabe wird. Die hier erstmalig zusammengestellten Vorträge dokumentieren das m. E. eindrucksvoll.

Unsere Beobachtung zum Instability-Vortrag zeigt weiterhin: Die Entwicklung seines soziologischen und damit verbundenen politologischen Denkens fand in seinem öffentlichen Auftreten, seinen Reden und populären Aufsätzen ihren deutlichen Niederschlag. Zwar hatte er im Gefolge seiner finanziellen Schulden in den späten zwanziger Jahren so manche gut bezahlten Gelegenheitsvorträge vor nichtakademischem Publikum übernommen, er nannte das gelegentlich auch „Reden ums Geld" und dann ging es wohl eher um das Gehalt der Vortragenden

[7] Soziale Energie im Sinne der Fähigkeit, soziale Widerstände zu überwinden und psychologische Energie im Sinne der Fähigkeit zur Überwindung subjektiver Widerstände und Unsicherheiten. In einer frühen Rezension hat er die *soziale Energie des Individuums* sogar ausdrücklich als eine für die Soziologie dermaßen fundamentale Erscheinung bezeichnet, wie sie der Wert für die Ökonomie darstellt. (Joseph Schumpeter (Besprechung): M. E. Waxweiler: Esquisse d´une sociologie. In: Economic Journal, Vol. 17 (1907), p. 111.) Wird mit Blick auf die genuine Fassung des Unternehmerverständnisses die *Dominanz* dieses Moments nicht reflektiert, geht man an Schumpeters Konzept vorbei, vermag auch nicht, das berühmte „Veralten der Unternehmerfunktion" nachzuvollziehen, das er später konstatiert. – Das gilt, wie gesagt, für die genuine Fassung. Soweit ich sehe, intendiert er in den späten 40er Jahren eine Überprüfung dieses Konzepts und kreist nunmehr um die *Fähigkeit zum schöpferischen Reagieren*. Vgl. hierzu Ulrich Hedtke: Von persönlicher Energie zur Führerschaft, von der Führerschaft zum schöpferischen Reagieren – Schumpeters Arbeit am Unternehmerbegriff. URL: http://www.schumpeter.info/schriften/Hedtke-Unternehmerbegriff.pdf

als den Gehalt des Vortrags.[8] Gebietet das Wissen darum durchaus einen kritischen Umgang mit Schumpeters Vortragstätigkeit, so darf es nicht dazu verführen, Schumpeters öffentlich vorgetragenen Gedankenentwicklung mit popularisierender Seichtigkeit zu verwechseln. Auch mit Blick auf Schumpeter Denkungsart eines ökonomischen Geschichtsverständnisses verleitet das erwähnte Beispiel vielmehr zu der These, dass seine strikt ökonomischen Arbeiten interdisziplinäre Konsequenzen eher diszipliniert (wenn nicht gar wissenschaftsdiplomatisch) ausblenden, während seine Vorträge und publizistischen Arbeiten so manche Implikation eindringlich thematisieren.

Begonnen mit der Frage nach der werkgeschichtlichen Genese der ebenso bemerkens- wie bedenkenswerten Vorstellung, die Neuerung als eine Art und Weise des Zerstörens (die Innovation als „creative destruction") zu reflektieren,[9] hat mich der Bildungsgang der *CS&D* bestimmenden Themen schon seit langem beschäftigt. Im Zusammenhang mit der Online-Edition der Notizen und Entwürfe Schumpeters zu *CS&D*, mit der ich im Anschluss an die Arbeit von Shin-ichi Uraki und Katsuhiko Imai[10] gegenwärtig beschäftigt bin, kam das Bedürfnis hinzu, für die Schaffensjahre ab 1932 die Schumpeter jeweils besonders bewegenden Arbeits- und Problemfelder genauer kennenzulernen. Ich habe deshalb im Resultat ausgedehnter Recherchen die Themen zu dokumentieren versucht, die in den zeitgenössischen Berichten über seine öffentlichen Vorträge und Aktivitäten ihren Niederschlag gefunden haben und die auf ihre Weise Schwerpunkte seines intellektuellen Interesses verdeutlichen.

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8 Als Beispiele hierfür kann wohl ein Vortrag gelten, den Schumpeter 14 Tage nach seinem Auftritt in Leeds gehalten hat. Am 18. September 1927 sprach er in Baden-Baden anlässlich der Tagung des Deutschen Buchdruckervereins zum Thema „Der Eingriff der öffentlichen Hand in die Privatwirtschaft, besonders in das Buchdruckgewerbe". Vgl. hierzu *Tagung des Deutschen Buchdruckervereins* im *Karlsruher Tagblatt* vom 19. September 1927, S. 6.

9 Jahrzehntelang galt ja im Kontext der *ökonomischen* Theorie: […] die Vernichtung zahlreicher wirtschaftlicher Existenzen tritt […] nicht notwendig ein […]" (TdwE 1911, S. 452). Dann eine Wende im *soziologischen* Essay? Für Schumpeters Innovationsverständnis ist zu beachten, dass dessen nahezu *definitionsartige* Verknüpfung mit der Vorstellung von einer *creative destruction* überhaupt erst im Zusammenhang mit den Arbeiten an *CS&D* und zwar im Kontext der Annahme auftaucht, es beim Kapitalismus mit einer *grundsätzlich* (d.h. nicht nur gegenüber den historisch vorausgesetzten Feudalverhältnissen sondern ebenso gegen sich selbst) *destruktiven* Gesellschaftsordnung zu tun zu haben. Er begegnet damit auch dem Problem, sein Urteil über die im engeren Sinne positive *ökonomische* Leistung des Kapitalismus von seiner Sicht auf dessen *gesamtgesellschaftlich* destruktiven Wirkungen abzuheben. Das geschieht, indem er nicht per Begriffsbildung, sondern via essayistischer Vorstellungen, zwischen der spezifisch „*creative* destruction" und weiteren jedoch jeweils unspezifisch präsentierten Zerstörungen unterscheidet, wodurch auch der Eindruck entsteht, es bei Letzteren sozusagen mit inhaltsleeren, ein Nichts setzenden Destruktionen zu tun zu haben. Daher bemerkt er im Kapitel XVI *CS&D* in einer bereits 1935 geschriebenen Passage: „Zerstörung ist vielleicht nicht das richtige Wort. Vielleicht hätte ich von einer Wandlung sprechen sollen." (Seite 162 der Routledge-Ausgabe bzw. der von Harper & Brothers Publishers; S. 262 der 7. Auflage der Teilausgabe von CS&D durch den Francke-Verlag.)

10 Shin-ichi Uraki und Katsuhiko Imai: Joseph Alois Schumpeter – Supplemental Passage References for *Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy*. Private Edition, Japan 2015. Es handelt sich bei der genannten Arbeit um eine mit Hilfe des Dresdner Stenografen Arthur Heym zustande gekommene Pionierleistung, um den ersten Versuch, die von Elizabeth Boody Schumpeter nach Japan gegebenen Notizen und Vorarbeiten ihres Mannes zum *socialism book* zugänglich zu machen.

Mit der tabellarischen Übersicht *Im Umfeld von Capitalism, Socialism & Democracy* will ich dazu anregen, den Wegen und Umwegen genauer nachzugehen, die Schumpeter zu *CS&D* geführt haben. Wird z. B. die Skizze von 1927 noch von der (damals verbreiteten) Vorstellung einer allgemeinen Abschwächung möglicher konjunktureller Rückgänge und Depressionen begleitet, so verweist ein Ende Dezember 1931 im Anschluss an hoffnungsvolle Überlegungen zum Thema „Dauerkrise?" ausdrücklich formulierter Konditionalsatz auf die Perspektive, die in den 30er Jahren den Gang der sozialökonomischen Forschungen weitgehend bestimmen wird:

> „Tröstlich nenne ich das Ergebnis aus zwei Gründen: Einmal deshalb, weil es […] noch viel schlimmer stünde um unsere Wirtschaft und Kultur […], wenn wir uns sagen müssten, dass alles, was wir durchleben, zu einer Zeit einträte, für die Statistik und Theorie Aufschwung erwarten lassen würden. Erst am Tage an dem *das* eintritt – gewiss kann er kommen – wird es den politischen Schädigungen gelungen sein, der Wirtschaft das Rückgrat zu brechen, erst dann wird es auch richtig sein zu sagen, dass es *aus* ist mit dem Kapitalismus und allem, was er der Menschheit noch zu bieten hat.[11]

Ein Jahr später sieht er keine Möglichkeit mehr, diesbezüglich Tröstliches wahrzunehmen. Ein Vortragsbericht vom Januar 1933 teilt mit: „The present business cycle according to Prof Schumpeter has been turned into a wordl-wide catastrophe by operations of non-business nature"[12] Diese Diagnose bildet für etwa 10 Jahre den maßgeblichen Problemhintergrund seines Schaffens; erst zum Kriegsende erwacht die Überzeugung, dass der Kapitalismus – wenn auch prekär und im Verein etwa mit *Laborism* – eine weitere "lange Welle" vor sich haben könnte.

In der tabellarischen Übersicht habe ich auch diejenigen öffentlichen Aktivitäten Schumpeters erfasst, die zwar in der Presse oder in Biografien dem Thema nach erwähnt wurden, für die uns – wie beispielsweise für den Vortrag "And What After Victory?" (Cambridge Club, Cambridge, 16.10.1939) – jedoch bis heute keine inhaltlichen Ausführungen bekannt sind.

Schumpeters konzeptionelle Gedankenwicklung hat in *CS&D* zweifelsohne einen Höhepunkt, keinesfalls jedoch ihren Abschluss gefunden. Das wird deutlich, wenn man bedenkt, dass Schumpeters Thematisierung des Sozialismus einer zentral geleiteten Wirtschaft des faktisch *ausschließlichen* Gemeineigentums an Produktionsmitteln und des aufgehobenem Geldgebrauches gilt und so – systematisch gesehen – darauf hinausläuft, Sozialismus und Kommunismus als ununterschieden zu behandeln.[13] Unterscheidet man beide substantiell, dann meint *CS&D* gemäß der Schumpeterschen Sozialismusauffassung eigentlich *CC&D*! Denn knüpft man an die sozial-theoretisch bedeutsame Unterscheidung der politischen Richtungen an, wie sie Lorenz

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[11] Joseph Schumpeter: Dauerkrise. In: Der Deutsche Volkswirt, Jg.6, 25. Dezember 1931, S. 418-421; Wiederveröffentlicht in: Joseph A Schumpeter: Aufsätze zur Wirtschaftspolitik. Herausgegeben und eingeleitet von Wolfgang F Stolper und Christian Seidel. J.C.B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck) Tübingen 1985. S. 209

[12] Taxation And Business Talk. In: The Bee, 13. 1. 1933, S. 1 – vgl. hierzu S. 65 dieser Dokumentation.

[13] Vgl. hierzu: Peter Ruben: Was ist Kommunismus? URL: http://www.peter-ruben.de/schriften/Gesellschaft/Ruben%20-%20Was%20ist%20Kommunismus.pdf

von Stein vorgetragen hat[14], dann intendiert der Sozialismus eine *marktorientiert*e Gesellschaftsverfassung mit der Potenz zur Beherrschung der sozialen und ökologischen Probleme, ungeachtet dessen, welches interne Verhältnis zwischen Formen des (zentralen wie lokalen) Gemein- und des kapitalistischen Eigentums jeweils besteht.

Bezogen auf das Sozialismus-Kommunismus-Verständnis in *CS&D* verändert Schumpeter mit seinem Aufsatz *Capitalism in the Postwar World* im Jahre 1943 die Gedankenrichtung und fragt nunmehr nach den Möglichkeiten für eine gemischte Wirtschaftsverfassung.[15] Heute ist es m. E. nicht nur der Blick nach China, der empfiehlt, sich Schumpeters Vorstellung von 1945, die kapitalistische Gesellschaft wandle sich nunmehr "[…] into a *guided* Capitalism that might, with almost equal justice, be called socialism."[16] als eines Ansatzes zu vergewissern, der die bisherigen Identifizierung des Sozialismus mit dem Kommunismus preisgibt und neue Möglichkeiten avisiert, die unmissverständlich an das – wohl nicht dem Wort jedoch dem Begriff nach vergessene – Sozialismusverständnis Lorenz von Steins erinnern.[17]

Angesichts seiner späten – wenngleich prekär bleibenden – Vermutung, nunmehr tue sich ein Zeitalter des *Laborismus* auf, wäre auch zu bedenken, ob so eine neue Antwort auf die von ihm in den *BC* eingeräumte Urteilsunsicherheit vorliegt, er wisse nicht genau, welchen sozialen Kräften die epochenspezifischen Tendenzen seines Zeitalters eigentlich zu verdanken sind, – die zu einem militanten Nationalismus (resp. Imperialismus) einerseits, wie die zur Reaktion auf die soziale Frage andererseits.[18] Und wer die Vorträge Schumpeters kennt, die er bereits während seiner Gastprofessur 1913/1914 in Amerika gehalten hat, mag erstaunt notieren, dass

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[14] "Der Sozialismus […] hat […] den Grundsatz aufgestellt, daß die Arbeit als freie Betätigung der Persönlichkeit, von dieser Herrschaft [des Kapitals UH] frei, daß sie im Gegenteil bestimmt sein müsse, ihrerseits das Kapital zu beherrschen [..]" In: Lorenz v. Stein: Die industrielle Gesellschaft. Der Sozialismus und Kommunismus Frankreichs von 1830 bis 1848. Hrsg. v. G. Salomon. München: Drei Masken Vlg. 1921. S. 123

[15] Vgl. hierzu: Thomas K. McCraw: Joseph A. Schumpeter. Hamburg 2008, S. 495 ff

[16] Joseph. A. Schumpeter: Capitalism (Original in der *Enzyclopaedia Britannica* 1946, Vol IV). Hier zitiert nach Richard V. Clemence: Essays of J. A. Schumpeter. Cambridge: Addison-Wesley Press 1951

[17] Schumpeters Charakterisierung des *Laborism* als demjenigen Zustand der kapitalistischen Gesellschaft „ […] in which the labor interest is predominant.", wie er sie im August 1949 anlässlich eines Vortrages zum Thema *Capitalism, Socialism & Democracy* (!) vorgetragen hat, passt haargenau zu dem oben zitierten Sozialismusverständnis Ludwig von Steins. (Für die Quelle vgl. den nachfolgen Tabelleneintrag zum 08.1949)

[18] Schumpeter gilt der damit umrissene Problemkreis als das „ […] tiefste [deepest] Problem der Wirtschaftssoziologie unserer Epoche […]" Siehe hierzu: Josef A. Schumpeter: Konjunkturzyklen. Bd. 1, Göttingen 1961, S. 411. Im Original: Business Cycles. Vol. I, New York 1939, p. 399. – Schumpeter bekennt in den mir vorliegenden Vorarbeiten zu *CS&D* zudem ausdrücklich, er biete in diesem Werk leider keine „positive [soziologische U. H.] Theorie" des 2. Weltkrieges. Das ist angesichts seines früheren imperialismustheoretischen Ansatzes zur Analyse des 1. Weltkrieges eine durchaus wichtige Bemerkung. Sie reflektiert offensichtlich die oben bezeichnete Urteilsunsicherheit.

1949 mit dem *Laborismus* ein Thema des Jahres 1913 wieder aufgenommen wird. Die Überschrift über einen Bericht zu Schumpeters Vortrag über „Problems of Democracy" lautete damals in der *New York Times* „Says Workers Make Issues of To-Day".[19]

Da ich im Interesse der thematischen Zusammenstellung des Umfeldes von *CS&D* bemüht war, unsere Kenntnis über die öffentliche Wirksamkeit Schumpeters nach 1932 zu vertiefen und dabei zugleich seine Auseinandersetzung mit den Themen Krise und Sozialismus im Zentrum standen, enthält die Dokumentation auch Material, das ich unter dem Titel *Vorträge in der Bonner Zeit* bereits im Schumpeter-Archiv veröffentlicht habe. Der Vortrag über Individualismus und gebundene Wirtschaft vom September 1928 in der *Berliner Börsenzeitung* wurde aufgenommen, weil er die denkwürdige Vorstellung von einer zukünftigen *privaten Planwirtschaft* enthält.

Zu betonen bleibt auch, dass der Rückgriff auf die Publizistik eben keine Primärquellen erschließt. Wie allein schon an gelegentlichen redaktionellen Hervorhebungen im Text ersichtlich, haben wir es hier auch mit den Eindrücken und Ansichten der publizierenden Journalisten und Redaktionen zu tun, damit mit ideologischen Vorlieben, die hier nicht zum Thema gemacht wurden. *Von daher ist diese Dokumentation zugleich unkritisch* und stellt für die Schumpeter-Forschung vor allem Material bereit.

Die Kenntnis des hier Dokumentierten verdanke ich in erster Linie digitalen Quellen, vor allem der von mir bei weitem noch nicht voll ausgeschöpften Fülle an Portalen und Webseiten, die nunmehr *Historical Newspapers* bieten und für die *ANNO*, das Portal der Österreichischen Nationalbibliothek Wien, m. E. das bisher kaum je erreichte Paradigma bildet. Näher bezeichnet habe ich für die Recherche nachstehende vor allem englische und amerikanische Archive konsultiert, denen ich hiermit für ihre digital aufbereitete Dokumentationsleistung herzlich danke.

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Genealogybank → https://www.genealogybank.com
Georgia Historic Newspapers: → https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/search/advanced

[19] Weiter hieß es im Vortragsbericht "A new class has come in. The old class rule was the rule of feudal aristocracy. Now we have a class rule of workers. Everything is looked at now from the worker´s standpoint." The New York Times. December 5, 1913, p. 13. In diesem Zusammenhang ist zu beachten, dass Schumpeter den Unternehmer vom Kapitalisten funktionell unterscheidet und den Unternehmer – für sich genommen – als arbeitend denkt. Für den Text vgl. auch: Ulrich Hedtke (Hr.): Schumpeters Gastprofessur 1913/1914 im Spiegel der Presse. URL: www.schumpeter.info/schriften/Schumpeteriana-II.pdf

Harvard Crimson → https://www.thecrimson.com/sitemap

Illinois Digital Archives → http://www.idaillinois.org

Illinois Digitals Newspaper Collection → https://idnc.library.illinois.edu

Minnesota Digital Newspaper → https://newspapers.mnhs.org

New York Times Historical Archives → https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/browser

Newspapers Archives → https://newspaperarchive.com

Newspapers → https://www.newspapers.com/search/

NYS Historic Newspapers → http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org

Papers of Princeton → http://theprince.princeton.edu/princetonperiodicals/cgi-bin/princetonperiodicals

Proquest Historical Newspaper → https://www.proquest.com/products-services/pq-hist-news.html

Standford Daily: https://stanforddailyarchive.com

The Times Digital Archive → https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/browser

zeit.punktNRW → https://zeitpunkt.nrw/nav/index/title

Ehemaliges *Hamburger Welt-Wirtschafts-Archiv*, jetzt: Archiv im ZBW – Leibniz-Informationszentrum Wirtschaft

Richard Swedberg (New York) und David Bieri (Blacksburgh VA) danke ich für Hinweise auf wichtige Schumpeteriana. Dieter Püschel (München) und Karl Benne (Beverly/Boston) haben mit eigenen Recherchen dankenswerterweise zum Gelingen dieser Dokumentation beigetragen.

Berlin, im Juni 2020
Ulrich Hedtke

Im Umfeld von Capitalism, Socialism & Democracy
Eine tabellarische Übersicht

Schumpeter hat sich schon sehr früh mit dem Sozialismus beschäftigt. Den ersten gegenwärtig hierzu fassbaren Vortrag „Der Sozialismus von heute und der Sozialismus von morgen“ hielt er am 18. Juni 1916 auf einer Veranstaltung der Grazer Soziologischen Gesellschaft. Und das war sicher nicht der Beginn diesbezüglicher Aktivitäten. Zudem gehörte er ab Ende 1918 der von Kautsky geleiteten deutschen Sozialisierungskommission an. Wir blenden diese thematische Vorgeschichte aus den im Vorwort genannten Gründen hier ebenso aus, wie seine spätestens mit den Amerika-Vorträgen von 1913/1914 bekannten Überlegungen zum Thema Demokratie[20] wie auch zu Karl Marx.[21]

18.02.27	Zwei Vorträge "The Present Position of Economics" (London School of Economics)
01.04.27	Vorlesung: JAS trägt Studenten in Harvard u.a. Zyklentheorie vor, maßgebend dabei der Gedanke: Lange Welle (seit 1892) befindet sich jetzt im Abschwung. Die Krisenneigung wird jedoch insgesamt, auch vermittels der "trusted society", abgemildert.
02.09.27	Vortrag: "The Instability of Our Economic System" auf der Tagung der British Association for the Advancement of Science, Leeds
20.09.27	Vortrag: Theoretische Diskussion mit holländischen Kollegen in Rotterdam
27.10.27	Vortrag: Symposium on Price Indices and the Probable Trend of Commodity Prices. American Statistical Association (Town Hall Club, New York)
18.11.27	Vortrag: On International Trade and Cartels and Their Relation to World Trade. (Meeting - Academy of Political Science (New York))
28.12.27	Vortrag: Unstable Money and the Business Cycle (Washington, Meeting der Stable Money Association)
30.12.27	Vortrag /Paper: "The So-Called Downward Trend of the Rate of Interest" (Meeting der American Economic Association)
23.01.28	Vortrag: The Gold Standard and the Control of Credit. (Columbia University)
25.01.28	Vortrag: Politics and Finance in Europa. (Columbia University)
20.02.28	Vortrag: The Responsibilities of Citizenship. (Yale University -Dodge Lecture)
21.09.28	Vortrag: Individualismus oder gebundene Wirtschaft? (Deutscher Groß- u. Überseehandelstag, München)

[20] Ende 1913 hielt er als “Austauschprofessor” am Institute of Arts and Sciences, New York, drei Vorträge zu *Problems of Democracy.* (1. The Working Faith of the Social Reformer; 2. Industrial Leadership and Equal Opportunity; 3. Social Discipline and Social Justice to All.) Vgl. hierzu wie zur folgenden Fußnote meine Darstellung *Schumpeters Gastprofessur 1913/1914 im Spiegel der Presse*. Im Schumpeter-Archiv unter: https://schumpeter.info/schriften/schumpeteriana-II.pdf

[21] Im Februar 1914 stellte er in Berkeley *The Economy of Karl Marx* vor.

12.05.29	Vortrag: Nationalökonomie und Sozialpolitik"(Student Economic Club Lund)
12.12.28	Vortrag: Kann eine Krise der deutschen Industrie verhindert werden?(Hauptausschuß des Reichsverbandes der Deutschen Industrie, Berlin)
19.12.29	Vortrag: Was bleibt von Marx übrig? (Universität München)
15.02.30	Der Aufsatz: "Wenn die Finanzreform mißlingt" stellt die "Depressions-Diagnose" zur Debatte und spricht von "abnormaler Depression"
13.04.30	Vortrag: Die Zukunft unserer Gesellschaftsordnung (Universität Bonn)
01.11.30	Diskussionsbeitrag zu „Is German Headed Toward a Revolution“ (Boston, Meeting der Foreign Policy Association)
03.12.30	Vortrag: The Financial Policy of Germany Since 1919 (Harvard University)
04.12.30	Vortrag: The Economic Situation in Germany and Its Potential International Effects. (Faculty Club of Massachusetts Institute Technology)
31.12.30	Vortrag: The present word depression. (Joint Meeting: American Economic Association with the American Statistical Association, Cleveland, Ohio)
28.01.31	Vortrag: The Crisis in Economics - Fifty Years Ago. (Tokyo University of Commerce)
29.01.31	Vortrag: The World Depression with Special Reference to the United States of Amerika. (Tokyo: Japanischer Industrie-Klub)
29.01.31	Vortrag: The Theory of the Business Cycle. (Tokyo University of Commerce)
30.01.31	Vortrag: The Theory of the Business Cycle. (Imperial University of Tokyo)
08.02.31	Vortrag: The Present State of International Commercial Policy. (Commercial University, Kobe)
09.02.31	Vortrag: The Present State of Economics. Or on Systems, Schools and Methods. (Commercial University, Kobe)
09.02.31	Vortrag: Recent Developments of Political Economy. (Commercial University, Kobe)
15.03.31	Artikel: The Present World Depression: A Tentative Diagnosis.
15.04.31	Datierung unsicher, Aufsatz: Les possibilités actuelles du socialisme.[22]
06.06.31	Datum nur jahresgenau: Aufsatz: Das Kapital im Kreislauf und in der wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung
20.07.31	Bemerkungen zur gegenwärtigen Lage. (Universität Bonn, im Seminar)

[22] Es handelt sich bei dieser weitgehend unbeachteten Schrift um die französische Übersetzung des Aufsatzes von 1920/1921 „Sozialistische Möglichkeiten von heute“. Schumpeter stellte der Ausgabe jedoch ein nicht genau datiertes aktuelles Vorwort voran, mit dem er noch von der Vorstellung einer säkulären Abschwächung der Wirtschaftskrisen ausgeht und betont:“ Die Frage nach der »Vergesellschaftung« steht nicht auf der Tagesordnung.” Gleichzeitig erörtert er hier die eigene These „Es ist ein Irrtum, vom Sozialismus eine Verbesserung des Loses der Arbeiterklasse zu erwarten.“ In: L´année politique francaise et étrangere, vol.VI, 1931, pp. 403 ff.

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10.11.31	Vortrag: Reparationen und Weltkrise. (Politisch-Akademische Vereinigung der Universität Bonn)
25.12.31	Aufsatz: Dauerkrise? These: Wenn "[...] alles, was wir durchleben, zu einer Zeit einträte, für die Statistik und Theorie Aufschwung erwarten lassen.[...].. erst dann wird es auch richtig sein zu sagen: das es *aus* ist mit dem Kapitalismus und allem, was er [...] noch zu bieten hat." Das kommende Jahr wird "[...] eine bescheidene Erholung bringen."
	.
22.03.32	Aufsatz: A German View: World Depression and Franco-German Economic Relations
03.04.32	Datum ungefähr. Vortrag: Drei Vorlesungen über die Theorie der wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung (Kopenhagen)
08.04.32	Vortrag: Kreditpolitische Krisentherapie (Lund)
28.04.32	Vortrag: Soziale und wirtschaftliche Entwicklung (Philosophisch-soziologischen Arbeitsgemeinschaft, Universität Bonn)
30.04.32	Datum ungefähr: Vortrag: Zur Soziologie der Außenpolitik (kein weiterer Nachweis des Vortrages vorhanden. Erwähnung nur durch Fritz Karl Mann wie in der Swedberg-Bibliografie.)
18.07.32	Vortrag: Tendenz zum Sozialismus (Bonn, Politisch-Akademische Vereinigung an der Universität Bonn)
20.07.32	Vortrag: Das Woher und Wohin unserer Wissenschaft. (Fachschaft, Universität Bonn)
01.08.32	Aufsatz: Kreditpolitische Krisentherapie in USA
15.08.32	Aufsatz im Spiethoff-Band "Stand und nächste Zukunft der Konjunkturforschung"
02.12.32	Vortrag zu internationalen Aspekten der Depression (Radcliffe College, Cambridge)
17.01.33	Datum ungefähr, Vortrag: Taxation and Business (School of Business Administration)[23]
09.01.33	Vortrag: European Tangle (Fenton Foundation, University of Buffalo)
16.01.33	Vortrag zur aktuellen Bank- und Wirtschaftspolitik (Der genaue Titel ist nicht bekannt, Cambridge Club, Cambridge)
16.3.33	Vortrag: Non-Cyclical Elements of World Depression (Wesleyan University)
27.05.33	Schumpeter wird mit der öffentlich gemachten Bemerkung zitiert: Die Nazis werden sich fangen.
18.11.33	Vortrag: The Economics of Inflation (Harvard Economic Society)
01.01.34	Aufsatz: Can We Learn from Past Experience?
18.02.34	Vortrag: Economics and Political Problems of Central Europe. (Committee on International Cooperation of the Cambridge League of Women Voters)

[23] Vgl. diese Dokumentation, S. 66

27.02.34	Termin nach einer Zeitungsmeldung vom Januar interpoliert, Vortrag: Economic Aspects of Modern Germany (University of New Hampshire, Durham, U.K.)
15.03.34	Im März beendet Schumpeter das Vorwort zu "Theory of Economic Development": Hinweis auf Änderung der Zyklen-Konzeption
24.04.34	Vortrag: Economic Nationalism in Modern Europe (für Studienanfänger der Harvard University)
01.06.34	Datum ungefähr, Aufsatz: The Nature and Necessity of a Price System
13.06.34	Schumpeter notiert in seinen Arbeitsunterlagen: Ich beschließe Do 13 VI. mich auf Sozialismus as best I can zu konzentrieren - Beginn der Arbeiten an Notizen und Manuskripten für CS&D
15.12.34	Beendet Geleitwort zur 4. deutschen Auflage der "Theorie der wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung" : "[…] ist die Wirtschaftsgeschichte der letzten 150 Jahre […] ein einziges Arsenal von Verifikationsbelegen für die Grundkonstruktion des II. Kapitels, […] für das Stück Führersoziologie, das es in den Dienst der ökonomischen Analyse stellt [...]"
15.01.35	Vortragszyklus: Changing World (University of Illinois): 1. Four Hundred Years of Capitalism 2. Industrial Fluctuations Bevor and After the War 3. The Spoke in the Wheel 4. Diagnosis and Prognosis
30.01.35	Aufsatz: A Theorist's Comment on the Current Business Cycle
01.05.35	Datum ungefähr, Aufsatz: The Analysis of Economic Change
18.01.36	Vortrag und Diskussion: Can Capitalism Survive? (United States Department of Agriculture Graduate School, Washington DC)[24]
01.04.36	Datum nur jahresgenau – mehrere Vorträge. Allen 2;37 notiert hierzu "He spoke several times on the fate of capitalism and the current economic situation"
15.06.37	Das Vorwort zur japanischen Ausgabe der "Theorie der wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung", hebt hervor, die eigene Idee und die eigenen Absicht seien "genau die gleichen sind, wie die […], die der ökonomischen Lehre von Karl Marx zu Grunde liegen"
17.03.38	Gastvortrag zum Thema „The International Outlook“ (Sharon Forum, Canaan)
28.3.38	Vortrag: The Sources of Anti-Democratic Tendencies in the World of Today (Adams House, Harvard University)

[24] Eine an der *publizierten* Fassung des Vortrages orientierte Wiedergabe finden Sie im Schumpeter-Archive: https://schumpeter.info/schriften/Can%20Capitalism%20(1936).pdf Den Vortrag wie die anschließende Diskussion hat Richard Swedberg nach Archivunterlagen publiziert. Swedberg (1991). Das Protokoll des Vortrages durch die beauftragte Sekretärin scheint jedoch lückenhaft zu sein.

23.05.38	Mai 1938 -Schumpeter unterschreibt ein statement "[...]opposing President Roosevelt´s recovery program[...]"
25.11.38	Datum nur jahresgenau: Allen sagt 2;62: "In late 1938, he wrote a three page paper [...].on the significance of social classes in modern society [...].relating their beginnings to the achievements of individuals."
15.07.39	Im Juli beendet Schumpeter das Vorwort zu "Business Cycles"
16.10.39	Vortrag: And What After Victory? (Cambridge Club, Cambridge)
19.10.39	Vortrag: On War and Peace (Rotary Club Cambridge – daran anschließend ein Interview mit dem *Boston Herald* vom 20. Oktober)
20.10.39	Interview anlässlich Hitlers Krieg gegen Polen (Boston Herald): Dr. Schumpeter Urges End to War, Granting Reich New Conquests
27.12.39	Monetary Processes during War Booms and Postwar Slumps (American Economic Association)
02.01.40	Vortrag auf dem Meeting der American Statistical Associatio
15.01.40	Im Januar 1940 wird Schumpeter offensichtlich auf einem department meeting seines Fachbereiches deutlich kritisiert (Allen 2; 94)
28.02.40	Vortrag: Why Has Recovery in the United States Been Unsatisfactory? (University of Illinois)
01.03.40	Vortrag: Can Capitalism Survive? (University of Illinois)
02.03.40	Vortrag Can Capitalism Survive? (Harvard Club, Boston)
15.03.40	Etwa in dieser Zeit: Informelle Gruppe mit T. Parsons u.a. zu "Rationality in Social Sciences", Schumpeter legt ein paper vor (Allen 2;99)
26.03.40	Vortrag über Frieden (Harvard Club New York)
27.03.40	Vortrag, Datum nur ca: Über Protective Tariffs (Politcal Economy Club at Columbia) (Allen 2;99)
11.04.40	Vortrag zur Schutzzollpolitik, (genaues Thema unbekannt, Tagung der Academy of Political Science zu *Economic Nationalism, Trade Barriers and the War* (New York). Im Mai dazu der Aufsatz: The Influence of Protective Tariffs on the Industrial Development of the United States
18.04.40	Vortrag: Why Has Recovery Been So Unsatisfactory in This Country? (Harvard Club of Milwaukee)
03.10.40	In diesen Tagen häufig die Zeitungsmeldungen: "Schumpeter goes to Yale"
10.10.40	Datum ca: Schumpeter beginnt die Lowell Lectures *An Economic Interpretation of Our Time* vorzubereiten (Allen 2;104), gehalten im März 1941.[25] Vgl. hierzu den Kommentar Swedbergs zu einem geplanten Buchprojekt der Eheleute Schumpeter. Swedberg (1991), p. 399 n.2
01.11.40	Datum nur ca: Für Yale bereitet JAS einen Kurs *International Economics* vor. (Allen 2; 100)
17.11.40	Vortrag Exchange Club Detroit -Thema unbekannt- (Allen 2; 98)

[25] Vgl. hierzu den Kommentar Swedbergs zu einem geplanten Buchprojekt der Eheleute Schumpeter. Swedberg (1991), p. 399 n.2

03.12.40	Vortrag: Economic Outlook of Defence
28.12.40	Vortrag Schumpeters zu Marshall auf dem Meeting der AEA + Paper (The Meaning of Rationality in the Social Sciences) Tagung der Econometric Society. (New Orleans)
16.01.41	Vortrag: Future of International Economic Relations (Johns Hopkins University)
04.03.41	Lowell-Zyklus: On Economic Interpretation of Our Time (4.3.- 28.3.1941, Lowell Institute,Boston)[26]
14.04.41	Vortrag im Economic Club Detroit: The Future of Gold (Allen nennt p. 107: den 13.4.41), weitere Vorträge in Detroit im Harvard Club und auch in der Yale University
22.04.41	Radiovortrag im lokalen Kurzwellensender zum Thema Kriegswirtschaft
15.03.42	Im März schließt Schumpeter das Vorwort zu CS&D ab. Im April sendet er das Manuskript an Harper & Brothers. (McCraw, 405)
01.06.42	Nach Abgabe des Manuskriptes *CS&D* orientiert Schumpeter sich. Wie weiter? (Allen 2,111) Ende 1942 erfolgt die Entscheidung für die Arbeit an der *History of Economic Analysis*
01.07.43	Nur jahresgenau: Capitalism in the Postwar World. In: S. M. Harris (Ed.): Post-War Economic Problems
01.01.44	Rezension: Laski -Reflections on the Revolution of Our Time
01.04.44	Mit dem Frühjahrssemester führt JAS, vergleichbar mit seinem Verhalten in Graz während des 1. Weltkrieges, einen Kurs *Economics of Socialism* ein - er bleibt mehrere Jahre auf dem Programm
01.02.45	Rezension Walker
31.03.45	Antwort auf die Frage: Kann man die Deutschen umerziehen?
19.11.45	Ein politisch orientierter Vortrag vor einer Vereinigung katholischer Industrieller in Montreal: The Future of Private Enterprise in the Face of Modern Socialist Tendencies" – Hinweis auf die mögliche Bedeutung des Konzepts der Enzyklika *Quadragesimo anno* von Papst Pius XI. (1931) (Allen 2;163)
15.12.45	Die kritische Rezension zu *CS&D* von Charles O. Hardy erscheint.[27]
01.01.46	Stichwort: Capitalism - (gefertig aber in 1944 und 1945, Allen 2; 150)
24.01.46	AEA, Meeting Cleveland, Paper: The Decade of the Twenties
27.02.46	Vortrag: Savings Scramble (Boston Economic Club, Allen 2;165)

[26] Publiziert in Swedberg (1991), Vgl. auch den Hinweis ebenda p.399 n.1 über eine daran anknüpfende Publikationsabsicht Schumpeters

[27] Vgl. die kritische Rezension von Charles O Hardy im *Journal of Political Economye* Vol. 53 No. 4 (Dez 1945) pp. 348-365

01.03.46	Hayek-Rezension: Road to Serfdom
19.01.47	Comments on a Plan for the Study of Entrepreneurship
15.02.47	Datum nur sehr ungefähr: Schumpeter-Sweezy Debatte über Kapitalismus und Sozialismus (Allen 2; 170)
15.02.47	Datum ungefähr, Vorträge (Themen nicht bekannt, Vgl. Allen 2;175)
13.09.47	Meeting der Economic History Association, Schumpeter über *Theoretical Problems of Economic Growth*
01.11.47	Aufsatz: The Creative Response in Economic History
16.2. -5.01.48	Datum ca; Vortragsserie in Mexiko: Wage an Tax Policy in Transitional States of Society[28]
15.06.48	Aufsatz in "Nation´s Business" There is still time to stop inflation!
05.11.48	Datum ca, Vortrag (und Aufsatz): English Economists and the State-Managed Economy. Im Herbst auch u.a. Vortrag *fiscal policy* im Dunster House (Allen2; 195)
01.12.48	Datum ungefähr: [Sammelband des Harvard Research Center in Entrepreneurial History] Aufsatz: Economic Theory and Entrepreneurial History
28.12.48	Vortrag: Science and Ideology (AEA)
01.03.49	Aufsatz: The Communist Manifesto…
30.03.49	JAS spricht u. a. über *New Creeds and Old Facts*, *Decay of Capitalism* and *Business Cycles* (Allen 2;225)
15.07.49	Im Juli schließt Schumpeter das Vorwort zur 2. Auflage von CS&D (incl. Kap. XXVII) ab
29.08.49	Vortrag: Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy (Hadden House Lecture at the Institut of International Affairs, Taconic) Die Epochendiagnose lautet: Kein Imperialismus, sondern *Laborism*[29]
01.11.49	Aufsatz: The Historical Approach to the Analysis of Business Cycles
25.11.49	Conference on Business Cycle Research: The Historical Approach on Business Cycle Research
30.11.49	Spricht über *Inadequacy of Economics*
15.12.49	Entwürfe für geplante Vorträge an der Charles R. Walgreen Foundation Chicago: American Institution and Economic Progress. Mit einer Abschlußvorlesung *How Capitalisms Created and Destroyed a Civilisation.*[30] (Vgl auch Allen 2; 229)
30.12.49	unvollendetes Manuskript: The March into Socialisms

[28] Publiziert in Swedberg (1991)

[29] Ein Protokoll der Veranstaltung befindet sich im Harvard University Archives. Dessen Veröffentlichung im Schumpeter-Archiv wird vorbereitet.

[30] Publiziert in Swedberg (1991)

Literatur zur tabellarischen Übersicht :

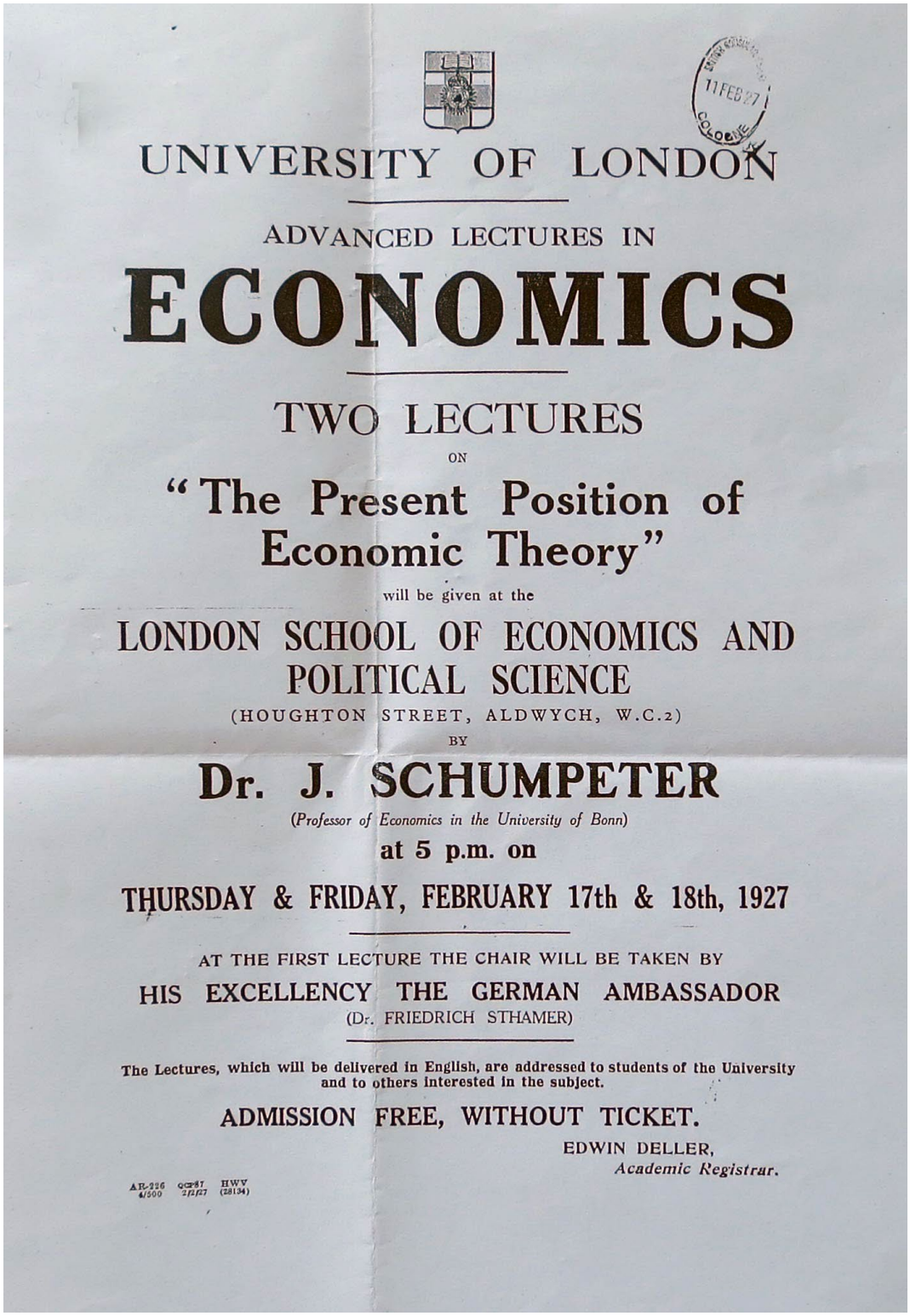
Allen1: Robert Loring Allen: Opening Doors – Life and Work of Joseph Schumpeter Volume 1, Europe; Transaction Publishers, New Brunswick, 1991

Allen2: Robert Loring Allen: Opening Doors – Life and Work of Joseph Schumpeter Volume 2, America; Transaction Publishers, New Brunswick, 1991

McCraw: Thomas K. McCraw: Joseph A. Schumpeter Prophet of Innovation. Murman 2008

Swedberg (1991): Richard Swedberg (Ed.): Joseph A. Schumpeter – The Economics and Sociology of Capitalism, Princeton University Press, 1991

17. Februar 1927 – Botschafter Sthamer zum Vortrag: The Present Position of Economic Theory (London)



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Botschafter Sthamer über die Aufgaben der Nationalökonomie.

(Drahtmeldung.)

wtb. **London**, den 17. Februar.

Der deutsche Botschafter Sthamer hielt anläßlich einer von Professor Schumpeter von der Universität Bonn vor der Universität London gehaltenen Vorlesung über die Theorie der Nationalökonomie die folgende Rede:

Die Aufforderung der Universität von London, anläßlich der Vorlesung von Professor Schumpeter den Vorsitz zu übernehmen, bedeutet für mich eine Ehre, die ich wohl zu schätzen weiß. In ihrem Bestreben, einem weiten Personenkreise Kenntnis von der gegenwärtigen Stellung der ökonomischen Theorie zu vermitteln, folgt die Universität London den großen Traditionen der englischen nationalökonomischen Wissenschaft, deren Ruf von Männern wie Adam Smith, John Stuart Mill, Cobden in alle Welt getragen wurde. Heute mehr denn je bedarf die Welt der theoretischen Erkenntnis von ökonomischen Vorgängen, bietet sie doch die Grundlage, auf der es dem Praktiker erst ermöglicht wird, seine Arbeiten wirkungsvoll aufzubauen. Groß und gewaltig sind die Veränderungen, denen die internationale Wirtschaft in diesen Tagen unterworfen wird. Mit ihnen stürzen die überkommenen Begriffe der theoretischen Ökonomie und die Prinzipien, die jene Männer in vergangenen Zeiten aufstellten, scheinen über den Haufen geworfen. Um so mehr bedarf die Welt der klaren Erkenntnis von den Voraussetzungen, die heute für das Wirtschaftsleben in der ganzen Welt gelten. Dieses Bedürfnis wird noch dringender, wenn wir uns eingestehen, daß doch eigentlich der Normalzustand von Handel, Verkehr, Finanz und Industrie noch in weiter Ferne liegt und daß leider die Unsicherheit im allgemeinen und politischer Unverstand im besonderen, immer noch beherrschende Faktoren bilden.

Wir befinden uns heute nach wie vor Schwierigkeiten gegenüber, die eine ernste Störung für das Wohlleben der Völker bedeuten. Die nationalen Vermögen erfuhren eine völlige Umschichtung. Gläubiger- und Schuldnerstaaten ringen um einen Ausgleich ihrer Interessen. Die Kaufkraft der Bevölkerung ist geschwächt und führt zu einer Einschränkung der Bedürfnisse und somit bei einem rückgehenden Konsum zu einer Verringerung der Produktion. Diese wird weiterhin ungünstig beeinflußt durch die Verkleinerung oder gar durch den Ausfall von Absatzmärkten. Nur langsam und allmählich vollzieht sich die Gesundung der internationalen Finanzen, um immer noch für viele Staaten den Gegenstand ernster Sorge zu bilden. Nicht zuletzt bedeuten die sich überall verstärkenden Zollmauern eine Gefahr für die internationale Wirtschaft.

Angesichts dieser Zustände wenden wir uns zu den Theoretikern der ökonomischen Lehre mit der Frage: Was sagt ihr? Was sagt eure Wissenschaft? Welches sind die Ratschläge, die ihr uns geben könnt, die den Weg aus den Wirrsalen wirtschaftlicher Schwierigkeiten zeigen können? Sicher ist, daß, so erleuchtend auch immer ihre Ratschläge sein mögen, ihre Befolgung nicht ohne weiteres Erleichterungen bringen kann, wenn sie nicht begleitet sind von dem guten Willen der Nationen, die bereit sein sollten, über die Förderung nationaler Bedürfnisse hinaus den Wünschen der menschlichen Gemeinschaft Rechnung zu tragen.

Hamburger Nachrichten, 18. Februar 1927, Seite1

2. September 1927 – Vortrag: The Instability of Our Economic System

(Tagung der Britisch Association for the Advancement of Science, Leeds)

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Papers at the Leeds Meeting.

(From a Scientific Correspondent.)

The three hundred papers to be read at the Leeds meeting of the British Association in September will provide a delectable feast for scientists. In the Physical Sciences Section, A, there will be a discussion of the preliminary results of the 1927 solar eclipse. Professor R. A. Millikan, of Chicago, will speak on spectra, besides giving an evening discourse on those cosmic rays which some believe are the result of the annihilation of matter. Dr. F. W. Aston will lecture on his new mass spectrograph, with which he has been analysing the nuclei of atoms to an accuracy of one part in ten thousand. The famous German mathematical physicist Dr. W. Heisenberg will lecture on quantum mechanics. He is a leading figure in the school of physicists who regard the atom as being unimaginable but mathematically describable.

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The presidential address to the Economics Section, F, will be delivered by Professor D. H. MacGregor, on rationalisation of industry. Professor J. Schumpeter is to discuss the instability of our economic system, and Dr. P. Sargent Florence the fallacies and pitfalls of non-statistical economics. There will be a general discussion on innate differences and social status, and a paper on the economic situation of agriculture.

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Auszug aus: The Manchester Guardian, September 3, 1927, Page 8

IS THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM STABLE?

German Professor's Answer.

ITS CHIEF ENEMIES.

Danger of Overthrow During War.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

(From our own Reporters.)

LEEDS, FRIDAY.

Is the capitalist system a stable one? Professor J. Schrumpeter, of Germany, told the Economic section that he believed it was if left to itself, but that in its working it had evolved a mentality in people and a way of arranging and looking at life which undermined the psychological basis necessary to its continuance. Professor T. E. Gregory, of the London School of Economics, supported Professor Schrumpeter to some extent, and expressed the view that the only thing that could upset the capitalistic system was war.

In the course of the day's discussions on education the Duchess of Atholl pleaded for more practical work in the English curricula and for the development of the central school. Dr. Alfred Mumford, of Manchester, reinforced from his own special investigations the view that physical fitness and scholastic achievement almost invariably went together.

The Engineering section spent the larger part of the day considering the difficulties of evolving an ideal way of utilising our coal supplies.

IS CAPITALISM STABLE?

The address of Professor J. Schrumpeter, Professor of Political Economy at Bonn, and formerly Minister of Finance in Austria, on "The instability of our economic system," attracted a large audience.

By the capitalistic system, he said, we mean the economic order characterised by: (1) Private property and private initiative; (2) production for the market and the division of labour; (3) the important device of credit creation by banks, which, however, he stood alone in considering an essential element of that system.

His thesis simply was that the capitalistic system was economically stable in itself and would therefore last indefinitely if left to itself, but that by its own working it evolves a mentality in people and a way of arranging life and looking at life, which was bound to undermine what were the indispensable psychological bases of capitalistic society. He further submitted that this psychological process was already to be seen to be in full swing, as shown by our modern attitude towards taxation, inheritance, home life, and so on, quite irrespective of, and, *indeed*, running counter to, economic necessities.

Capitalism meant (to use a term of Professor Macgregor's) a rationalisation of minds. In the Middle Ages people lived in an environment essentially stable. There were the church, the castle, the village community, the communal processes, which carried things on year after year in essentially the same way, and neither church nor castle were discussed. There was no reason to discuss them. Discussion was always the precursor of revolution. Thus the environment of the day made the minds of people stable. It was not a system of castle and churches to which they were attached, but a certain visible church and castle and community and a family life quite different from the modern family life. It was an essentially traditional way of life and thinking.

These did not exist any more. Capitalism, with its private property and the motives of private property, was tending to destroy them. It broke up the village community and two things necessarily followed.

People lost their sense of anything absolute existing and of the existence of something which commanded allegiance irrespective of personal judgment. Hence they were thrown on their own resources. They had to fight their way on slippery ground, and doing so naturally focussed their attention on the rationality of their behaviour, on producing something that would fetch what it had cost at least.

The feeling of dependence on their own judgment influenced their culture, duty, mentality, religion, art, and so on. It tended also to cut a man off from all his humanities to other persons and things which in the past were among the most valuable of stimulants. Many of the things dear to our fathers were dear to us no more. Not only the bonds which formerly bound an employer to his factory and workpeople, but also the bonds of private life, the relations of man and wife, of parents and children, did not mean now what they meant when they were a necessary form of survival.

The first step in the argument leading up to his thesis, Professor Schumpeter continued, consisted in proving the existence under competitive conditions of a stable equilibrium of the economic process to which, in given circumstances, real life

tended to conform itself. This proof was well established by modern analysis and its great master, the late Dr. Alfred Marshall. It was true that the theorem referred to did not as a rule command the consent of the man in the street, who in our days was in the habit of attributing to competition all sorts of instability, but he mostly did so under some misapprehension.

The competitive conditions which prevailed during the nineteenth century certainly did not prevail any more, and it was necessary therefore to prove a similar proposition in the case of monopolised industry. This was less easy to do, and many of the highest authorities did not admit the existence of a stable equilibrium of economic life in this case, which nevertheless could be shown to exist. Similarly it could be proved that increase of population is never by itself a cause of economic instability.

Booms and Depressions.

There remains the fact of the business cycle, destroying as it did any state of equilibrium which might have established itself. The business cycle could not be accounted for by outside impulses, such as harvests, wars, and so on, but was, on the contrary, the necessary form economic evolution took under capitalistic conditions. But although every boom destroyed an equilibrium every depression tended to establish a new one, and there was nothing in these recurring waves of prosperity and depression, to affect the capitalistic system as such, nor were extensions and contractions of banking credit causes of instability, as held by high authority.

But economic stability in the sense defined by the preceding argument did not either imply or guarantee political or social stability, and an economic situation perfectly stable in itself might still be socially or politically unstable for a variety of reasons. Political and social circumstances of our days were in fact unstable in the highest degree.

It might seem that if instability were there the proof by a theorist that this instability was not due to the economic system might seem of little value, but the speaker pointed out that in the case of an illness it was not entirely a matter of indifference to know, even for practical purposes, what the illness consists in and in what parts of the organism it originated.

With the present particular order of social things, Professor Schrumpeter concluded, many other things would necessarily die, and there were others that might or might not—family life, for instance,—but there was no need to be afraid of that, because in social life it was very much as in physical life, as long as we really valued a thing we proved that it was not dead. It only died if we wanted to let it drop. Death, indeed, stepped up to us very often in the bloom of youth and efficiency, but it was not the normal habit of death to come to us thus. It usually and normally came after a long life, after we were worn out by disappointment and illness; after we had had enough to want to live any more, and the same applied to social things.

Professor Gregory's Comments.

Professor T. E. Gregory, of the London School of Economics, opening the discussion that followed, said that the important thing to most of them in the address was the conclusion that there was nothing that, looked at from the strictly economic standpoint, threatened the existing order of society except the reactions of existing institutions and processes on the minds of men.

Most of the vast amount of discontentment with the existing economic order rested on a complete misunderstanding of what the existing economic order really was, but capitalism was being constantly threatened by social and political difficulties, and the question was what was the maximum degree of interference the existing order was capable of sustaining without toppling down by virtue of the undermining of its foundations; to what extent would labour discontent have to go before it seriously threatened it.

Experience of recent years seemed to indicate that labour discontent could take on very violent forms without threatening capitalism very seriously, because some of the attacks constantly made on existing institutions recoiled on the heads of their authors. The general strike as a method of toppling over capitalism did not prove a success

Were there any other economic causes likely to undermine effectively the working of existing institutions? He could see only one. The real cause which would break down capitalism, if anything did it, was war. The real danger before the modern world was the danger of such a state of international tension that the working of economic institutions would be so entirely subordinated to warlike purposes that capitalism, in the sense of the free working of private enterprise, would be made impossible.

Manchester Guardian, September 3, 1927, Page 16

FUTURE OF CAPITALISM.

GERMAN PROFESSOR ON GOLD STANDARD.

Professor J. Schumpeter, Professor of Political Economy in the University of Bonn, and a former Minister of Finance in Austria, spoke in the Section of Economics on "The Instability of Our Economic System." Speaking for over an hour in English, without notes, PROFESSOR SCHUMPETER asked in what sense could the present economic system (of capitalist production and distribution) be said to contain possible causes of instability.

Defining the economic system as the capitalist order of society characterized by the existence of private property and of an economic life left mainly to private initiative, with production for a world market and with a system of credit creation by banks for carrying through new things, Professor Schumpeter said that such a system might be unstable for a variety of reasons. Among external economic causes of instability he noted certain changes, such as in the case of England, in the policy of deflation through the restoration of the gold standard to parity with the dollar before the purchasing power of the pound had reached normal level. He said that he passed no judgment on this process, but it was a cause of economic instability. Either England would have to carry through another period of deflation, in which case she would have still more unemployment and another crisis—but this was not practical politics—or, if she did not want to let the pound drop down to its real purchasing power, which would mean a drop of a few per cent., if she still wanted to keep the pound up, this course would amount to a steady loss of lifeblood from her economic organism. England would be poorer than otherwise would be the case as long as that policy lasted.

"I do not say, let me emphasize this," he added, "that the Gold Standard Act was wrong, because it is not my business that any practical measure is bad or wrong. I am an onlooker on life, analysing facts, but, if I were to judge facts, I should have to point to a number of advantages which the restoration of the gold standard has carried with it. My present point is that, good or bad, the disturbances due to the gold standard are disturbances arising without the economic system, but as long as the purchasing power of the pound is below its exchange value this, of course, must mean constant loss of English economic activity, great difficulty for your exports, and a premium on imports."

So far as economic movements were concerned, the capitalist system did not show any tendency to self-destruction in the absence of disturbances from without, political or social. Capitalism did destroy something, however, and that was the psychological basis on which it itself stood. The capitalist system provoked discussion, and discussion was the beginning of all revolutions. When changes in mentality due to the capitalist system had proceeded far enough they might exert a destructive effect on the system itself by removing the motives which had been the mainsprings of that system. People were likely to get into a mentality in which they would do away with the economic system without any economic pressure, even against economic interests. If the capitalist system passed away in that fashion many other things would necessarily die, including even, as a possibility, family life as we now knew it.

The Times, September 3, 1927

SURVIVAL OF CAPITALISM.

PROFESSOR GREGORY SAYS WAR IS THE ONLY DANGER.

"The Survival of Capitalism" was discussed in the Economic Section by Professor J. Schumpeter, of Bonn University, and a former Minister of Finance of Austria, Professor E. T. Gregory and others.

Professor Schumpeter did not think that in the mere working of the capitalist system there were elements of unstability, but there was always the possibility of unstability arising from without, from non-economic forces, from social and political sources. Although capitalism did not contain the elements of unstability it was capable of destroying something else, the psychological bases upon which it stood.

Professor Gregory said it had been found that the capitalist system could withstand considerable disturbances. In his view the only thing that could really cause a breakdown of the capitalist system was war.

Yorkshire Evening Post - September 3, 1927, Page 7

ECONOMICS.

WILL CAPITALISM LAST?

ATTACKS THAT RECOIL ON ATTACKERS.

Will capitalism last? Professor J. Schumpeter, of Bonn University, expressed the opinion before the Economic section that there was every reason, from an economic point of view, why it should. But he

Professor J. Schumpeter.
("Mercury" copyright.)

imagined a time when, through other causes, it might be swept away. That might happen not under economic pressure, but even against it.

Prominent among these other causes he

CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN.

CONTINUED FROM PRECEDING COLUMN.

put the rise of trusts, which weakened the personal ties of interest between the worker and his concern. Economically capitalism, working under competitive conditions, always tended towards an equilibrium.

Professor Gregory said the question facing English economists was how far labour discontent could go before it undermined capitalism. Attacks made on it had recoiled on the heads of the attackers, and the only way he foresaw in which capitalism might break down would be through war.

Mr. Neilson, a member of the National Union of Railwaymen, voiced the new trend in the labour movement, and said that sufficient account had not been taken of the new co-operation which was gathering such force that the railwaymen, for instance, were voluntarily doing work without the request for wages

The Leeds Mercury, September 3, 1927, Page 5

Effect of Capitalism on Family Life.

MEN CUT OFF FROM PERSONAL TIES.

"If capitalism does not show any tendency to destroy itself by its mere working—as many people, for instance, most Socialists, hold—capitalism does destroy something else, and that is the psychological basis on which it stands," said Professor J. Schumpeter, of Bonn, who was formerly Austrian Minister of Finance, addressing the Economic Section at the British Association on Friday.

The industrial phase characterised by the prevalence of trusts, necessarily cut men off from certain personal ties which were a valuable and stable element in the nineteenth century. Many things that were dear to our fathers were not dear to us. It was not only the bonds binding a man to a factory which were being cut, but also the bonds of private life.

"The relations between parents and children do not mean now what they meant when they were a necessary form of survival—which they are no longer. We do not attach so much importance as those before us did to living in our own house, and, if possible, dying in it. We do not attach so much importance to devoting our homage to one woman at a time for a whole life."

While he did not think capitalism would be under the necessity of capitulating because of purely economic reasons, people were likely to get into the mentality to do away with it for other reasons ,even to running counter to economic interests. He did not think, however, that family life would die, because as long as people really valued a thing it would not die.

The Citizen, September 3, 1927

CAPITALISM'S WEAK SPOT.

Human Element Imperilled by Trusts.

"If capitalism does not show any tendency to destroy itself by its mere working, as many people, for instance most Socialists, hold, capitalism does destroy something else, and that is the psychological basis on which it stands, said Prof. J. Schumpeter, of Bonn, who was formerly Austrian Minister of Finance.

In his address to the Economic section he said the industrial phase characterised by the prevalence of trusts necessarily cut men off from certain personal ties which were a valuable and stable element in the nineteenth century. Many things that were dear to our fathers were not dear to us. It was not only the bonds binding a man to a factory which were being cut, but also the bonds of private life. "Family married life and the relation between parents and children do not mean now what they meant when they were a necessary form of survival —which they are no longer. We do not attach so much importance as those before us did to living in our own house, and, if possible, dying in it. We do not attach so much importance to devoting our homage to one lady at a time for a whole life."

While he did not think capitalism would be under the necessity of capitulating because of purely economic reasons, people were likely to get into the mentality to do away with it for other reasons, even though they ran counter to economic interests. He did not think, however, that family life would die, because as long as people really valued a thing it would not die.

Western Daily Press, Bristol, September 3, 1927

28. Dezember 1927 – Vortrag auf dem Washingtoner Meeting der Stable Money Association

General Constant Prices Mark U. S., Professor Ssys

For the first time in the history of capitalist society, the years 1924, 1925 and 1926 in the United States have shown an example of industrial prosperity at substantially constant general prices, Prof. Josef Schumpeter, of the University of Bonn and former minister of finance of Austria, told the Stable Money Association yesterday The association is meeting in connection with sessions of the American Council of Learned societies.

Dr. Arthur B. Adams, of the University of Oklahoma, told the association that "the major cyclical fluctuation of the value of the dollar in the United States can and should be stabilized largely by regulating the rediscounting and open market operations of the Federal Reserve Banks." He said that the United States' position as creditor of the world places it in a position to control the world value of gold.

The Washington Post, December 29, 1927, Page 18

23. Januar 1928 – Vortrag: The Gold Standard and the Control of Credit (Columbia University)[31]

GERMAN ECONOMIST SPEAKS AT COLUMBIA

Professor Schumpeter, Here From Harvard, Says Gold Indicates Economic Power

Arguments in favour of the fundamental soundness of the gold standard were advances by Professor Joseph Schumpeter, German Economist; in an address before the Institute of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, yesterday afternoon. Professor Schumpeter is exchange professor with Harvard University. He spoke at Columbia for the first time yesterday.

"Those who point to the violent fluctuations in the purchasing power of money forget that these fluctuations were not due to the use of gold" he stated. "In 1815, 1864 and 1920 the most violent changes occurred, and all these coincide with greater wars. Naturally the monetary system will be deranged after a war, as will be every- thing else, but this no bearing upon the fundamental soundness of gold as a medium of exchange.

"The new distribution of gold after the great war is simply an indication of economic power. If gold has been to ready to reflect the change and has gone further than the change warrants, this can be no great misfortune."

In speaking of the possibility of there being too much or too little gold in the future, the speaker said: "Both arguments are exaggerated. If the store of economic goods does increase, it is false to suppose that a proportionate increase in the amount of money will be necessary. On the other hand, if we learn to produce gold cheaply by scientific means, we will simply have to use some other medium of exchange. This could not, however, take place quickly. So we see that the system is not without safety valves on either side."

A luncheon for Professor Schumpeter will be given today at the Faculty Club. Emil Ludwig will be present. Tonight Professor Edwin R. A. Seligman will have a reception for Professor Schumpeter and graduate students in the department of economics.

New York Times, January 24, 1928, Page 42

[31] Den Titel des Vortrages entnehme ich der Vortragsankündigung in der *New York Times* vom 22.1.1928, S. 49

ECONOMIST DEFENDS GOLD AS STANDARD

Professor Schumpeter, German Expert, Answers Denouncers of Monetary System.

"We have always had monetary reformers", declared Professor Joseph Schumpeter, German economic expert, yesterday afternoon in an address on "The Gold Standard and the Control of Credit" at the McMillin Theatre under the auspices of the Institute of Arts and Sciences. "True", he continued, "that these proposals have been well-meant but they represent overserious attempts at monetary reform."

Dr. Schumpeter, who at present is occupying the Chair of Exchange Professor in Economics at Harvard, was introduced to the audience by Professor Edwin R. A. Seligman. "At the present time", declared the Harvard professor, "we have two distinct groups of monetary reformers led by King in England and Irving Fisher in the United States. However, if an event like the World War occurs we cannot hope to have the monetary system remain intact".

Fluctuates on Surface.

Citing the war periods of 1815, 1864 and 1920 as peaks when disturbances were created in the monetary system of the world, the lecturer showed that the sytem could not be reproached for these surface fluctuations. However, he emphasized the fact that gold itself did not cause these peaks but rather the deviation from the gold standard.

In answer to the pessimists who predict a shortage of gold in a few years due to exhaustion of the mines, Dr. Schumpeter predicted that the synthetic production of gold would be in all probability an event within the lifetime of the present generation. He further stated that this added production of the precious metal would not result in any financial disaster since the only losers would be the treasuries in the loss of the physical value.

"Roughly speaking", asserted Dr. Schumpeter, "twenty billion dollars represents the stock of the world's gold. Of this amount one billion remains unaccounted for and of the other nineteen, six are used in the arts and industries while thirteen billion are for monetary purposes."

Professor Schumpeter will deliver his second and concluding lecture tomorrow when he will consider "Politics and Finance in Europe". He was at one time exchange professor at Columbia and is professor of economics at the University of Bonn. In addition to his professorial duties, Dr. Schumpeter has served as finance minister of Austria and has written many works on economics.

Columbia Daily Spectator, January 24, 1928

SYNTHETIC GOLD

This generation probably will see the production of synthetic gold in quantities sufficient to endanger the gold standard, in the opinion of Dr. Joseph Schumpeter, German economist and exchange professor of economics at Harvard University. The assertion is made "in answer to the pessimists who predict a shortage in gold within the next few years because of falling off in production"

Dr. Schumpeter apparently believes in fighting fire with fire. While the prospect of world shortage of gold is enough to worry any economist, pessimistic or otherwise, surely an overabundance of the metal would be equally unwelcome and dangerous. Because of its comparative scarcity, together with other factors, gold has great value as a standard of value. Too much gold would force its value downward. The gold standard might be discarded.

Even this, however, in Dr. Schumpeter´s opinion, would not necessarily be serious, for "in all other respects," he says, "our economic system would remain unchanged." Probably his is so. Yet abandonment of gold as the monetary standard would be both bothersome and involved. What would be substituted? Irving Fisher´s commodity dollar? The problem is one of the future. If the crisis appears, some way will be hit upon to measure money. In the meantime, Dr. Schumpeter notwithstanding, the world will continue to garner gold, to fight for it, hoard it, admire it and use it for the purchase of all its supplies.

Washington Post, January 25, 1928, Page 5

25. Januar 1928 – Vortrag: Politics and Finance in Europe (Columbia University)

SAYS POLITICS RULE WORLD DEBT POLICY

Schumpeter, Former Austrian Finance Minister, Lauds English Attitude.

"It is not economic feeling or reason which governs the world's fiscal policies, but it is politics," asserted Professor Joseph Schumpeter, former Finance Minister of Austria, in his lecture to an Institute of Arts and Sciences audience in the McMillin Theatre on Wednesday evening. The speaker, whose topic was "Politics and Finance in Europe", was referring specifically to the difficulties attendant upon the funding of the German and inter-Allied war debts.

"England is the only country which has accepted the situation", he continued. "She started at once to pay her debts at home and abroad. It is a model achievement of the very highest order and will probably yield its fruits in the long run," he added.

Professor Schumpeter characterized the international debt situation as a "funny sort of thing". He explained that the most practical way for Germany to fund her debt is by the returns on her export trade, but that the United States is loath to accept this method because of the fear of competition. "The outgrowth of the situation," continued the speaker, "will be a big struggle between export and other interests within the next ten years."

Further "complications" confuse the scene, according to Professor Schumpeter, because of this country's refusal to accept the Allied proposal that we cancel the debts of the Allied nations, who in turn would not claim any reparations from Germany, but would make Germany the sole European creditor of the United States. "The payment of her war debts, however, impose no undue burden upon Germany," added the lecturer.

"Tension between France and Italy," declared Professor Schumpeter, "is the danger point in Europe." He explained, "Mussolini only exists on successes."

Columbia Daily Spectator, January 27, 1928

TRADE POLICY CRITICIZED

German Economist Says Our Tariff Balks Foreign Debt Payments.

The policy of the American Government is a large factor in keeping European nations from paying their war debts, declared Professor Joseph Schumpeter, German economist, in an address at Columbia University last night.

"If America is to be paid," he said, "it can only be by means of the German and French export trade. The protective tariff, however, effectually stops the debtor nation from making any material steps in this regard, and the jealousy with which America's foreign markets are safeguarded makes the situation even worse. I predict that within the next ten years there will be a struggle in the United States between the importing and the exporting interests.

"Internal politics, too, are keeping France and Germany from assuming any strong fiscal policy. Both countries are in the position of being forced to content themselves with coalition governments having very strong opposition. The members of the French Government have no point in common except hostility toward Germany, whereas Germany will be unable to put through any strong constructive platform until a strong central Government is established."

New York Times, January 26, 1928, Page 38

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20. Februar 1928 – Vortrag: The Responsibilities of Citizenship (Yale University)

SEES CATASTROPHE LOOMING IN EUROPE

Former Austrian Finance Minister Draws Gloomy Picture in Yale Lecture

Special to the New York Times

NEW HAVEN, Conn. Feb. 20 –“ It is impossible to deny the existence of danger of a new catastrophe in Europe" said Dr. Josef Schumpeter, former Austrian Finance Minister, tonight in giving the second Dodge lecture at Yale on "The Responsibilities of Citizenship."

"If the new catastrophe falls, European culture may or may not emerge from it," he added. The problems of Europe call for statesmanship of large horizon and the present methods of routine diplomacy and the League of Nations merely amount to solving trifles and trifling with solutions.

"There may be an advantage in this. Time is gained and another mentality may have the chance of growing up – in fact, it is in this that reasonable hope lies. But meantime it is impossible to deny the existence of the catastrophe."

"We have had four League of Nations conferences at Geneva, and the World Economic Conference," Dr. Schumpeter said. "We have had besides, the conference of disarmament and a special one on limitation of naval establishments.

" It would be a mistake to judge all these endeavors by their immediate results or to fail to recognize the reality and the possibilities of the forces behind them.; and nothing is either gained or proved by pointing to the facts that talk on disarmament coincides with increased military or naval expenditure; talk on free trade with in- creased protection, and mutual congratulation on small difficulties peacefully re- moved with great unsolved problems asserting themselves more menacingly every day. But although we might realize the narrowness of a view exclusively focused on this state of things, we have yet to accept it as a patent fact.

Turning to problems which he described as touching vital issues he said: "The first of these is the problem of England and Russia. Not only is it futile to hope for a breakdown of the present regime in Russia, but it is also obvious that any other form of government in Russia would exactly the same lines as to foreign policy. "The struggle between France and Italy is deeply rooted in the social, economic and political structure of

countries and cannot be talked away. And the trouble with all the problems clustering around Germany is that which everybody knows, yet scarcely anybody admits, that a great part of the situation created by the Treaty of Versailles is untenable. "This does not mean that even these questions are absolutely beyond the possibilities of statesmanship, but it does mean that they call for statesmanship of large horizons."

The New York Times, February 21, 1928, Page. 16

EUROPEAN CONDITIONS ARE ANALYZED BY SCHUMPETER

Visiting Professor at Harvard Was Formerly Minister of Austrian Finance.

CATASTROPHE IS POSSIBLE

League of Nations Doing Great Service in Settling of Minor Disputes, But Fundamental Differences Between Peoples and Classes Remain.

Dr. Josef Schumpeter, former Finance Minister of Austria, now a vising professor at Harvard, in the second of the Dodge Lectures on the "Responsibilities of Citizenship" last night, said that it is impossible to deny the existence of the danger of a new catastrophe in Europe, from which European culture may or may not emerge. The problem of Europe, he said, call for statesmanship of large horizons, and the present methods of routine diplomacy and of the League of Nations "merely comes to solving trifles and to trifling with solutions."

"We have had four League of Nations conferences at Geneva, and the world's economic conference," Dr. Schumpeter said. "We have had, besides, the conference of Disarmament and a special one on limitation of naval establishments. It would be a mistake to judge all these endeavors by their immediate results or to fail to recognize the reality and the possibilities of the forces behind them. But although we might realize the narrowness of a view exclusively focussed on this state of things, we have yet to accept it as a patent fact.

"During the last year we have witnessed the well-known events in China, symptoms of a much deeper struggle between England and Russia: we have also witnessed England's failure to bring the powers of Europe into line against Bolshevism and her consequent retreat. We have heard the Italian leader talk about an alternative between expansion or explosion, and seen him achieve a treaty with Albania practically mounting to Protectorate, and one with Hungary very significant of far-reaching designs. Then there was the French countermove to this, the treaty between France and Jugoslavia, both expressive of a dangerous antagonism between France and Italy. Poland and Russia have been discussing a treaty of Non-Aggression, and suddenly the murder of the Russian Ambassador to Poland lighted up a very different situation. There was the difficulty, bordering on war between Lithuania and Poland over Wilna, and the other one between Lithuania and Germany over Memel. There were the Bulgaro-Jugoslavian frontier incidents. And there was, finally and foremost, the whole complex of German problems, the solution of some insignificant details of which only serves to show up the tremendous extent of what has still to be done.

"Now, there are items on this list which do not mean more than what they are seen to mean at the first glance—small disturbances such as will always arise. Bulgarian frontier troubles are an instance in point. Unfortunately, however, there are things which cut far deeper and touch vital issues. The first of these is the problem of England and Russia: Not only is it futile to hope for a breakdown of the present regime in Russia, but it is also obvious that any other form of government in Russia would follow exactly the same lines as to foreign policy. The struggle between France and Italy is deeply rooted in the social, economic, and political structure of both countries and cannot be talked away. And the trouble with all the problems clustering around Germany is that which everybody knows, yet scarcely anybody admits, that a great part of the situation created by the treaty of Versailles is fundamentally untenable.

"This does not mean that even these questions are absolutely beyond the possibilities of statesmanship. But it does mean that they call for statesmanship of large horizons, and that the present methods both of routine diplomacy and of the League of Nations merely come to solving trifles and to trifling with solutions. There may be an advantage even in this: Time is gained and another mentality may have the chance of growing up—in fact, it is in this that all reasonable hope lies. But meantime it is impossible to deny the existence of the danger of a new catastrophe, from which European culture may or may not emerge."

21. September 1928 – Vortrag: Individualismus oder gebundene Wirtschaft? (Deutscher Groß- u. Überseehandel, München)

Im Mittelpunkt der Tagung stand ein Vortrag von Herrn **Prof. Dr. Josef Schumpeter, Bonn,** über

Individualismus oder gebundene Wirtschaft.

Herr Prof. Dr. Schumpeter führte aus:

Die praktische Frage, um die es sich heute bei der Erörterung dieses Themas handelt, ist nicht, ob sich die Organisation der Volkswirtschaft in Umbildung befinde oder nicht: Denn alles Lebende ist stets in Umbildung begriffen und keine Organisationsform kann jemals Ideal und Schluß aller Weißheit für alle Zeiten sein. Vielmehr

handelt es sich darum, ob heute wirklich, wie nicht bloß von sozialistischer Seite behauptet wird, die private Initiative, wie sie sich in der Firma des einzelnen Industriellen und Kaufmanns verkörpert, in dem Sinn überwunden ist, daß der Schwerpunkt des Wirtschaftslebens nicht mehr in ihr liegt,

es keinen Sinn mehr hat, für ihre Bewegungsfreiheit wirtschaftlich einzutreten und überflüssig ist, auf ihre Lebensnotwendigkeiten Rücksicht zu nehmen. Wichtigen Tendenzen der Steuer-, Sozial- und Wirtschaftspolitik aller europäischen Länder, einflußreichen Strömungen der öffentlichen Meinung, zahlreichen fachlichen und laienhaften Urteilen über wirtschaftliche Dinge liegt tatsächlich eine solche Auffassung zugrunde. Von Männern der Wissenschaft von internationalem Rang hat sich bisher nur einer, dafür aber auch einer der allerbesten, dazu bekannt: John M. Keynes, dessen Berliner Vortrag über „Das Ende des laisser faire" die beste zugleich populäre und wissenschaftlich ernstzunehmende Formulierung dieses Standpunktes enthält.

Die in Kürze nicht leicht zu formulierende Sachlage, die der Kaufmann und Industrielle verstehen muß, wenn er sich in der Erörterung über die sozialen und wirtschaftlichen Zukunftsmöglichkeiten seines Standes zurecht finden will, ist nun zunächst die folgende:

Seit überhaupt Industrie und Handel vom Ausgang des Mittelalters herwärts die bestimmenden Faktoren des wirtschaftlichen Schicksals der Völker geworden sind, sind die Fürsten und ihre Beamten und mit ihnen die öffentliche Meinung — die des industriellen und des kommerziellen Bürgertums eingeschlossen — fast stets der Ansicht gewesen, daß das Wirtschaftsleben staatlicher Förderung und Regelung bedürfe, daß es ohne diese nicht funktionieren würde, und daß ohne irgend-

wie „gebundene" Wirtschaft die sich selbst überlassene Initative der individuellen Firma nicht einmal deren eigenes Wohl, viel weniger das Wohl aller Volksgenossen, garantiere. Diese Auffassung ist in der Zeit des sog. wirtschaftlichen Liberalismus von der sich damals zur Wissenschaft entwickelnden Nationalökonomie im wesentlichen mit Erfolg als

ein Irrtum, als die bloße Folge ungenügender Einsicht in das Wesen des Wirtschaftsprozesses erwiesen worden

— woraus denn umgekehrt die Auffassung folgte, daß der Wirtschaftsprozeß Bindungen und Regelungen grundsätzlich weder brauche noch vertrage und alles Heil in tunlichst vollständiger Autonomie der individuellen Firma gelegen sei. Nun aber lebten erstens die widerlegten Irrtümer in den Kreisen wirtschaftspolitischer Praxis fort, und, sowie sich Anlaß oder Möglichkeit ergeben, werden noch heute Bindungen und Regelungen staatlicher und korporativer Natur — auch von Industriellen und Kaufleuten selbst — mit Argumenten angestrebt, welche nichts weiter sind als jene alten Irrtümer — es ist unglaublich, ein wie großer Teil der modernen Wirtschaftspolitik auf Anschauungen beruht, die längst als falsch erwiesen sind. Zweitens jedoch hat jene beginnende ökonomische Wissenschaft von vor 100 Jahren, die sog. „Klassische Oekonomie", ihren Resultaten eine Allgemeinheit und Einfachheit gegeben, die ihrerseits unhaltbar war, so daß die moderne Analyse, die sich in dieser Beziehung vor allem an den Namen von Alfred Marshall knüpft, eine ganze Reihe von Ausnahmen aufzuführen hat, in denen planwirtschaftlicher Eingriff zu allseits besseren Resultaten führt als die Wirtschaftsfreiheit: Daher der tragikomische Zustand, daß Vertreter ältester Irrtümer auf neueste Ergebnisse der Wissenschaft wie auf Bundesgenossen hinweisen können. Bedeutung und Grenzen dieser neueren Erkenntnisse kann man an zwei Beispielen ersehen:

1. Die ältere Nationalökonomie kannte überwiegend kein besseres Währungssystem als eine sich selbst überlassene Goldwährung. Wir wissen heute, daß es bessere gibt — die aber gewiß ein erhebliches Maß von bewußter Regelung erfordern.

2. Die älteren Nationalökonomen schrieben überwiegend dem System der Wirtschaftsfreiheit die Eigenschaft zu, daß es die Produktion der größtmöglichen Masse von Verbrauchsgütern, insofern also ein Maximum wirtschaftlicher Wohlfahrt erzwinge. Wir wissen heute, daß das nicht so ist, sondern daß sich ein System von Eingriffen denken läßt, welches durch Fördern einzelner und Bremsen anderer Produktionszweige eine noch größere Produktions- und Absatzmenge erzwingen könnte. Allein das erstere Beispiel beweist nichts gegen die private Initiative auf dem Gebiete der Wirtschaft — denn das Währungswesen wird dieser besonders in abnormalen Zeiten stets entzogen sein. Und das zweite Resultat hebt nicht nur den Ausnahme-Charakter erfolgreicher Regelung hervor, sondern auch die fatale Voraussetzung, auf welcher alle solche Möglichkeiten beruhen: Die Voraussetzung überragender Einsicht und Machtstellung der Instanz, die dieses feine Instrument wirtschaftlicher Therapie zu handhaben hätte. Die von der Praxis geübten, von der öffentlichen Meinung geforderten Fesselungen des privaten Unternehmergeistes, verhalten sich zu den soeben angedeuteten wie eine Heugabel zur Lanzette eines Arztes —

und dieser Heugabel gegenüber hat das Argument der Klassiker nach seiner wirtschaftlichen wie auch seiner moralischen Seite noch fast ganz so recht wie vor 100 Jahren.

Aber eine Wirtschaftsordnung kann nicht nur deshalb „überwunden" sein, weil sich die Möglichkeit einer vollkommeneren erweisen läßt, sondern auch deshalb, weil sie, was immer ihre Vorzüge, unanwendbar wird. Mit Rücksicht auf die Tatsache, daß alte wie neuere Nationalökonomen bei ihrem Argument vor allem eine vom Prinzip der freien Konkurrenz beherrschte Volkswirtschaft vor Augen haben, und auf die weitere Tatsache, daß sich durch das unaufhaltsame Hinauswachsen der Unternehmung über den einzelnen Betrieb — zum Konzern, zum Trust, zum übernationalen Wirtschaftskörper — der Geltungsbereich der freien Konkurrenz immer mehr einengt, scheint jenes Argument an praktischer Bedeutung zu verlieren und sich ein weites Feld möglicher und notwendiger Wirtschaftsbindung zu eröffnen. Wer lediglich behauptet, daß diese Entwicklung die „Bindung" sehr vieler früher unabhängiger Existenzen an die Entscheidungen einer sehr viel geringeren Anzahl von Konzernführern bedeutet, sagt eine Selbstverständlichkeit. Aber

wer behauptet, daß diese, der selbsttätigen Regelung durch die Konkurrenz entratende Wirtschaftsform nun ipso facto staatlicher Regelung bedürfe, sagt etwas Falsches: Denn die Dispositionen einer selbst völlig vertrusteten Wirtschaft würden eben so sehr, wenngleich in anderer Weise, von wirtschaftlichen Notwendigkeiten diktiert sein, wie die Dispositionen der Konkurrenzwirtschaft.

Was da emporwächst, das ist eine kaufmännische, eine private „Planwirtschaft", gegen deren Auslieferung an den von der politischen Situation des Tages beherrschten Staat ganz ähnliche Gründe sprechen würden als in der Zeit der freien Konkurrenz. Und wer endlich behauptet, daß die kaufmännische und industrielle Initiative einer solchen — etwa ohne Schaden zu bureaukratisierenden — Wirtschaft entbehrlich sei, übersieht das Wesen der großen industriellen Einheiten von heute, die nicht einfach Agglomerationen vorhandener Mittel sind, die man bloß zu verwalten hätte, sondern Verkörperungen der individuellen Initiative von Unternehmern, deren Persönlichkeit sie schafft und die sich nur durch stets erneute industrielle und kommerzielle Initiative erhalten — sonst aber schnell zerbröckeln. In dieser Umwelt halten sich zwar auch Staatsunternehmungen, denen die umgebende Privatindustrie den Fortschritt aufdrängt; diese Umwelt hält ferner auch die verschiedensten Eingriffe aus; aber ihre treibende Kraft ist bislang das in-

dustrielle oder kaufmännische Individuum gewesen, auf dessen Rechnung die beiden großen Leistungen zu setzen sind, die das hinter uns liegende Stück Wirtschaftsgeschichte aufzuweisen hat: Die Umstellung **auf den Krieg**, die zum großen Teil, die Umstellung **auf den Frieden** und eine völlig veränderte Lage, die so gut wie ganz Leistung unseres Unternehmertums war.

Aus einer Lage, wie sie kaum schlechter sein konnte, hat das System, welches nicht ganz zutreffend „wirtschaftlicher Individualismus" genannt zu werden pflegt, Deutschland in einen Zustand gebracht, der der Masse des Volkes bessere Lebensbedingungen bietet als die Vorkriegszeit —

wobei die „verwaltungswirtschaftlichen" Versuche, an denen es ja nicht fehlte, fast durchwegs als Passivposten zu buchen sind. **Wie immer man daher über seine fernere Zukunft denken, ob man jenes System lieben oder hassen mag — die gegenwärtige Stunde gehört ihm, und jene Völker werden am frühesten eine bessere Zukunft sehen, die das am besten begreifen.**

Berliner Börsenzeitung, 21. September 1928, Seite 10

Dezember 1928 – Schumpeter vor dem Reichsverband der deutschen Industrie über die Wirtschaftkrise und über Überkonsumtion[32]

Lässt sich eine deutsche Wirtschaftskrise vermeiden?

Ein Vortrag Prof. Schumpeter

In der Hauptausschusssitzung des Reichsverbandes der deutschen Industrie hielt der bekannte Nationalökonom Professor Dr. Schumpeter (Bonn) einen interessanten Vortrag, dessen Hauptinhalt wir nachstehend wiedergeben:

Seit mehr als einem halben Jahre findet bei uns ein Abgleiten der Konjunktur statt, über dessen Qualifikation als einer „Depression" heute wohl wenig Meinungsverschiedenheit besteht. Diese bekanntlich periodisch wiederkehrende Erscheinung des modernen Wirtschaftslebens brauchte an sich nicht viel zu bedeuten. Allein, im vorliegenden Fa» konstatieren wir erstens, dass manche der „normalen" Depressionssymptome fehlen — so hat sieh die Steigerung des Preisniveaus länger fortgesetzt als gewöhnlich —, und zweitens, dass manche der bekannten therapeutischen Mittel — wie Diskontherabsetzung — nicht angewendet werden konnten.

Das deutet auf eine tiefere Ursache der gegenwärtigen Depression, als sie in der „normalen“ Reaktion auf einen Aufschwung gegeben ist. Bei einer Diagnose des Gesamtzustandes stoßen wir zuerst auf eine Gruppe von Indizes, die an sich geeignet ist, ein überaus erfreuliches Bild zu geben. So muss, rein wirtschaftlich genommen, das Sinken des Bevölkerungszuwachses von rund 1,4 %. im Jahre 1908 auf ½ % insofern günstig gewertet werden, als es viele wirtschaftliche Probleme erleichtert, zumal es mit höherem Wachstum der Erwerbstätigen und scharfer Senkung der Säuglingssterblichkeit verbunden ist. Die Summe der privaten Geldeinkommen übertrifft die entsprechende Vorkriegssumme von ungefähr 50 %., das dieser Summe entsprechende **Realeinkommeu ist etwas höher als vor dem Kriege.** Insbesondere ist bei sinkender Arbeitszeit der Reallohn erheblich gestiegen, worüber eine im Gang befindliche Untersuchung Näheres bringen wird — man darf vermuten, dass die **Steigerung nicht wesentlich unter 20 % liegt**, ein Resultat, das nur von Amerika übertroffen und sonst nirgends auch nur annähernd erreicht wird. Dem

[32] Dieser Bericht wie auch die Nachricht der *New York Times* gelten dem von Schumpeter am 12. Dezember 1928 auf der Tagung des Hauptausschusses des Reichsverbandes der Deutschen Industrie gehaltenen Vortrag *Kann eine Krise der deutschen Wirtschaft verhindert werden und wie?*. Vgl. hierzu auch weitere Wiedergaben des Vortrages in.: Ulrich Hedtke (Hr.): *Josef Alois Schumpeter - Vorträge in der Bonner Zeit*.S.75ff. http://www.schumpeter.info/schriften/Bonner%20Vortraege.pdf

entspricht eine durch fast alle in Betracht kommenden Indizes ausgedrückte Konsumausweitung. Die Resorption der Arbeitslosigkeit im Jahre 1927 war, ungeachtet des verbleibenden abnormal hohen Restes, ein Beweis großer Kraft.

Aber leider ist jenes erfreuliche Bild zum Teil trügerisch. Wenngleich weder die Passivität der Handelsbilanz — die nur infolge der Depression einer temporären Aktivität (? Die Red.) gewichen ist — noch die ausländische Verschuldung ganz die Bedeutung haben, die ihnen oft beigelegt wird, so ist doch zweifellos, dass der **Kapitalzustrom jene Ausweitung der Konsumtion zum Teil ermöglicht hat** und sein Versiegen eine Lage schaffen muss, die in Verbindung mit den Dawes-Zahlungen schwierig werden kann. Ganz unhaltbar ist es, dass die **Rentabilität der Industrie,** die gegen die Vorkriegszeit um durchschnittlich 30 % gesunken ist, **dauernd unter dem langfristigen Zinsfuß liegt,** welcher gegen die Vorkriegszeit um rund 50 % gestiegen ist. Das bedeutet, dass Investition heute, von den bekannten Inseln von Prosperität abgesehen, die es an einigen Stellen gibt, nur mit Verlust erfolgen kann, dass das Eigenkapital der Industrie nicht wirtschaftlich, d. h. nicht so arbeitet, wie es auf die Dauer möglich ist, und dass „Selbstfinanzierung" steigenden Schwierigkeiten begegnen muss. Da der Zinsfuß auf die Dauer nicht bankpolitisch beeinflusst werden kann, so würde, wenn sieh die übrigen Kostenelemente als unzusammendrückbar erweisen, eine **Störung der Produktion und eine Steigerung der Arbeitslosigkeit unvermeidlich.**

Nur Irrtümer über die angeblich wirtschaftsfördernde Wirkung der Konsumausweitung, naiver Glaube an ungeheure Margen und Reserven der Industrie und mangelnde Einsicht in die volkswirtschaftliche Bedeutung einer unter dem Zinsfuß liegenden Rentabilität — die viel mehr als eine bloß Aktionäre berührende Angelegenheit betrachtet wird — verhüllen die Tatsache, dass **Überkonsumtion** vorliegt – was sich auch darin zeigt, dass die Preise der Konsumartikel mehr stiegen, als die der Produktionsmittel – und die Kapitalbildung ungenügend ist.

In solcher Lage müsste und würde eine vernünftig geleitete sozialistische Gemeinschaft Einschränkung der Konsumtion verfügen. In der kapitalistischen Wirtschaft kommt das, von Palliativen abgesehen, auf die Erhöhung der Rücklagen der Industrie und Privater hinaus. Und darum handelt es sich in den Kämpfen der Gegenwart: Zwar erscheint in der privatwirtschaftlich organisierten Wirtschaft jede soziale Funktion im Gewände eines privaten Interesses: aber das Wesen der Sache liegt nicht im Kampf der Klasseninteressen, sondern im Kampf zweier unvereinbarer Allgemeininteressen: Des Interesses an momentaner Konsumtion und des Interesses am Ausbau des Produkionsapparates, des Interesses der Gegenwart und des Interesse der Zukunft.

*

Dieser Gedankengang deckt sich im wesentlichen mit den Auffassungen, die an dieser Stelle nicht erst in der jetzigen Depression, sondern bereits in der vorangegangenen Zeit der Hochkonjunktur dauernd geäußert worden sind. Allerdings hat Prof. Schumpe-ter seine Ausführungen über zu weit getriebene Konsumausweitung zu einseitig auf die Lohnempfänger, von denen im übrigens auch nur ein Teil „eine nicht wesentlich unter 20 %. liegende Steigerung seines Reallohnes erzielen konnte", abgestellt. Auch ein großer Teil der Unternehmerschicht hat seinen Konsum gegenüber dein Vorkriegsstandard sehr beträchtlich, wohl beträchtlicher noch als die Arbeitnehmerschaft ausgeweitet, und auch dieses „Über die Verhältnisse leben" der Unternehmerschicht verhindert die notwendige Anreicherung der Kapitalreserven in der Wirtschaft. Im übrigen über-sieht Schumpeter, dass es eine Art der Erhöhung des Reallohnes gibt, die nicht nur ungefährlich, sondern auch wirtschaftlich und kapitalistisch höchst produktiv ist: nämlich die Erhöhung des Reallohns durch sinkende Preise. Sie wird nicht nur durch übermäßige Erhöhung der Nominallöhne, sondern auch durch den in Deutschland fast allgemein gewordenen kartellmäßigen „Preisdruck nach oben“ verhindert. Es wäre nützlich gewesen, wenn Schumpeter gerade im Reichsverband der deutschen Industrie auch auf diese beiden Punkte hingewiesen hätte.

Handels-Zeitung des Berliner Tageblatts, 14. Dezember 1928, 2. Beiblatt

Dazu das von der *New York Times* publizierte Telegamm

Ascribe Germany's Troubles To Home Consumption

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BERLIN, Dec. 21.—Professor Schumpeter of Bonn declares that excessive consumption is the chief economic trouble of Germany. He considers that this unduly large consumption was forced up as a result of Germany's foreign loans, and predicts serious decline in trade and increased unemployment when such borrowing ceases.

The Federation of German Industries has made a demand on the government that an official program be prepared for promoting German export trade. The Bureau of Statistics estimates that Germany's share in the world's merchandise export trade during 1927 was only 8 per cent, as against 10.7 per cent in 1913. In the export trade of manufactured goods alone, Germany's share is estimated at 16 per cent, as against 32 per cent in 1913, whereas the proportion of the United States has risen in the same interval from 11 per cent to 17.

The New York Times, December 24, 1928, Page 21

19. Dezember 1929 – Vortrag in der staatswissenschaftlichen Fachschaft der Universität München: Was bleibt von Marx übrig?

Sozialismus und Wirtschaftswissenschaft.

Schumpeters Marx.

Unter den Führern der modernen Wirtschaftswissenschaft beschäftigen sich recht wenige eingehender mit den Lehren von Karl Marx. Der große Führer des wissenschaftlichen Sozialismus wird für überwunden gehalten und doch leben Teile seines Systems selbst dort weiter, wo bürgerliche Wertung oder ehrgeizige Eigenbrötelei schon rein terminologisch alles verändert hat. Schumpeter, ordentlicher Professor an der Universität Bonn, gehört zu den wenigen ganz Ernsten, die wirklich kritisch das historische Gesamtbild der wirtschaftstheoretischen Forschung überschauen und die darüber zu urteilen imstande sind, was Marx der jungen Generation noch geben kann.

Darüber sprach Prof. Schumpeter am Donnerstag abend in der staatswissenschaftlichen Fachschaft der Universität München. Er hat nicht die Argumente der herkömmlichen Marx-Kritik. Was seit Roscher in allen möglichen Variationen gerufen und vom Chor der Subjektivisten und der Unternehmersyndizi begleitet wird — das kümmert Schumpeter nicht. Allen Einzelheiten voran weist er gleich auf das Entscheidende hin: auf die Zuversicht der Massen, begründet in Marx' Lehre von der unentrinnbaren geschichtlichen Notwendigkeit, mit der sich die kapitalistische Wirtschaft zum Sozialismus entwickelt. Dies, von den Massen als reine Erkenntnis erfaßt und empfunden, ist für Schumpeter einfach Glaube, und nur so läßt er Marx gelten. Aber Marx selbst hat in entscheidenden Punkten seine Entwicklungslehre im schroffsten Gegensatz zu Massengefühlen durchsetzen müssen. Betriebsstillegungen und Betriebsumgestaltungen der Vorkriegszeit sind von Karl Marx und seinen „Schülern" unter Umständen nach der Akkumulationstheorie als eine „notwendige" Erscheinung in der Entwicklung zu einer höheren Produktionsweise erklärt worden. Den Entwicklungsgedanken gerade in solchen Fällen der Arbeiterschaft einzuhämmern, wo sich zunächst alles Menschliche dagegen aufbäumt, das war eine der ungeheuren Leistungen von Karl Marx. Noch Lassalle ging an das Problem der industriellen Reservearmee nur mit Anklagen und Forderungen (Produktivgenossenschaften!) heran. Marx dagegen will eine eiskalte Rechnung über die ökonomischen Bewegungsgesetze aufstellen, unabhängig von Wünschen und vom Wollen. Und wenn Marx selbst mit allen Fasern für die Arbeiterklasse litt und kämpfte, wenn bei ihm Ausdruck und Darstellung manchmal zur Sprache des Herzens werden — keine Wissenschaft hat das Recht, seinem System Werturteile und parteiische Absichten zu unterstellen. Niemand soll sich wundern, wenn die „Marxisten" derartige Kritiker nicht nur intellektuell, sondern nach der persönlichen Moral beurteilen. Schumpeter, der dieses Verhalten kritisierte, könnte es verstehen; er hat sich am Donnerstag zwar nicht bemüht, der Frage auf den Grund zu gehen, aber er ist Marx dadurch gerecht geworden, daß er die „materialistische Geschichtsauffassung" als ökonomische Geschichtstheorie annimmt und sie brauchbar hält für die Erklärung der grundlegenden politischen Zeitvorgänge und der allgemeinen Kulturerscheinungen. Hier ist Schumpeter so streng, daß er sogar die Einwürfe Eduard Bernsteins ablehnt.

Schumpeters Ablehnung der Wert- und Mehrwerttheorie von Marx — er hat jedoch den dritten Band des „Kapital" nicht gewürdigt — wird dadurch wettgemacht, daß er auf anderen Grundlagen zu Anschauungen über die kapitalistische Entwicklung kommt, die, wie bei Sombart, den Marxschen Begriffen gar nicht so weit entfernt sind.

Am wertvollsten war Schumpeters Mahnung an die jungen Wirtschaftstheoretiker. Marx gebe, so sagte er, dem werdenden Sozialisten die Botschaft, daß die Erkenntnis gesucht werden muß mit den Mitteln der Zeit. Darum keine lange Erkenntniskritik und Methodologie mehr. So mancher um Schumpeter hat das Philosophische geändert und trotzdem vieles aus dem ökonomischen System von Karl Marx beibehalten, mit dem auch die heutigen Gesetzmäßigkeiten untersucht werden können, wie die wachsende Organisation der kapitalistischen Wirtschaft, die Trennung von Besitz und Führung.

Es ist eigentümlich, daß jener treffende Satz in der Literatur noch nicht verwertet wurde, den einst Friedrich Engels in seinem Vorwort zum ersten Teil des 3. Bandes des „Kapital" geschrieben hat:

„Es versteht sich ja von selbst, daß da, wo die Dinge und ihre gegenseitigen Beziehungen nicht als fixe, sondern als veränderliche aufgefaßt werden, auch ihre Gedankenabbilder, die Begriffe, ebenfalls der Veränderung und Umbildung unterworfen sind, daß man sie nicht in starre Definition einkapselt, sondern in ihrem historischen bzw. logischen Bildungsprozeß entwickelt."

In diesem wirklich marxistischen Geist hat einst Karl Marx einigen französischen „Anhängern", die, wie so viele, sein Werk zum Dogma karrikierten, geschrieben: „Je ne suis pas marxiste."

So wird auch der Satz verständlich, den Schumpeter den großen Toten sprechen läßt: Ich habe zu meiner Zeit, für meine Zeit mein Bestes getan, tue du das gleiche. Dr. G.

Münchener Post, 21./22. Dezember 1929, Seite 4

1. November 1930 – Diskussionsbeitrag: Is German Headed Toward a Revolution?.(Auf einem Empfang der *Foreign Policy Association*)

GERMAN AFFAIRS UNDER CONTROL, SPEAKERS STATE

Germany's leaders are too busy regulating the difficult but progressive flow of governmental activities, and the nation's industrial forces are too well organized to accept seriously any propaganda, hinging on possible revolutionary interruptions, speakers declared in Boston at the opening seasonal luncheon of the Foreign Policy Association at the Copley-Plaza Hotel, Nov. 1

Dr. Carl H. Becker, formerly Prussian Minister of Education, and professor in the University of Berlin, delared possible revolution in Germany is remote. Because of a general disappointment, Germany is in a state of unrest, he said, but order and peace, with greater possibilities for work, are the aims of the people and the Government.

The main reasons for Germany's disappointment he explained rested in the development of a serious crisis in the democratic and parliamentary system and in Germany's international situation.

If Germany is given a fair chance by those demanding reparation payments, the cost of which has placed the nation in a position of continual struggle to keep above the tides of financial collapse, the revolutionary question will be positively dismissed, he said.

Germany's large powerful peasantry, great industrial middle class, more than 1 000 000 small tradesmen and existing regional patriotism constitute the country's bulwark against revolutionary tendencies as nourished by the Communists and so-called Fascists, Josef A. Schumpeter, professor of political economy at the University of Bonn and Visiting lecturer at Harvard, told the audience.

He pointed out that the majority of industrial workmen in Germany are well organized, and follow the lead of the parties in power, the Social Democratic and Center Parties which arc hostile to revolutionary changes. Regional patriotism makes it exceedingly difficult for revolutionary groups to obtain nation-wide support, he said.

In defense of the present Government he explained that foreign observers, generalizing from Russian | and Italian experience, are apt to overlook the absence in Germany of those peculiar circumstances which made anti-parliamentarian revolution possible elsewhere, and to misconceive the nature of the difficulties which led to the present situation in German domestic politics.

Facing a critical state of public finance, the present Government was forced to adopt unpopular means of balancing the budget, he said. This has been used by revolutionary groups to raise a cry about dictatorship In Germany, the professor added.

In endeavoring to meet its obligations under the Young plan, Germany must rely on the proceeds from its exports, he remarked. As these exports are supposed to aggravate the world business depression, he emphasized the need for watchfulness against resultant international complications which might work to undermine the present attitude of confidence.

From Carl J. Friedrich, assistant professor of government at Harvard, University, came the assertion that the crisis through which Germany has been passing does not imply a revolution nor the establishment of an unconstitutional dictatorship. He warned against giving too much credence to journalistic accounts of Germany´s crisis. …

Christian Science Monitor, November 1,1930, Page 1

HINTS DEPRESSION DUE TO YOUNG PLAN

Prof Schumpeter Speaker at Foreign Policy Session

The first luncheon discussion of the 1930-1931 season of the Boston Branch of the Foreign Policy Association was held yesterday afternoon in the foyer and ballroom of the Copley-Plaza. The general subject was "Is Germany Heaced for Revolution?"

The speakers were Dr Carl H. Becker, formerly Prussian Minister for Learning, Culture and Education; Joseph A. Schumpeter, professor of political economy of the University of Bonn, visiting lecturer on economics at Harvard; Carl J. Friedrich, assistant professor of government at Harvard University, and Manley O. Hudson, Bemis professor of international law, of Harvard Law School. Mr Hudson presided.

Prof Schumpeter told the gathering of more than 250 that it is possible that the Young plan may be responsible for the world-wide depression. He declared Germany must make her payments out of exports, and he asserted that exports so greatly increased have considerable to do with creating such a depression by disturbing the market.

Germany, he said, has a great industrial middle class. The workmen are well organized and the Communists there are really the Fascists. The Fascists in the Reichstag, he said, have frightened most of the other parties into cooperation with them, and the situation in Germany, he asserted, is one that needs managing.

The Boston Sunday Globe, November 2, 1931. Page 9

GERMAN UPSET HELD UNLIKELY

Foreign Policy Association Guests Scout Idea of Revolution

UNABLE TO BACK ITALY OR FRANCE

If Germany were permitted to arm and could take sides with Italy or France in their present controversies, her mobilization would be a tremendous incentive to the side which she chose, to become provocative, according to Carl J. Friedrich, assistant professor of government at Harvard, who was one of the four speakers at the foreign policy association luncheon at the Copley-Plaza yesterday. The discussion subject was, "Is Germany Headed Toward a Revolution?"

Although Prof. Friedrich did not mention either of the two potential belligerents by name, he left no doubt in the minds of his audience that he considered the possibility of another European conflict grave. Without Germany, the two sides are now so equally balanced that neither party felt safe in starting trouble, he declared. "The enforced disarmament of Germany is in a sense a most significant safeguard for tiding us over our present emergency," he said.

The speakers were unanimous in the opinion that Germany was not headed toward revolution. The National Socialist movement against the Jews was compared with the American Ku Klux Klan. The Hitlerites were described as a demonstration of excited, youthful "first voters" who "tell the world what they want, although they do not know what they want themselves."

NOT FOND OF REVOLUTIONS

The German does not like revolutions; the "revolution" of 1918-1919 was a revolution only in results, not in aim or methods, declared Dr. Carl H. Becker, former Prussian minister for education. What was called a revolution in 1918 merely marked the beginning of post-war reconstruction, he said. If Germany was successful in overcoming bolshevism then, there can be no fear of bolshevism now, he declared. "There is no tendency to bolshevism in the German soul." Germany would never be driven to communism except in despair because of pressure from the outside.

The reactionary movement against the republic would never succeed, he said. Although the royalist movement still survived in France, no one doubted the permanence of French democracy. In democracies it was some times "fashionable" to belong to an aristocratic movement. The parliamentary system had reached a crisis in other countries. Germany's problem was increased by the fact that her democracy was new, and still in a stage of development.

Josef A. Schumpeter, professor of political economy at the University of Bonn, declared, "The social fabric of Germany is eminently stable." There was a large and powerful peasantry, a great industrial middle-class, and a million small tradesmen, "impervious to anything like revolutionary designs." The majority of the industrial workers were well organized, and were supporting the Social-Democratic or the Centre parties, the two parties which have held the government since the war. He praised the Socialists as a fine, conservative force.

Reparations payments can only be met from an excess on exports, now impossible because of world wide depresion, Prof. Schumpeter said. "Despair may lead to outbreaks which may upset the equilibrium of the German political situation," he added.

Mrs. Marie B. MacDonald, an American of German descent and editor of the National Steuben Society "News," prefaced her discussion of the Hitler movement by explaining that she was not a Hitlerite. Every German believed in the unification of Germany and Austria, and the annulment of the Versailles treaty, advocated by Hitler, she said.

Prof. Friedrich said that the drop in the German birth-rate during and since the war, and her indicated ability to re-absorb the unemployed at a rate of about 500,000 a year indicated clearly that the depression was a temporary emergency and would end. Whereas before the war, there had been four children per family, today there were less than two, while in Berlin the figure was nine-tenths of a child per marriage.

He said that European industries manufacturing materials of war had not been seriously affected by stock market slumps throughout the world.

"A thing like reparations can't be taken out of politics," he said.

"To expect Germany to be cheerful about the matter of reparations is a sheer delusion."

He defended constitutional dictatorships, and said that the dictatorship provided under the German constitution was not to be confused with a dictatorship by force.

Boston Herald, November 2, 1930, Page 30

13. April 1930 – Vortrag in Bonn: Die Zukunft unserer Gesellschaftsordnung

Ferienkurse der Universität

Gestern Mittag sprach im neuen großen Hörsaal vor den Teilnehmern der Kurse und anderen zahlreichen Gästen Professor Dr. Schumpeter über „Die Zukunft unserer Gesellschaftsordnung“ Der Vortrag sollte nicht, wie es in den Kursen gehandhabt wurde, die Wissenschaftliches auf allen Gebieten mithilfe des Vermittelns der Einzelfragen darboten, eine Fachfrage als solche zur Erörterung stellen, vielmehr als ein an eine allgemeine Hörerschaft gerichteter wissenschaftlicher Gruß hingenommen werden. Eingangs wurde gezeigt, wie bei einem solchen Stück von sozialer Prognose, die auf das Gebiet der Sozialwissenschaft führt, die praktische Seite gegeben sei durch den Zusammenhang mit der politischen Bildung, die darauf beruhe, dass man das Richtige vom Unrichtigen, das Mögliche vom Unmöglichen, das, was gestaltet werden kann, von dem, was uns gestaltet, zu unterscheiden vermag. Dazu sei weiter der Zusammenhang mit der politischen Moral gegeben. Die Prognose, die aufgrund einer Gruppe von feststellbaren Tatsachen und Tendenzen zu stellen war, ging aus von der Darlegung eines wirtschaftlichen Faktors, der Frage des wirtschaftlichen Wohlstands. Diese war dahin zu beantworten, dass der reale Wohlstand, den uns der Lebenskostenindex anzeigt, in Deutschland von 1919 bis 1929 auf den Kopf der Bevölkerung gerechnet um 20 % gestiegen sei. Wir sehen hier, dass trotz aller Ereignisse, die über uns dahingingen, die deutsche Wirtschaft sich – wenn auch im Vergleich mit anderen Ländern, zum Beispiel Amerika, sehr wenig – doch vorwärts entwickelt hat. Ähnlich den deutschen liegen die Verhältnisse der englischen Wirtschaft, die die gleichen hemmenden sozial- und steuerpolitischen Umstände aufzuweisen hat. Als ein zweiter Faktor der sozialen Lage war die Bevölkerungszahl zu betrachten. Wenn feststeht dass der Druck der Bevölkerung auf die Nahrungsmittelbasis als eine Quelle von sozialen Schwierigkeiten sich erweise, so sei diese Furcht heute nicht mehr zu hegen. Die von dem großen englischen Volkswirtschaftler Marshall dargelegte Gefahr, die der Menschheit aus der Bevölkerungszunahme drohe, bestehe nicht und wenn auch Bevölkerungswachstum zu einem Sinken des Lebensstandards und damit zu revolutionären Tendenzen führe, so sei für uns aus dem sicheren Umstand, dass die Geburtenziffer nicht zunehmen werde, nach dieser Seite keine soziale Verschiebung vorauszusehen. Als Maximalzahlen seien errechnet, dass bei Konstantbleiben der gegenwärtigen Geburtszahl und Sterblichkeitsverhältnisse Deutschland bis 1960 70 Millionen haben werde, von da ab die Einwohnerzahlen sinken werden bis auf 67 Millionen im Jahre 2000. Zusammenfassend ergab sich, dass aus der Notwendigkeit der Wirtschaft keine Erschütterung explosiver Natur für unsere Gesellschaftsordnung zu erwarten sei. Der Zusammenhang zwischen sozialer Frage und Not sei hier zerrissen. Der allgemeine Wohlstand reiche aus, um die Ernährungsfrage aus ihrer bestimmenden Rolle im Bewusstsein des modernen Menschen zurückzudrängen. Wohl seien kurzfristige Störungen möglich,

so durch Kriege, die heute eine Katastrophe bedeuten würden, da …[33] Anders stellt sich die Lage dar, soweit sie politisch verursacht ist. Während die Wirtschaft nach Stabilität tendiere, so sei eine eigentümliche Diskrepanz zwischen der Struktur der wirtschaftlichen und der politischen Welt vorhanden. Es sei diese Erscheinung zu erklären aus dem Vergleich mit der Zeit vor der industriellen Revolution vor etwa 100 Jahren, die das Bürgertum zur politischen Macht führte. Ähnlich sei heute, beschleunigt durch den Krieg, eine politische Herrschaft der Arbeiter und der als solche zu qualifizierenden Intellektuellen entstanden. Da in der Wirtschaft das Prinzip des Individualismus und Verantwortung des Unternehmers herrsche, so streben hier Politik und Wirtschaft auseinander und entständen die Spannungen unserer Geschichte, aus denen keine günstige Prognose bezüglich der sozialen Stabilität zu sehen[34] sei. Wenn auch der Kapitalismus als Wirtschaftssystem keine Quelle innerer Unfestigkeit bedeute, so schaffe er doch eine soziale Funktion, die mit seinem glatten Wirken unvereinbar sei. Die Krise des demokratisch parlamentarischen Systems rühre daher, dass die politische Macht zu einem Mittel geworden sei, wirtschaftliche Macht zu schaffen und zu erhalten. Es drängten sich hier dem Parlament die Lösung von Fragen auf […][35]. Denn es würde dem Parlament die Lösung von Fragen aufgegeben, die weder seinem Verständnis zugänglich noch aber seiner Macht entrückt seien. Als eine Quelle der Unzufriedenheit geben diese Umstände dem diktatorischen Gedanken Kraft und riefen überall die Forderung nach dem Fachmann wach. Eine große Bedeutung gewinne der wirtschaftliche Faktor aus einer psychologischen Einwirkung, seiner versachlichenden, rationalisierenden Tendenz. Ihr gelte nicht mehr die Macht der Tradition als solche. Diese rationalisierte, nivellierte Geistigkeit sei schlecht vereinbar mit der Form der kapitalistischen Wirtschaft. Es ergab sich so zum Schluss, dass der Kapitalismus auch für die Zukunft ebenso viel zu bieten vermöge, wie in der Vergangenheit. Sein System zeige weder innere Gefahren, noch Anzeichen des sozialen Verfalls, noch habe es seine Aufgaben schon erfüllt. Doch sei die psychische Grundlage dieser Produktionsform zerstört. Der Sozialismus, der als eine erfolgreich auf die Dauer wirksamer Ordnung noch in weiter Ferne stehen dürfte, sei eine Möglichkeit, die bis zu einem gewissen Grade Verarmung bedeute. Der Kapitalismus hingegen schaffe Voraussetzungen für andere Bindungen und sei im Begriff, die Sorge um den Lebensunterhalt immer weiter zu erleichtern. Die Ausführungen, die die Ergebnisse eines weiten wissenschaftlichen Einblicks in einer so lebensvollen Form weitergaben, fanden starker Anteilnahme und dankbaren Beifall der Hörerschaft.

Bonner Zeitung, 14. April 1930, S.7

[33] Druckfehler – im publizierten Text fehlt ein Halbsatz.
[34] Vielleicht ein Druckfehler: „sehen“ für „ziehen“?
[35] Hier sind dem Setzer Zeilen durcheinandergeraten.

Wirtschaft und Kultur.

Zwei Vorträge im Rahmen der Ferienkurse an der Universität Bonn.
Die Zukunft unserer Gesellschaftsordnung.

Im Ferienkursus der Universität Bonn hielt am Sontagmittag Professor Dr. Sumpeter, der bekannte Bonner Wirtschaftstheoretiker, vor zahlreichen Zuhörern einen Vortrag: über die Zukunft unserer Gesellschaftsordnung. Die Ausführungen Schumpeters konzentrierten sich auf die Beantwortung der Frage: Enthält unsere ökonimische Situation sozialen Sprengstoff? Das Objekt seiner Untersuchung war zunächst die Feststellung des Verhältnisses von Nahrungsmittelspielraum zum Bevölkerungsspielraum. Die Konsummenge ist durch die Verschiebung im Altersaufbau gewachsen. Wie steht es aber nun mit dem Malthusischen Gesetz, das besagt: Die Bevölkerung wächst über die vorhandene Nahrungsmittelmenge hinaus, so daß soziale Spannungen im Gesellschaftsgebäude entstehen. Das ist für Deutschland nicht der Fall. Prof. Schumpeter erklärte, daß die Quote zwischen Nahrungsmittelmenge und Bevölkerungszahl in der Zukunft keine allzu große Differenzen aufweisen wird, da bei gleichbleibender Geburts- und Sterbeziffer die Bevölkerung Deutschlands im Jahre 1960 höchstens 70 Millionen und im Jahre 2000 höchstens nur 67 Millionen betragen wird. Man muß aber annehmen, daß die Geburtenziffer weiter sinken wird, so daß die Gefahr des Pressens des Nahrungsmittelspielraums gegen die Bevölkerungszahl im Sinne einer Umstellung der sozialen Ordnung nicht zu erwarten ist.

Für die Zukunft unserer Gesellschaftsordnung ist ferner die Stellung der Wirtschaftswelt zur politischen Welt entscheidend. Die Gegensätzlichkeit dieser beiden Faktoren beginnt mit dem kapitalistischen Wirtschaftssystem, das zum Wirtschaftserfolg und damit zur sozialen Machtstellung führt. Politik und Wirtschaft überschneiden sich in ihren Interessen. Und solange in den Parlamenten Nichtfachmänner über wirtschaftliche Fragen, wie Schichtungswesen, Kartellfragen usw., entscheiden, wird es Spannungen zwischen Wirt und Politik geben. Darin liegt heute das soziale Problem unserer Zeit. Zum Ausgleich dieser Spannungen finden wir heute die Ideologien des Rätesystems, des ständischen Prinzips, die in ihrer praktischen Verwirklichung für die Schichtung der sozialen Ordnung entscheidend sind. Den Ausführungen von Prof. Schumpeter zollte man lebhaften Beifall.

Deutsche Reichs-Zeitung, 14. April 1930, S. 6

28.12.1930 – Vortrag und Aufsatz: The Present Word Depression (Meeting der AEA - Cleveland, Ohio)

ECONOMISTS EXPECT BUSINESS UPSWING

With Industrial Impetus in the Spring, They Look for Advance, but Not Normality, in 1931.

ADMIT SEVERITY OF SLUMP

Experts at Cleveland Session Say Idleness, Failures and Pay Cuts Will Continue.

BUT HOLD 'BOTTOM' IS NEAR

Carl Snyder Denies Overproduction Is Cause of Depression—Blames "Speculative Mania."

By LOUIS STARK.

Special to The New York Times.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 31.—Beginning with a "pseudo-boom" next Spring, business by the end of 1931 will show an appreciable swing upgrade but will not reach normal in the next twelve months, according to cautious but optimistic statements by noted economists and statisticians today at meetings of the American Economic Association and the American Statistical Association.

The experts spoke frankly, making no attempt to minimize their belief that the present world-wide depression was the most severe on record because of the universality of the extraordinary fall in commodity prices.

The depression was now at or near the bottom, they said, adding that, although next Winter would show a more acute unemployment situation, this would not be because of an increase in unemployment but because it would be the third Winter of idleness for many.

Gains Over 1930 Predicted.

Nevertheless, despite another year of growing unrest and increasingly radical proposals, the economists predicted that the average of exports would increase, building construction would gain, the iron and steel business would appreciate, the automobile manufacturing industry would advance beyond 1930, net profits based on the New York Federal Reserve figures would rise, possibly by 10 per cent, and on the whole 1931 would show a fair prospect of progressive improvement instead of being characterized by current decline.

On the other side of the ledger, according to the economists and statisticians, 1931 will witness more commercial failures than 1930, while average weekly earnings of workers will be lower.

Among the speakers were Carl Snyder, of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York; Colonel Leonard P. Ayres, of the Cleveland Trust Company, and Lionel D. Eadie, of the American Capital Corporation.

Overproduction Is Denied.

Mr. Snyder, in an analysis of the 1930 depression, disputed the popular belief that it was caused mainly by over-production. By graphs and charts he indicated that during the boom years of 1928 and 1929 there was no over-production of commodities which, he asserted, increased in the same normal ratio as in twenty years prior to 1928-29.

While he ruled out over-production, he agreed with the recent statement of Sir Charles Addis, the British fiscal authority, that the present depression was "the most serious in 100 years."

Mr. Snyder warned against accepting figures of basic production, which show a 20 to 30 per cent decline below normal, as a true measure of the decline in total trade of the country, which might not even be one-third as much.

The present indices, he said, "confirm for this country at least this much of Sir Charles Addis's estimate that the present depression is one of the most severe of which we have any definite measure."

The problem of whether industrial depressions were steadily extending, if not in intensity at least in area and numbers involved, made "most of our so-called international problems sink to a minor place," in his opinion.

"Collapse of Speculative Mania."

Mr. Snyder referred to the "collapse of the speculative mania in the United States last year," which he said reacted upon a world in none too buoyant a condition. Many countries were directly dependent upon the United States either through our immense purchases of raw material or through loans of many billions, relying in this way on this country for such well-being as they enjoyed, he said.

"But there was one event of far-reaching effect," declared Mr. Snyder. "This was the high money rates prevailing in the United States in consequence of our speculative madness and the inevitable attraction to this country of foreign funds to which this gave rise. The concatenation of circumstances was peculiar."

Gold Concentration and Credit.

As a result of rising stock prices and rising interest rates, this country, he explained, drew gold from nations which could not afford to lose any. When interest rates rose to extreme figures foreign loans were cut off and the central banks of the world were compelled to raise their discount rates to figures prohibitive to free borrowing by merchants.

The result, he said, was a severe crimp in the credit in almost every nation in the world, save France, at a time when in this country the effect of rising interest rates upon business and bank credit had begun to be felt.

Arising out of this conjuncture, he added, the United States and France now have about two-thirds of the world's visible stock of monetary gold.

"This amazing gain by these two countries must have been one of the forces to give to the present depression its singular and unexampled universality and likewise to accentuate the most extraordinary fall in commodity prices, aside from the direct aftermath of the war, of which, apparently, we have any record," he declared. "It is this fall in prices that for some countries has been of almost catastrophic severity, which most distinctly marks off the present depression from its predecessors."

Ayres Terms Depression "Deepest."

Colonel Ayres said that the present eighteen-months decline was not the longest on record, the depression of 1881 to 1885 having lasted forty-five months, but was deeper than any.

The nation was about at the end of the downward swing of the business cycle, Colonel Ayres continued, and it was fair to expect that the next major development would lead to recovery, perhaps from slow beginnings.

The most probable development, in his opinion, was that 1931 would be a year of recovery, beginning in the Spring with the maximum impulse from the automobile and construction industry. He then made the forecast concerning the possibilities in the iron and steel industry, the extent of commercial failures, the drop in weekly earnings and the increase in net profits.

Emphasizing that the spreading of rumors concerning the stability of financial organizations was one of the problems that made the situation more difficult, he deplored the "easy credulity with which the public accepts rumors which seriously undermine public confidence."

Pointing out that nobody in the United States or abroad foresaw what would happen in 1930, Colonel Ayres declared that economists and statisticians would either meet the challenge of the depression and intensify their research so that they might forecast such slumps, or else this task would be taken over by business men and bankers.

In the latter event, economists, he asserted, would find their subjects relegated to innocuous cultural courses in schools and colleges and statisticians would find themselves reduced to clerical workers in the corporations which they serve.

Edie Warns of "Pseudo-Boom."

Mr. Edie was the speaker who asserted that the unemployment situation next year would be more acute. He predicted that in the Spring there would be an upward swing, or "pseudo-boom," probably followed by a decline.

Permanent improvement by the end of next year, he said, depended on the crop situation, on the policy of the Federal Reserve Board and on the growing war tension in Europe.

The most important credit manifestation in the last four years, according to Mr. Edie, was the flight of capital from the interior of the United States to New York and the other large cities. This situation, which showed that business in the interior was in a disturbed state, he said, was closely interwoven with the sharp deflation of commodity prices in the United States and the rest of the world.

There was no evidence that the flight of this capital has been checked, he added. Permanent recovery rested partly upon the return of confidence in the Middle West and the consequent stemming of the flight of capital from that section, he concluded.

Dr. Joseph Schumpeter of the University of Bonn, visiting professor at Harvard University, said that 90 per cent of the phenomena associated with the 1930 depression could be accounted for by the expansion of productive capacity of agriculture and machinery resulting from the war "abnormalities" such as payments of "non-commercial debts of a political character," the flight of capital from some countries and the comparatively high rate of wages paid in certain countries.

The American Economic Association, which elected Dr. E. L. Bogart of the University of Illinois as its president, adjourned its meeting tonight.

New York Times, January 1.1931, Page 11

THE PRESENT WORLD DEPRESSION: A TENTATIVE DIAGNOSIS

BY JOSEF SCH UMPETER University of Bonn

Like every other individual phenomenon, a given depression can only be explained by many factors, the number of which depends on the accuracy desired and, therefore, is indefinitely large. In this sense any explanation pointing to one factor only can have no other meaning than that a given situation is so very much dominated by that factor that we may neglect the others in a first approximation.

Yet there is another sense in which it is permissible to look for the cause of depressions in general. The meaning of this becomes obvious if we ask: Assuming a perfect absence of disturbing influences acting from without on the economic system, is there, or is there not, reason to expect that there would still be industrial fluctuations or alternating periods of prosperity and depression? "Influences acting from without" must be interpreted to mean not only occurrences such as earthquakes and wars, but also chance occurrences not subject to economic volition, such as gold discoveries or harvests (so far as these are due to accident) and even such things as changes in tariff policy or banking legislation. Although it is that question which constitutes the basic scientific problem, "the other circumstances" may have much more importance in accounting for what actually happens in any given individual case.

Hence the first thing we have to ask is whether the present world depression can be so accounted for; i.e., whether it can be attributed to a number of unfortunate events which interrupted what otherwise would have been continued prosperity or at least an even flow of economic life. The answer is in the negative. Changes in method of production in the widest sense of the word, such as have occurred in the period following upon the post-war crisis, necessarily create disturbances in the economic organism sufficient to produce a period of adaptation or recession. Disturbances of this kind differ among each other not only in intensity but also according to the time which must elapse before the new things created take their full effect; i.e., in most cases, before the products of the new plans reach the consumer's market. Theoretically we should, therefore, expect an indefinite number of waves to be concurrently in motion and to produce different business situations by their interference with each other. So far the existence of three kinds of waves (the "long waves," then what may be termed the Juglar cycle, and finally the forty-

month cycle) seem to be established with greater or less certainty. It is probable that 1930 has at least in its second half fallen into the trough of such a forty-month cycle, and certain that the whole of the year forms part of the down-grade phase of a Juglar cycle as well as of a "long wave."

The depression which would have been due anyhow, but which might have been brought home to the nations concerned by no more serious symptoms than decreasing rates of increase, has been and still is under the influence of outside factors, some of which have helped to bring it about while others merely intensified it or made adaptation and recovery more difficult. The industrial depression has undoubtedly been intensified, and in its severity is partly due to the agrarian crisis which we observe in nearly all countries. This phenomenon is complex and of different character with different nations. One element in it, especially in the United States, cannot be separated from the industrial depression, because it is really part of it; namely, important changes in methods of agrarian production which have been one of the outstanding features of the last decade. It would not be easy to find so good an example of the manner in which productive innovation bears hard on those who are unable to adopt it. But for various reasons there would be an agrarian depression quite independent in its nature of the industrial depression. This agrarian depression would, furthermore, have been intensified in any case by the fact that in some countries, especially in Germany, protective tariffs have created an uneconomically large ex-tension of the area under cultivation. As far as the agrarian crisis is an independent phenomenon, it must be listed as an "outside factor" which makes things worse than they otherwise would be.

It is easy to exaggerate the influence of monetary policy in contributing to the present situation. Yet it is obvious that if a monetary system exactly equal in all particulars to the pre-war system were re-introduced, prices would have to come down to a level lower than that of 1913. Although we are not confronted with this case, yet we have an approximation to it, and it is impossible to treat the consequences as negligible. Especially in England, depression is undoubtedly partly due to the policy which culminated in the gold standard act, which for various reasons has taken some time to evolve its full effects.

Related to this are the effects of reparation and inter-allied payments. They are a contributory cause of the deflation policy of the countries concerned, and they create a stream of exports which would not otherwise exist. The effect of reparation payments is in this respect equivalent to a rebate offered by Germany on her goods. In absolute quantity this effect may not be very important, but even a small additional supply disorganizes markets already weak.

Similarly the flight of capital from some countries, acting in the same way, makes for more intensive depression. This flight, which we observe especially in Germany and to a lesser degree in England, is mainly a flight from oppressive taxation and may, therefore, be made to enter under the heading of changes in political structure uncongenial to capitalist activity, or of political disturbances generally.

The depression has not been brought about by the rate of wages, but having been brought about by other factors, is much intensified by this factor. The causes are different in different countries but everywhere wages are higher than is compatible with full employment. This statement does not mean that unemployment in its present extent is due to the rate of wages. But part of it is, as shown by the unusually high figures during the preceding prosperity. Moreover our statement does not mean that the rate of wages is too high in any other sense or that the policy of high wages is a mistaken one. For there may be compensating advantages to it.

The fall in short-time money rates has for various reasons not been followed by a sufficient fall in long-time rates, which fact must delay the emergence of those activities which usually precede general revival. The importance of this element must not, however, be exaggerated. There are wide strata of industry in all countries which in a depression as severe as the present one would not borrow even if credit were offered to them for nothing. It is easier to dampen prosperity by a high rate of interest than to alleviate depression by a low one.

Both level and system of prices have lost some of the elasticity they used to have. All commodities under strict control account for a special class of difficulties both when they fail to adapt themselves and when the control breaks down, as has happened with some of the most important of them. These breakdowns while in some cases due to the depression itself, have in others been independent of it so as to act as additional factors of the situation.

It is believed that these elements of the situation account for 90 per cent of the values of the measureable symptoms. But there are many factors of minor or local importance, which are sometimes unduly stressed and the stressing of which sometimes spells definite economic error, but which it would be wrong to overlook entirely. So breakdowns of stock exchange speculation may intensify a depression or even be the immediate cause of the location of a turning point, although it would be quite wrong to look upon them as a cause. So may the system of installment payments, encouraging as it does the spending of expected income, add to difficulties if a change has occurred. And probably the best authorities in the field would agree that present-day tariff policies, while they may soften in special cases the effects of existing depression, have the tendency to develop strains and untenable positions, and

that in this sense they may be counted among the contributory factors of the situation.

Without entering into the problems of remedial policy it may be stated that there is no difficulty in devising on the basis of this diagnosis remedies both for the situation in general and for any particular feature of it. In cases like the one before us economics is not inferior to, say, medicine either in diagnosis or in remedial advice. The difference and the difficulty lies in the fact that our patients will not take what we might be able to prescribe.

The American Economic Review, Vol. 21, No. 1, Supplement, Papers and Proceedings of the Forty-third Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association (Mar., 1931), Pages 179-182

30. Dezember 1931 – Das *Berliner Tagblatt* zum Aufsatz "Dauerkrise?" im *Deutschen Volkswirt*

Prophezeiungen.

„Nur mehr zwei Monate wird die große Krise dauern."

Montagu Norman, der Gouverneur der Bank von England, hat den Orakelspruch dem Chef der griechischen Nationalbank anvertraut und von Athen aus erfährt die Welt die beglückende Botschaft, die Norman merkwürdigerweise seinen eigenen Landsleuten vorenthalten hat. Die arme Welt, bemerkt der Wiener „Tag", sie ist ziemlich skeptisch geworden und Orakelsprüche machen keinen großen Eindruck mehr. Aber immerhin horcht man auf, wenn mit solcher Bestimmtheit ein so nahes Ende des Elends vorausgesagt wird. Leider wird uns nicht mitgeteilt, wie der Gouverneur der Bank von England seine Ansicht begründet. Es wäre sehr interessant zu erfahren, auf welche Weise nach seiner Ansicht in einem wahrhaft rasenden Tempo die Welt gerettet werden könnte. Unverbesserliche Pessimisten werden freilich darauf aufmerksam machen, daß Montagu Normann sein eigenes Land nicht vor einer furchtbaren Währungskrise bewahren konnte und daß die Währungsschwierigkeiten in Europa nicht zuletzt auf die Schaffung der sogenannten „geborgten Währungen" zurückzuführen sind, die auf seinen Rat, ja beinahe auf seinen Befehl erfolgt ist. Norman ist allen, gerade in England besonders ängstlich gehüteten, alten Gebräuchen zuwider, dreizehnmal hintereinander zum Gouverneur der Bank von England gewählt worden. Auch heuer wird er neuerlich an die Spitze des Institutes gestellt werden, obwohl seine Stabilisierungspolitik letzten Endes Schiffbruch erlitten hat. Aber das ist Sache der Londoner Bankiers, die von alters her die Bank von England beherrschen. Allen anderen Menschen wird man es nicht übel nehmen können, wenn sie gewisse Zweifel in den Wert von Normans Prophezeiung setzen.

Andere Propheten

haben, wie es üblich ist, um die Weihnachtszeit ihre Vorhersagen für die Zukunft gemacht. Bemerkenswert erscheinen insbesondere die Darlegungen von zwei deutschen Nationalökonomen, des Berliner Professors M. J. Bonn und des ehemaligen österreichischen Finanzministers Josef Schumpeter, der in Bonn als Universitätsprofessor wirkt. Beide kommen sie in ihren Weihnachtsartikeln zu dem Ergebnis, daß die Weltkrise vor allem eine politische und erst dann eine wirtschaftliche ist. Bonn sieht die nächste Zukunft sehr düster. Er meint, es seien für die nächste Zeit wohl hier und dort leichte Symptome einer herannahenden Besserung zu erwarten, zu dieser Besserung selbst aber werde es nicht kommen, weil die Politiker ein Abklingen der Krise verhindern werden. Schumpeter meint, es liege etwas Tröstliches darin, daß die wissenschaftlich errechneten Konjunkturkurven für die Jahre 1930 und 1931 unter allen Umständen eine Depression erwarten ließen. Hoffnungslos werde die Situation erst dann werden, wenn im nächsten Jahr, das normaler Weise einen Konjunkturanstieg bringen sollte, die Depression anhält oder sich gar noch weiter verschärft. Er erwartet für 1932 den Beginn einer entscheidenden Besserung der Weltwirtschaftslage. Freilich fügt er dieser Vorhersage vorsichtig hinzu: Wenn ein Patient, der soeben vom Arzt eine tröstliche Diagnose zu hören bekam, von einem Automobil überfahren wird, dann spricht das weder gegen den Arzt noch gegen die Medizin. Und es führen so viele politische Automobile auf der Welt umher. Sicher ist eines: Nicht die gelehrten Nationalökonomen und die praktisch tätigen Wirtschaftsführer, mögen sie nun mit Schuld oder nur mit Unglück beladen sein, tragen in Zukunft die Verantwortung. Es ist klar, daß die Krise zunächst eine politische Lösung erfordert. Die Politiker aller Länder tragen die Verantwortung, mögen die Staatsmänner und die Parlamente dessen eingedenk sein.

Berliner Tagblatt, 30. Dezember 1931, Seite 2

18. Juli 1932 – Schumpeters Bonner Abschiedsvortrag *Tendenz zum Sozialismus?*[36]

Universitätsleben.

Prof. Schumpeters letzter Vortrag in Bonn.
Die Politisch-Akademische Vereinigung

an der Universität Bonn schloß mit dem gestern abgehaltenen Vortragsabend die Reihe der Vorträge im Sommersemester. Prof. Schumpeter, der in allernächster Zeit die Bonner Universität verläßt, sprach über das Thema „Tendenz zum Sozialismus". In seinen von Sachlichkeit getragenen und jeglicher Kritik fernstehenden Ausführungen beleuchtete Prof. Schumpeter alle Punkte, die sich an das Thema anknüpfen lassen. Ausgehend davon, daß ein dauernder Erfolg den Parteien beschieden sei, die es verständen, eine günstige Situation in richtiger Weise auszunützen, erklärte er, die sozialistischen Erfolge seien eine Tatsachenanalyse, die man den Wünschen vorausgestellt habe. Es werfe sich die Frage auf: ist alles das, was wir heute sehen, die Durchbruchsschlacht des Sozialismus? Um diese Frage zu beantworten, müsse man sie von verschiedenen Punkten aus betrachten und behandeln. So ergibt sich zunächst allgemein die Frage, wieweit es überhaupt eine Entwicklung nach dem Sozialismus gibt. Der Nationalismus könne als eine Schutzorganisation des Kapitalismus hingestellt werden. In der marxistischen Idee sei der Sozialismus nicht als Ideal zu betrachten, sondern als eine Entwicklung. Karl Marx sei bestrebt gewesen, sein System zu einer inneren logischen Einstellung zu machen. In der Mitte des 19. Jahrhunderts sei der Gedanke entstanden, „wofür du kämpfst, das kann nicht untergehen."

Zum Konkurrenzkapitalismus bemerkte der Redner, daß er nirgends allein existiere, sondern sich mit Elementen verbinde, die ihn anders gestalteten. Der Bürger sei stets das Ausbeutungsobjekt gewesen. In dem Rationalisierungsprozeß müsse der Bürger seine Selbständigkeit aufgeben. — Der Sozialismus werde im Laufe der Zeit immer mehr möglich. — Der technische Vorgang der Sozialisierung werde immer einfacher und die psychischen Voraussetzungen zum Gelingen nähmen zu. Hier bedeute der Sozialismus die zentrale Beherrschung der Produktionsmittel. Es seien bereits gewaltige Fortschritte der Konzentration zu verzeichnen. Oft würden Regierungen, die nicht sozialisieren wollten, Maßnahmen durchführen, die wie Sozialisierung wirkten. Wenn man von der jetzigen Krise eine Folgerung auf den Krieg ziehe, so sei dieser eine Einwirkung von Außen gewesen, dazu eine Hochblüte des Kapitalismus. Eine moderne Planwirtschaft dürften wir nicht vergleichen mit dem, was noch kommen werde, sondern mit dem, was gewesen sei. Schließlich bemerkte Prof. Schumpeter, daß wir dem Sozialismus in seiner Tendenz zutreiben würden.

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[36] Vgl. hierzu auch Wolfgang F. Stolpers brieflichen Bericht über diesen Vortrag an seine Eltern. In: Wolfgang F. Stolper: Joseph A. Schumpeter – The Public Life of a Private Man. 1994, Princeton: University Press, p.111-112 Wiedergegeben auch in *Josef Alois Schumpeter: Vorträge in der Bonner Zeit.* S. 98. URL: http://www.schumpeter.info/schriften/Bonner%20Vortraege.pdf

Bonner Nachrichten

Prof. Dr. Schumpeter

sprach kurz vor seinem Scheiden von Bonn gestern abend unter sehr großer Anteilnahme im Kreise der Politisch-akademischen Vereinigung über das Thema: „Tendenz zum Sozialismus?" In wissenschaftlich kritischer Linienführung brachten die einsichtsvollen und zeitnahen Darlegungen wertvollste Anregung und reichste Gesichtspunkte für die Einschätzung der sozialistischen Bewegung aller Färbung, der 4 Fünftel der Deutschen heute irgendwie nahe stehen. Zur Beantwortung der Frage: Ist das, was wir heute sehen, die Krise, der Kampf der Gegenwart, die Durchbruchsschlacht des Sozialismus? wurde zunächst die Marxsche Lehre vom Zusammenbruch der kapitalistischen Wirtschaftsform herangezogen und von ihr aus die Zeitlage geprüft. Im Hinblick auf die Rationalisierung mit ihren seelischen Folgerungen ergab sich, daß es zwar nicht richtig ist, daß die Wirtschaft aus sich, als notwendiges Ergebnis eine sozialistische Wirtschaftsform schaffen würde, daß aber unbezweifelbar der Sozialismus im Ablauf der Zeit immer möglicher werde. Die Voraussetzungen hierzu waren deutlich aufzuzeigen an den heute bereits so weit fortgeschrittenen Zusammenfassungen im wirtschaftlichen Leben, die den Sozialisierungsvorgang immer einfacher werden ließen, der in seiner wirtschaftlichen Wirksamkeit klar abgelehnt wurde. Der Weg zu einem Sozialismus, d. h. der zentralen Beherrschung der Produktionsmittel durch eine Organisation, die das Wirtschaftliche aus dem Leben des einzelnen herausnimmt, wird heute vielfach von den Dingen, die über den Kopf der Führer wachsen, aufgezwungen. Bei der gegenwärtigen Krise, die als eine äußere Störung des sehr störungsempfindlichen Kapitalismus, nicht als durch ihn bedingt aufgezeigt wurde, seien die Möglichkeiten einer Voraussage der weiteren Entwicklung sehr erschüttert. Der nationalsozialistischen Bewegung seien viele Möglichkeiten offen. Die Aufgaben gerade des heutigen Deutschland, das seine wirtschaftliche Stellung sich zurückerobern müsse in der Welt, dürften, wenn wir auch dem Sozialismus der Tendenz nach zutreiben, diesem unsere Zeit nicht näher kommen lassen.

März 1932 und danach: – Das ABC der nationalen Disziplin –

Reaktionen auf *A German View: World Depression and Franco-German Economic Relations*

REPARATIONS AND TRADE DEPRESSION

A Bank's Survey

A special supplementary number of Lloyds Bank Review, dealing with world depression and Franco-German economic relations, is issued to-day at 1s. post free. This booklet should help many readers towards an impartial view of the reparations problem, and, with the Lausanne Conference drawing nearer, the bank's idea of sponsoring what is, in effect, a printed debate, was a happy one. The supplement is introduced by Sir William Dampier with a bird's-eye view of the international situation. The representatives of Germany and France respectively are Professor Schumpeter, of Bonn, and M. Jenny, the financial editor of the "Temps," while a summing up is contributed by Sir Arthur Salter, late of the Economic Council of the League of Nations.

It is interesting to see how considerable a measure of agreement there is between the views of Professor Schumpeter and M. Jenny, each, doubtless, representing the more reasonable sections of opinion in his country. Professor Schumpeter, while emphasising the psychological factors which explain the German desire for complete cancellation, does not, as an economist, associate himself with that demand. He admits the possibility of Germany resuming reparation payments when the depression is over, particularly in satisfaction of the net claim of France in respect of the devastated regions. M. Jenny, while insisting on the principle of reparation payments, gives a reasonable description of the relation between reparation and the world depression, and he admits the necessity of a moratorium and a very great reduction in the scale of payments hitherto fixed. His proposal to reduce payments to a little more than a third of the sums due under the Young Plan is a very substantial advance, and the more so because he also contemplates a change in the distribution of the "unconditional payment."

With these views in mind, Sir Arthur Salter has outlined what he feels might be considered by the Lausanne Conference. First, there must be an extension of the moratorium. This should, he considered, either be for a very substantial period, four years or so, during which Germany can have time to recover from the present depression; or for a shorter period, of one or two years, with provision for extension on the basis of a predetermined criterion. Secondly, there must be a reduction of the sums payable thereafter, and it is essential that this reduction should be made at once without waiting to judge of the situation when the moratorium is over, or else the continued uncertainty would be a fatal obstruction to the rebirth of confidence and to general recovery. Moreover, the sums fixed must be such that it will be evident, even now, that they will be well within Germany's capacity; and this means, in practice, that they must be lower than they would be if they were being assessed in normal conditions.

The Guardian, March 22, 1932

Finance and Industry

PATRIOTISM AND BIG

German and French Economists Debate Reparations Problems

CINEMA COMBINES' GOOD REPORT

By *FRANCIS WILLIAMS, Our City Editor*

THERE is one aspect of the recent Royal Mail Steam Packet Group reorganisation scheme to which, in my opinion, too little attention has been paid. It is an aspect which may become more prominent in the future.

It is the insistence on the part of those responsible for this scheme that any serious criticism of it or any refusal on the part of Debenture or other stockholders to agree to it, is against the public interest.

Several of the groups of stockholders concerned have, in fact, expressed their dislike of the scheme but have agreed to accept it when faced with this argument.

Now, while I agree that it is desirable that if possible the Royal Mail Group should be kept together, it seems to me that there are very grave dangers inherent in this policy of calling upon support in the public interest when things go wrong.

Late In The Day

I should feel more happy if there had been the same regard for the public interest when the R.M.S.P. Group and other Groups like it were first being created.

It seems to me that to allow ambitious individuals or groups to get control of a large part of an important industry without any safeguard of any kind, and then, when the scheme fails, to declare that there must be no opposition to whatever reorganisation is proposed, because such opposition would be against the public interest, is to take a somewhat perverted view of business responsibility.

Real Public Interest

After all it is certainly not in the public interest that a large number of the investors should lose their money because the ambitions of one man were greater than his ability.

Nor is it in the public interest that, because of one man's failure, large numbers of people should be thrown out of work.

It is indeed very doubtful whether it is in the public interest that such large groups should ever be created in the form which they take to-day. But these are aspects of the matter rarely put forward by our financial and business leaders.

I suggest that this argument, that opposition to a reconstruction committee's proposals, when one of these huge merger schemes have gone awry, is against the public interest, may lead us into many strange ways.

Dangerous Weapon

Dr. Johnson, it may be recalled, once declared that "patriotism was the last refuge of a scoundrel."

That is a little strong, no doubt, but this appeal to patriotism in order to push through gigantic reconstruction schemes without opposition—though I am sure it is perfectly honest and well intentioned on the part of the R.M.S.P. Trustees—does appear to set up a precedent which may prove a dangerous weapon in the hands of some people.

What we need is more consideration of the public interest before gigantic mergers are created.

We shall then have less need to call upon unfortunate investors and others to make sacrifices when the merger schemes go wrong.

Franco-German Differences

Lloyds Bank has done notable service in the cause of better international understanding by obtaining for a supplementary number of its monthly review an expression of opinion by a distinguished German economist, Professor Joseph Schumpeter, and a distinguished French economist, M. Frédéric Jenny, financial editor of "Le Temps," on Franco-German economic relations.

They are published with an introduction by Sir William Dampier and a summing up by Sir Arthur Salter.

The review can be obtained at the price of 1s. per copy from Lloyds Bank. It should be read by all who are interested in the economic future of Europe.

That there are very grave differences between the German and the French viewpoints on economic questions, and especially on Reparations, is, of course, an international commonplace.

Neither Prof. Schumpeter nor M. Jenny attempts to minimise these differences, which may be well summed up by saying that, as Prof. Schumpeter points out, for France receiving reparations is a sacred right and a prize and symbol of victory. To Germany, paying what Germans characteristically call "the tribute," is moral inequity to be passionately resisted even if the amount were fixed at one guinea a year.

He adds that no Ministry in either country can take up any other standpoint even if it wanted to.

M. Jenny also insists upon the sacredness of reparations payments.

Where They Agree

But when one examines their arguments more closely one finds that, as economists, their differences of opinion are not so great as would at first appear.

Prof. Schumpeter is prepared to agree that Germany can resume reparation payments when the depression is over, especially in satisfaction of France's claim in respect of the devastated regions, while M. Jenny, although insisting that reparations must be paid, is prepared to a very substantial writing down of the total amount.

It must unfortunately be recognised, however, that it is when they each attempt to speak for the public opinion of their countries as they see it that they are most at variance.

It is only when they look at the question from the standpoint of economists attempting to be as impartial as possible that they approach common ground.

And, as Prof. Schumpeter remarks, the real economic interests of nations counts for little in politics.

Lines of Solution

Sir Arthur Salter, in his summing up, takes a comparatively hopeful view of the situation, and suggests a solution on certain lines, which he thinks might well be considered by the Lausanne Conference.

First he states there must obviously be an extension of the moratorium. This should either be for a very substantial period, four years or so, during which Germany can have time to recover from her general depression, or for a shorter period of one or two years, with provision for extension on the basis of a pre-determined criterion.

Secondly, there must be a reduction of the sums payable thereafter, and it is essential that this reduction should be made at once without waiting to judge the situation when the moratorium is over or the continuing uncertainty would be a fatal obstruction to the rebirth of confidence and to general recovery.

Germany's Capacity

Moreover, the sums fixed must be such that it will be evident even now that they will be well within Germany's future capacity, which means, in practice, that they must be lower than they would be likely to be if they were being assessed in normal conditions.

He suggests that in normal circumstances the future annual obligation of Germany might be fixed so as to be about equal to the present unconditional payment, reduced by the application of the Dawes principle of reduction to meet the fall in the level of gold prices, which would mean about 400,000,000 marks.

He suggests, further, that a part of this might be made payable in the form of deliveries in kind or direct constructive work, and that the remainder should be paid in the form of ordinary shares in German railways and principal industrial concerns, carrying no dividend during the moratorium and thereafter subject to a maximum, but otherwise ranking pari passu with ordinary shares.

His proposals are interesting and well worthy of consideration and discussion.

Rubber Shares Fall

As was to be expected, there was a substantial fall in the value of rubber shares on the Stock Exchange yesterday and also in the price of the commodity in consequence of the final breakdown of restriction negotiations.

It has for some time been clear that there was only the very faintest hope that these restrictions would be successful, but the actual announcement has helped to dispirit holders of rubber shares still further.

It is obvious that many of the weaker rubber companies will now almost inevitably be forced to close down.

The failure of restriction may, however, have the beneficial result of forcing upon the directors of rubber companies the need which has long been obvious for drastic internal reconstruction of the industry.

P.C.T. Maintains Dividend

In view of the extremely difficult conditions which have prevailed in the cinema and amusement industry during the past year, Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd., has done extremely well to make a net profit of £485,605 for the year to January 31 last, compared with £506,810 for the previous 12 months.

The report now issued also states that the Ordinary dividend is to be 15 per cent. This is the same as for some years past.

In addition, General Reserve Fund is increased by £45,000, compared with £40,000 last time, while the sum of £83,000 against £75,000 is allowed for Depreciation. A fresh item this time is an amount of £53,000 allowed for Income Tax Reserve, which supplants to some extent Debenture Issue Expenses last time, which required £90,069.

The sum of £120,573 is carried forward in comparison with £114,721 brought into the accounts. New Articles of Association are to be adopted.

Daily Herald, March 22. 1932, Page 10

zu A 548,23

Prenzlauer Zeitung und Kreis-Blatt

Schriftleitung und Geschäftsstelle: Klosterstraße 24

Bezugspreis: Monatlich in Prenzlau 1,70 RM., frei Haus 1,90 RM., durch die Post 1,80 RM. zuzüglich Bestellgeld. Erscheint wöchentlich 6 mal. Im Falle von Betriebsstörung, Arbeitseinstellung oder Aussperrung hat der Bezieher keinen Anspruch auf Lieferung oder Rückzahlung des Bezugsgeldes.

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Täglicher Anzeiger für Prenzlau und die Uckermark

Nummer 72 | Freitag, 25. März 1932 | 137. Jahrgang

Professor Ahnungslos.

Ein deutscher Universitätslehrer tritt für weitere Tributzahlung ein.

Mit peinlicher Ueberraschung liest man in der ausländischen Presse, daß sich ein deutscher Ordinarius, Professor Schumpeter an der Universität Bonn, dazu hergegeben hat, Aeußerungen über die Tribute niederzuschreiben, die der amtlichen deutschen Politik in den Rücken fallen und der geschlossenen Volksmeinung zuwiderlaufen. Zwar liegt uns der Wortlaut dieser Aeußerungen noch nicht vor, sie werden aber im Handelsteil der „Times" dem Sinne nach wiedergegeben. Danach hat Schumpeter erklärt, Deutschland könne, wenn die Depression vorbei sei, die Reparationszahlungen wieder aufnehmen, wenn auch möglichst in der Form von Sachlieferungen. Diese Ausführungen finden sich in einem Artikel, den Schumpeter für eine Sonderbeilage zu dem letzten Monatsbericht der bekannten englischen Lloyd-Bank geschrieben hat und der die deutsche Ansicht darstellen soll, während der Wirtschaftsreferent des „Temps", Frederik Jenny, die französische These vertritt. Der englische Mitarbeiter jener Beilage, Sir Arthur Salter, den wir aus seiner finanziellen Sachverständigentätigkeit beim Völkerbund kennen, glaubt aus Schumpeters Ansicht für uns höchst gefährliche Schlüsse ziehen zu können. Er meint nämlich, Jennys und Schumpeters Standpunkte auf eine Jahreszahlung von 400 Millionen Goldmark vereinigen zu können und er weiß ferner zu berichten, Schumpeter habe die Wiederaufnahme der Zahlungen im Hinblick auf die französischen Forderungen zum Wiederaufbau der zerstörten Gebiete zugestanden. Der Herr Professor Schumpeter hat damit unerhört leichtfertig gehandelt und an Berliner verantwortlicher Stelle höchstes Erstaunen hervorgerufen. Während sonst alle deutschen Theoretiker und Fachleute der Wirtschaft, Parteien und Politiker, Kanzler und Reichspräsident darin einig sind, daß das Tributkapital überholt und zu schließen sei, posaunt hier ein deutscher Professor an weithin sichtbarer Stelle in die Welt hinaus, Deutschland könne wieder Tributzahlungen aufnehmen. Er erkennt damit aufs Neue die französischen „Entschädigungsansprüche" an, welche die Reichsregierung vor kurzem als längst überzahlt nachgewiesen hat. Dieser Kontretant des Herrn Schumpeter ist um so gefährlicher als der Herr Professor offenbar in den angelsächsischen Ländern als einer der größten Autoritäten angesehen wird. Schumpeter, ein geistreichelnder Literat von der Sorte, die Wien nach dem Zusammenbruch stark exportiert hat, scheint den ganzen Ernst des deutschen Kampfes gegen die Tribute so gründlich verschlafen zu haben, wie der Professor im Witzblatt seine Zeit. Wenn es sogar die „Times" für nötig halten, von ihm abzurücken, dann wird sich auch hoffentlich im Deutschen Reich eine „zuständige Stelle" finden, die dem Herrn Professor das ABZ der nationalen Disziplin beibringt.

[37]

[37] Schumpeter hat dem Dekan seiner Fakultät, der ihm diesen Artikel zugesandt hatte, am 31.3.1932 stellungnehmend geantwortet und in diesem Zusammenhang zu seiner Verteidigung u.a. geschrieben: „Ich glaube nicht, dass Herr Hitler selbst sich hätte stärker ausdrücken können, soweit er sich überhaupt artikulierter Ausdrucksformen bedient hätte. Dieser Brief ist in keiner Richtung vertraulich." (Hedtke/Swedberg (Hr.): Joseph A. Schumpeter – Briefe/Letters..Tübingen: J.C. B Mohr (Paul Siebeck) 2000, S. 212/213.) „Prof. Ahnungslos" hatte aber das Glück, dass sich damals kein Schlägertrupp um seine Erziehung gekümmert hat.

Hamburgisches
Welt-Wirtschafts-Archiv

16150 + 0001 BEC

Schumpeter, Joseph A.

Signatur P

Datum 16. April 1932

Hamburger Nachrichten

Nr. 177.

Autoritäten und Tribut-Erpressungen.

Leichtfertigkeit eines Österreichers.

Der „Deutsche Fichte-Bund e. V., Reichsbund für den Kampf gegen Versailles", schreibt uns:

„Als kürzlich ein Bericht der Handelskammer New York durch die Weltpresse ging, in welchem behauptet wurde, daß in Deutschland „verantwortliche Kreise" erklärt hätten, Deutschland könne und werde die Tributleistungen wieder aufnehmen, da wurde in Berliner politischen Kreisen erklärt, daß amtlicherseits nichts davon bekannt sei und die deutsche Regierung unverändert auf Reichskanzler Dr. Brünings „Nein" bestände. Unter diesen Umständen ist es angebracht, auf die Auslassungen eines der größten englischen Finanzunternehmen „Lloyds Bank" hinzuweisen, die auch in der bekannten englischen Londoner Zeitschrift „Financial Times" abgedruckt wurden. Unter dem Titel „Deutsch-französische Wirtschaftsbeziehungen" kommen Autoritäten Deutschlands, Frankreichs und Englands zum Wort. Lloyds Bank beabsichtigte, mit dieser Abhandlung noch vor der Lausanner Tributkonferenz Klarheit über die Zukunft der Tribute zu schaffen.

Als Fachleute werden angeführt: Sir William Dampier, Monsieur Frederic Jenny, der Finanzberater des Pariser „Temps", Sir Artur Salter, ehemaliges Mitglied des Finanzausschusses im Völkerbunde, und ein Deutscher (!), nämlich der ehemalige österreichische Staatssekretär und jetzige Bonner Universitätsprofessor, der Nationalökonom Dr. Joseph Schumpeter. Im Rahmen der Auslassungen der übrigen Herren, die gern weitere deutsche Tribute geleistet sehen möchten, äußert sich Prof. Schumpeter wie folgt:

„Sobald sich die Lage der Weltwirtschaft gebessert hat, wird es Deutschland möglich sein, die Wiedergutmachungszahlungen erneut aufzunehmen, besonders zur Befriedigung des berechtigten französischen Anspruchs auf Wiederaufbau der zerstörten Gebiete... Es wird wirtschaftlich für Deutschland möglich sein, wenn man es durch eine Regelung der Zollverträge unterstützt."

Neben der Zumutung, Deutschland könne weitere Tribute leisten, zeugt es von einer erschreckenden Unkenntnis, wenn man heute noch von Frankreichs zerstörten Gebieten redet. Diese sind längst wieder aufgebaut, bis auf die Teile, die von den Franzosen wegen des lohnenden Fremdenverkehrs künstlich in verwüstetem Zustand erhalten werden. „Der Boche zahlt alles", so sagte schon der ehemalige französische Finanzminister Kloß, der später wegen schwerer Wechselfälschung ins Gefängnis wanderte. Angesichts der ungeheuren deutschen Tributleistungen wagt man heute noch, weitere Trituterpressungen zu befürworten. Es ist ein besonderes Verdienst des Deutschen Fichte-Bundes, daß er in seinen Flugblättern die ungeheuerlichen Erpressungen aufgedeckt hat. Beispielsweise setzte es Frankreich durch, daß Deutschland den Forderungen für den Unterhalt der überhaupt noch nicht geborenen Kinder der französischen Kriegsbeschädigten zustimmen mußte. (Fichtebund-Flugblatt Nr. 53.) Diese Forderungen sind kein Scherz, sondern tatsächlich in der französischen Schadensberechnung enthalten. In seinem Flugblatt Nr. 391 rechnet der Fichte-Bund auf Grund urkundlicher Belege auf, daß aus Deutschland bis Ende 1930 ohne den Wert der Kolonien bereits 72 Milliarden Goldmark an Tributen herausgepreßt worden sind. Die kürzlich erfolgte amtliche deutsche Aufstellung, die bis Ende 1931, also noch ein Jahr weiter reicht, gibt als Gesamtsumme aufgerundet nur 68 Milliarden Goldmark an. Zeugt es etwa von Sorgfalt, daß in dieser Aufstellung beispielsweise der Betrag fehlt, den Frankreich durch seinen Ruhreinbruch gewann? Nach Poincarés eigenen Angaben in der Kammersitzung vom 12. Juni 1929 erbrachte die Ruhraktion nämlich einen Reingewinn von 1,5 Milliarden Franken. Ist es nicht weiterhin erstaunlich, daß der ungeheure Betrag von 3170 Millionen Goldmark, den Deutschland am 7. November 1930 außerhalb des Youngplans in Schuldverschreibungen dem Schatzamt der USA. auslieferte, in der genannten Aufstellung mit nur rund 800 Millionen Goldmark eingesetzt wird?

Bekannte internationale Wirtschafts- und Finanzsachverständige stellten fest, daß die deutschen Tribute den Niedergang der gesamten Weltwirtschaft verursachten. Der schwedische Nationalökonom Professor Cassel weist in einer Abhandlung, betitelt „Frankreichs verbrecherische Reparations-Politik", nach, daß Frankreich auf Grund des gehorteten Goldes einen rücksichtslosen Finanzkrieg führe, der die Weltwirtschaft zugrunde richte. (Fichtebund-Flugblatt Nr. 461. Wer sich eingehender mit diesen Fragen befassen will, der verlange vom Deutschen Fichte-Bund, Hamburg 36, Colonnaden 47, die genannten Flugblätter Nr. 53, 391 und 461, die wie die übrigen 40 deutschen und über 100 fremdsprachigen Ausgaben an die Leser unseres Blattes unentgeltlich abgegeben werden.) Der bekannte englische Finanzmann Dr. Paul Einzig zieht in seinem Buch „Behind the scenes of international finance" in schärfster Form gegen die französische Gold- und Tributpolitik vom Leder. Auch Einzig weist in seinem Buch auf die Gefahr hin, die Frankreichs wahnwitzige Tributpolitik für die gesamte Weltwirtschaft bedeutet. Viel weiter noch als der Finanzmann Einzig geht sein Landsmann, der ehemalige britische Ministerpräsident Lloyd George, einer der „big four", der Urheber des Versailler Diktats und der Tribute. Lloyd George bemüht sich nicht im geringsten, etwa franzosenfeindliche Gesinnung zu verdecken, sondern tritt Frankreich und der französischen Politik mit offener Feindseligkeit entgegen.

Nachdem nun ausländische und durchaus nicht deutschfreundliche Autoritäten den Tributwahnsinn grundsätzlich und vorbehaltlos verurteilt haben, muß es ausgerechnet ein „deutscher" Professor Schumpeter sein, ein Mann, den das Deutsche Reich gastfreundlich aufnahm und ihm einen Wirkungskreis gab, der erklärt, Deutschland werde wieder Tribute bezahlen können. Es ist gelinde gesagt leichtfertig, solche Behauptungen aufzustellen, mit denen Frankreich natürlich im Auslande eifrig hausieren geht. Reichskanzler Dr. Brüning hat in bindender Form erklärt, daß Deutschland keine Tribute mehr zahlen könne und in Zukunft nicht mehr zahlen werde. Der deutsche Reichshaushalt für 1932 bis 1933 enthält zum erstenmal keine Beträge für Tributzahlungen. Was sagt die Reichsregierung zu dem unglaublichen Verhalten des deutschen Staatsbeamten Professor Schumpeter, der ihr in einer Zeit, in der es für das deutsche Volk um Sein oder Nichtsein geht, in den Rücken gefallen ist?

A. G. Lemke.

2. Dezember 1932 – Vortragsankündigung: Internationale Aspekte der Depression (Radcliffe College, Cambridge)

An economic conference is being held at Radcliffe this Saturday, sponsored by the committee on continued education of the Radcliffe College alumnae association. Miss Mary Williams, of this city, is chairman of this committee. The program will include lectures and round table discussions on the general subject: "World Economic Problems of Today." Members of the teaching staff at Harvard and Radcliffe will conduct the lectures and discussions to which all members of the alumnae association are most cordially invited. Professor Sumner H. Slichter of the Harvard business school will address the morning session on the subject of "Methods of Dealing with Unemployment." Professor Josef Schumpeter of the economics department at Harvard will speak in the afternoon on "International Aspects of the Depression." Leading the round table discussions will be Professor Richard S. Meriam, Dr. Douglass V. Brown, Dr. Seymour E. Harris, and Professor Edward S. Mason. The committee in charge of the conference included Mrs. Glennon Gilboy and Miss Margaret Gay, the latter a tutor in history and economics at Radcliffe.

Cambridge Tribune, 2. December 1932

Januar 1933 – Vortrag „In a violently reactionary tone…“: Taxation and Business (School of Business Administration)

TAXATION AND BUSINESS TALK

In an address on "Taxation and Business" before the School of Business Administration, Professor Joseph A. Schumpeter, of the Economics Department of Harvard University, declared that governmental budgets should not be balanced during periods of depressions, but that their surpluses in times of prosperity should be enlarged by increased taxation during the uprising in the business cycle which would ultimately tend to smooth out the cycle itself.

The present business cycle, according to Professor Schumpeter, has been turned into a world-wide catastrophe by operations of a non-business nature.

As the best cure for the present depression, without actual inflation, Professor Schumpeter advocated the floating of a national short-term loan by the Federal government with the sales taxes a means to defray the expense of the new debt which would be thus incurred. The money raised by such a loan should be used for the immediate benefit of the unemployed. Which would quite likely again reach the U. S. treasury via the sales tax. This tax Professor Schumpeter holds would not be difficult for the United States to secure since it was quite easy for Germany to raise a half billion dollars in 1924 and the need in the United States would be just twice that amount.

In a violently reactionary tone Professor Schumpeter assailed the progressive income tax which he largely blames for the present dilemma, declaring that the crises of 1931 was precipitated by heavy taxes in England and Germany, taxes which were so heavy as to virtually drive capital out of existence.

Professor Schumpeter then pointed out that the American business man does not complain about the extent of his taxes but rather about the time at which they are levied. There should be no reduction of taxation during prosperity Professor Schumpeter said because it is then that taxation is least harmful.

The Bee (The University of Buffalo Weekly), Vol 13, January 13, 1933, Page 1

9. Januar 1933 – Vortrag: European Tangle (Fenton Foundation, University of Buffalo)

Economic Crisis Arises From Politics Says Dr. Schumpeter

Continued from Page 1

recovery from the war very creditably. In some of the other countries dictatorships arose, an entirely logical development under the post-war conditions. According to Dr. Schumpeter, the power of the Socialists has come to stay in every European country except Italy, and everywhere a nationalistic opposition glorying in the past and with militaristic ideas, has grown up. In spite of what the Conservative parties may have to offer the masses, it is now impossible to be conservative in Europe without also being nationalistic.

The economic organism feels this unsafe condition of the whole social structure and present problems are insoluble in the particular social structure now prevailing.

The economic problem can be solved, the lecturer stated, if business is allowed to recover without too much interference, and is then taxed for the benefit of agriculture. The political and social aspects of the problem still remain, however, and unless Europe embarks on a definitely socialistic plan, it must take the nationalistic course. The present political situation in Europe prevents the nations from dealing squarely with the United States in the war debts matter, in Dr. Schumpeter's opinion. European statesmen in following their necessarily nationalistic course cannot stand unless they have a strong foreign policy, and thus the United States ought not to expect Europe to live up to the debt contracts at present. The old forms of social existence are vanishing and until new forms are found, the situation is frought with grave danger.

Dr. Schumpeter was introduced by Professor Karl W. Bigelow, of the Department of Economics. At the close of the lecture the audience had the opportunity of asking the speaker questions.

Dr. Schumpeter of Harvard On the "European Tangle"

Dr. Joseph A. Schumpeter, professor of economics at Harvard University, and former finance minister of Austria for several years after the war, spoke on "The European Tangle," under the auspices of the Fenton Foundation of the University of Buffalo on Monday, January 9, at 8:30 P. M. in the ballroom of the Twentieth Century club. Dr. Schumpeter discussed the causes of the world economic crises together with the underlying political and social factors in Europe, and the problems of recovery. He concluded with an explanation of why, in his opinion, the European countries are at the present time unable to deal squarely with the United States in the matter of war debts.

Dr. Schumpeter declared that economic problems cannot be understood unless the deeper political and social facts which lie behind them are at the same time taken into consideration. The speaker pointed out, for example, how political disturbances were a cause of the financial crises of 1931. The German plan for an Anschluss or customs union with Austria would, if carried out, have fortified Germany's position in Europe and it therefore aroused French apprehension. As a result, short-time capital, which is very sensitive to political disturbances, and which at that time was largely supplied by France, either directly or indirectly, was withdrawn. As business everywhere was transacted on these short-time balances, their remigration caused the entire credit structure to fall.

In order to explain Europe's present economic trouble, Dr. Schumpeter went back to the years following the war. A shift of social power came about as a result of the war, the former ruling classes being displaced. In Germany the Socialist party took the helm and accomplished the task of

The Bee (The University of Buffalo Weekly), Vol 13, January 13, 1933, Page 1

16. Januar 1933 – Vortrag zur aktuellen Bank- und Wirtschaftspolitik (der genaue Titel ist nicht bekannt)

BRANCH BANKING WEAK LINKS IN OUR SYSTEM

Professor Schumpeter Gives Illuminating Address to Members of Cambridge Club

In the opinion of Joseph L. Schumpeter, professor of economics at Harvard University, the United States branch banking system is one of the weakest links in our financial structure. In a talk before the Cambridge Club at its meeting at the Continental hotel on Monday evening, Professor Schumpeter said that with fewer and larger banks, there was less liability of closing and if closing was necessary the troubles would be rectified more quickly than would be the case with smaller institutions.

The speaker advocated the funding of a federal debt of five billion dollars, nine hundred million of which would be used by the government to care for the unemployed. Questioned by Professor Edwin H. Hall, the speaker said that distribution of this money could be handled on a basis of the number of unemployed in a given district and through the welfare boards or other recognized agencies. The remainder of the five billions could be made into short term notes and lent to the people of the country.

Professor Schumpeter, while not advocating decreased wages, gave an opinion that if labor could be purchased cheaper industrialists would use more manual labor. At the high cost of labor manufacturers naturally turned to machines.

Professor Schumpeter is one of the best known economists in the country and was selected by Nicholas Murray Butler as one of seventeen economists to consider the ills of government.

Cambridge Tribune, January 20 1933

26. Mai 1933: Bemerkung über die politische Lage in Deutschland

SAYS NAZI GERMANY TO "SETTLE DOWN"

Prof Schumpeter, Harvard, Sails With Prof Taussig

Germany, under Hitler, "looks much worse than she actually is; in a few months the Nazi Government will settle down to a more rational, conservative routine—and then Germany will become a power not only to respect but also, possibly, to fear," asserted Prof Joseph A. Schumpeter, economics professor at Harvard and Minister of Finance in Austria in 1919, last night before he sailed for two months in Europe.

Boarding the Cunarder Scythia, in company with his superior in the Harvard economics department, Prof Frank W. Taussig, Dr Schumpeter declared that Hitler can conduct the Government on a sounder financial basis than would be possible under a parliamentary setup.

The two professors will spend the Summer visiting scholars and universities on the Continent. Prof Taussig is accompanied by his daughter, Dr Helen B. Taussig.

Peabody was well represented at the sailing, from the Cunard docks in East Boston, by a group of business men who came to bid farewell to Patrick H. O'Connor, 83-year-old president of the Peabody Cooperative Bank, a position he had held for the past 37 years. He is on his way to the International Building and Loan Association convention in London.

Accompanying him is his son, Rev Fr George P. O'Conor, pastor of St Mary's Church, Dedham. With a total of 550 passengers in all classes, 320 of them from Boston, the Scythia sailed at 9 o'clock last night, after coming around from New York.

Among the Boston passengers were Miss Mary E. Goddard, Mrs William B. Tyler, Mrs John B. Hawes, Mrs Robert Farley Clark, Miss Mary E. Mitchell, Miss Katie Mitchell, J. Hamilton Kelly and Miss Theresa French.

Daily Boston Globe, May 27,1933, Page 13

Januar 1934, Mai 1936 und März 1939 – Making Light of The Times – eine Publizistische Reaktionen auf *The Economics of the Recovery Program*

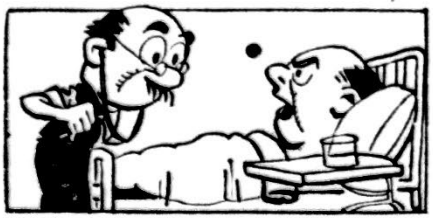
Making Light of The Times

By ERNEST L. MEYER

[Seven Harvard professors have written a book attacking the New Deal. It is called "The Economics of the Recovery Program." One of the contributors is Prof. Joseph A. Schumpeter, former finance minister in Austria. He declares: "Recovery is sound only if it comes of itself. Revival which is merely due to artificial stimulus leaves part of the work of depression undone."—News Item.]

RECENTLY I suffered the misfortune of falling off the capitol dome. It was an undignified descent, and my annoyance was increased by the fact that I broke several legs, eight ribs, fractured my skull, and sustained painful lacerations about the face and torso.

I awoke in a hospital, surrounded by a battalion of nurses and a doctor.



"We will get you on the operating table at once," said the doctor.

"What are you going to do?" I asked.

"We must dress your injuries, trepan your skull, set your broken legs and ribs, and put you in a cast," he said. "If we work fast you may recover."

"Not on your life," I roared angrily. "Recovery is sound only if it comes of itself. You just let me alone and in a couple of years or so my bones will knit."

"Nit," said the doctor.

"Why not?"

"They're splintered. And there's a chunk out of your cranium that won't grow back if you live as long as Methuselah. We must operate immediately."

"You go away," I cried peevishly. "I don't want you to tinker with me. Fundamentally I'm sound, even though I have an assortment of shattered legs and have lost part of my brain-crust. Dr. Schumpeter declares that revival which is merely due to artificial stimulus doesn't last. You can't fool me. You're one of those pesky artificial stimulators, always messing around when you should let things recover by themselves. It's agin the constitution."

"Your constitution will last about four hours," said the doctor. "But since I lack your consent, I can't operate. Good day."

The doctor left, I shooed the nurses out, and I applied myself earnestly to the job of recovering all by myself. This was difficult because the hole in my cranium made it hard to concentrate. I attempted self hypnosis.

"The Schumpeter system will work," I murmured over and over again. "The Schumpeter system. The Schumpeter . . ."

"Beg your pardon. Were you addressing me?" said a voice.

I awoke with a start. I was in heaven. So I must have died in the hospital after all. Near me sat the spectre of a man with whiskers.

"Were you addressing me?" he repeated.

"Are you Prof. Schumpeter of Harvard?"

"I am," he said, bowing.

"How did you die," I asked.

"As you know," he explained, "I wrote a book to prove that recovery is sound only if it comes of itself. This so impressed the administration in Washington that it immediately canceled every existing relief organization, including the CWA, the federal bank deposit guarantee, the AAA, the CCC, and the PWA. Then the administration and I sat on our haunches waiting for recovery to come of itself. We just sat and sat. 'The Schumpeter system will work,' we said, 'the Schumpeter system will work.' "

"And then what happened?"

"We all died last week of advanced old age, starvation, and exposure to frozen assets," said the ghost of Prof. Schumpeter with a hollow groan.

Capital Times, January 34, Page 24

Capital Times reproduzierte die obenstehende Glosse unverändert noch zweimal. Ernest L. Meyers Geleitwort anläßlich der Wiederholung am 1. Mai 1936 (Seite 22) lautete:

[Analysis of speeches by Republican leaders and views of the new Republican Brain Trust indicates that the party will base its coming campaign on the assertion that Roosevelt did not aid but retarded real recovery. This view dates back to a volume issued several years ago by seven Harvard professors, entitled "The Economics of the Recovery Program." One of the contributors was Prof. Joseph A. Schumpeter. He declared: "Recovery is sound only if it comes of itself. Revival which is merely due to artificial stimulus leaves part of the work of depression undone."—News Item.]

Dem zweiten Wiederabdruck von *Making Light of The Times* stellte Ernest L. Meyer am 14.März 1939 (Editorial Page) Folgendes voran:

["Sir," writes a reader who signs himself Disillusioned Democrat, "recently you said some very snide things about Herbert Hoover. He has been much maligned. I voted twice for Roosevelt, and now I'm sorry for it. After six years of the New Deal, what have we got? A mess. We should have heeded the warning printed in a book published some years ago and called 'The Economics of the Recovery Program.' One of the authors, Prof. Joseph A. Schumpeter of Harvard, wrote this significant prophesy: "Recovery is sound only if it comes of itself. Revival which is merely due to artificial stimulus leaves part of the work of depression undone.'"]

HARVARD GROUP RAPS ROOSEVELT RECOVERY PLAN

Says NRA Won't Aid Buying Much.

New York, Jan. 1.—(AP)—A critical analysis of the Roosevelt recovery program was presented today by seven economists of Harvard university in the book, "The Economics of the Recovery Program."

Joseph A. Schumpeter, formerly minister of finance in Austria, believes that in all cases of depression recovery comes of itself.

"Our analysis leads us to believe that recovery is sound only if it does come of itself," he says. "For any revival which is merely due to artificial stimulus leaves part of the work of depression undone and adds, to an undigested remnant of maladjustment, new maladjustment of its own which has to be liquidated in turn, thus threatening business with another crisis ahead."

Sees Blow to Buying.

Edward Chamberlin, writer on economic subjects, says:

"Let us not be deceived by the specious argument that those workers who are employed can purchase more," he said. "Higher wages raise costs and, therefore, prices, with the result that other people can purchase less. Those who are unemployed can purchase nothing at all, except as purchasing power is put into their hands by taking it away from others."

Edward S. Mason, student of the relation of government and industry, writes:

"Nothing in the terms of the NIRA itself justifies us in the conclusion that what is contemplated is an important step in the direction of a planned economy.

"The attack upon competition represented by code provisions limiting machine hours, prorating output, prohibiting sales below cost, and the adoption of superior techniques of production is really an attack upon the consumer."

Attacks Public Works Plan.

Douglass V. Brown, medical economist of the Harvard medical school, states "in summary, it may be said that public works provide no panacea nor recovery. Properly carried out in timely fashion, they may at once provide much needed relief, a measure of results valuable in themselves and a stimulus to an economic mechanism ripe for recovery. At the other extreme, they may be merely a political football and a drain upon harassed treasuries."

Overton H. Taylor, known in the field of the relation of economics to other social sciences, says:

"The real economists' utopia is now and forever laissez faire, in the sense not at all of inactive government, but of a scheme of policy eliminating all interference of all 'politics,' or the power strategy and rivalry of special interests in the fields of business and government, with the orderly, efficient functioning, in the common interest of all, of the system of purely economic activities."

↑ Chicago Tribune, January 2, 1934, Page 4

Recovery Must Come of Itself, Says Economist

Analysis of Roosevelt's Program Made by Harvard Group.

New York, Jan. 1 (AP).—A critical analysis of the Roosevelt recovery program was presented today by seven economists of Harvard University in the book, "The Economics of the Recovery Program."

Joseph A. Schumpeter, formerly minister of finance in Austria, believes that in all cases of depression, recovery comes of itself.

"* * * our analysis leads us to believe that recovery is sound only if it does come of itself," he says. "For any revival which is merely due to artificial stimulus leaves part of the work of depression undone and adds, to an undigested remnant of maladjustment, new maladjustment which has to be liquidated in turn, thus threatening business with another crisis. Particularly, our story provides a presumption against remedial measures which work through money and credit."

Pay Raise Means Little.

Edward Chamberlin, economics writer, concludes that an increase in salaries and wages or income, which is one of the aims of the Administration program, means little if there is a corresponding increase in price level.

"Let us not be deceived by the specious argument that those workers who are employed can purchase more," he said. "Higher wages raise costs and therefore prices, with the result that other people can purchase less. Those who are unemployed can purchase nothing, except as purchasing power is put into their hands by taking it away from others."

Edward S. Mason, known for studies in the field of the relation of Government and industry, writes:

"Nothing in the terms of the NIRA itself justifies us in the conclusion that what is contemplated is an important step in the direction of a planned economy."

Elimination of unfair competition, he believes, is not likely to constitute an important step toward recovery, and he says many angles of cutthroat competition are not to be condemned.

Attack on Consumers.

"The attack upon competition represented by code provisions limiting machine hours, prorating output, prohibiting sales below cost and adoption of superior techniques of production, is really an attack upon the consumer," says Mr. Mason.

Douglass V. Brown, medical economist of the Harvard Medical School, states: "In summary it may be said that public works provide no panacea for recovery. Properly carried out in timely fashion, they may at once provide much-needed relief, a measure of results valuable in themselves and a stimulus to an economic mechanism ripe for recovery. At the other extreme, they may be merely a political football and a drain upon harassed treasuries."

↑The Washington Post, January 2, 1934, Page 5

An Analysis of the New Deal by Seven Economists

THE ECONOMICS OF THE RECOVERY PROGRAM. A Discussion of the New Deal. By Seven Harvard Economists. viii+188 pp. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company. $1.50.

By HERBERT C. PELL

THIS book discusses the administration's program, as seen by professional economists. The authors begin with the statement: "It is in no sense a pronouncement from the departments of Harvard University." They have avoided the use of too much technical language, and, as a whole, the book is a fair discussion of the economics of the Roosevelt plan.

Professor Joseph A. Schumpeter, writing on "Depressions," after an interesting account of the crises of 1825 and of 1873, on Page 17 says: "The crucial point of these reforms lies in the coincidence of a political atmosphere exceptionally favorable, and an economic situation exceptionally unfavorable, to their success." On the whole, he concludes that there is not much to do except to watch by the bedside and let the patient get up as best he can. Professor Schumpeter would rely on the vis medicatrix naturae, and evidently believes the old maxim that "there is more difference between a good doctor and a bad one than between a good one and none at all."

Professor Edward Chamberlin, discussing "Purchasing Power," says that most of the efforts to increase the purchasing power of one part of the country have simply transferred it from one pocket to another.

Professor Edward Mason, writing on "Controlling Industry," says, on Page 40, "Strangely enough, business interests in their attack upon the anti-trust laws never appeared to consider that freedom to make agreements for regulation of output and price might carry with it a form of governmental control even more restrictive than those same anti-trust laws they were trying to escape." On Page 47: "Nevertheless, when all these reservations and qualifications are taken into account, the Recovery Act represents a long step toward the recognition and condemnation of unfair and uneconomic competitive practices. It represents a still longer step toward the securing of business cooperation in their elimination."

Professor Douglass V. Brown writes on "Helping the Worker," and on Page 79 he says: "Public works provide no panacea for recovery. Properly carried out in timely fashion, they may at once provide much-needed relief, a measure of results valuable in themselves and a stimulus to an economic mechanism ripe for recovery. At the other extreme, they may be merely a political football."

Professor Seymour Harris wastes a great part of his article, "Higher Prices," on the discussion of a complete government monopoly of expenditure. On Page 136 he says: "To inflate or not to inflate? I may say that it is unfair to argue that the only alternatives are no inflation, or possibly continued deflation, and a catastrophic degree of inflation." He ends his article with a question, "Has it been demonstrated to our satisfaction that supplies of gold, adequate in 1922-1929, have become most inadequate in 1930-1933?" Of course, there is no reason to say there was an adequate metallic supply from 1922 to 1929.

Professor Wassily W. Leontief writes on "Helping the Farmer." He says: "Those farmers who were unable to follow the trend toward the new and lower cost level found the ground slipping from under their feet," and on Page 143, "farm prices certainly would have maintained a considerably higher level if the forced liquidation which has taken place in industry had occurred to the same extent in farming."

Professor Overton Taylor writes on "Economics Versus Politics," and justly protests against "wishful thinking." On Page 165 he says: "The political forces that interfere with or prevent any full attainment of economic rationality in national policies are always in evidence to some extent, even in 'normal' times." On Page 170:

> The real economic interest of every group must lie in an all-around renunciation or very stringent limitation of "class legislation" and of the underlying struggle for power and relative advantage, unless some one group or class can really hope to carry through a social revolution on the Marxian model. There are only these two ways to escape from a struggle, detrimental to all, in spite of the fact that, while it continues, some groups may, for a time, gain more or lose less than others.

After a fair and clear discussion of laissez-faire and its modern implications, Professor Taylor says:

> There is also a danger that the effort to balance rival claims upon the government against each other, not by the economically sound method of limiting each by the other, but by the economically unsound method of giving each as much as seems politically expedient, will become a precedent and make this policy of mutually canceling subsidies more than ever a lasting tendency in our future scheme of things. Economic realism requires us to see political justice to all groups in terms not of equally generous concessions to all, but of equal resistance to all such demands.

This book is a pleasant reminder that liberalism still has its votaries. These seven Catos still cling steadfast to the nineteenth century and they do it with an honesty, an intelligence and a courage that must win the admiration of any fair-minded reader. It is in the mighty name of Adam Smith that they exorcise the New Deal. It is a serious warning, especially to those of us who still mourn over political and economic liberalism.

Putting sentiment aside, we must realize that liberalism in this country died with the defeat of John

Davis in 1924. Some of its principles may be recovered from the wreck, but its great rule, that the State should be merely the umpire in the game of life, is finished, and however much we may regret it, there is no use wasting time in a futile effort to revive the corpse.

The election of Mr. Coolidge marked the beginning of a class war, begun as so many wars are begun, by a well-organized group predestined to certain defeat. In practice, the most any ex-liberal can hope to see will be a government acting as guide and counselor.

To a certain extent, this is the inevitable consequence of a more complex civilization. When I was a boy we could stop on either side of Fifth Avenue; there was no traffic regulation in the whole city. Gradually, rules were introduced as they became necessary. Our commercial life is also becoming more complex, and therefore in need of regulation, which, in many cases, will result in a slowing up of enterprise, just as, on occasions, traffic regulation slows the advance of a particular car.

Our economic structure has become too complicated to be left to the jostling interests of uncontrolled individuals. In our crowded life, A cannot stretch his arms without hitting B on the nose; B's nose, obviously being of more importance than A's relaxation, the rights of A in this case must be curtailed.

This book should be of value both to those who look to the future with confidence and to those who look to the past with regret. It is a fair-minded, though not complimentary, criticism of modern developments. It will not provide much ammunition to the opponents of the administration, and it deserves the consideration of its supporters.

There is, at least, one Harvard graduate who should read this book with care, and in it he will find no reason to alter his general course, although it may well point out to him rocks which may be avoided.

New York Times, February 4, 1934

EXPERTS OPPOSE LIMITING OUTPUT

Commission of Columbia U. Says Increase Marks Way to Prosperity.

By the Associated Press.

NEW YORK, February 5.—Setting forth the view that increasing and not decreasing productivity marks the way to prosperity, the report of the Columbia University Commission on Economic Reconstruction, made public yesterday, cautioned the N. R. A. against "competitive limitation of output at the expense of the present and still more of the future national welfare."

Made after a year of intense survey and signed by 11 economists and sociologists, the report gave this admonition as its first recommendation:

"In the administration of the recovery program, special care should be taken to ensure that the code-making facilities of the national recovery act shall not be made a means for the competitive limitation of output by organized industries."

Three Members Withdrew.

Prof. Robert M. Maciver, chairman of the commission appointed by Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of the university, said the report is "sympathetic in general with the spirit of the new deal and is convinced that it has come to stay."

Three members of the commission withdrew from the work of the report to join the Roosevelt administration and did not sign the report. They are Prof. James H. Rogers, A. A. Berle, jr., and Dr. Leo Wolman.

Urging monetary stabilization without delay, the report appended this note:

"Since this statement was prepared the Government has taken measures toward the stabilization of the dollar which are in harmony with the proposals in this report."

Other recommendations of the commission include:

"We recommend that public works programs should, as a permanent policy, be planned and budgeted sufficiently far in advance to allow them to be conducted on a flexible schedule, being alternately expanded and contracted in accordance with the needs of the business situation and thus serving as a stabilizing influence."

Council Is Recommended.

"We recommend that as soon as feasible, and subject to prices being raised sufficiently internally, the United States should go on record as ready to co-operate with the leading nations in a plan for reconstruction and maintenance of an international monetary standard.

"Finally, we recommend that a national social-economic council, of a purely advisory nature, should be set up and equipped with adequate facilities for research with the duty of recommending to the President and Congress such measures as in its judgment would contribute to the balanced economic development of the country."

In addition to the chairman, the report was signed by James W. Angell, Joseph W. Barker, John M. Clark, Arthur D. Gayer, Alvin H. Hansen, Alvin Johnson, Wesley C. Mitchell, Harlow S. Person, George Soule and Josef Schumpeter.

Butler The Evening Star, February 5, 1934; Page B5

15. Januar 1935 und später – Vortragszyklus (University of Illinois): Capitalism in a Changing World

1. Four Hundred Years of Capitalism

Capital Could Become Cure Of Poverty, Economist Says

"If we were determined to let capitalism work, poverty could be abolished in 50 years. But the sad fact is that we will not let it work," Dr. Joseph A. Schumpeter, Harvard University economist, said last night in the first of a series of four lectures under the Taft Memorial Foundation. The lectures deal with "Capitalism in a Changing World."

Dr. Schumpeter distinguished pure, competitive capitalism as it began four centuries ago and continued for a time, and the "trustified capitalism" of great corporations today. He insisted that pure capitalism never was able to stand alone, the bourgeoisie composing the trading class being compelled to rely upon the protection of robber barons, then of kings, and later of politicians.

The essence of capitalism, he said, is first in the freedom of the entrepreneur to bring together the factors of production and use them with a view to profit, and second the power of the banker to create credit. Thus a business man need not have capital himself, and is not even limited by what others save, but can borrow morethan this.

"The combination of the capitalist bourgeoisie with their feudal rulers," Dr. Schumpeter said, "explains the contours of political and social life in the four centuries since the banker and entrepreneur appeared. The capitalists early began to pay taxes and perform services for the robber barons and princes, in return for tariffs and concessions of various kinds. Competitive capitalism thus developed into trustified capitalism, and in that process capitalism lost its soul.

"In politics and in many other realms," the speaker said, "aptitude to gain a position does not imply aptitude to administer it, but the contrary. This is not true of competitive capitalism, where the process of competition brings to a position the person best fitted to administer it. But under 'trustified capitalism' this no longer obtains. Capitalism at its best and fullest is a thing of the past."

He said the first lecture was intended to lay the foundations for subsequent discussions. Tonight at 8 o'clock he will speak on "Industrial Fluctuations Before And After The War.' The lectures are given in the Laws Memorial Auditorium, University of Cincinnati. They are free to the public. Last night Dr. Schumpeter was introduced by Professor P. T. Ellsworth of the Economics Department.

Cincinnati Enquirer, January 16, 1935, Page 16

2. Industrial Fluctuations Bevor and After the War

Depression Is Normal Economic Phase, With Essential Function, Speaker Says

"It is silly to want to fight depression in the sense that we rightly wish to fight cancer. For cancer has no function in the body, but depressions do have a function in economic life. Depression is physiological, not pathological," Dr. Joseph A. Schumpeter said in the second Taft Memorial lecture at the University of Cincinnati last night.

Building on the foundations of his first lecture on "Four Hundred Years of Capitalism," the Harvard economist took his stand with the let-the-depression-run-its-course school of economic thought. He warned that "remedial policy almost always fights the proper functions of depression as effectively as it does its evils."

"Depression is the harvest time for the working class," Dr. Schumpeter said, smiling as the audience murmured the doubts of laymen. He explained that prosperity should not be considered a good thing and depression bad. Both are normal phases of economic activity, and both perform essential functions, he added.

"In depression, the sum total of real wages is higher than in so-called prosperity, although many workmen feel sorry for themselves," he declared. "From 1873 to 1897 Great Britain and other countries suffered from what is called 'the great depression,' but the wage-earning classes made vast gains in these 24 years."

Cross-examined later on the benefits to labor from depression, he admitted he did not mean periods of extreme depression, but rather long intervals of declining prices.

Dealing with "Industrial Fluctuations Before and After the War," Dr. Schumpeter surveyed the statistical material of the business cycle. He concluded that "the fundamental pattern and mechanism of economic life in general, and of business cycles in particular, are still what they were before the war."

Dr. Schumpeter divided economic history since 1780 into three industrial revolutions, each in two parts. The first phase in each revolution was marked, he said, by huge capital investment and the exploitation of industrial innovations. The second phase was in each instance a period of assimilation, absorption, adaptation, and the elimination of the obsolete.

The speaker gave his approval to the generally accepted belief that the trough of the depression was reached in 1932, and that recovery has been proceeding slowly ever since. He did not spare his own profession, but emphasized the shortcomings of economic "science" by observing:

"You should remember the position of the economist. He is comparable to a physicist in a laboratory at which someone is always throwing bombs."

In this relation he emphasized that a scientific economist can predict what will happen only if he can provide that no incalculable elements will enter into the operation of his economic forces.

With a sly thrust at the manipulation of monetary policy, Dr. Schumpeter added that "you cannot turn to science and expect simple plans and remedies."

The third lecture will be given tonight in the Laws Memorial Auditorium at the University of Cincinnati. The lectures, which deal with "capitalism in a changing world," are free to the public.

Cincinnati Enquirer, January 17, 1935, Page 13

3. The Spoke in the Wheel

Inflationists Worst Cranks, Economist Lecturer Claims; Political Factors Scored

"Excessively high wages, determined resistance to price cutting and adjustment, and, above all, the credit stabilization policy of the Federal Reserve System were responsible for turning a gentle depression into a grave catastrophe," Dr. Joseph A. Schumpeter said in the third Taft Memorial lecture last night at :he University of Cincinnati.

Asserting that unwarranted wages forced employers to find ways of producing with less labor, and that price rigidities blocked the normal function of depression, the Austrian economist saved most of the blame for the errors of credit management.

Specifying that he did not fix the sole responsibility on monetary policy and credit creation, he made clear his belief that any effort to moderate the severity of depression by expanding credit would defeat its purpose. Returning to this theme again, he averred that "the worst of cranks are the inflationists."

As though trying to live up to the label of economics as the "dismal science," Dr. Schumpeter denied even the theoretical possibility of stability in economic life.

"A living organism is never stabilized," he said. "The way to stabilize som body is to kill him. If you try to stabilize prices, yo.. create an artificial profitability of long-term investment, and ɔventually create another maladjustment.

"Pure capitalism would be entirely automatic in its operation," he said, "but this prevails only if industry is made up exclusively of small units. Today there are too many giant corporations, and consequently too many rigidities in prices, wages and in other respects."

The main body of Dr. Schumpeter's lecture was an exposition of the belief that the worst crises in economic life are due, not to economic causes, but to political factors, such as wars and measures regulating business and trade.

Supporting this argument he cited the war and its consequent dislocation of production; the post-war readjustment, involving the correction of some of the temporary wartime factors and the political payments required in the post-war period. These payments, such as reparations and war debts, he said, could have been paid only under conditions of international free trade. When it was decided to demand those payments and finance them by American credits without allowing the commodity balances to readjust themselves, trouble was bound to ensue.

Hammering away continually at the economic chaos resulting from unwise political actions Dr. Schumpeter illustrated by tracing the squandering of a budget surplus in eGrmany year after year between 1925 and 1931. Had these surpluses been used to repay foreign short-term debts the banking crisis of 1931 could have been avoided, he said.

The failure of French politicians to stabilize their finances from 1921 to 1926 was cited as another example. When Poincare finally undertook this task, he said, it was relatively easy, but Poincare's work already has been undone by political-minded leaders since, in great part. Making the wild assumption that politicians can be reasonable, he said smilingly, these and many other major crises could have been kept to the proportions of gentle readjustments.

Dr. Schumpeter was especially emphatic in contending that excessive income taxation would destroy the capitelist system.

"When I was a student in Vienna," he said, "I was warned that an income tax rising in the higher brackets to five per cent would endanger private saving and so endanger the economy of the country. Now 60 per cent is not uncommon in the higher brackets. In Germany for a time no less than 85 per cent of the income from capital was taxed away, and 30 per cent of the national income goes into channels of taxation."

The final lecture of the series will be delivered in the Lawa Memorial Auditorium at 8 o'clock tonight. It will be free to the public. "Diagnosis and Prognosis" is to be the subject.

Cincinnati Enquirer, January 18, 1935, Page 11

4. Diagnosis and Prognosis

Changing Ideas May Doom Capitalism; System's Basic Economy Held To Be Sound

"Modern capitalist society no longer believes in itself and in its own ideas. Its will to live is breaking down. That means very likely that capitalism is doomed. But if it does collapse, it will not be on economic grounds. It will be due to the changed ideas of society," Dr. Joseph A. Schumpeter said in the fourth and final Taft Memorial lecture last night at the University of Cincinnati.

Stepping out of the role of a precise, mathematical economic theorist and into the character of a whimsical philosopher, the former Austrian Finance Minister explored the present and the future of capitalist society.

As economist, he defended the regime of capitalism, and asserted that if allowed to work, it would abolish poverty in 50 years. But as philosopher, he remarked the disintegration of the bourgeois ideology of capitalism, and discerned on the horizon a collective economic society better suited to the changed values of humanity.

"No culture ever was undermined by outside forces," the speaker said. "Nor will capitalism be broken down by Socialism or some other movement. It will be rather the failure of people to believe in their capitalist system, and their refusal to let it operate, that will account for its downfall."

Dr. Schumpeter led up to these conclusions by analyzing the activities of government in periods of crisis. He contended that depressions are necessary, but became crises only because of erroneous policies. He classified such policies in critical periods as (1) expedients or remedies, (2) recovery and reform, and (3) general measures and special measures.

"There are certain remedial measures," he continued, "that every leader approves, regardless of party or economic belief, such as the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and efforts to save people's homes. But nearly all remedial measures tend to fight the proper functions of depression as well as the evils of depression. The worst panacea to try is inflation, for any monetary policy short of wild inflation is ineffective in a crisis, but is sure to produce excesses in the subsequent boom.

It is not true, moreover, that the vicious working of the credit system is upsetting the running of the engine of capitalism, nor that the vicious working of capitalism is upsetting the running of the monetary engine. Rather, both are being upset by vicious policies all over the world.

"Further," the Harvard economist continued, "we learn by quiet analysis of facts that there actually exists a recuperative mechanism, by which economic life does always emerge from depression. There is always and necessarily a 'recovery point.'

"If you stabilize economic life by restricting credit creation, then you slow down material progress. I do not care whether you do this or not. But it is dishonest to attempt stabilization without realizing that it means a slower rate of progress. That probably would apply to a socialist regime."

Dr. Schumpeter denied that excessive saving is a cause of depressions and illustrated this by numerous historical movements. He compared public spending as a recovery measure to the use of morphine by a physician. Morphine will not cure the disease, but there might be cases where it is advisable, either to moderate the patient's suffering, or to quiet him and so avoid the risk of his incurring other maladies in consequence of the pain. Thus public expenditure in depression is not a remedy, economically, but it may be advisable on other grounds.

"The gold standard is a very primitive mechanism," he said in connection with political interference with capitalism, "and it cannot be defended on its merits. But it has the one virtue of being less easily tampered with by politicians than any other monetary system."

Asked regarding the relative efficiencies of Communism and capitalism, Dr. Schumpeter said he could imagine that Communism might be very efficient in some future time when it corresponded to the wants of a people and after they had socialized industry and learned the technic of such a regime.

Dr. Schuempeter's four lectures dealt with "Capitalism in a Changing World." The first was a historical survey of capitalism and its "trustification" in recent times. The second was a study of business cycles. The third dealt with public authority and its destructive influence on pure capitalism.

Cincinnati Enquirer, January 19, 1935, Page 11

Mai 1938 – Schumpeter unterschreibt ein statement "[...] opposing President Roosevelt´s recovery program [...]"

ECONOMIST GROUP ATTACKS 'PRIMING'

National Committee of 56 Teachers and Writers Declares Roosevelt Plan 'Unsound'

MAY SCARE CAPITAL ANEW

Meanwhile, in Radio Talks, Capper Assails Spending Plan as Wagner Defends It

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 22.—The Economists National Committee on Monetary Policy, which has in its membership teachers and writers on economic subjects from universities and financial institutions all over the country, issued a statement today opposing President Roosevelt's recovery program in so far as it means greatly expanded government spending.

"We believe that it is unsound public policy for the Federal Government to resort to a program of greatly expanded governmental spending—so-called 'pump priming'—as a device for overcoming the present depression. We do not believe that such a program offers promise of reaching the roots of our economic difficulties, or of stimulating a sound or sustained business recovery.

"An important question arises as to whether further substantial increase in the Federal debt may not frighten from productive channels more private capital than the government can add through its program of spending.

"Confidence in the credit of the government and in the nation's currency is a basic foundation for that general confidence on which a free flow of private capital and a widespread and healthy expansion of business rest. In the past, the government's protection of its credit and of the soundness of its currency, rather than a program of huge public spending, have apparently aided business in recovery from depressions."

Capper Strikes at Program

In a radio discussion of the President's program, broadcast tonight over the Mutual System, Senator Capper spoke against pump-priming, while Senator Wagner defended the Administration's spending-lending plans.

"The pump-priming program as suggested by the President may produce a slight temporary improvement in economic activities," said Senator Capper.

"I hope it will. While it lasts, the second 'shot in the arm' always makes the patient feel a little better. But what I do say is that pump-priming will not produce a permanent and lasting recovery. If our army of unemployed is to go back to useful work and if the life-giving stream of wages from industry is to begin to flow once more through the stores and banks of our land, it will have to be done largely by private enterprise."

As steps toward stimulating private enterprise, Senator Capper urged government cooperation with business, the elimination of government competition with private enterprise, still further revision in the tax system, including the elimination of tax exemption in public financing, and the amending of the National Labor Relations Act.

Wagner Asks "Bold" Offensive

Senator Wagner contrasted trends today with those that prevailed in 1933 and declared that although "our troubles were smaller our knowledge and power to remedy them are infinitely greater."

"If we learned anything in the bitter years between 1929 and 1933, it was the danger of sitting idly by and allowing the downward spiral to go unchecked," he said. "If we learned anything in the increasingly prosperous years between 1933 and 1937 it was the high value of a bold and intelligent offensive against hard times."

The budget could never be bal-

anced by a penny-wise and pound-foolish policy, said Mr. Wagner. Public expenditures had been like necessary replacements in a factory. Government spending had resulted in increased business and national income up to 1937 and it was only when the government abruptly cut its spending that the business decline began, the Senator added.

"The program of President Roosevelt now before Congress embodies the methods which were so successful when vigorously utilized before," Mr. Wagner said. "It represents policies tested by experience and found wholly necessary to the assurance of business recovery and the satisfaction of human rights."

Signers of the Statement

The signers of the statement made by the Economists National Committee were:

Charles C. Arbuthnot, Western Reserve.
Leonard P. Ayres, Cleveland Trust Company.
George E. Barnett, Johns Hopkins.
Don C. Barrett, Haverford.
James Washington Bell, Northwestern.
Ernest L. Bogart, University of Illinois.
Frederick A. Bradford, Lehigh.
Herbert M. Bratter, Washington, D. C.
J. Ray Cable, Washington University.
Wilbur P. Calhoun, University of Cincinnati.
Neil Carothers, Lehigh.
John M. Chapman, Columbia.
William W. Cumberland, New York City.
Charles A. Dice, Ohio State.
George W. Dowrie, Stanford.
William F. Dunkman, University of Rochester.
D. W. Ellsworth, The Annalist.
William D. Ennis, Stevens Institute.
Clarence W. Fackler, New York University.
Herbert F. Fraser, Swarthmore.
Henry B. Gardner, Brown.
Earl J. Hamilton, Duke.
Lewis H. Haney, New York University.
E. C. Harwood, American Institute for Economic Research.
Hudson B. Hastings, Yale.
Frederick C. Hicks, University of Cincinnati.
John Thom Holdsworth, University of Miami.
Jacob H. Hollander, Johns Hopkins.
F. Cyril James, University of Pennsylvania.
Edwin W. Kemmerer, Princeton.
David Kinley, University of Illinois.
Frederick E. Lee, University of Illinois.
Ray V. Leffler, Dartmouth.
J. L. Leonard, University of Southern California.
A. Wilfred May, New York City.
Margaret G. Myers, Vassar.
Melchoir Palyi, University of Chicago.
Clyde W. Phelps, Chattanooga University.
Charles L. Prather, Syracuse University.
Harold L. Reed, Cornell.
Ralph West Robey, Columbia.
Leland Rex Robinson, New York City.
R. G. Rodkey, University of Michigan.
Olin Glenn Saxon, Yale.
Joseph A. Schumpeter, Harvard.
Walter F. Spahr, New York University.
William H. Steiner, Brooklyn College.
Charles S. Tippetts, University of Pittsburgh.
James B. Trant, Louisiana State University.
Rufus S. Tucker, Westfield, N. J.
Russell Weisman, Western Reserve.
William O. Weyforth, Johns Hopkins.
Nathaniel R. Whitney, Procter & Gamble Company.
Max Winkler, College of the City of New York.
Ivan Wright, University of Illinois.
John Parke Young, Occidental College.

New York Times, May 23; 1938, Page 2

Februar 1939 – Schumpeter schließt sich den geldpolitischen Empfehlungen einer Gruppe von Ökonomen an

ATTACK RIGHT OF ROOSEVELT TO CUT DOLLAR

Republicans and 55 Economists Oppose.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Washington, D. C., Feb. 27.—President Roosevelt's request for continuation of his dollar devaluation powers is headed for stiff opposition, it became apparent today.

Representative Jesse P. Wolcott [R., Mich.] announced that his special seventeen member committee of house Republicans, organized recently to study emergency powers granted to the President, is now analyzing the President's monetary powers and plans to make a recommendation for house Republicans this week.

It is regarded likely that the special committee will urge the Republican minority to vote as a block in opposing extension of the devaluation power, which otherwise expires June 30.

Economists Join Move.

From outside of congress today also came a recommendation from fifty-five leading economists of the nation that the President's power over the dollar be allowed to die. Organized as the economists' national committee on monetary policy, these men said, "there are no adequate reasons for further extension of the President's power to change the gold content of the dollar."

The house committee on coinage, weights, and measures tomorrow morning will begin its consideration of the President's request for extension of the devaluation powers and the 2 billion dollar stabilization fund. Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr. will appear before the committee tomorrow to support the administration's claim for renewal of these powers.

A senate banking and currency subcommittee, of which Carter Glass [D., Va.] is chairman, will convene on Wednesday to consider the same proposals.

Attitude of Glass Doubtful.

Glass never has accepted dollar devaluation, but has not expressed any definite view on the proposed extension of the power. Senator Robert A. Taft [R., O.], a member of the Glass subcommittee, said he was opposed to the continuation of the Presidential powers over the dollar and was also uncertain whether the stabilization fund should be continued. The latter is much more certain of extension than is the dollar tinkering authority.

In general, the opposition attitude is that the President's remaining power to cut the gold content of the dollar to a limit of 50 per cent of its original gold value hangs heavy over the heads of business men, who find uncertainty in the threat of another inflationary move.

The authority was first given the President in the Thomas amendment to the agricultural adjustment act of 1933 and later incorporated in the gold reserve act of 1934, along with similar powers over silver and the operation of the stabilization fund. In January, 1934, Mr. Roosevelt cut the dollar to 59.06 per cent of its former gold value, and the power to devalue farther has been continued since then.

View of Economists.

In its statement against further continuation of this power the committee of economists today said that any further alteration in the gold content of the dollar would necessarily be in a downward direction, and that this would be opposed to the best interests of the country and should not be permitted.

Secretary Morgenthau said today that he had no reply to make to the committee but that it would be made before the proper congressional committees. He released an exchange of correspondence today with Senators Arthur H. Vandenberg [R., Mich.] and Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. [R., Mass.], in which he declined to discuss further operations of the stabilization fund or the 12 million dollar profit which he said had been realized from its operation.

Members of the economists' committee declaring against the dollar powers included James Washington Bell, Northwestern university; Melchior Palyi, University of Chicago; Edwin W. Kemmerer, Princeton university; Joseph A. Schumpeter, Harvard; Frederick A. Bradford and Neil Carothers, Lehigh university; Frederic E. Lee, University of Illinois, and Walter E. Spahr, New York university.

Chicago Tribune, February 28, 1939

20. Okober 1939: Granting Reich New Conquests

Ein Interview zum Verhalten gegenüber den deutschen Okkupationen

Dr. Schumpeter Urges End to War, Granting Reich New Conquests

Holding that even after an allied victory, Germany would remain a totalitarian state, possibly Bolshevik instead of Nazi, Dr. Joseph Alois Schumpeter, Professor of economics at Harvard, yesterday declared in an interview that the best way to solve European problems would be to halt the present war and leave the Greater German boundaries as they are today.

Although by no means convinced that France and England will win, the former Austrian minister of finance spoke with the hypothetical assumption of German defeat.

"It is certainly reasonable to ask what should be done with Germany after an allied victory," said the professor. “There are three possibilities. One is based on possible cries of vengeance and the annihilation of Germany. That would mean reestablishing the border states, cutting what remains of Germany into two or three states, imposing constitutions you approve of and disarming the Germans. No doubt all that could be done but it is outside the realm of practical politics.

"Besides, the border states cannot be reconstructed because, come what may, Russia will be the victor and things will be done in the east at Russia wishes, and not as the allies wish.

"As the gruesome details of such a vengeance treaty became known I assume that public opinion in England and America would rise against it."

A second possibility of attempting peace, said Dr. Schumpeter, would include restitution from Germany, proposed by extremists following the old doctrines of the Versailles treaty. Another Versailles would only bring another war later, he declared, and would not be desirable.

“The third possibility would be an arrangement which would seem acceptable to the German people, which would prevent the whole nation again talking of armament. Such an arrangement must not interfere with the internal political structure.

"Remember, even those Germans not friendly to Hitler would resist efforts to put their government out by force. That resistance is but natural.

“Under this third arrangement Germany should have frontiers which would include Germans by blood and by will. I say by will, because such blood Germans as some Swiss would not live in Germany by will.

"This solution means we must leave Austria in German hands, and the Sudetenland, too. So Czechoslovakia cannot be reconstructed as it was, and the Polish Corridor must be left as it.

"Such a peace would not be so very different from what Germany is actually fighting for today. Hence, it seems that there is no sense in waging this war at any price.

"Humanity should certainly think twice before committing itself to slogans, which not only mean inexpressible suffering, but a strain on the social structure of all the belligerents on both sides. To this strain, the strength of both sides to resist may be inadequate."

The Boston Herald, October 20, 1939, Page 17

Januar 1940 – Consulting the Horoscope

Editorial
OPINION
On News Of The Day

CONSULTING THE HOROSCOPE
(Wall Street Journal)

That is an interesting correlation which Mr. Kilgore reports as the discovery of some Washington "guesstimators"—the word is their own!—indicating a relation between the December production index and the index of production for the succeeding year—especially as it suggests a more optimistic view of 1940 than has generally been held. If 1940 follows December, 1939, production will increase 20 per cent as against 10 per cent of which economists have been talking.

Let us hope that this will prove a true prophecy. But the history of economic statistics resembles in one particular that of the search for the "philosopher's stone," namely, that the hope is ever present that the one fundamental "correlation" which will link past and future in an indissoluble sequence will one day be found. Again and again the searchers have discovered relations which over a considerable time have exhibited constancy only to disappoint their discoverers when applied to the future. This is particularly true of attempts to forecast the stock market's behavior. More experiments have been made in this direction than in all other directions put together. Sometimes the correlations "work" for a time, long enough to persuade the discoverer that at last he has the secret and then . . .!

Speaking yesterday at Philadelphia to the American Statistical association, Prof. Schumpeter of Harvard university warned his hearers "that the economic process is acted upon by an infinite number of disturbing factors and that any theory which holds that all fluctuations are due to a single cause must necessarily be wrong." Statistics and their correlations are the visible resultants of those forces, and Prof. Schumpeter's dictum may throw some light on the inconstancy of correlations when put to the test of forecast. All we know for certain is that no correlation yet devised has fully stood that test.

However, this one has our best wishes for 1940!

Bradford Evenning Star, January 2, 1940

28. Februar 1940 / 1. März 1940 – Zwei Vorträge:
1. Why Has Recovery in the United States Been Unisatifactory?
2. Can Capitalism survive? (University of Illinois)

Announce Speech by Schumpeter for Feb. 28

Harvard Economics Professor to Talk About Recovery

Joseph A. Schumpeter, professo of economics at Harvard university will give a public lecture here Feb 28, it was announced yesterday b the department of economics.

Topic of Mr. Schumpeter's addres will be "Why Has Recovery in th United States Been Unsatisfactory?" He will speak at 7:30 p. m. in th Auditorium.

This will be Mr. Schumpeter's sec ond appearance on the Universit campus, since he delivered a serie of lectures here during the 1913-1 term. At that time he was an ex change professor at Columbia uni versity.

Mr. Schumpeter, who was at on time the Austrian minister of fi nance, has also held professorship at the University of Bonn, the Uni versity of Vienna, and other Aus trian universities. He came to Har vard in 1932.

Recognized as an authority o economic theory, history of econom ic thought, money, and busines cycles, Mr. Schumpeter is the au thor of a two-volume treatment o business cycles.

His works on "Theory of Eco nomic Development" won wide rec ognition.

While on the campus, Mr. Schum peter will also lecture to student majoring in economics at 4 p. m March 1 in 114 Commerce building This lecture, entitled "Can Capital ism Survive"? will also be open t the public.

The Daily Illini, Urbana-Champaign, February 22, 1940, Page 4

1. Why Has Recovery in the United States Been Unisatifactory?

SCHUMPETER OUTLINES CAUSES OF SLOW U. S. RECOVERY

By BOB HAY '42

Taxation, the wage policy, and the industrial policy concerning utilities were blamed last night as reasons why "recovery has been unsatisfactory in the United States" by Joseph A. Schumpeter, professor of economics at Harvard university.

After tracing the ups and downs of U. S. economics since the crash in 1929, Mr. Schumpeter, who spoke in the Auditorium to an audience of more than 300 persons, acknowledged, however, that "the stage is set for a strong recovery."

Mr. Schumpeter, in presenting his opinion, refused to agree with a popular belief, called the "theory of the vanishing investment opportunity." This theory, he explained, concerns the increase and decrease rate of population and the values of new industry.

It was pointed out, in explaining the theory, that at present there is an absence of great capital such as was associated in the nineteenth century with the newly-rising railroad, an investment opportunity.

"This country is just about on the threshold of a recovery which will in two or three years, turn into normal prosperity," asserted Mr. Schumpeter in making his prediction of a "strong recovery." He cited a "stimulus created by World War I" as a cause for the future prosperity.

U. S. Production 'Pitiful'

Terming the U. S. production index in 1929 as a pitiful 72 per cent on the basis of 100, the economist pointed out that production conditions in Great Britain, Germany, and Japan have been more favorable than in the United States .

"Love and hate go beyond the bounds of professional feeling," he said as he told of "success" in Japan. In 1938 the production index in Japan, according to League of Nations' report, was 173 per cent, while that in the United States was 72.3 per cent, Mr. Schumpeter pointed out.

Although he acknowledged the graveness of the panic of 1823-1878, Mr. Schumpeter described the recent depression as the worst. "There was no other worse," he said.

"Prosperity is not everything. We are not on this planet to enjoy the maximum of beef steak and radios," the speaker commented. He concluded that telling people that reform is a certain cure is not conducive to recovery.

Mr. Shumpeter, who came to Harward in 1932 and was formerly the Austrian minister of finance, will speak again at 4 p. m. tomorrow in 114 Comerce.

The Daily Illini, Urbana-Champaign, February 29, 1940, Page 1

2. Can Capitalism Survive?

SCHUMPETER PREDICTS DEMISE OF CAPITALISM IN WORLD

By BOB HAY '42

Joseph Schumpeter, once the Austrian minister of finance and at present professor of economics at Harvard university, told students of economics yesterday in 114 Commerce building that "discernible tendencies" indicate a future "breakdown" of capitalism.

"I am *not* by conviction a socialist, but I am going to put before you reasons which indicate that capitalism cannot survive," said Mr. Schumpeter, as he explained that a system similar to socialism would be the substitute for capitalism.

Reasons which the economist gave to support his belief centered around an opinion that "the fighting spirit has gone out of the American industrial classes." He also cited natural changes in social tendencies as other factors to be considered.

Disagreeing with the Marx theory, Mr. Schumpeter said that "capitalism will not break down automatically." He explained various steps in the theory and asserted that "each step . . . has often been pointed out as open to fatal analytical objections."

"There is no serious reason to expect that the performance (of capitalism) would be any different in the next 50 years than it has been in the last 50 years," said Mr. Schumpeter.

He pointed out that depressions have occurred in "capitalistic development" once in every 55 years. He termed the last depression the worst of them all.

"The capitalistic process, being a rational process, rationalizes our minds," Mr. Schumpeter said.

Referring briefly to bolshevism, Mr. Schumpeter commented that the terrible thing about bolshevism is not "the stream of blood" which had to flow. The "terrible thing," he said, "is that the blood has to flow to bring a new social system into existence."

Mr. Schumpeter stated that socialism is merely a "public function" and that such functions might be pacifist, war-like, religious, or still something else of a different nature.

The address, the last in a series of two, was sponsored by the department of economics.

The Daily Illini, Urbana-Champaign, March 2, 1940, Page 1

8. April 1940 – Vortrag: Why Has Recovery Been So Unsatisfactory in This Country? (Harvard Club of Milwaukee)

Noted Economist Is Speaker Here

AN AUTHOR and internationally known speaker on economic subjects, Prof. Joseph A. Schumpeter of Harvard university (right) spoke before the Harvard club of Milwaukee Thursday night at the University club. With him is Helmus B. Wells, president of the club. —Journal Staff Photo

Administration Has Wrecked Recovery, Economist Avers

Milwaukee Journal,
April 19, 1940, Page 1

Prof. Schumpeter Talks Before Harvard Club Here; Lists Obstacles to U. S. Comeback

Administration policies have made recovery impossible in the United States, Prof. Joseph A. Schumpeter, Harvard economist, told the Milwaukee Harvard club Thursday night at the University club.

The professor, who was Austrian minister of finance from 1919 to 1920, and who is now an American citizen, spoke on "Why Has Recovery Been so Unsatisfactory in This Country?"

Listing three obstacles to business progress imposed by the administration, Prof. Schumpeter said that the stage was set in 1935 and again in 1937 for a swift recovery, only to have the chances blighted by the "political attitude."

"When you look at the effects of taxation on profits and the profit motive you find recovery was only in output and not in profits after taxes. After 1935 the output curve shot up while profits lagged, whereas in the past the two curves had always followed each other.

Get Used to It Sometimes

"Sometimes the capitalistic system gets used to this situation, as in Germany and England, but in this country it came almost overnight and the whole spirit of taxation was to scare business.

"Then," he continued, "labor legislation was introduced in a disorganizing manner, coming on top of a high wage rate incompatible with full employment."

"There is nothing more impressive to the foreigner in the United States than the universal flight of America, industrially and personally, from direct employment of labor. This is because the wage rate is so high it puts a premium on labor itself and the commodities it produces."

He pointed out that in Europe, where recovery before the war had been much more substantial, it is possible to hire a servant for a low rate. In this country, however, he said he has seen families owning three motor cars but not having servants because of the high wage rates, in return for which "you get the right to clean your boots yourself." He added that one to two million people could easily be absorbed in personal service if it were not for this fact.

"Finally," he continued, "the hostile attitude of the administration toward business was the worst thing possible.

"It helped nobody and hurt everybody."

Prof. Schumpeter said that he was surprised that utilities had spent so much in expanding in the face of the threats against them. If it had been up to him, he declared, he wouldn't have spent a penny.

Prof. Schumpeter said that the decade just passed was not fated to be a prosperous one for the United States under any circumstances.

Period of Absorption

Pointing out that every 50 to 60 years a severe depression occurs and lasts roughly five years, the professor added that these periods were always preceded by periods of great reconstruction or industrial revolution. The swift development of the automobile, chemical and electrical fields following the World war were cited as being factors making a period of absorption necessary in the 1930s. However, this period normally would have ended in 1935.

"The country must choose between progress and reform," Prof. Schumpeter declared. "In one sense, the outlook is encouraging, and in another discouraging.

"The national debt of 45 billions is smaller than in England, and doesn't necessarily endanger future generations. But the discouraging factor is that a public opinion has been built up that makes readjustment difficult. If nothing can be done about the high wage policy, we must always have unemployment. Some taxes are unproductive but very burdensome to business. But I'm afraid any changes would be unpopular among the working classes."

In this category he listed the high inheritance taxes.

Concluding, Prof. Schumpeter said "The situation is not threatening but it needs so much management that I doubt if a real manager can be found."

Ease Fears of Business, Is Plea of Economist

Reasons Behind Unsatisfactory Recovery Listed by Prof. Schumpeter in Talk to Milwaukee Harvard Club

The whole fiscal policy of the present administration of this country tends to scare business into retirement, said Austrian-born Prof. Joseph A. Schumpeter, Harvard university economist, in a discussion Thursday night before the Milwaukee Harvard club of the reasons why recovery in this country has been unsatisfactory.

Speaking following a dinner at the University club, Professor Schumpeter boiled his reasons down to these three:

1. The national tax curve has put an anchor on the national profits curve in the financial indices.

2. Americans are fugitives from direct employment of labor because of prevailing high wages they must pay.

3. Blanket threats against utilities by government are hampering investment of capital.

The decade just past was not fated to be a prosperous one for the United States under any circumstances, claimed the economist. He pointed out that all American depressions have followed periods of radical reconstruction or industrial revolution. He said the depression was inevitable following the swift technological advances in automotive, chemical and electric fields following the World war.

Nevertheless, asserted Professor Schumpeter, the stage was set in 1935 and again in 1937 for a swift climb out of the depression only to have the chances blighted by the "political attitude."

Attacking the high wage scale of the United States compared to European nations, Professor Schumpeter said:

"There is nothing more impressive to the foreigner in the United States than the universal flight of America, industrially and personally, from direct employment of labor. This is because the wage rate is so high it puts a premium on labor itself and the commodities it produces."

If nothing can be done about the high wage rate creed, the professor said, little can be anticipated in reducing the unemployment load. Unskilled labor cannot meet the price, he said.

Output of the country has been mounting in a normal curve since 1936, Professor Schumpeter said, but here again recovery is hamstrung by the fact profits are wiped out by taxes. He said if a man decides that he must have a million dollar profit in order to risk a certain investment, then learns that the tax on the profit will be half a million, the deal at once is dropped as unprofitable.

In veiled remarks against government monopoly hunts, he said he was surprised utilities had invested as much money as they have under the threats facing them.

Economically, he said, the country faces a new period in which there is no reason why it cannot move ahead if it will forget the past and if what has happened is not allowed to be repeated. Our $45,000,000,000 debt, he said, still is less formidable than that of Great Britain.

The club re-elected present officers: Helmus B. Wells, president; Leroy W. Grossman, vice president, and Ernst J. Von Briesen, secretary-treasurer.

Milwaukee Sentinell, April 19, 1940, Page 1 and Page 4

September 1940: Eine Leserzuschrift zum Vortrag *Why Has Recovery Been So Unsatisfactory in This Country*?

Voice of The People

"Let the People Have the Truth and Freedom to Discuss It, and All Will Go Well"

THE POOR CORPORATIONS

[Madison, Aug. 28]—Don't forget that many thousands of the stockholders of American corporations are very far from rich. They need dividends badly. The woman who does my washing owns two or three shares in a leading corporation. She needs the dividends.

Even Hitler allowed the German owners to amortize, I think three years. It is only fair to think of the stockholders. While many of them are rich, many are also just able to keep off relief. Be fair. Don't write like a demagogue.

It seems strange a man who has profited under freedom should favor regimentation.

Anent your editorials on the earnings of many corporations during the past few years, permit me to say that Prof. Schumpeter of Harvard, one of the world's leading economists, told the Harvard club of Milwaukee last April that while there have been large earnings in some cases, profits had been reduced almost to zero by the hostility of the administration.

Would you look into that question of profits and taxation and restrictions in general and write another editorial? Yours for justice on both sides.—**Constant Reader.**

The Capital Times, September 9, 1940; Editorial Page

3. Dezember 1940 – Vortrag: Economic Outlook of Defence (Dunster House, Cambridge)

Prof. Schumpeter Visions War As Normal Function for U. S.

The possibility that permanent warfare might become a normal incident of the United States government, "as are its police and judiciary," was advanced last night by Prof. J. A. Schumpeter of Harvard, economist, at a Dunster House discussion of defense economy.

Dr. J. P. Wurnette of the Harvard Business School faculty charged that President Roosevelt "threatens to become the country's real bottleneck unless he delegates some of his powers."

Other economists debated whether the country should tax first and await a gain in national income, or reverse the process. Several agreed that any tax program based on national defense needs should be regulatory in purpose, and one warned that this nation is dangerously near the necessity for compulsion in financing its debt with bonds.

Dr. Schumpeter said that, barring scandalous mismanagement, this country should easily attain an annual income of $100,000,000,000. One tenth of this sum annually he said, should be adequate to support an expeditionary force—army, navy and air—of 500,000 men.

"It is very possible," he said, "for this nation to carry on warfare as a normal function without a breakdown of our national economy. History has proved this possible, as in the case of the Assyrian empire with a banking system highly developed and perhaps comparable to our own.

"I do not contemplate such a development with favor, but I believe it is not as impossible as our amatuer diplomats would have us believe. America will not immediately halt any war she may enter."

Prof. S. E. Harris of Harvard was chairman of the discussion, in which other participants were Prof. P. A. Samuelson of Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Profs. J. H. Williams, dean, and A. H. Hansen, and J. F. Ebersole of the Littauer Center of Public Administration; and Dr. P. M. Sweezy of Harvard.

Brookline Safety Plans Submitted

Plans for the elimination of accident causes on the Brookline part of the Boston-Worcester turnpike were contained in recommendations submitted to the selectmen yesterday by Edward Dane, chairman of the traffic committee.

The report asked for co-operation with the state department of public works in a study of traffic conditions at Hammond street, and suggested a careful study of left-hand turns to and from the highway. Traffic lights at the intersection of Randolph and Norfolk roads, on the turnpike, were also recommended.

The Boston Herald, December 4, 1940 Page 18

DUNSTER FORUM DISCUSSES ECONOMICS OF DEFENSE BEFORE LARGE CROWD

Schumpeter Emphasizes Danger of War Society Becoming Permanent

NO WRITER ATTRIBUTED

Six of Harvard's best known economists, and a noted M. I. T. professor spoke in the Dunster House Forum last night on "The Economic Outlook of Defense," before a crowd of 200 people.

Opening the program, Alvin H. Hansen, Lucius N. Littauer Professor of Political Economy, gave a picture of the magnitude of the defense program and the implications of defense expenditure. Claiming that the present sum of $6,000,000,000 to be spent for defense during the next fiscal year, is nothing compared to the sums that will be spent in the future, Hansen made the point that with the rise in expenditures, "our capacity for production must be allowed to expand to increase our national income."

John H. Williams, Dean of Graduate School of Public Administration, and J. Franklin Ebersole, professor of Finance, pleaded for sanity in taking steps to ward off inflation, and, as Williams emphasized, "We must be careful not to take premature steps to step inflation, for by so doing we might at the same time create further unemployment, which would hinder defense."

Contending that the financial and economic phases of the discussion had already been fully presented, Joseph A. Schumpeter, George F. Baker Professor of Economy, purposely digressed from the main topic, and went on to a discussion "of the possibilities of an endless war."

Schumpeter declared that the conception of an endless war-society was not as fanciful as it seemed, and that "war-fare might very conceivably become an integral part of society, without an economic breakdown, by means of a super-gearing of industry by force and propaganda."

Paul M. Sweezy '32, instructor in Economics, agreed with Schumpeter on this point, and added, "We must increase consumption on the part of the masses, and we must levy additional profits taxes on industry to prevent this kind of over-development of our economic society," which would result in "an American brand of Fascism and Imperialism."

John P. Wernette '32, assistant professor of Business Economy, and Professor Paul 'A. Samuelson of M. I. T. spoke on "procurement

planning on the part of military 'authorities" as vital to our defense program and as a basis for further governmental control of business.

Seymour E. Harris '20, associate professor of Economics, presided at the forum, intermittently summing up the views expressed by the speakers, and conducting a question period from the floor at the end of the speeches and comments.

The Harvard Crimson, December 4, 1940

16: Januar 1941 – Vortrag: Future of International Economic Relations (Johns Hopkins University)

LECTURER PREDICTS ECONOMIC EMPIRES

Schumpeter, Of Harvard, Looks For New Grouping Of Nations In Few Years

Future Of International Relations Discussed In Schouler Series

War or no war, in a few years the world very likely will be divided up into a group of so-called economic empires, if the theories outlined at the Johns Hopkins University yesterday by a distinguished Austro-American economist are borne out.

The speaker was Dr. Joseph A. Schumpeter, former (1919-1920) Austrian Minister of Finance and presently professor of economics at Harvard University.

Dr. Schumpeter opened this year's series of James Schouler Foundation lectures with a discussion of "The Future of International Economic Relations."

Foresees Political Association

The economist's theory is that the nations whose individual economics are complementary to each other will move inevitably into political association and "the nations that we loved so much . . . but which are economically irrational" will disappear.

This, he believes, is part of an established world trend toward self-sufficiency and autarchy.

As "economic empires" of the sort he had in mind, the lecturer listed Germany and her satellites, Russia and hers, a Japanese group and an Anglo-American alliance which would include the twenty-one American republics and the Dominion of Canada.

"Unwieldy But Livable"

These would be "unwieldy, but livable" federations, he asserted.

As an example of the sort of nations whose economies are complementary, Dr. Schumpeter cited the case of Germany and Rumania.

Rumania, of course, produces wheat and oil which Germany needs badly, even in peacetime, he asserted, and the Reich, on its side, produces the manufactured goods which Rumania needs.

The Baltimore Sun (Baltimore, Maryland). January 17, 1941, Page 5

31. März 1945 – Eine Antwort auf die Frage: Kann man die Deutschen umerziehen?

Dr. Bruening Wants No Part In Reich Rule

By International News Service

Dr. Heinrich Bruening, former Prussian minister of welfare and chancellor of the German Reich from 1930 until 1932, says he never will return to Germany in any political role. The last democratic chancellor, succeeded by Adolf Hitler, is content to remain in America. He is a professor of government at Harvard, where he asserted he will reject any effort to restore him politically in a Naziless Germany. The former head of the Catholic Centrist Party would only shrug when asked what was to become of Germany. His fellow Harvard professor, Joseph Alois Schumpeter, former Austrian minister of finance and a professor at Bonn, considers plans for democratic reeducation of Germany futile.

DR. BRUENING

"Papa Stalin is going to reeducate Germany and with his own methods," Professor Schumpeter said.

The Washington Post, June 10, 1945 Page B2