

250 Douglass Street  
San Francisco, California  
February 27, 1966

Dear Mr. Ferrater Mora,

Now there is another place for you to write to (and to send a copy of Leblanc's letter to):

Professor William C. Hamlin, Chairman  
Division of Humanities  
University of Missouri at Saint Louis  
~~614 North Main Street~~  
8001 Natural Bridge Road  
St. Louis, Missouri 63121

I must say that I don't think my chances would be very great here; but one cannot tell, and the man whose name I have just written down for you has asked me to send him all the usual kinds of things (that is to say, to have mailed to him letters from people supporting me and, in addition, to send transcripts, samples of my writing, and so on). The University expects to make its decision very soon, and so he said that I should try to get these things to him as quickly as possible.

Let me explain how I came to be in correspondence with him. A long while ago, in December, an APA Information Service Committee folder listed a position at the U. of Missouri at Saint Louis. The listing read: "Associate Prof., \$9000-\$11,000 depending on experience and publications. Teaching load is 9 to 12 hours depending on current work in progress. An interest in Rationalism and Empiricism is required, plus an interest in teaching Introduction or Elem. Logic. The philosophy staff has four full-time and two part-time members. (Ph. D. is mandatory)." I could not apply for an associate professorship. But last weekend, thinking that perhaps that Department might not after all have found a qualified person on the associate professor level I wrote in inquiry. The letter I've had back doesn't say they couldn't find their associate professor, but it does "welcome" my application; and also it ~~MA~~ makes reference to "our appointments" and not just to the appointment. SoX--who knows? Perhaps they will be interested in me. I am one of the few people around (apparently) who is genuinely interested in the Rationalists; of course you know that my interest in the Empiricists hardly exists at present, but I could probably manage to work up an interest in them if need be.

Thank you very much for sending off the letters to Lake Erie College; if I hear anything from them again, I shall certainly let you know. Applicants are, however, as you know, treated in a highhanded way; and I've no confidence that my application there and elsewhere is even being considered seriously. What I have reference to here is my surprise at the silence of San Bernardino State College; after all, they wrote to me requesting that I apply this year; one would think that they would at least write in acknowledgment of ~~my~~ my application.

One Department did deal with me courteously enough. This is the Department at the University of California at Davis. I had heard of no opening there and had made no inquiry. But one evening in January I received a telephone call from the Chairman, one Neal Gilbert, asking me if I could perhaps come over the next day (Davis is about 70 miles from here) and talk with them. ~~Major~~ Marjorie Grene, a new but ~~tenured~~ tenured member of their Department, had suggested they call me on the basis of a verbal recommendation of me and my thesis that Mr. Nahm had given her at Christmastime in New York City. I did go over, and I found the group of people there most pleasant to talk with (the Department is definitely oriented towards the history of philosophy, and that is why they were interested in me). I left them a curriculum vitae and some sections of my thesis. But I soon did have a note from Mr. Gilbert saying that they could not after all actually consider me because it had become apparent to them--from their enrollment figures for the spring term just beginning--that they would have to have someone specially competent in symbolic logic to help share the load of teaching with the one person on their staff already teaching symbolic logic. While I had been there, they had questioned me closely about my interest in and competence in symbolic logic; obviously they had been hoping that I would turn out to have a real interest in this while at the same time being a historian (incidentally, their introductory work in symbolic logic is not simple; their basic text is Quine). Anyway, the interview itself was very pleasant, and I don't feel that I myself at all lost that job. (They have now appointed a symbolic logician, I've learned.) Would you please thank Mr. Nahm for me for suggesting my name to Marjorie Grene? He apparently had recommended me and my work in very high terms--at least they said he had.

I did not at all say flatly that I could not handle symbolic logic; but I course I could not claim any special competence in it.

I am in good spirits, and I can be patient yet awhile. My work here is after all serving a purpose I very much wanted it to serve: I wanted, coming here, to be teaching a variety of students different from students I've known in the past. I wanted to be forced to make sense to a number of minds with which ~~which~~ <sup>which</sup> would perhaps have little in common on the opening days of my classes. I think that I am making sense to a good many such minds. All four of my classes are going very well; I think that I indicated that before, but I mention it again now because I am so conscious of the amount of work I have to do to keep them going well. Except for the fatigue that my heavy schedule induces--and I do have to sleep more, rest more, in order to keep on top of things--I am enjoying every bit of my work. That even includes handling the largest of my classes, a class of 44 (thus almost as large as your Existentialism class of 46!). I have to teach that one in a <sup>very</sup> large room, and the effort of talking clearly and coherently <sup>and loudly</sup> is so great that afterwards I simply must maintain silence for hours--my jaws hurt! You can imagine that I am not and never could possibly be in any way dictatorial as I deal with students; but I do find myself managing my legitimate authority with them with much more confidence than I did last term at this time. In fact, last term at this time--three weeks after the term had begun--I was so exhausted that I couldn't even have supposed I had any authority, legitimate or otherwise. My work is, in short, exciting; and I ought to be prepared to undertake duties elsewhere next fall and to handle them in a way that my being at Wells College certainly could never have taught me to.

Yes, I am definitely planning to attend the May Midwestern meetings if nothing comes up before them.

I do not see how you can attend to so many difficult duties at once. But I am glad you can. I am glad that you have the near-miraculous mind that you have.

Sincerely, Julia

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