

5/15/47

PROPOSED LECTURES AND SEMINARS BY WASSILY LEONTIEF

The two principal themes which I intend to develop on parallel lines at the Salzburg Seminar are: "The Economics of the United States", and "The Recent Developments in American Economic Thought".

The treatment of the first subject will comprise a survey of the present day economic structure of this country as it evolved since the turn of the century, through the depression of the thirties and the second world war. Consideration of such selected topics as, "The Balance Between Town and Country", "Technological Progress and Increased Labor Productivity", and "Distribution of Income and the Standard of Living", will lead up to the question of a probable direction of our economic development in the next ten or twenty years.

A discussion of some outstanding issues of present day economic policies, such as, "Labor Movement and Social Legislature", "Government and Business", and "The Problem of Full Employment", will conclude this cycle.

The subject of, "The Recent Developments in American Economic Thought", is chosen in response to numerous inquiries which have been reaching me from Europe during the last two years.

The current controversy between Keynesian and anti-Keynesian must naturally occupy a prominent place among topics to be taken up in these discussions. Also, more abstract problems, such as, for example, - the newest developments in the field of "Dynamic Theory", or application of a "Theory of Games" to Economics, as well as such technical questions as, "National Income Analysis", "Construction of Full Employment Budgets", etc., will be given detailed consideration.

I would expect the first of the two cycles to appeal to a large number of participants, including many non-economists. The second will be aimed at the selected group interested in technical economics.