

9th January, 1974.

Dear Harrod,

You may remember me from occasional meetings at Oxford, particularly on one occasion when you addressed our society here in Queen's. I wonder whether I could bother you about your remarks in your life of Keynes about the money that Wittgenstein gave for Johnson. Keynes's letter seems to suggest that nothing was paid before the War and I should very much like to know whether anything was ever paid. The point is that Wittgenstein after the War gave all his money away to his brothers and sisters and it would be interesting to know whether he made an exception for charitable or personal gifts that he had already determined on.

Have you any idea where the correspondence of J.N. Keynes is which concerns this matter? I should be very interested to know. Also perhaps you know whether my assumption that nothing was paid before the first War is correct?

I am afraid this is resurrecting questions that you dealt with a very long time ago and I shall be very grateful if anything useful occurs to you.

Yours sincerely,

*Brian McGuinness*

B.F. McGuinness

Sir Roy Harrod,  
The Old Rectory,  
Holt,  
Norfolk.

*I ought to have said that I  
am (still) writing a biography  
of LW. I hope to finish  
volume I soon.*

The Queen's College  
Oxford

14th January, 1974.

Dear Harrod,

Thank you very much for your letter. I am sorry to have been so obscure in mine. I enclose copies of Wittgenstein's letters to Keynes. The inference that no payments were made before the War was drawn from the letter of 1915. I have written to Cambridge University Registry but they have no record of any correspondence on the matter and it was after receiving their reply that I thought that the answer might be contained in Keynes's correspondence with his father. It may be relevant that Wittgenstein was absent from Cambridge in the year 1913-14 and very probably he did not see Keynes between the dates of K4 and K7. Wittgenstein gave away a lot of his money in Austria. Although his father died in January 1913 the benefactions in Austria were not made until July 1914. It may be that the money was not really available until then. Wittgenstein gave away his money shortly after returning from prisoner-of-war camp in autumn 1919.

I have also been in touch with Mrs. Bérnberg. I had heard a rumour that Wittgenstein had helped with the publication of Johnson's work, but she said that the book was accepted by C.U.P. in the normal way and she was unaware of any financial assistance in any form.

Johnson died in 1931 or perhaps late 1930 and Wittgenstein apparently went to his musical parties during the last year of Johnson's life, which was also the first year of Wittgenstein's second stay in Cambridge.

Yours sincerely,

*Brian McGwinen*

Sir Roy Harrod,  
The Old Rectory,  
Holt,  
Norfolk.

The Queen's College  
Oxford

6th February, 1974.

Dear Harrod,

Thank you very much for your letter of 21st January. I am now inclined simply to assume on the basis of your book that some payments were made before the War. It would still interest me to know, for the reason I mentioned earlier, whether they were continued after the War. I am getting in touch with Munby at King's and will try to find out whether there is anything in Keynes's correspondence with his father that throws light on this. Perhaps they will know where that correspondence is, if they haven't got it. (I have just come across a passage in Wittgenstein's diary for 5 October 1914 in which he says "I have just received a letter from Keynes ... he wrote only to ask me how it would be with Johnson's money after the War." This seems rather to imply pre-war payments than the reverse.)

I enclose a copy of a letter from Mrs. Burnberg expressing scepticism about whether anything was paid after the War. I was led to her by your biography.

I ought to say that I have been for some time trying to write a biography of Wittgenstein. I hope it is not too late in our correspondence to say how helpful I find your own life of Keynes. In particular the description of the relation of Keynes and the Society to Moore's philosophy seems to me to hit the nail on the head - much more so than Russell's autobiography! I notice in the Life that you knew Whitehead personally. It is unlikely that he ever said anything about Wittgenstein but if you do have impressions from him on that subject I should be extremely interested to hear them. It is one of the relationships in Wittgenstein's life that I know least about.

Thank you very much for giving so much attention to a question that only directly concerned you many years ago.

Yours sincerely,

*Brian McGwinney*

Sir Roy Harrod,  
The Old Rectory,  
Holt,  
Norfolk.