



SEMANTOGRAPHY SERIES NO. 90

THE UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AND SEMANTOGRAPHY

In Australia, the affairs of the United States Educational Foundation are handled by the American Embassy in Canberra. Each year, the Embassy announced new travel grants for Australian scholars in the papers and invited applications. I have seen these announcements during the previous years, but have refrained from making an application for the following reasons. Firstly, my work was not completed. When I completed it in 1949 I realised that I had to have testimonials on it made by famous scholars. Then came the testimony of Bertrand Russell and others, and then Prof. O. L. Reiser of the University of Pittsburgh addressed the American Association for the Advancement of Science on my work. He used such words as "Bliss heroic work ... a powerful stimulus and aid to President Truman's Four Point Programm ..." Now I felt that I could approach the U. S. Educational Foundation with confidence. I studied the informative leaflet which runs

UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
IN AUSTRALIA

TRAVEL GRANTS - 1952 FULBRIGHT PROGRAMME

THE UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION IN AUSTRALIA invites application for approximately 23 travel grants from Australian citizens who intend to study in the United States during the 1952 - 53 academic year and who undertake to Australia when their studies are completed.

CATEGORIES AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED IN EACH CATEGORY.

Grants will be made to persons coming within the following categories : -

- (a) Post-graduate Students. Applicants must already hold a University degree (or its equivalent) and be planning a regular course of at least one academic year at an American university. Approximately 15 grants will be made in this category.
- (b) Research Scholars. Applicants should already have some professional standing in their chosen field and should be planning advanced work at an institutions of higher learning though not towards a degree. All applicants working for a degree fall within the Post-Graduate Student category.
- (c) Visiting Lecturers. These grants will be limited to those who have been, or who expect to be, invited to lecture at an American University.

It is expected that approximately a total of 8 awards will be made to the combined Visiting Lecturer and Research Scholar categories.

Applications from candidates in categories (b) and (c) offering projects covering one academic year will normally be preferred but shorter periods will be considered in special cases, provided that the shorter period so nominated is not less than three months.

SELECTION.

This will be based mainly on -

- a) academic record;
- b) professional experience, where applicable;
- c) personality;

- d) suitability of the candidate's project for the general purposes of the Fulbright Programme, which is designed, among other things, to encourage international understanding and goodwill. The Foundation prefers to have diverse fields of study included in each programme.

BENEFITS

These cover return fares from the grantee's home town in Australia to that in which the university of his choice in the United States is located.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN THE UNITED STATES

Before travel grants can be awarded, it is essential that all candidates produce evidence of admission to an American institution of higher learning and of adequate dollar support for the duration of their projects. It is emphasised, however, that a candidate may apply in anticipation of fulfilling these conditions.

The Foundation has no scholarships or dollars at its disposal, but it believes that Australian graduates with first class academic records could make personal applications to American universities for scholarships or part-time assistantships with reasonable hope of success.

FORMS AND CLOSING DATES

Application forms are obtainable from the United States Educational Foundation in Australia, c/- American Embassy, Canberra, A.C.T.

Closing dates for receipt of applications are as follows :

- a) Visiting Lecturers and Research Scholars: April 1, 1952.
- b) Post-graduate Students: March 1, 1952.

It is regretted that applications received after these dates cannot be given consideration.

Then I wrote the following letter

Sydney, 20th November 1951

The American Embassy,
The United States Educational Foundation in Australia,
The Committee on Study and Training in the United States
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

Dear Sirs,

Studying the Conditions of Eligibility for Postgraduate Scholarships in the United States, I find that I can fulfil all but one: I am above the age of 35. However, I have an original scientific work to my credit.

Sometimes a man must go through a life-time of study and experience in order to create a work of merit. Then he finds that he is - because of his age - barred from any grant. My misfortune is that I have worked all my adult life in industry and not at a university. However, I have given a few lectures about my work at the University of Sydney.

This is an enquiry only, and I do not want to burden you with a detailed description of my work, which cannot be summarised in a few words, being very unusual and far-reaching, concerning (1) Science and (2) Education, but being also of benefit to (3) Industry and (4) Commerce.

If there are any grants without age limits available, falling in any of the 4 activities mentioned, and given for further study and work here or in the United States, I shall be grateful to have the particulars, and I shall then give a detailed description of my work in compliance with these particulars.

In order to convince you that you will further a worthy cause, here are words of praise of 3 scholars (among others) about my work:

An American: Professor Oliver L. Reiser, University of Pittsburgh, Pa. in his paper to the American Association for the Advancement of Science: "Bliss heroic work ... it provides a powerful stimulus and aid to President Truman's "Point Four Program"

An Australian: Professor V.A. Bailey, Department of Physics, University of Sydney in a letter: "Your efforts deserve every encouragement by private and public means ... would be of great value to scientists..."

A Briton: Bertrand Russell wrote that financial assistance given to my work means "performing an important Service to Mankind".

I enclose a number of duplicates of this letter for conveyance to other bodies if necessary and remain with thanks in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

C.K. Bliss
5 Maroubra Bay Road,
Pagewood, Sydney N.S.W.

I received the following reply

UNITED STATES EDUCATION FOUNDATION IN AUSTRALIA

Care of American Embassy,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

December 17, 1951

KAD:JR

Mr. C.K. Bliss,
5 Maroubra Bay Road,
Pagewood,
SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Bliss,

In reply to your letter of November 20, I am pleased to advise that the whole Fulbright programme covers a number of awards not limited to persons under the age of 35 years.

The Post-graduate Scholarships to which you refer are, in fact, the only awards where such a condition is stipulated. This arises from the fact that these awards are designed to provide the successful applicant with (1) a Fulbright Travel Grant, (2) a supplementary dollar allowance under the Smith-Mundt Act and a scholarship or fellowship (3) from an American University located for the applicant concerned by the Institute of International Education. As the scholarships are fellowships offered by American universities are predominantly for relatively recent graduates, it has been found that, when organizing a world-wide programme as does the Institute of International Education, the only practical solution is to limit the search for scholarships to those available to persons under the age of 35 years. Hence, it follows that all that Fulbright and Smith-Mundt awards offered jointly with these scholarships must be similarly subject of this qualification.

Apart from these awards, opportunities are available (1) for Research Scholars and Visiting Lecturers to pursue their activities in the United States under a joint Smith-Mundt/Fulbright grant. There are also available for Visiting Lecturers, Research Scholars and Post-graduate Students "Travel Only" grants under the Fulbright Act. In addition, provision is made for the exchange of school teachers. As all the above awards are offered irrespective of age, you will appreciate that wide opportunities exist apart from those with which you are already familiar.

It should be quite possible, therefore, for you to make application for one of the above awards. However, as I am unable to determine from the information you have provided to date which will be the most suitable for your needs, I am enclosing the following information circulars:

1. Joint Smith-Mundt/Fulbright awards for Visiting Lecturers and

Research Scholars.

2. Travel Grants - 1952 Fulbright Programme. This deals with "Travel Only" grants for Visiting Lecturers, Research Scholars and Post-Graduate Students.

From the information provided in the above circulars it should be possible for you to determine the type of award for which you wish to apply. Once having made your decision in this matter it would be appreciated if you would inform this office in order that the appropriate application forms may be forwarded.

You will note that each of the above awards requires the candidate to attach himself to an institution of higher learning in the United States. In the case of Fulbright "Travel Only" grants it is also necessary for the applicant to establish that he will have sufficient dollar funds for his support whilst in the United States. At present, I am unable to make any suggestions in regard to this matter since I am unaware of what your decisions may be. However, immediately I am acquainted with the type and category of award for which you intend applying, I shall be pleased to offer suggestions concerning the most appropriate action for obtaining dollar support and/or institutional affiliation.

I trust that you will find the explanations offered here satisfactory but I would be pleased to be of assistance should there be any other details requiring elucidation before you take any further action.

Yours sincerely,

Keith A. Dunn

for Geoffrey G. Rossiter
Executive Officer.

I replied

The Executive Officer,
United States Educational Foundation,
c/o the American Embassy,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

22nd December, 1951

Re: Your letter of December 17, KAD:JR

Dear Sir,

This is to thank you for your very detailed information concerning scholarships, etc. Following your advice I shall now inform you about the unusual nature of my work, which will be presented next week to the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Philadelphia by Professor Oliver L. Reiser of the University of Pittsburgh, Pa. He said of my work that "it provides a powerful aid and stimulus to President Truman's "Point Four Program".

I attach a number of leaflets in which I have marked certain passages in red. In reading these passages you will get the necessary information in the shortest time. However, I beg to state that my work falls into 2 distinct and different phases. The first phase will interest the American scholars and laymen insofar as the foreign policy of the United States is concerned in carrying out President Truman's Point Four Program. The second phase however should interest every American for his own sake. As you see, I have spent my savings and earnings for the printing of leaflets, brochures and books. But this is not enough. Therefore, my approach to the United States Educational Foundation in Australia.

I don't know of any other medium which could provide for the purposes of the Fulbright Programme - encourage international understanding and goodwill - than this Semantography, the first practical realisation of an idea considered impossible for 300 years. The first aspect of it is a pictorial writing which can be read and understood in all languages, to be used for inter-linguistic communication in science, industry, commerce, communication, etc. for scholars, businessmen, etc. but also for the three quarters of the world's population who are still illiterate.

The second aspect of Semantography is a simple Semantics and Logic, which can be operated by anyone, and which can make the people aware of vague and

ambiguous words and fallacious word propaganda which is unleashed against the people in the free countries of the world. I refer in this respect to the testimonial of the foremost authority in this field, the famous philosopher and logician Bertrand Russell who wrote that financial assistance given to the publicising of my work, means "performing an important service to Mankind".

From the foregoing paragraphs it will become clear that here is a new idea, which is not taught on any university of the world. This makes it rather difficult to fit it into the provisions of the grants available. I shall therefore take the liberty to inform you about my secret wish, and I shall be grateful for your advice how my proposal can be best fitted into the schemes available. If my proposal is impracticable with reference to the provisions of the grants, I shall endeavour to fit it as best as possible into the provisions.

My secret wish is a lecture tour through the United States. The few lectures which I have given at the University of Sydney on Semantography have brought words of praise by professors and students about my abilities as a powerful speaker. These statements are either written or printed in the University papers and are open for your inspection. I have lectured in a honorary capacity during the last 30 years.

It appears therefore that my application would fall under the classification "Visiting Lecturers". However, from the information available I gather that this means an invitation from one university to teach there for a number of months, whereas I want to go from one university to the other.

My idea is to approach the various lecture agencies in the United States. They arrange lecture tours. However, as my name is yet unknown in America, they would not undertake to carry the financial risk for such a venture. If however, I would receive monetary assistance from the Smith-Mundt and Fulbright programme, this would make the project feasible and in turn, the lecture agencies would arrange the lectures with all the universities concerned.

This is rather an unusual procedure, but my work is unusual, and therefore I hope that you will be able to give me the best advice possible. From the Fulbright programme it becomes clear that applications can be made in anticipation of fulfilling certain conditions. If my application for monetary assistance would be accepted - provided I secure an arranged lecture tour through the American universities and colleges - the monetary assistance thus promised would in turn bring about the arrangement of the lecture tour. This is a "circular" procedure, but one which would work.

From time to time men come forward with a new and unusual idea. As it usually is with unusual ideas, they seem strange at first. 50 years later, they are taken for granted. In the meantime however the men who pioneer them face the fate of all pioneers, and many of them died an untimely death of embitterment and desperation.

I appeal therefore to you to help a new idea along, on which "provides a powerful aid and stimulus to President Truman's programme, and in doing so you would "perform an important service to Mankind" (in the words of Professor Reiser and Bertrand Russell).

In view of the approaching deadline (February 1, 1952) I shall be grateful for your answer at your earliest convenience. I remain with thanks in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

C.K. Bliss

and added two sets of material from my Semantography series, under the headings.

The first aspect of Semantography

A new tool for mutual understanding between the peoples of the World. This set contained the following issues in which I had underlined the relevant passages in red, in order to enable the studying officer to save time in reading.

- S. Series No. 43, the pamphlet printed for my lecture to the Students Geological Society of Sydney University.
S. Series No. 52, the pamphlet for Prof. Reiser's lecture to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.
S. Series No. 8, Bertrand Russell's letter in facsimile
S. Series No. 79, My approach to the Extension Board of Sydney University
S. Series No. 5, John Metcalfe's recommendation to the libraries of the world.

The second Aspect of Semantography
A simple Semantics and Logic for Everyone

I added the following words: For quick information read only the passages marked with a red line. However, the system of the Logic and Semantics of Semantography cannot be expounded in a few words. Further information on request.

Consequently I added only the following 2 pamphlets.

- S. Series No. 37, The pamphlet for my lecture to the Physical Society of Sydney University University, which pamphlet stated first the important words used by Sir Richard Paget.
S. Series No. 31, The pamphlet printed on the cover of the Introduction and First Lesson of the Correspondence Course on the Logic and Semantics of Semantography.

In reply I received the following letter.

UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION IN AUSTRALIA

Care of American Embassy
CANBERRA A.C.T.

January 2, 1952.

Mr. C.K. Bliss,
The Institute for Semantography,
5 Maroubra Bay Road,
PAGEWOOD. N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Bliss,

Thank you for your letter of December 22, in which you have provided the Foundation with details of the type of work you are pioneering and of the lecture tour you wish to conduct in the United States.

I read with interest the information you provided and was also pleased to learn that your work has been brought to public notice through recent press reports. Unfortunately your proposed programme for the propagation of your ideas - a lecture tour through the United States - does not co-incide with the requirements of a Fulbright Travel Grant. As the circular which was forwarded to you on an earlier occasion explained, it is necessary for all candidates to be willing to attach themselves to one institution for the major portion of their stay in the United States. This means that you must obtain the approval of the university authorities to conduct a course of lectures at the university in question.

You will appreciate, therefore, that your present programme does not meet with this requirement thereby making it impossible for the Foundation to accept an application from you.

At the same time, I have considered that it is possible that either the Carnegie Corporation or the Rockefeller Foundation may be in a better position to offer the type of assistance you require. Accordingly, I am enclosing two circulars of information dealing with the awards made by each of these institutions. I hope these may be of use to you.

I am sorry that this Foundation has not been in a position to offer you such assistance as you desire but I trust you will appreciate the reasons for my inability to accede to your request.

Yours sincerely,
Keith A. Dunn
for Geoffrey G. Rossiter
Executive Officer.

To this letter the following 2 pamphlets were attached:

Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee Carnegie Corporation of American
Rockefeller Foundation Fellowships.

However, I did not give in so easily and therefore I despatched the following letter.

Sydney 26th January 1952

The Executive Officer
United States Educational Foundation
c/- American Embassy
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

Re: Your letter KAD:JR Jan. 2

Dear Sir,

This is to thank you for your letter of Jan. 2, which put an end to my hopes. You have been kind enough to send me information concerning the Rockefeller and Carnegie Foundation, but recommendations for these fellowships have to come from the vice-chancellor's committees and other educational authorities, and previous approaches to men belonging to these institutions have shown me the utter hopelessness of my case. Main handicap is that I am not on the teaching staff of a university. Furthermore the purpose is reversed. Those applying want to study in the United States. They have nothing to give. Whereas I have something to give, something which people in the United States should study, examine, test and further.

It seems therefore that a man with a creative work to his credit, but an outsider, can't get any help. I refuse to accept this. There must be a way. Here I am, in the 10th year of my work of which I hoped that it will be my best recommendation. I have sent you a number of leaflets, etc. all printed from my small earnings. I have sent similar letters to other persons and institutions installed for the purpose of help to scientists and their work, and every of these futile approaches throws me deeper into debt and despair. Professor Reiser of the University of Pittsburgh spoke recently before the American Association for the Advancement of Science on my work and termed my struggle "heroic" (see Sydney Morning Herald Jan. 1, cable from New York). Bertrand Russell wrote that financial assistance to my work means "performing an important service to Mankind". Other scholars too have urged assistance. But I have not been able to get a single penny or cent. On the contrary. I am sinking, financially and mentally.

I realise of course that my work may seem strange and absurd to those who don't take the time to study and think about it. It is not just a study in this or that science, or a new drug, a new theory, a new cure. It is something far more, something which is bound to come, because it is already on the way. On the highways of the world where mutual understanding is a matter of life and death, warning signs written in native languages are taken down and replaced by pictographic symbols. A bent arrow means a CURVE in all languages. And Semantography is the logical consequence of this process: symbols, pictorial and simple, which provide a new medium for mankind across all languages. Here is "One Writing for One World".

Now, you and the staff at the Embassy are Americans, and therefore the words which an American Professor said to a gathering of American scientists about my work, will surely find an echo with you. He said: "Bliss's system provides a powerful stimulus and aid to President Truman's Point Four Program". The abject misery of the peoples in the backward areas of the world is a direct threat to the United States and the other free countries. America cannot send billions and billions of dollars and goods forever. All scholars agree that the first steps is the establishment of literacy. Make a man able to read and write and he will be ready to accept and work for further improvements.

Now here is a medium to establish universal literacy, across the thousands of dialects which separate hopelessly those illiterates. Little is necessary, very little indeed, to have some primers printed with pictures of the things and the pictorial symbols next to them. If an American institution will come out with this, it will be a great step forward, a really practical tool which could help those people.

A great American, Professor Carleton Washburne of Brooklyn College, New York has approached another American Dr. John W. Taylor, Deputy Director General of Unesco and urged him to take an interest in it. But Unesco is hampered by the constitutional procedures of a 59 member state organisation. Years may pass, until a step will be made. In the meantime, I the pioneer of this idea will go the way most pioneers of new ideas had to go: down the sink. I am wasting away the years working in a factory just to earn my bread and the money for these letters.

I understand of course your position. As my request does not fit in the routine scheme of the foundation you cannot do anything about it. But you can bring the case before the Director of the United States Educational Foundation, before the men directing and advising this Foundation, and perhaps the American Ambassador might take an interest in this new idea. Minister Percy Spender wrote in a letter that my work might be very useful in the backward areas where illiteracy prevails. The very day I had his letter, he became Australian Ambassador to Washington. I could not bother him there. But you see that my work attracts attention at the highest level.

I beg therefore to put the following proposal before you. I want to address directly the United States Educational Foundation, that is the men in America who govern this institution. I want to tell them, that my work is a thing apart, that it does not fit in the usual schemes, and that it should therefore be specially considered. The help I want can be given in steps, according to the following scheme:

- (1) I shall be taken out of the factory, and given an assignment for one year, in which I shall work on basic primers for those backward areas. The amount necessary for this task equals the amount I earn at present, that is about £st. 800 a year.
- (2) The basic primers should be printed with foundation money, so to acquaint educators with this new mode of communication, and test it.

After these steps, others may be taken including a lecture tour. I beg you therefore to inform me to who and where to I should address my special request. Furthermore I desire the direct support of the men in Australia, who work for the American Educational Foundation. If you would give me an opportunity to show you my work, to answer your arguments, I am sure that I shall win you over. May be, you or the other officers are in Sydney during the next months, and we can meet. Professors and students of Sydney University are enthusiastic about my lectures on my work. But no help is forthcoming. I close this letter putting the question squarely to you: Should another pioneer go down the sink, just because his work is so unusual that it needs special consideration? You can help, and little help is needed. Awaiting your reply I am

Yours sincerely

C.K. Bliss

I attached brochure No. 6 "What Scientists think of Bliss's Semantography"

I received the following interim reply

UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION IN AUSTRALIA

Care of American Embassy,
CANBERRA A.C.T.

January 30, 1952

Mr. C.K. Bliss,
The Institute for Semantography,
5 Maroubra Bay Road,
PAGEWOOD. SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Bliss,

As the Executive Officer of the Foundation, Mr. G.G. Rossiter, is at present absent from Canberra, I am not replying to every question raised in your letter of January 26. The matters you have referred to there will be further discussed when Mr. Rossiter returns so that full consideration

may be given to your proposals.

This will necessitate a delay of approximately one fortnight in providing you with the information you have requested but I think it desirable to do so since your case raises particular problems which I feel should be fully discussed with senior officers of the Foundation staff. I hope this delay will not cause you any inconvenience.

Yours sincerely,
Keith A. Dunn,
Administrative Assistant

Then wrote again

The United States Educational Foundation
c/o American Embassy,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Sydney 20th February, 1952

Your letter KAD/LW of January 30

Dear Sirs,

With reference to your letter and my previous letters, I beg to relate to you a few events of the last days, which are the outcome of the paper, read by Professor Oliver L. Reiser of Pittsburgh University to the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Philadelphia. Professor Reiser found words of great praise for my work, referred to my struggle as "heroic" and said that my work, "provides a powerful stimulus and aid to President Truman's Point Four Program", etc.

I have now received a letter from the Linguistic Faculty of the University of Washington, Seattle, signed by the Secretary of the Linguistic Society, in which he invited me to a lecture, should I happen to visit the United States.

LIFE and TIME have approached Professor Reiser for an article of my work. They have ordered the 3 volumes of my work, which has been rushed to them.

The Christian Science Monitor has offered help with publicity, and I have been visited today by the Chief of Bureau for Australia and New Zealand. He will now write a story for the Boston head office and paper with subsequent publicity in all other papers, affiliated with the Boston Monitor.

Another letter from Boston came from a Lecture Bureau, Mr. A. H. Handley is so much impressed with my work, that he will now undertake to approach the universities and colleges of the Eastern States. He wants to do all this "without personal profit".

This I consider to be the beginning of a "chain reaction" with interest and invitations mounting and coming from all sides. I believe therefore that my desperate letter of January 26, can be put aside, and the original application of a travel grant can now be considered in a new light. I think of a four months visit, and I believe that I would be able to secure the invitation of one university in the Eastern States to study and lecture there. In the evening hours I could then lecture at other institutions. According to your information, concerning the 1952 Fulbright Programme, you said this with regard to Visiting Lecturers: "These grants will be limited to those who have been or who expect to be invited to lecture at an American university". If the Educational Foundation agrees to give me at least the travel expenses only, provided I secure the invitation of a university - this decision would help me to bring the invitation about. I beg you therefore for your information in which I shall now submit my application in view of the fact, that I approached you already in November. I wish to state that I have an academic degree, and have lectured in an honorary capacity practically my whole adult life. Awaiting your answer, I remain with thanks.

Yours sincerely,

C. K. Bliss

Then a ray of hope dawned when the following letter came in

UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION IN AUSTRALIA

Care of American Embassy,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

February 28, 1952

Mr. C. K. Bliss,
The Institute for Semantography,
5 Maroubra Bay Road,
Pagewood,
SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Bliss,

It is obvious from your letter of February 20, that your present decision to conduct your programme of lectures at one university in the United States, accords with the requirements laid down in my original letter of December 18. I would draw your attention, however, to the fact that it is necessary for you to have adequate dollar funds for your maintenance while you are in America. At the same time it is possible to make application in anticipation of receiving an invitation to lecture and of having adequate dollar funds. In view of this you are quite eligible to submit an application at the present time. Accordingly I am forwarding under separate cover, the appropriate application forms for Fulbright Travel Grant in the Visiting Lecturer category.

There is one matter which, I feel, calls for further explanation. In your most recent letter you state: "If the Educational Foundation agrees to give me at least the travel expenses only, provided I secure the invitation of a university - this decision would help me to bring the invitation about". This suggests that you hope to receive an award in anticipation of being invited to lecture. Unfortunately, the Foundation is not in a position to make grants on this basis. It is, however, quite prepared to accept an application in anticipation of the candidate fulfilling the above requirements. The award for which the application has been lodged cannot be offered until the applicant has established that he will have an adequate supply of dollars and that he has completed the necessary arrangements for institutional acceptance.

I do not anticipate that this condition will impose any limitation on your plans since final results of application will not be received from the Department of State before the end of June this year. This should allow you ample time to effect all necessary arrangements.

I trust that the foregoing information satisfactorily clarifies all outstanding issues and that you will now be in a position to complete your application. Should there still be matters which require further explanations please do not hesitate to write again as I shall be pleased to assist you in resolving any remaining problems.

Yours sincerely,

Keith A. Dunn

for Geoffrey G. Rossiter
Executive Officer

Now a frantic activity set in. Firstly I had to get 3 confidential favourable reports from acknowledged scholars. I approached two in Australia, Prof. V. A. Bailey and Senior Lecturer H. D. Black. Both have been favourably disposed towards my work. For the third scholar I thought of an American Professor of Education Carleton Washburne. I wrote to all of them and begged them passionately to support my application. I also asked Prof. Washburne to persuade Brooklyn College, where he taught, to agree that I should be invited to do further research and give lectures. This is a condition of the grant. Time was running out and I frantically appealed to Washburne to write immediately to Canberra. At the same time, I approached the lecture bureaus of the United States (see Sem. Series No. 71) in order to secure a lecture tour. This approach had one favourable reaction. A lecture manager in Boston Mr. Handley agreed to arrange a tour without personal profit to himself. He even approached the President of Boston University to sponsor the tour. He approached also other universities and colleges. He asked for a leaflet and explanatory material

and I wrote especially S. Series No. 72 and 73 in which I outlined the purpose of my visit to the U.S.A. I approached also a rich man in the U.S.A. Mr. Alexander Kremenezky, son of my former boss in Vienna. Mr. Kremenezky had married the daughter of Governor Lehman of New York, and had therefore not only means but also considerable influence. I asked him to write a letter to the Foundation in which he would agree to guarantee financial assistance. I studied the forms, and sent off the following interim letter.

Sydney 5th March 1952

The United States Educational Foundation,
in Australia
c/o American Embassy
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Your letter of February 28, KAD/jr

Dear Mr. Dunn,

This is to acknowledge your kind letter as well as all the forms, and to thank you for your kind and patient guidance. I shall then submit the completed forms before the 1st of April 1952. However 3 points in the questionnaire cannot be filled out completely in time, and I believe to understand the 1st paragraph of page 2 of your letter to the effect that I can submit these at a later date. These points are:

11. Name and location of institution in the United States ...etc. I suggest to fill in the following words: Under negotiation. Name will be submitted later.

14. From what other sources...etc. I am in a small way a dollar earner, and more money is coming in from the U.S.A. through the sale of my books and courses. I have a number of friends in the U.S.A. particularly New York (where I want to conduct my research and lecture activity) who would provide board and lodging in their home. As the necessary assurances cannot be submitted until the 1st of April, I suggest to fill in: Under negotiation, will be supplied later.

15. References. Two persons from Sydney who are qualified to comment on my specific academic field and purpose of my visit will furnish their reference in time. The third person will be a professor in the United States, preferably the man at the institute where I want to work. As his reference cannot be obtained before the 1st of April, I suggest to fill the third line: will be submitted later.

Otherwise, all points are clear to me and I shall submit all forms before the 1st of April. There is one point on which I would be glad to have your comment, hoping that I shall not overstrain your kind patience. It would of course be wonderful to see my hopes fulfilled in getting the travel grant. It would be even better if I could get a dollar allowance too. This means an application under the Smith-Mundt Act. Would it do any harm if I submit an additional application, or would this narrow down my chances altogether, in view of the fact that fewer awards are available under both acts? If my Smith-Mundt application is turned down, could the Fulbright application still be successful? Please accept my sincere thanks for all your information.

Yours sincerely,

C.K. Bliss

Then having filled out the forms I despatched them with the following letter

Sydney 28th March 1952

The United States Educational Foundation in Australia
c/o the American Embassy
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Dear Mr. Dunn,

In thanking you for your last letter, I submit herewith in time my application for a travel grant under the Fulbright Act. Enclosed you will find

1. Three copies of application proper
2. Three copies of "Statement of Purpose", plus additional information
3. One "Certificate of Health"

4. Three envelopes containing printed material on my work.

You have kindly stated that the application can be completed after the 1st of April and here are the points which I shall furnish as soon as possible.

- (a) Senior Lecturer H.D. Black, will send his "Confidential Report" in time. The second scholar approached in Australia is Professor V.A. Bailey. Unfortunately he is in Adelaide. I wrote to him, and asked him to send his "Confidential Report" to Canberra. But up till now I don't even know whether he has received my request or not. I have therefore not put in his name.

The same applies to Professor Carleton Washburne of Brooklyn College New York. His report will be sent to you directly, but at present I don't know yet, whether he has received my letter. I asked him too about

- (b) the acceptance as a visiting lecturer and research scholar. With regard to this point I have filled in "under negotiation, will be supplied later", in accordance with my letter of March 5th and your letter.
- (c) Adequate dollar funds. This line has been filled in "will be supplied later" in accordance with our previous correspondence.
- (d) I have signed the final papers for Australian citizenship in November, and was told that I shall receive Australian citizenship in about 3 months. I was sure that it will come in March. To-day I visited the Immigration Department and was informed that a great delay has occurred, because all the papers for new citizens were made out in the name of King George VI and new papers have to be printed with the name of Queen Elizabeth II, I have therefore filled out point 5 as stated there, and shall send you word immediately I receive the final papers.
- (e) my photographs received after delays proved unusable, and have to be taken again. I am sorry for this delay, and shall submit 3 photographs as soon as I receive them.

In view of the fact, that the provisions of the grant allows the submission of important details after the closing date, I hope that the points mentioned above will be in accordance, and I shall complete the missing information in as short a time as possible.

Apart from my application for a travel grant, I want to approach the United States Educational Foundation with the request to take an interest in this new educational idea. I shall do this at a later date.

In closing my letter, I wish again to thank you for your patient and kind help. I sincerely hope that all these efforts will prove successful.

Yours sincerely,

C.K. Bliss

In order to give the future researcher the complete picture, here are the texts of the filled out forms.

APPLICATION FOR TRAVEL GRANT TO THE UNITED STATES TO BE AWARDED
UNDER PUBLIC LAW 584, 70TH CONGRESS THE FULBRECHT ACT
To be Submitted to the UNITED STATES Educational Foundation in
Australia, c/- American Embassy, Canberra.

photograph

1. (Mr.) Charles Kasiel BLISS
(enter full name; underline surname)
2. Present address 5 Maroubra Bay Road Sydney Pagewood N.S.W. Australia
street and number town or city state country
3. Permanent home address same as above same as above
street and number town or city state country.
- Date of Birth (Western calendar): Month September day 5 year 1897

- Place of Birth Czernowitz (formerly Austria)
5. Country of present citizenship I underwent the final examination and hope to receive Australian citizenship within the next month. I have formerly been an Austrian Citizen
6. Person to be notified in case of emergency:
- | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| a) in the United States | Fritz TREUER | friend | P.O.B. 167 YELLOW |
| | name | relationship | address |
| SPRINGS, OHIO. | | | |
| b) in home country | Claire Bliss | wife | |
| | name | relationship | |
| 5 Maroubra Bay Road Pagewood - Sydney, N.S.W. Australia | | | |
7. Professional training and experience:
- (a) Name of Institution, University degree received and date: I studied at the Hochschule fuer Welthandel (University of World Commerce) in Vienna (1916-1917), the University of Czernowitz (1918-1919) and graduated from the Technische Hochschule (University of Technology) in Vienna, Department of Chemistry (1919-1922). I have been an honorary science lecturer of evening classes in colleges etc. in Vienna.
- (b) Title of present position, name of employer, and type of work: In order to keep my mind centred solely on my work "Semantography", I have given up any job involving mental responsibilities. I make my living as a spotwelder at General Motors, Sydney (conveniently situated opposite my home) well paid, and working only 40 hours in a 4½ days week. Almost all other waking time I work on Semantography.
8. Names of cultural, scientific and educational societies or organisation of which you are a member:
- Australian Association for the United Nations
World Movement for World Federal Government
New Education Fellowship
9. Subject in which you expect to specialize, to undertake research or to teach (use separate sheet, if necessary):
- my work "Semantography"
- (1) study the educational experimental procedure as suggested by Prof. Washburne
- (2) carry them out in a research project
- (3) lecture on Semantography
10. Books, articles and theses published, especially in proposed field of study in the United States:
- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Title | Place and date of publication |
| SEMANTOGRAPHY (3 volumes) | Sydney 1949 (see letter of the Principal Librarian Mr. John Metcalfe) |
11. Name and location of institution in the United States with which you will be affiliated: Under negotiation, will be supplied later.
12. A. When do you expect to undertake your study, teaching or research in the United States? 1952 - 1953
- B. How long do you expect to continue your study teaching or research in the Un. S. One academic year (or less, if purpose fulfilled)
13. Have you been awarded or are you being considered for a fellowship, scholarship, grant, or salary by an institution or foundation in the U.S. If so, give name and address of institution or foundation, nature and amount of award and attach appropriate documents of evidence: I have only made some enquiries. I have not received any grant, nor am I under consideration, having not submitted any application at present.
14. From what other sources will you receive financial assistance? Give name and address of source and amount you will receive and attach appropriate documents of evidence: will be supplied later
15. REFERENCES:
- List name and addresses of three persons from whom you are requesting letters of reference. The List should include one reference from a person in your home country or in the United States in your specific academic field who is qualified to comment on your purpose in wishing to study, to pursue research, or to teach in the United States. The other two letters may be of general reference. All letters should be written on the form provided for that purpose and should be sent by the writers direct to the United States Educational Foundation in Australia, c/- American Embassy, Canberra, A.C.T., on or before the closing date for this competition.
- | | |
|--|---------|
| Senior Lecturer Mr. H.D. Black, University of Sydney | |
| name | address |

- 14 -

Professor V. A. Bailey	University of Sydney
name address	address
Professor Carleton Washburne,	Brooklyn College New York
name address	address

16. STATEMENT BY APPLICANT:

1. I certify that the information given in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
I intend to return to my home country within a reasonable time after the completion of my period of research or teaching in the United States.

28th March, 1952

SIGNATURE C. K. Bliss

APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TRAVEL GRANT TO BE SUBMITTED TO
UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION C/O AMERICAN EMBASSY, CANBERRA

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE IN APPLYING FOR STUDY ABROAD

Fill out this form in triplicate and use typewriter if possible.

State your reasons for desiring to study in the United States and outline briefly any research project you may plan to undertake.

The Fulbright Programme, the encouragement of international understanding and goodwill, is realised in my work "Semantography" in a new and universal sense. It represents the first practical realisation of Leibnitz's 300 year old speculation, a Symbolis Universalis, encompassing all languages and containing a simple Logic and Semantics. For more information, I attach "Semantography and the Purpose of my intended Visit to the United States."

My work has found the acclaim of a number of eminent scholars. Bertrand Russell wrote that spending money to make my work known means "performing an important service to Mankind." Professor Carleton Washburne of New York Professor Joseph Lauwerys of London, and others have approached UNESCO on behalf of it. It will be taught in a London secondary school.

Professor Carleton Washburne has outlined to me a number of experiments with children, students and adults, involving careful selection of groups with various I.Q. I want to study these procedures under the guidance of Professor Washburne in New York, and hope to be able to carry out the experiments suggested by him. Lastly I want to lecture on my work.

In pioneering a new educational idea, I go through all the tribulations of a pioneer. I have used up by sabongs and earnings in printing and posting thousands of leaflets and brochures to scholars and organisations. I apply now for a travel grant. Being 55 years of age, the main purpose of my intended visit to the United States is to interest younger minds in my work and to hand it over to them. We do not understand each other because of different languages. But we do not understand each other even if we use the same language. Semantography represents a new method to teach people (1) how to make themselves understood across all languages, (2) how to reason, and (3) how to recognise vague, ambiguous and fallacious meanings, the missiles of the war of words within the family and the community.

C. K. Bliss

28th March, 1952

5 Maroubra Bay Road, Pagewood Sydney,
N.S.W. Australia

The deadline was the 1st of April and my papers got safely in time to Canberra. It appeared also that Prof. Bailey's and Black's letters came in time too. However, Prof. Washburne's letter was delayed. Even before it arrived in Canberra, I received the following letter.

UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION IN AUSTRALIA

Mr. C.K. Bliss
The Institute of Semantography
5 Maroubra Bay Road,
PAGEWOOD.
SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Care of American Embassy,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Dear Mr. Bliss,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Foundation, I wish to inform you that your application for a United States Government travel grant under the Fulbright programme has now received consideration but regret to advise that the Board has been unable to recommend you for one of these awards.

I have been requested to advise you that the applications received by the Foundation for the limited number of awards available this year were of a high standard and that the Board regrets that it has been compelled to exclude a number of well qualified candidates.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your support for the educational exchange programme between this country and the United States and trust that you will retain a continuing interest in its operations.

Yours sincerely,
Geoffrey G. Rossiter
Executive Officer.

The reader will note that all foregoing letters were written by Mr. Keith A. Dunn, and the tone of those letters was of extreme helpfulness. Now, Rossiter wrote the letter and it was a No, though couched in nice phrases. I wrote.

Sydney 22nd May, 1952

Geoffrey G. Rossiter,
Executive Officer,
The United States Educational Foundation,
c/o The American Embassy,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Dear Mr. Rossiter,

Your letter informing me that I am out has been a great disappointment. I was under the impression that the selection will be made in the U.S.A. and have therefore written my explanatory pamphlet from this angle. Now I see that I have been excluded even before the report of Professor Carleton Washburne of New York came in. Nevertheless I shall try again next year.

Would you then kindly return the 3 bulky envelopes, containing printed material about my work. I shall submit new material with my next application. Furthermore would you kindly inform me whether the confidential reports of Professor A. V. Bailey and Senior Lecturer H. D. Black of Sydney University could stay for the next application?

I shall also be grateful to you, if you would kindly forward to me the particulars for next years application in time.

Thanking you in anticipation, I remain

Yours sincerely,
C.K. Bliss, B.Sc.

I received the following reply

UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION IN AUSTRALIA

Mr. C.K. Bliss,
The Institute of Semantography,
5 Maroubra Bay Road,
PAGEWOOD. SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Care of American Embassy
CANBERRA. A.C.T.
May 26, 1952.

Dear Mr. Bliss,

I fully appreciate that you would have been disappointed at not being recommended for a Fulbright Travel Grant but, unfortunately, the Foundation has only sufficient funds to make a limited number of awards each year and it is inevitable that some candidates will be disappointed. As you have pointed out

too, it was necessary to consider your application without having received the Report from Professor Washburne. As it was, the Foundation delayed consideration of these awards for nearly two weeks to enable candidates to return material such as this. It was not possible, however, for the matter to be delayed beyond this point since this would have meant that our recommendations to the Department of State would have been received far too late for satisfactory consideration. Were the Department solely concerned with dealing with applications from Australia, I have no doubt that it would be possible to close applications at a much later date. However, since the Fulbright programme is operating in twenty-two other countries in the world, many with larger programmes than that in Australia, it will be realised that it is not possible for any one country to submit its application at a later date.

The confidential reports provided by Professor Bailey and Mr. H. D. Black may be used for attachment to your new application and I shall hold them for that purpose. In the meanwhile, I am returning the three envelopes which were attached to your application in 1952.

Information on the 1953-54 programme is not yet in circulation but I have noted your name and address and will have it forwarded to you when it becomes available. I anticipate that this will be some time early in September this year.

Yours sincerely,
Keith A. Dunn
for Geoffrey G. Rossiter
Executive Officer

However, I had lost heart to continue the struggle with the Foundation. The list of the successful applicants who got the grants were announced in the papers. They were all paid members of the staff of Australian universities, and none of them had any outstanding work to his credit. Indeed they were nonetries altogether.

Mr. Dunn's sympathetic interest and help remained. Five months later I received the following letter.

UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION IN AUSTRALIA

Care of American Embassy
CANBERRA. A.C.T.
October 28, 1952

Mr. C. K. Bliss,
Institute of Semantography,
5 Maroubra Bay Road,
PAGEWOOD. SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Bliss,

Further to our previous correspondence, I am pleased to advise that details of the joint Smith-Mundt/Fulbright Programme for Research Scholars during the 1953-54 academic year have just been announced. Under separate cover I am forwarding the necessary information circular together with one set of application forms.

If when completing these you wish me to transfer any portions of your former application to this present one, I would be pleased if you would let me know.

Yours sincerely,
Keith A. Dunn
for Geoffrey G. Rossiter
Executive Officer

In the meantime, the papers announced the arrival of the Fulbright scholars from America, the scholars who were "exchanged" for those Australians going to America. Here again the picture was the same. All were members of American universities and all were nonetries. None had any creative work to his credit. I understood now that the educators administering the Fund had no desire to set a precedent and give a grant to an outsider, no matter how much he merited it. Better give the money to a nonety provided he is a salaried scholar. As to the creative pioneers who are outside of universities - they might just as well go to hell.