

## *Schumpeter News*

### **International Joseph A. Schumpeter Society**

#### **Dear Member of the international Joseph A. Schumpeter Society**

Many of our members have heard the sad news: The co-founder, inaugural President and Honorary President of our Society, Wolfgang F. Stolper passed away on Easter Sunday, March 31 2002, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, only one day after the end of our Gainesville conference. Unaware of just how ill he was, we had spoken about him at the conference's General Assembly, and about how to commemorate his 90th birthday in May.

Now he is no longer with us. The official memorial was held at Ann Arbor in June. We deeply mourn for Wolfgang.

The following articles are dedicated in memoriam Wolfgang Stolper. We are indebted to his close friend and colleague Paul A. Samuelson, and our former ISS Presidents, who contributed their memories and experiences with Wolfgang.

It was good to see many of you in Gainesville. For those who were unable to attend the meeting we are including reports and summaries on the conference. Our thanks go to the former President Bob Lanzillotti and to his co-organizer Elias Dinopoulos for their tremendous efforts.

*Horst Hanusch*

#### **Aspects of the 1941 Stolper-Samuelson Collaboration\***

\*Lightly edited, taken from Paul A. Samuelson's

"Tribute to Wolfgang Stolper on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Stolper-Samuelson Theorem,"  
Lecture at the University of Michigan Symposium, Nov. 17, 1991

In a good life a high point was my 1941 collaboration with Wolfgang Stolper on our much anthologized "Protection and Real Wages." Nothing was more fun than our exciting progress after Wolfgang brought to me his seminal insight. „How can Haberler and Taussig be right about the necessary harm to a versatile factor like

labor from America's tariff, when the Ohlin theory entails that free trade must hurt the factor of production that is scarce relative to land?"

The rest is history. So fundamental a point is obvious in retrospect but the earth moves when first you hear it. "You have something here. Work it out, Wolfie," I said. He worked it out. But suddenly, like all breakthroughs, the analysis opened up a new continent. The newly-married Stolpers and Samuelsons lived on the same Ware Street in earshot of Harvard Yard's bells. We talked about new puzzles when we met, and each week a surprising lemma knocked on our brain's door. Was it really possible and mandatory that free trade raise the American land/labor ratio in both food and clothing!

I have always insisted I was the midwife, helping to deliver Wolfie's brainchild. Eventually Stolper turned stubborn, saying he could not conscientiously take sole credit for what had involved a fruitful collaboration. I yielded gracefully, understanding that I was the junior partner but that the senior partner might never feel completely comfortable under an other arrangement.

Never was there a more harmonious collaboration. Gilbert and Sullivan were never like that. Stolper-Samuelson has always been quite a different matter. If anything the junior partner has been accorded too much credit. This is in accordance with Robert K. Merton's "Matthew Effect" in the history of science: *To him who hath shall be given.*

Stolper-Samuelson was an overture to a symphony that has never stopped playing. But always there are overtures to overtures. On this occasion I must call attention to an unconscious influence that was operating on us back in 1940 – operating at least on Paul if not on Wolfgang.

As readers of the 1941 paper will remember, we were painstaking in seeking for earlier anticipations of our analytical relationships between the production-possibility frontier and the Stolper-Samuelson production box diagram.

The pickings were very slim indeed.

But we did twice refer explicitly to Marion Crawford's celebrated term paper on the Australian case for a tariff on labor intensive imports, calculated to raise that land-rich country's population and real wage rate. I can cite for interested readers to relatively recent *post mortem* on that Marion Crawford Australian breakthrough in M. C. Samuelson (1989). I ought to add now what I failed to stress earlier: that my unconscious mind must certainly have benefited enormously in 1940-41 from knowledge of Marion's 1939 *QJE* findings. This is the occasion to do justice to that influence.

Without the Stolper-Samuelson box diagram, Marion Crawford could handle the  $p$ - $p$  frontier of the 2-good case where one of them utilized only labor. I doubt not that my midwifery benefited from this remembered source.

Let me conclude with some fond remembrances of Wolfgang Stolper.

When I came to Harvard, he exuded unconscious charm, European charm. Stolper was Cambridge's link with Schumpeter's days at Bonn. I can recall Wolfgang's indignation when his complaint about the warmth of the Mosel wine served him was met by a waiter who returned with an ice cube plunked down into the wine glass. If Wolfgang had asked that same waiter to cut his Cuban cigar, no doubt he would have returned with two equal pieces.