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Papers, 1942-2000. 12.00 linear ft.

Abstract

Henri Theil was one of the modern pioneers of econometrics whose work directly and indirectly influenced a whole generation of economists. His research included seminal contributions to econometric methodology, aggregation theory, the evaluation of forecasts, quantitative economic policy, information theory and its economic applications, management science, index numbers and the analysis of consumer demand. This collection consists of correspondence, papers and articles of Henri Theil, as well as an oral history audiotape and transcript conducted by Dr. Jacob Nyenhuis in March 2006 with Eleonore Theil. Within the collection are numerous articles Theil saved from other economists. Also included is a student card and picture from Theil’s early college years at Utrecht, and two photographs from later in his life. Extra copies of some of his books and books about Theil are stored at Archives 2.

Accession No:         H02-1469  
Provenance:           Henri Theil  
Donor:                Eleonore Theil   
Photographs:          5 images   
Processed by:         Michael Douma, January 2003

Biography

Henri Theil was born in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, in 1924. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Amsterdam in 1951. In 1952, he went to work for the Central Plan Bureau of the Netherlands in the Hague in 1952, but soon left to work for the International Statistical Education Center in Calcutta, India where he taught Economics for students from all South-East Asia.

Professor Theil’s distinguished career as an academic began in 1953 when he was appointed Professor of Econometrics at the Netherlands School of Economics in Rotterdam (now Erasmus University). Three years later, he founded the Econometric Institute in Rotterdam and served as its first director until 1966, when he accepted a joint appointment at the Graduate School of Business and Department of Economics, at the University of Chicago. He was also a guest lecturer at Stanford (1956, 1959), Harvard (1960), and University of Wisconsin-Madison (1964). He was also a fellow of the Econometric Society and later became its president in 1961. Other fellowships or elected memberships included the International Statistical Institute, the American Statistical Association, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences.

In 1981, Theil was appointed to the McKethan-Matherly Eminent Chair at the Graduate School of Business Administration of the University of Florida in Gainesville, becoming the first Eminent Scholar in Florida’s State University system.

Dr. Theil received many international honors, including honorary degrees from the University of Chicago, the Free University of Brussels, Erasmus University, and Hope College,
as well as contributing over 250 articles in refereed journals and chapters in books, and 15 books, three of which, *Economic Forcasts and Policy*, *Economics and Information Theory*, and *Principles of Econometrics*, have become citation classics by the *Social Sciences Citation Index*. His books and articles have appeared in (and have been translated into) many languages, such as Polish, Russian, Dutch, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian and Japanese. A book has also been written covering his life’s works, entitled *Henri Theil’s contributions to Economics and Econometrics*.

Henri Theil was one of the modern pioneers of econometrics whose work directly and indirectly influenced a whole generation of economists. His research included seminal contributions to econometric methodology, aggregation theory, the evaluation of forecasts, quantitative economic policy, information theory and its economic applications, management science, index numbers and the analysis of consumer demand.

He retired from the University of Florida in 1994, but continued to contribute actively to his profession through numerous journal articles and a book on *Studies in Global Econometrics*. Henri Theil passed away in Jacksonville, Florida, on August 20, 2000.

**Scope and Content**

This collection consists of correspondence, papers and articles of Henri Theil, as well as an oral history audiotape and transcript conducted by Dr. Jacob Nyenhuis in March 2006 with Eleonore Theil. Within the collection are numerous articles Theil saved from other economists. Also included is a student card and picture from Theil’s early college years at Utrecht, and two photographs from later in his life. Extra copies of some of his books and books about Theil are stored at Archives 2.

**Container List**

**Box 1**

Appointment Offers

- 1959-1964
- Carnegie Tech, 1960, 1964
- Chicago, 1954-1955
- Chicago, 1965
- ECAFE, 1959
- Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna, 1963
- Stanford, 1955-1956

Biographical, 2000

Booklet, *Rotterdamse herineringen*, Biographical Info, 1994

Brochure, *Department of Economics, University of Chicago*, n.d.

Copy of German Language Economics Book, n.d.

Correspondence
From Concentration Camp to Parents, 1943-1944 (hard copy, CD, Dutch)  
1951-1956  
1955-1957 (establishment of Econ. Institute)  
1961  
1962-1965  
Dr. Casimir, 1969  
Country Code Data, 1991  
Curriculum Vitae  
Charles B. Moss, n.d.  
James L. Seale, Jr., n.d.  
Doctor of Laws Degree, University of Chicago, 1964  
Econometric Institute  
Annual Reports, 1995, 1996  
Publications, 1996  
Journal Articles (bound), 1949-1951 (Dutch/English)  
Papers  
“Een Koninklijke Republiek” (A Royal Republic), n.d.  
Sanjay Verma, R. Karan Singh, n.d.  
Personal Works  
International Economic Inequality, 1978-1995  
Photographs, n.d. (4 images)  
Publications  
Articles  
A. P. Barten, Tijdschrift voor Economics en Management, 1985  
Ching-Fan Chung, Amer. J. Agr. Econ., 1994  
Clements, Selvanathan, The Economic Record, 1996  
James L. Seale Jr., Wayne E. Walker, and In-Moo Kim, 1991  
James L. Seale Jr., Amy L. Sparks, Boyd M. Buston, 1992  
Peter van Bergijk, ESB, 1999  
Ruben Cohen, 1993
Ruben Cohen, Philosophical Magazine Letters, 1994
Sandy Baum, Public Finance Review, 1998
Summers, Kravis, and Heston, Review of Wealth, 1980
T. R. A. Grosfelf and F. J. Hospers, ESB, 2000
W. H. Somermeyer, Biography, De Economist, 1983

Booklet, Emperical Economics, 1994
De Economist, 1994
Ifo Studien, 1995
Papers
Anton P. Barten, 1990
J. A. Walsh, M. E. O’Kelly, Economic and Social Review, 1979
Wing-Cheong Yuen, 1998
Research Memorandum, F. J. H. Don, 2000
The American Statistician, 1988
The Economic Journal, 1978

Rotterdam Students Newspaper, Skald, 1966
Student Card, University of Utrecht, 1942 (1 image)
Theil, Eleonore, Oral History Audiocassette Tape and Transcript, 2006

Box 2

Books by Henri Theil and Others or About Henri Theil

Box 3

Books by Henri Theil and Others or About Henri Theil (cont.)
Box 4

Books by Henri Theil and Others or About Henri Theil (cont.)


Box 5

Books by Henri Theil and Others or About Henri Theil (cont.)


Box 6

Books by Henri Theil and Others or About Henri Theil (cont.)


Box 7

Books by Henri Theil and Others or About Henri Theil (cont.)


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Box 8

Books by Henri Theil and Others or About Henri Theil (cont.)