

CORRESPONDENCE

TO THE EDITOR OF *Philosophy*

February 2nd, 1947

DEAR SIR,

May I reply on a point of fact to Professor Field's review of my book, *The Open Society and Its Enemies* (Vol. XXI, No. 80 of your Journal)? Professor Field mentions on page 275 Plato's *Politicus* as "a dialogue which Dr. Popper, except for one or two casual references, ignores." But upon looking over the references in only my first two chapters on Plato (chapters 3 and 4 plus notes), I find 25 references to 20 different passages of the *Politicus*. These passages bear mainly on my interpretation of Plato's views on the relation between the primitive and the ideal state, criticized by Professor Field on p. 274. I suppose that what Professor Field wanted to censure in the above-quoted passage was not that I ignored this dialogue altogether but merely that my references to this dialogue, in connection with certain other problems, were not as frequent as he could have wished.

Yours faithfully,

K. R. POPPER.

THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
AND POLITICAL SCIENCE,
HOUGHTON ST., LONDON, W.C.2

(The Editor has submitted the above letter to Professor Field, who has replied as follows:

"Dr. Popper's statistics are, of course, perfectly correct, and I am sorry if I gave a misleading impression. Perhaps I should have spoken of 'references to one or two points' instead of 'one or two references.' On considering the length of the references, as compared with the space given to passages from other dialogues, I think that, with one possible exception, the adjective 'casual' is justified."—EDITOR.