

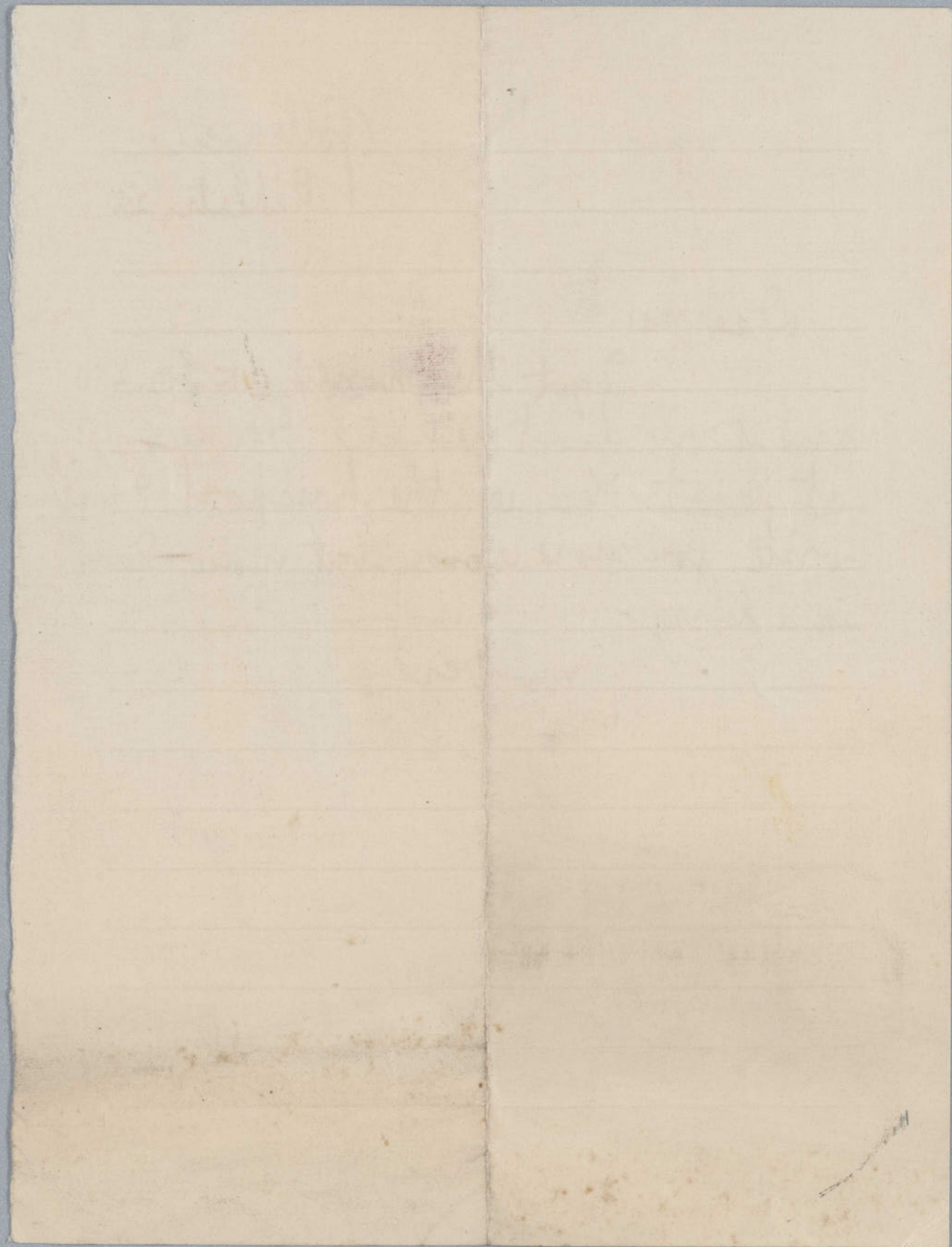
[May, 1914]

Göttingen,
Buhlstr. 28

Dear ma:

I got the money O.K. (m. 200)
and it will last me until June 6,
at least. Here is the passport. I will
write you more soon, but now I am
in a hurry

norbert



May 1, '14
Bühlstr 26,
Göttingen

Dear ma:

My work has well begun, & I am getting accustomed to the routine. I am taking only four courses, in all $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours of lectures per week. I have called on all my three professors, Husserl, Hilbert, and Landau, & was pleasantly treated by all of them. Hilbert invited me over to the mathematical club here. I came & met several of the professors & advanced students. I am down for a share in a review of the Principia of Russell.

it. Then I spend a few hours each day in exchanging English for German with a student here. Neither of us exhibits any great proficiency in the other's language, but we can quite readily make one another understand what we are talking about.

I go occasionally to the movies (40 pf) or to the theatre (90 pf - peanut gallery).

I am feeling O.K., taking regular exercise, grub, & snore. Hoping all of you are in the same fortunate condition, I remain,
your loving son,
Norbert.

before the club. The other day I called on Landau. He said Hardy's letter spoke of me in highly complimentary terms. He was very pleasant to me, & invited me to call on him again.

I spend several hours each day in the library of the mathematical seminary. As the lectures are so far very easy for me, I spend my time browsing around the books of mathematics which line the room, doing light mathematical reading. I do not count that time, however, as wasted — I am here to gain new mathematical ideas, & this is the best way for me to do

May 6, 1914,
Biblstr. 28,
Göttingen

Dearna.

I'm afraid my German is absolutely hopeless. I can make myself understood, but my grammar is sadly out of repair, my pronunciation is on the same level as Münsterberg's English, etc. As to cash, I have 150 m on hand, after my University expenses are all paid, & half my room-rent. Leaving 40 m as a reserve, this leaves me 110 m to spend in one month, or about 28 m per week, or ^{more than} ~~almost~~ 4 m per day. Now, my food costs me about less than 2 m

per day, chocolate etc. included. I spend
less than M 3.50 per week in laundry &
baths. Allow 2 m per week for other
necessary expenses (and that is a
high estimate) and I have still a margin
of about M. 1.20. Suppose I go to the
theatre twice a week (which I never shall do),
I have still a margin of about 97 pfennigs
per day. I shall have a surplus, not
a deficit. I carry paper in preference to
gold. If you say, I shall meet you on
the platform at Göttingen as the train
goes through. I shall send you a letter
to Hamburg. I'm glad we shall be
at I appar's next summer.

My work is getting on O.K.

Good bye,

With love,
Norbert.

Göttingen,
Buhlstr. 28,
May 9, '14

Dear dad:

I am well on in the midst of my work, though I have been a bit lazy the last two or three days. I have made a new, though trivial discovery: in the algebra of logic, $f[f\{f(x)\}] = f(x)$, whatever f and x . I am taking five courses: Husserl's Seminary, his course on Ethics & his course on Kant, Hilbert's differential equations, & Landau's Theory of Groups. They are all fairly easy. I am also exchanging ^{English for} German with a student here, and I think I have noticeably improved. I can always make myself understood, at any rate, and

that is an important thing. I have been
once to the theatre. I am well off
financially. Saturday afternoon I
went with some American students
to play baseball.

Goodbye,
Your loving son,
Norbert

May 14, '14
Büllet. 28,
Göttingen

Dear dad:

Just about the same time that I heard I got the Bowdoin, I got a note from the 'White' Sepulchre, as Russell calls one of our American philosophical publications, saying that my article on 'The Highest Good' was accepted for publication, and I got the reprints of my Cambridge Philosophical Society articles today! I'm in luck all round, O.K! I am sending you my articles under separate cover. Keep one of each sort! You can easily see which and sow the rest where they will do the most good.

What shall I do with my Bowdoin article? Shall I publish it? Where? Collect the Bowdoin prize money for me please, father. If it is necessary I shall send a note to the Purser authorizing you to do it. With my Sheldon for next year I do not need the cash.

I intended to meet ma at the Göttingen station as she went from Munich to Hamburg, but I was told that the 9.00 train from Munich came through at 7.15 PM, whereas it came through at 5.25, so I missed her. However, I got a note from ma from Hamburg.

My math. is coming on O.K.
I ~~dream~~ even dream Gruppentheorie

& Mengenlehre. My phil. work is coming on O.K., but Husserl's works are awfully heavy reading - much heavier than Russell's Principia Mathematica, for instance. Another student & I are planning to go for him in the seminary next time. My German is wretched, but I think, improving. Some days I speak fluently, & almost grammatically: other days only with difficulty & so tentatively. My grammar is N.G. On the other hand, I am often complimented on my pronunciation.

I eat supper now at the veg.

res.

Good-bye
with love,
Norbert

Biblstr. 28,
Göttingen, Germany,
May 16, '14

Dear ma.

I hope you have had a pleasant voyage. I know you are more than joyous to be in America once more. How are you, Cona, & the kids. Have you pleasant rooms at Felton Hall? Where shall we be next summer?

My 2nd & 3rd articles have come, as you will have seen by this time. See that the Gazette announces them, please. I send it to me.

Is dad well yet? I hope so. Not much news here, except that I have been rather lazy of late, but am taking steps to overcome it, & buckle down to work.

In Husserl's Seminar, several of ~~the~~ students (a Russian Jew, a Russian, a Finn, & myself) have planned to start a concerted attack next time on Husserl's system. We shall make things interesting, at any rate.

A German seminar isn't half as much fun as an American one. The professor conducts the seminar almost like a lecture course, & most of the students look upon the professor's word in any philosophical question as law.

Please send me all the news from Cambridge. I write Sen Gupta up next Summer.

Goodbye
With love,
Norbert

Bühlstr. 28,
Göttingen, Germany
May 22, 1914

Dear dad:

I am busy grinding away at my work - 22 pages of Husserl's works per day seasoned with a little Kant & Gruppenethic. I am making acquaintances here, mostly among other foreigners. The other day a few of us gathered at the rooms of a Russian student - 3 Russians (1 Slav & 2 Jews), 1 Finn, 1 Magyar, & yours truly. We represented 8 universities (Harvard, Cambridge, Cornell, Helsingfors, Moscow, St. Petersburg, Budapest, Heidelberg, Göttingen).

Yesterday I went on a long hike. I have sent my articles off,

I have received cards of thanks from
I telson of Berlin & Burali Forti of Turin.
I have sent off several other articles
but have not heard of their fate. I shall
send one to Couturat as soon as I can
find his address, but he is such
a crank that he belongs to no societies,
goes to no conferences, congresses, never
puts his address at the end of a preface,
etc.

Hoping you, ma, & the kids are
O. K., I close,
Your loving son,
Norbert.

become lazy at the same
time. Do not write
articles, but if your
spirits boils over with
discoveries, unburden
them with printers' ink.
All send their love including

Your loving father,

You need not write to
the Presses, I shall col-
lect the Bowdler prize
money anyway.
Be careful with your reprints.
Do not give them all away,
for you may need them in the
future.

15 Mella St.
Cambridge, Mass
May 24, 1914

Dear Robert, -

The whole caboodle is
here, all well and happy
to be back. We shall go to
the country in less than
a week, so you may write
us to North Sandwich.

I am proud of the work
you have been doing. The articles
in the Proceedings of the
C.P.S. are fine, especially
fine, since I do not under-

You need no more, send us
and you will get it. You can
collect the amount in the
Dresdner Bank by showing
your check, I suppose,
but you may have to wait
two or three days until
the advice comes to the
Bank. I shall send you
the ticket home as
soon as you write me
when you can leave
Göttingen.

Do not work too
hard, but do not

stand a word in them. I shall
see to it that the reprints
reach those who will advise
them as much as I do. I

think Prof. Royce wants
your article on Relativity
to appear in the *Whitsted Separat*
If he does, I shall have a copy
made and send it in.

I send you \$75. This
will last you until you
return home, for expenses
and journey to Brussels
and tips on boat. If

Bull. 28,

Göttingen.

[ca. May 27, 1914]

Dear dad:

Here I am, carrying on my usual mixture of working and loafing. I work on the average about 5 hours a day, except Saturdays & holidays, but including Sundays, besides hearing my lectures. When I have problems in the course on the theory of groups, I generally get them without mistakes, although I take no notes, & do very little reading on that particular subject.

Gazette too. I haven't had a letter
from you for more than a week

Hoping all is going well with
the family up in the Mountains?
Love

Your loving son,

Robert.

Saturday I played baseball
as usual, and made 3 runs: one on a
base on balls, & 2 on hits (in a
single inning). I am no good at it, &
we none of us are champion players,
but it's good fun.

Yesterday I found a card
on my table from a man named
Long, who, he said, was told by you
to meet me, when he came through
Göttingen I took him around to the
American colony, & today I took a
stroll with him around Göttingen.
He says that you have another
article in the Nation. Please send
it to me. Please send me the

103 Irving St., Cambridge

May 25, 1914

Dear Professor Wiener:-

There is no doubt that the essay on "Relativism" ought to be published, and that, as a preliminary to that undertaking, you would do well to have a type written copy of it

are often pretty long, and a general answer

of epistemological problems is not out of place in "Mind".

The "Philosophical Review", as you well (edit) by Creighton gives

another good chance, - although not as good as "Mind".

If you want to help your own paper to do well, do

recommendations of a philosopher to me. The name of the author:-
"Why don't you speak for yourself, John?" and a Bostonian
recommendation editor to use what you can
of your own kind is sure to be of some use to you.

made as soon as possible.

The place to print it is, at the moment, a more doubtful problem. As to the "Journal of Phil., Psychol. &c." Woodbridge is rather strict about printing short articles. Such a choice as keepo single articles down to as few pages as possible, he regards as the special office of his journal. I do not know precisely how many words

these are in "Relativism". My impression is that it goes beyond 6000 words. I may be wrong. But Woodbridge urgently prefers ^{from} 2500 to 4000 words, and is fond of still shorter papers. ^{This I would like to mention} He'd with him, and beginning with him. ^{In this case!} So I hesitate to advise if your aim is to beat Cambridge England for some weeks yet to come, why not have him send the paper to Stout at St. Andrews for "Mind"? There is the objection that Mind is a quarterly. But such articles as to print

Bühlstr 28,
Göttingen, Germany,
May 28, 14

Dear Dad:

I leave here August 1. If it is all the same to you, I should like to have as short a trip as possible. I have been told by a student here that the third cabin (not steerage) on the Emperor costs only \$45 & is very comfortable, while the journey lasts only 7 days, and the boat sails from Hamburg, which is only a few hours from here by train.

I am getting on O.K. I have just found a general method for solving functional equations of the form, $\varphi(x+1) = g(x)\varphi(x) + f(x)\varphi(x-m)$. The solution is, $\varphi(x) = g(x-1)g(x-2)\dots g(x-m) \sum_{k_1=1}^x \sum_{k_2=1}^{x-k_1} \dots \sum_{k_m=1}^{x-k_1-k_2-\dots-k_{m-1}} \psi(k_1)\psi(k_2)\dots\psi(k_m)$ where $\psi(k_*) = \frac{f(k_*)}{g(k_*)g(k_*-1)\dots g(k_*-m)}$. The equation has

a priori foundations of civil law, I think
he must be pretty far gone.

I hope Dad & the kids are O.K.

I am speeding up in my work - 5 hrs. a
day. My math. needs almost no work, but my
phil. work is highly uninteresting to me.

Goodbye,
with love to all,
Norbert.

been solved before by determinants, but the
idea of a row of Σ 's where the upper limit of
each sum is a function of the particular term
selected from the previous sum, although I do not
know if it is new, strikes me as interesting.

I haven't received the Nation or the
Gazette yet. Have you had any more
scraps with Jagmann or Grandgent yet?
Tell me all the news of that sort.

Last Sunday Husserl invited me
over to see him. He was very pleasant per-
~~sonally~~ sonally to me, but he tried to warn me
out of Mathematics. If, however, my choice
were limited to Math. & H's sort of phil.,
I'd take math. every time. H's trichotomized
tendencies (can you make out what I mean) are
too much for me. When a man lends his
sanction, for instance, to a book on the

I am not sure

Your loving son,
Herbert

Bühlstr 28,
Göttingen,
May 20, '14

Dear dad:

It's Pfingsten now, & I am going to Jena next week if I get a letter from Frege saying he is there. The libraries etc. are all closed, but I am grinding away at home on a further development of the ideas of one of my previous articles. I don't know what will come out of it.

As there is no news, I can't tell you any. The Gazette & the Nation

an extremely rabid adherent of Peano's dog-Latin (he calls it 'Latina sine flexio', or some murderous name like that). What shall I do?

The range of subjects of Vaccas articles show that he is either a genius or an ass - probably the latter. They embrace Geometry, Logic, Botany, & Chinese Kulturgeschichte.

How's the family's yourself? I hope your grippe has left no effects now, & that ma didn't have an exhausting journey. I suppose when you get this letter you will already be up in the country, but I address it to Cambridge, as

haven't come yet. I ~~got~~ got a sheaf of articles yesterday from a Professor Vacca of Rome, one on one of which was written, al chiarissimo Dr Norbert Wiener, per ringraziamento dell autore. I didn't know that one handed out the taffy so strong as that in sending out an Italian article. I also got a letter from him in paralytic English, in which he thanked me very much for sending him my articles, & wanted me to exchange views with him on questions of symbolic logic & universal languages. I gather he is

North Sandwich, N.H.,
June 1. 1914

Dear Robert,

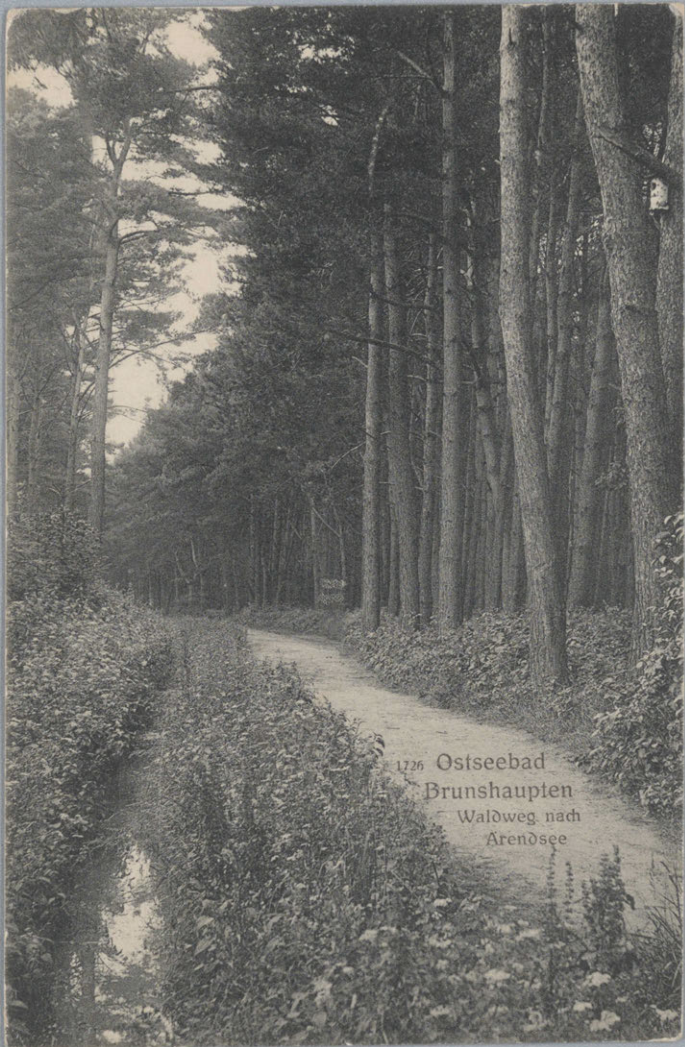
You can't imagine what a fine place we have for the summer. It is two miles from Mr. Lee's store on top of ~~the~~ a hill with a wonderful panoramic view, including the Sandwich Range up to Chocomaug, the Ossipees, and the Squam Lake hills, infinitely finer than from the Bullard. ~~The~~ It is on the road to Center Sandwich to the left of Mr. Lee's store. When you come to the four corners, you go straight up to the top of the hill - the Willis place. We rovel in large, clean, exceedingly fitted up rooms. The way we got it is very curious. The place we lived, one mile from Lee's store, was a veritable mosquito hole, and dreadfully dirty. We stayed there one night in agony. Next morning your mother telephoned

to Hill, the owner to come down at once
and see what he would do to make us
comfortable. When mother told him
that it was a very dirty place, he said
we could get out at once. We did.
In less than two hours Mr. Lee helped
us to find this superb place for which
the proprietor asked \$350 but
was willing to take \$100, because it
was late to get anybody. In another
three hours we were packed and
up at the new place. Everybody
is happy. We slept that night like
heaven, — neither food nor the
nor anything else worried us.

Don't slacken your energy entirely
and do some work.

With much love from all

our father
Grandmother is with us and happy



1726 Ostseebad
Brunshaupten
Waldweg nach
Arendsee



Mrs. L. Wiener,

North Sandwich,

New Hampshire,

U.S. St. v. Nordamer.

June 4, '14,

Brunshaupten,
Mecklenburg.

Dear ma:

You will doubtless be surprised to hear from me here. You see, Freg answered my letter by saying he was not in Gena, but would be glad to meet me here. As it is vacation etc. I have the time, & I figured out that I had the cash without spending my last pfennig, so, mindful of dad's advice for me to travel I came. I enjoyed the trip, which, everything together, costs less than \$9, very much. I have not seen F yet, but will today. I leave for G. tomorrow, ^{lovingly} Norbit.

Göttingen,
Bühlstr. 28,
June 6, '14

Dear dad:

I visited Frege this vacation at the summer-hotel where he is staying at Brunnshaupten in Mecklenburg-Schwerin. I spent, all told, about 40 marks in the journey, but I thought I might never have another chance to see him, especially as he is so old, and as I may not be studying in Germany next year. The trip was very interesting to me: I saw the Lüneburger Heide, the Elbe, Mecklen-

summer in N. Sandwich, & how you all
are.

I got the \$75 safe. Thanks
awfully. It will easily last me
till I am home.

Good bye,
With love to all,
Norbert.

burg, and the Baltis, and saw a
little of life at a German Kurort. Froge
is a very kindly old man, still actively
interested in the problems of symbolic
logic, but writing no new books. We
had several interesting talks
on questions in logic during the
two days I staid there.

I have made, as I believe I have
told you, the most important dis-
covery yet. I extend the work I have
done on relative position to Geometry.
I shall surely have this work
published. I have already sent my
essay to the Whitehead Sepulchre.
Tell me all about you

Buhlstr. 28,
Göttingen,
~~May~~ June 10/14

Dear dad & ma:

As I have already told you,
I shall be ready to get-up & get August
first. Send me ~~a~~ ticket, please, that
will give me the shortest possible journey.

I had sent my article to
the *White's Sepulchre* before I received
your last letter. If they accept it,
all right. If it is too long for them
they will send it back, and, as *Mind*
is a quarterly, I may still send my article
in time to have it appear in the
next number.

No news here - I grind 5
hrs. a day, but accomplish nothing
new. My geometrical work interests nobody.

here, & so I shall not push it further
at present - it will keep till I see
Russell again. The sort of philosophy
I have to digest here is not exactly
the sort that interests me: I endure my
studies in the direction rather than enjoy
them. My math. work is very inter-
esting, but I have come into prac-
tically no contact with any of the
mathematicians here. Here, though I am
a student at the university, I have
less contact with the professors,
and am left more to my own resources,
than at Cambridge, where I was a sort of
a free-lance.

I am glad you are in the
country now. I hope Grossmutter is
well & happy. I wish Cona would write
to me soon. I am glad Sen Gupta will
be up to see me.

With love to everyone, from Fritz
to Grossmutter,
Norbert.

Bühlstrass, Göttingen,

June 14, 14

Dear dad.

As to my work: while I am not over-exerting myself, I should say that I am putting fully as much effort into it as either last term or term before last. As I do not find the intellectual atmosphere here, however, congenial to the type of work I am especially interested in, ~~to~~ I cannot produce as readily as I did then. You see, Husserl, having in some forgotten day of his youth decided that symbolic logic is not philosophy, manages to keep himself in an

about then: either I must leave on the 29th of July, or wait for a boat direct to Boston till the 6th. I should prefer the earlier date.

I am awfully glad you are so well located up in the mountains, & will be awfully glad to get back & see all of you again.

Goodbye

With love to all,

Norbert

edifying degree of ignorance of all that has been done in that subject since the days of Adam & Eve. I believe he is fully capable of speaking of \aleph_x as a number: I know he has not the vaguest idea of the logical status of the argument from n to $n+1$. The mathematicians, on the other hand, have a tendency to sneer at symbolic logic as mere philosophy. It is the same old attitude which we found about my thesis: nobody wants the subject.

Please send me a ticket which will make it possible for me to be home very early in August. I will in all probability have no lectures whatsoever after the first, but the ~~train~~ boat-sailings to Boston seem to be bad

Bühlstr. 28,
Göttingen, Germany,
June 17, 14

Dear ma:

Here I am still, working & loafing. I am afraid the loafing has rather preponderated during the last two or three days, because I am a little tired. I am not simply idling my time away, however. You may count on it that I have put as much effort into my work this term as in either of the two preceding, although I am not getting as much original work accomplished. Even here, I have been finding out things that may be useful to me later. As it, all in all, I shall be glad when my work for this year is over, & I can rest. I feel my work more as a dead drag now. I am not ~~by~~ in any way exhausted, but my enthusiasm ~~of~~ over my work has somewhat lapsed. I want to let every

thought of studying lapse while I am with
you in the summer; then I shall be so much
the more able to put a vigorous interest in
my next semester's work. You know, my writing
articles depends entirely on this.

I hope you are all well, and
enjoying yourselves up in the mountains.
It is great to be there, isn't it? It is
so much the more pleasant because we
are not strangers in the region, but
know almost everyone for miles around.

I hope everyone is well &
happy. Does Cona make many
sketches. If she does, & even if
she doesn't, she must send me some.

There is no news here: every
day is like the next. I am taking
care of my appearance O.K.: you know,
I know how to manage myself now.

I hope Grandma is well &
happy.

Goodbye,
With love to all,
Norbert.

North Sandwich, N.H.

June 19, 1914

Dear Norbert,

I am glad that you saw Froge and, especially, that you had the experience of a journey to Kurosh etc. What were the subjects of your discussion, and did you converse with him in German, or in dog Latin, or what? As to the efficiency of the Italian Professor Vacca, whom you classify as a genius or an ass, I am surprised that you have already forgotten your zoology to the extent of taking Vacca to have but one hoof.

I am anxious to hear what your extension of relative positions to Geomety will ultimately mean, whether there will be a reconstruction of Geomety along these lines, and whether you will have a whole book on the subject.

I see you have sent the Essay to the *White* Sepulchre. Is it in English or the American periodical?

On or after July 1 I shall send you the *Fishes*

I am negotiating for the shortest route, -
and about \$25 in cash, so that you may have
enough money on hand, if you wish to make
another trip to a Kurukh, or wherever it may
be.

I got Sen Gupta a place with Mr. Rowell
Cherry at South Manchester, but I think he
will come up to see you when you are
back here.

We are all in the best of health, except
for occasional Brown Tails, and hope that
you are the same^{x)} etc.

With love from all,
Your father

x) The same refers to the health, not the
Brown Tails.

34 Russell Chambers Burg St. W.C. 25 June 1914.

My dear Wiener

I am much ashamed of having let three months pass since your letter to me of March 25, but in America I never had leisure to write letters requiring thought. Your treatment of sensation-intensities is interesting & admirable; I have only mastered it since I got home. It is certainly worth publishing; but I should not ~~forget~~ ^{omit} history, merely give our contribution, in ~~new~~ ^{new}. I don't know where you should publish. ~~logical~~ ^{logical} symbols is essential to what you have to say, it is desirable to publish in some journal printed by the Camb. Univ. Press. If not, you could publish anywhere - probably the Journal of Phil. would bring it out quickest. It seems to me that (a) if you use symbols at all, you will only be read by those who have logical interests, & therefore had better emphasize the logical side (b) if you wish to appeal to psychologists, you must explain the logical stuff slowly & patiently in words of one syllable, & eschew symbols, except perhaps in footnotes. But it seems to me that what you

had when your work was not very much in bulk. There is
something to be said for waiting till you have several cases of
manufactured series; then you could publish them all
together as a contribution to logic, including a brief
re-statement of your work on time. By the way, I have not
had an offprint of your time-article; could you send me
to above address as soon as possible? I should be very
grateful.

When I was in America, I was much
around some of the students I had there were
men. I am hoping to see you again in October.

Yours very sincerely

B Russell

Bühlstr. 28,
Göttingen,
June 25, '14

Dear ma:

Everything is going on as usual — no news — 4½ — 5 hours a day work. I was among the members of the colony here who have been swindled by a beggar who pretends to be a stranded American sailor. He got a mark & a shirt from me. He was proved to be a lying cheat.

I am a little tired nowadays: that is, I cannot put as much interest into

to swill seven or eight glasses of beer
in an evening — the Germans often
go to fourteen or fifteen.

In the papers I handled
in last time in Landau's course, I had
no mistakes.

Goodbye,

With love to all,
Norbert.

my work as I should, although I am
by no means neglecting it. I shall
be awfully glad to leave this old hole-
and never see it again. I have made
no friends here: I have simply a
speaking acquaintance with the
Americans and English here, while I
have seen and heard too much of
the German students to care to
make the acquaintance of any of them.
~~Even~~ the Americans & English here are,
with a few exceptions, a corrupt lot,
but that is chiefly due to the fact
~~that~~ they pattern themselves closely
after the German students. It is
~~nothing~~ to some of these swine

[ca. June 28, 1914]

Bühlstr. 28,
Göttingen,
Germany.

My dear Mr. Russell:

At present I am studying here in Göttingen, following your advice. I am hearing a course on the Theory of Groups with Landau, a course on Differential Equations with Hilbert (I know it has ^{but I wanted to hear Hilbert} precious little to do with Philosophy), and three courses with Husserl, one on Kant's ethical writings, one on the principles of Ethics, and the seminary on Phenomenology. I must

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confess that the intellectual contortions through which one must go before one finds oneself in the true Phenomenological attitude are utterly beyond me. ~~That~~ The applications of Phenomenology to Mathematics, and the claims of Husserl that no adequate account can be given of the foundations of Mathematics without starting out from Phenomenology seem to me absurd.

Symbolic logic stands in little favor in Göttingen. As usual, the Mathematicians will have nothing to do with anything so philosophical as logic, while the philosophers will

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have nothing to do with anything so mathematical as symbols. For this reason, I have not done much original work this term. ~~It~~ it is disheartening to try to do original work where you know that not a person with whom you talk about it will understand a word you say.

During the Pfingsten holidays, I called on Frege up at Brunnshaupten in Mecklenburg, where he spends his holidays. I had several interesting talks with him about your work.

A topic which has interested

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me of late is the question whether one can obtain a simpler set of postulates for geometry by taking the convex solid & relations between convex solids as indefinables, and defining points as you define instants. I have obtained five or six sets of definitions of the fundamental geometrical concepts in this manner but I am utterly at a loss for a method to simplify the postulates of geometry in this manner: e.g. the triangle-transversal postulate offers almost insuperable difficulties if one attempts to simplify it by resolving it into a proposition about

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arbitrary convex surfaces.

I thank you very much for your interest in my article & discovery. I have some material now that might go with my work on sensation-intensities to make a new article. I would like to ask you what I should do with it. It is an extension of my work on time to polyadic relations having some of the properties of series: for example, to the 'between' relation among the points of a given straight line. I define a property of a polyadic relation R as a transitivity if it can be written in the form,

$$(\exists x, y, z, \dots). F(a, b, c, \dots, x, y, z, \dots) \supset_{a, b, c, \dots} R(a, b, c, \dots),$$

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where F is ~~the~~ a logical sum of logical products of ^{terms of} the form, $R(m, n, \dots)$, where m, n, \dots are to be found among x, y, \dots, a, b, \dots .
 Now, starting from any relation, R , how can I construct from it a relation which has this peculiar form of transitivity? The way to do this is as follows: ~~in~~ the first term, $R(m, n, \dots)$ in each member of all the logical products which added, make up F , I substitute $S(m, n, \dots)$; for the second term in each product, I substitute T , and so on, till I come up to V . Thus I form from
 $(\exists x, y, z, \dots). F(a, b, c, \dots, x, y, z, \dots)$ ~~another~~ ^a function of $a, b, c, \dots, S, T, \dots, V$, which I call $(ST, \dots, V)(a, b, c, \dots)$. This ST, \dots, V is a descriptive

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function of s, t, \dots, v . I define the dyadic relation H as,

$$\hat{P}\hat{Q}\{x, y, \dots, w \in \mu. \exists_{xy \dots w} xy \dots w \in \mu: P \in \mu: \exists_{\mu} Q \in \mu\}$$

where P and Q take as their values polyadic relations. Now, writing \hat{s} for the polyadic analogue of s and s , I define P_0 as $\hat{s} \leftarrow H \hat{P}$. This P_0 will be a ~~also~~ polyadic relation possessing the desired form of transitivity.

I define a connexity of a polyadic relation R as a property which may be written,

$$(x, y, \dots, w) R(x, y, \dots, w). \forall R(a, b, \dots, m). \forall \dots \forall. x=y. y=x=z. v. y=z$$

$\dots, \dots,$

where a, b, \dots, m are simply x, y, \dots, w in another order. All the possible rearrange-

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ments of x, y, \dots do not need to be exhausted
 Then let us define $R_{\sigma\lambda}$ as

$$\hat{x} \hat{y} \{ (v, \dots, w) \sim R(x, y, v, \dots, w) \sim R(a, b, \dots, w) \dots \dots \dots \}$$

$v, x = v, y, y = v, y, v = w, v \dots \dots \dots$

~~$x \neq v, y \neq v, v \neq w, \dots \dots \dots$~~

let us define ω_R as $\{a = p \vec{R}_{\sigma\lambda} a\}$, and

~~inst R as~~ inst'R($\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots, \mu$) as

$$\alpha, \beta, \dots, \mu \in \omega_R. (\exists a, b, c, \dots, m). a \in \alpha \dots m \in \mu. R(a, b, \dots, m).$$

Then inst'R will have the particular sort of connexity that the R referred to on the last page has, on any hypothesis which assures us that every a belongs to some member of ω_R . Also, no two terms occupying different places in a given inst'R relation can be identical; that is, we have the equivalent for polyadic relations of inst'R \subset I for dyadic ones. On the hypothesis that $\{\omega_R\}$ & $\{\omega_{inst'R}\}$ are

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the whole field of R and $\text{inst}'R$ respectively,
 $\text{inst}'(\text{inst}'R)$, is transitive in the manner
 determined by the operation \circ , and connected
 in the manner determined by inst , and
 contained in diversity. In general, if
 $S \circ R_2$ is the field of $\text{inst}'R$, and if
 $(\exists x, y, z, m, n, \dots) F(a, b, c, x, y, z, m, n, \dots) \supset_{a, b, c} R(a, b, c, \dots)$,
 where F is the ^{sum of} products of expressions of the
 form $R(h, i, j)$, where in no product do the
 same apparent variable ~~occur~~ ^{occur} twice, multiplied
 all told, by expressions of the form $x R_2^m$,
 $y R_2^n$, etc., then $\text{inst}'R$ is connex in the
 way determined by inst , and has
 that sort of transitivity which would
 be determined for R in the above formula
 if R_2 were replaced throughout by $=$.
 As I have said, this method gives a common
 general basis for the treatment of binary
 linear orders, between-order, Veilatis' ^{treatment} ~~definition~~
 of order on the projective line, and
 a host of other polyadic relations which
 have never yet been discovered, in all
 probability. There seem to me large
 possibilities for investigation in the question

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you had such an enjoyable time with
and I shall certainly spend next
year studying under you in Cambridge.
I am just beginning to realize what
my work under you there has meant for me.

Yours very respectfully,
Norbert Wiener.

how many sorts of transitivity and
connexity an n -adic relation can have: whether
or not the number is in all cases infinite, etc.

Then, the conditions under which $S \subseteq \mathcal{D}_R$ the
field of R deserve investigation: this question
comes in at a much later point when R is a
dyadic relation, ~~and the former is a polyadic relation~~ than when it is a
polyadic one, for the connexity of the binary
relation $\text{int } R$ is assured when we know
that if $a \in \mathcal{D}$, $b \in \mathcal{E}$, and $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{D}_R$ R α β R a ,
while if R is a polyadic relation, not only
must a term of \mathcal{D} and a term of \mathcal{E} hold
places in the R -relation, but the other
places of the R -relation must be held
by members of members of \mathcal{D}_R .

I herewith send you my reprints,
and offer my apologies to you for not
having sent them sooner. The reason is
this: I sent all of my articles destined for
distribution in America to father, with
directions to 'sow them where they would
take root'. Father probably imagined that
I had sent your copies to you direct.

I am very glad to hear that

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North Sauswell, Md.

July 3, 1914

Dear Robert,

Just a little more patience
and we will send you a ticket.

Mr. Dasey is trying to find accom-
modations for you on a boat
sailing about July 29.

We are all well, and my
garden is doing finely. The
woodchucks have been
getting my cabbages. The

potato bags will be buying
my potatoes soon, the receipt
is taking my Lima beans, and
what is left will keep us
in vegetables for the rest
of the summer.

With much love
Your father

North Sandwich N.H.
July 4, 1914

Dear Mother

You see by the enclosed letter that we cannot get any accommodations for you on this side, so this is about all I can do. I am writing to my bank to send you a German draft, like the one you had before, to the amount of ^{about 413 marks.} \$100. You will receive this in a few days. In the meanwhile you have money enough on hand to make a deposit of your

last traveler's fund.

It seems that the

Ellen Line may be taken at Moore, - this

would be most convenient for you, as you would

not need any rehipping. In any case you

must be at the post a day, whichever they

two days, before you sail, so that you may

be sure about your trunk being there.

Ask carefully from the Company how you

can get your trunk to the boat, and

watch your trunk wherever you are, or

\$10 to 15 to hold the ticket
which you purchase. You must decide
for yourself what line you will
choose to come here, but I believe
the Allan Line to Montreal
will be the shortest and cheapest.
Do not take any accommodations
less than second class, and
rather first class if the cost
on the particular boat is not
considerably greater than
on a first class boat, but
second class cabin. There

must be some Steamship Office in
Gittingen, where you can make your arrange-
ment. I believe the American Express Co
if it has an office there will give you the
information; if not, write to New York.
on wherever you think best and get your
boat. If you think you want to come
earliest then July 31 is what I get across
water's edge. If the Allan has a boat
on or there after Aug. 1, I suppose that will
bring you home earliest than an earlier boat

Please buy a rucksack such as you
have. There is a Harvard fellow nearby
who wants to have one. Do not pay
more than 8 marks for one.

When you are on the boat near
Borsten, you will be asked to give
the cost of things purchased in Germany.
You mention only those that you bought
within 6 months, and speak of the two
rucksacks as your own.

sufficient vegetable food. You
will have no difficulty about
it. Perhaps you can make that
arrangement when you purchase
your ticket.

Try to get an outside room,
so as to be sure of good air.

Be careful of your money, and do
not make up with strangers too
readily, as you might be robbed.
Whatever money you have left when
on the boat, deposit with the purser
and get a receipt for it.
I send you Transcript slip, they may
aid you in finding the line you want.
With love
your father

you may have trouble with it.
Do not send your trunk by
fast freight, but take it by
the train you travel. So that
there may be no doubt of your
having it with you on time.

As soon as you have definitely
gotten your ticket, ~~write~~ come to
us (there is a deferred rate,
which you must ask for, just
half of what mother paid)
in this way Brewster Sandwich

boat (name)

New Hampshire
date (only day that is 20
of August 25/31, 1871)

that is something like
the views, Sandwich &
New Hampshire, Cincinnati &
27.

This will relieve us, and
we shall know when to expect
you. If you do not go to
Montreal, try to get a boat
to Boston and not to New
York, so as to save expense
and time.

In case you go by France
or Holland or England, you

want to have some of that foreign
money, but that you can obtain readily
at the large stations, where there
is always an exchange office, as you
will only need a small amount
each time. When you know on
that train you are going take
along a good lunch to last you
until you get to your port.
You fee on the boat altogether
about \$5. As soon as you get
on the boat, you must see the chief
steward and tell him about
being a vegetarian and demanding

Buhlstr. 28,
Göttingen, Germany,
June 28, '14

Dear dad:

Only yesterday I got an awfully flattering letter from Russell, in which he speaks of my work on sensation-intensities as "interesting and admirable", and advises me to publish it, but first to get together more material of the same nature so that I can publish them together as a contribution to logic. He suggests that in this article I reintroduce some of my work on time. I wonder if he means me to write a book? Well, at any rate just at the present time I happened to hit on a most tremendous generalization of all my previous work, that puts the whole theory of order in what I believe to be an entirely new light, which enables us to apply the methods discovered by Frege concerning binary relations to polyadic

relations in general, and which may, for all I know, offer purely mathematical simplifications of considerable interest. I have written to Russell for advice as to what to do with the stuff.

Last night Husserl had his seminary over to his house for a reception. I went there, and had a good time. My German, though weak, is improving: I speak very freely and comprehensibly though by no means correctly.

I wish you'd write twice a week instead of once. You've no idea how isolated I really am at Göttingen.

I got your second Nation. I hate great: showing up your critic's ignorance of the orthodox Germanic philology.

Goodbye

With love to all

Rubbin

Bulet. 28,
Göttingen, Germany,
July 1, '14

Dear ma:

I have 240 marks, or \$60 now on hand, after having paid all my rent for the year, all my university fees, all my dues to the American colony, after having paid, in short, all my fixed debts except a tip to ^{the} my servant girl when I go. I have averaged since June 6, all included, \$7.10. or thereabouts a week. I shall bring back to America all of the \$25. Dad will send me.

Monday evening I went to a meeting of the mathematical division of the Freie Studentenschaft, & took a very active part in the discussion - in a sort of German, of course.

I am at work now on an article which

I shall entitle, 'Studies in Synthetic Logic'. I have written to Russell about my discoveries which I embody therein to find if they are worth publishing. It is a necessary step to cover the ground of this article before I get to my geometrical work. The article will ~~be~~ be at least 20 printed pages long, if I figure right. It will embody the work I did in Munich, which R. praised so highly, but only as a subsidiary part. It involves important yet simple generalisations of previous work on order. I am on the fifth written page, which, as the sheets of paper I use are large and closely ruled, will make the fifth printed page.

Wishing good luck to all of you and hoping to see you all again soon, I close,

Your loving son,
Norbert

Bülker 28,
Göttingen,
Germany.

[ca July 4, 1914]

My dear Mr. Russell.

Enclosed you will find an article of mine, in which I give a generalization of my previous work in series-construction to polyadic relations, and a discussion of sensation-intensities. I send it to you before sending it to be printed in some periodical because it is really only a development of your own ideas. If so you will, I hope, excuse my bothering you with it. If you think it advisable to have it printed as it stands, please send it direct to whichever periodical you think best, without first returning it to me; if not, please send it back to me, and I shall see whether I can tinker it into better shape, if it is worth that trouble.

yours very respectfully,
Norbert Wiener

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B. 101. 28,
Göttingen,
July 5, 14

Dear dad:

I got my new article done about midnight on Friday, after working Friday about ^{ten} ~~more~~ hours on it. Early Saturday ~~the~~ morning I sent it to Russell, to see if he thought it fit for publication. It is about 14 printed or 16 written pages long, entitled Studies in Synthetic Logic. I introduce in this article what I believe to be an entirely new idea of in mathematical logic: the idea of so selecting the undefined concepts of a mathematical system so that the properties of the system will be invariant, whatever the properties of the particular fundamental concepts chosen. I carry this work

In his letter he says nothing about coming up next ~~to~~ this August. I should like him to come up, if you think best.

I have not received from the Journal of Philosophy etc. any notice of the receipt of my Bowdoin essay. If I do not hear soon I shall write to them & find out if they got it. I sent it a month & more ago, registered.

Goodbye,
With love,
Norbert.

P. S. Excuse my bad handwriting.
I am a little tired

through for a very general class of mathematical systems. It practically amounts to founding a mathematical system on the basis of no postulates, outside the general postulates of logic. I doubt if this particular idea has ever been hit on before, ~~yet~~ and it seems to me that the ~~sudden~~ sudden introduction of this notion should interest logicians more than a little. As to the details of my work, I have gone over them so carefully that I doubt if they contain any blunders.

Yesterday and today I loafed, being quite tired after my exertions of Friday. Tomorrow I shall start in in earnest again.

I see Ben Gupta lost his job through delay in answering — ~~he~~ I ~~was~~ got a letter from him today. It seems to me very careless, and somewhat ungrateful in him not to have made more effort to get the job.

July 9, '14,
Buhlstr. 28,
Göttingen.

Dear ma:

I enclose a letter from
Mrs. Stewart.

I am letting down on
my work now, because, though
I am not so ~~terribly~~ very weary,
I don't feel as though I could
accomplish much, anyhow. I do
not think I shall be able to
pitch into my work with real
interest again until next fall. Of
course, I would not have you
understand I am doing as I did at
Cornell.

I met Ruckmich here
yesterday by accident, & we
talked about Cornell. He is at
Illinois now — associate in
psychology. He is just travelling

this summer.

I got my proofs on The Highest Good yesterday, & sent them back without corrections, for they did not need any. I have not heard yet whether the white seal sepulchre ever got my Bowdoin essay, & I have written to them about it. I have not heard yet from Russell about my latest article which I sent to him Saturday, but I guess it will suit him.

Hoping all goes well with you all,
goodbye,
Noah West.

TRINITY COLLEGE,
CAMBRIDGE.

29 August 1914

Dear Wier

There is no reason why you should not come back to Cambridge because of the war - you will be just as safe here as in America. It is true that Cambridge presents an unusual appearance - half the undergraduates have gone into the army, there are 20000 troops in the town, & Harle's Court has been turned into a hospital (so that I have had to move into other rooms). I dare say if you come

you will be my only pupil - English
people are not taking much interest
in mathematical philosophy
just now. But if you feel disposed
to come, there is no reason why
you should stay away.

Of course if you decide not to
come the only alternative is to stay
in America. And I imagine you
already know all that America
has to offer. The two men who most

impressed me were Moore (E. H.) &
Dewey. I had not been impressed by
Dewey's writings, but when I came to
argue with him he seemed to me very
good.

This time makes me wish I were
an American. This universal barbaric
madness is too horrible.

Please let me know what you decide.

Yours very sincerely

Bertrand Russell

TRINITY COLLEGE,
CAMBRIDGE.

12 July 1914

Dear Wiener

Your paper seems to me
admirable & very interesting. I
have given it to Hardy, who will get
it published either in the Proceedings
or in the Transactions of the Camb.
Phil. Soc. If the latter, it will be
over 6 months before it appears, but he
is not sure it is short enough for the
Proceedings.

I am interested in the
account of your work in

getting, but I am disappointed
about Lybold's logic; I had
hoped the math^{er} there had
begun to see the point of it.

As regards Geometry, the
method of convex surfaces is
the one Whitehead adopts; you
had better talk to him about it
when you come back to England.

Thank you for the
offprints of your articles,

which I am very glad to have.

I look forward to seeing you
again in October.

Yours v. sincerely

Bertrand Russell.

Bühlstr. 28,
Göttingen,
July 13, '14

Dear ma:

I am taking things
very easily now, & doing nothing
outside of attending my lectures,
for I do not feel as though I could
accomplish much at present if I
tried to. You must remember I have
already done as much work as
I would do at Harvard (for I worked
both vacations), and that I have
got six articles off this year.

I go for walks, & talk
with the other Americans here.
There is a professor from
Pennsylvania on a visit here, and I
am doing my share in piloting him
around Göttingen.

We had a garden fest at
my house Friday: a most disgusting

occasion, for the women & men all
smoked, drank more than was
good for them, & tangoed. I couldn't
easily get away, for it was at my
house. As it was, however, I was the
first to go. Of course, I did not
touch any of the wine. If the Germans
can stomach Wein, Weib, and Gesang, they
are welcome to them.

Goodbye,
With love,
Norbert.

tomorrow morning for certain
what my stateroom is, and
whether I can get one and then
I shall cable you. If all
the staterooms there are
taken I shall try the Köln
of the Norddeutscher Lloyd.
In either case, I pay 230 m.
The Allan line would cost me
just the same sum if I
shipped on the continent, plus the
long journey to Le Havre. The
Allan line costs less from London,
it is true, but there is the
cost of transportation to
London to be taken into
consideration, as against that
to Hamburg. Besides, there
are agencies of the two German
lines here, and not of the Allan,
so if I had tried to reserve
passage on the Allan line, I
should have wasted a lot of
time, and possibly ruined my

Bühlstr. 28
Göttingen
July 16, 14

Dear dad:

I enclose a note
from Russell about my
latest article, written a
couple of weeks ago. I have
just heard the British Defaul-
ture has accepted my Bourdieu
article, & that I shall get the
proofs soon. In company
with a Hungarian Dr. Phil.
here, who, I believe, has just
been called to the new
university at Frankfurt
Dr. Szász, I have just
discovered a new theorem
which may be worth pub-
lishing. It sounds as follows:
If ^{any} connected area on any
plane or sphere be divided

handy in my future work.

There is a dithering
beehaw from Pennsylvania ^{here now} who
calls himself Assistant-Professor
P. Abb. His German pronunciation
is extremely picturesque - some-
what Cubistic. His grammar
has decided Futurist leanings.
He has been trying to bluff us
into thinking he knows something,
by dignified silence, and an
abundance of 'yes', 'of course',
etc. when the discussion turns
to mathematics. These aforesaid
remarks are used no matter
to what abstruse quarters
the discussion turns. He is the
only man yet I have given
my articles to who did
not comment on the difficulty
of the symbolism - he tried to
seem to understand it at once.
I have reserved a ticket
on the Cincinnati. I shall hear

by some curve into two
parts in a given ratio, then
the shortest curve having
this property will be either
an arc of a circle, or will
be a broken line composed of
arcs of circles, so that two con-
secutive arcs only meet at
the boundary of the area, in
such a manner that where two
consecutive arcs meet at least
one of them must lie outside
the greatest circle passing
through this point and con-
tained in the area. This looks
complicated, but is really
trivial: one does it by chains of
overlapping circles within the
area cutting the line. I try it

Except for this, I have
been loafing. I have also
found a generalization of my
last paper which may come in

chances of getting to America
at all this year.

Hoping you are all well
& happy,

Goodbye,
Norbert.

Buhlstr. 25,
Göttingen
July 21/14.

Dear dad:

I got my ticket via
the Cincinnati for 240 marks — out-
side cabin. I leave here Saturday
for Hamburg, & sail the following
Wednesday. I got your cash O. K.
\$100. I got the rucksack & shall get
the shirts.

I forgot to enclose
R's note last week, & enclose
it now. I am doing little work,
practically none, outside of
lectures, except my 7th article, which
I shall write this week.

As there is no news, I can
give you none. I hope you got my
cable.

With love
Norbert.

Christliches Hospiz ∴ Hamburg 36

Sehlandtstrasse 26

Fernspr. Nr. 8, 2189.

Hamburg, den July 25 1914

Dear Ma:

Here I am, in Hamburg, where I shall get my final ticket & wait till Wednesday, when I go to Cuxhaven & take the Cincinnati. I am a little tired from my journey, especially as I carted my heavy rucksack all about town before I found this hotel. I am leaving my trunk and satchel at the station.

Whom do you suppose I met

going to enlarge my article by a few theorems of his own, & is going to show it to Caratheodory, Hankel, & a few other prominent German ~~Math~~ mathematicians, & will then send the article over to me for a final revision. Then we shall publish it either in Germany or in England, wherever may seem best.

Except for this theorem, I know rather less than nothing of the Calculus of Variations. This theorem is so simple that I could explain it to Bertha, & she would understand it.

Goodbye
with love
Norbert!

on the train? Bierwirth! He was travelling from Celle, where his sister lives to Harburg, where his niece lives. He seems rather disgruntled about his associate professorship, though ~~he~~ he said nothing directly about it. He seems rather 'judicial' in his attitude to dad's work.

As I have told you, I did very little the last two weeks of term except discover & begin to write up an elementary theorem in the Calculus of Variations - almost or quite nothing in fact. Dziasz, with whom I worked in this, is