

of politicians in all countries see that the time for palaver is done, and that if they do not work together, Europe will go, and not one country remain free from the ruin. The fall of the mark pulls down the franc and the pound, ~~and~~ and the one will collapse with the other.

It is a strange thing to see reasonably comfortable looking people leading a reasonably ordinary-appearing life, and to think that the bottom is out of things, even as it was strange on that boat returning from Germany eight summers ago to think that in a few days measures had been taken the end of which we cannot yet foretell. The weird thing about these catastrophes is that they

Frankfurt 9/M,

Aug 27, 22.

Dear Dad:

Here we are at Frankfurt, after a bully time at Interlaken. Szasz missed us at the station, so we went to his house where we met Mrs. Szasz, Goldzicher of Budapest, and finally, after his return from his fruitless quest for us, Szasz himself. He is a jolly little fellow, just like an Irishman. Mrs. Szasz is a cosmopolitanly educated lady with strong literary interests. They <sup>had</sup> found us, after much difficulty, good comfortable rooms at a hotel, at prices that would make their hair stand on end, but are

well familiar), and with no ~~good~~ record  
of unacceptable sayings and doings in  
the war, this should not prove impossible.  
I intend to pull strings for him when  
I come back.

We have come to Frankfurt at  
the exact time that the fall of the  
mark has entered its worst phase.  
Values fall to a third and prices treble  
overnight. There is a wild panic  
of bank withdrawals and purchases  
of commodities in order to turn the  
worthless savings in marks into  
something of tangible and permanent  
value before they sink lower still.  
Before them, the people see nothing  
but the abyss. Why cannot these fools

nothing at all to us.

Dzauq and I find that our mathematical  
interests have many points of contact.  
He would like it if I had a chance to  
collaborate with him on something. A  
very nice, cheery little fellow, who  
would make a great hit at an American  
college.

He wishes, too, and his wife wishes  
even more for his sake, that he  
get a call to an American college.  
They say that a call to the States  
gives a man great prestige in Germany  
now. As he is an A. mathematician,  
of a pleasing personality, with a fair  
and easily improvable knowledge  
of English (with which his wife is

happen to perfectly ordinary, commonplace,  
matter-of-fact people, ~~that a~~

H ereupon I resign my pen to Consta.

Love

Worbert

P.S. I'll send my section  
of this letter under separate  
cover. Much love  
Caroline

written to  
Rejoice

51 Buckingham Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

January 8, '22.

My dear Mr. Russell:

I write now to request a favor —  
for which I hope you will pardon me. The fact is  
that I have seen in Nature an advertisement of  
a vacancy in the chair of maths. at King's  
College, London, and have decided to apply.  
It is too late for me to write to you for a  
letter of recommendation to enclose with my papers,  
but I have taken the liberty of giving you as a  
reference. If you can find anything not totally  
condemnatory to say about me, may I request that  
you embody it in a letter to the Academic Registrar,  
The University of London, South Kensington, S.W. 7,  
London?

Chao and his wife are now in town —  
thoroughly charming people. I see little of Demas.  
Sheffer is getting out a new book on postulate-theory.

Sincerely yours,  
Norbert Wiener.

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MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

IN REPLY, PLEASE ADDRESS

Professor E. B. Wilson.

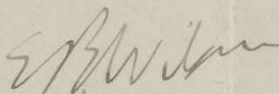
January 17, 1922.

Dr. Norbert Wiener,  
M.I.T.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I sent the letter of recommendation over to London for you. Permit me to say that I hope you wont get the job because we want you around here. This however is a selfish point of view and I took great pains in my letter to emphasize my high opinion of your ability and accomplishments and the great loss that we should suffer if they gave you the job.

Yours very truly,



EBW-T

Dear Dr Wiener

24 Jan. 99

I have acted according to your wishes. —

Concerning your membership to the S. M. F. they have ascertained that it was in order except that a formal presentation to the Society had been delayed. So that all is right, now. Your article is to appear next "fascicule" or the following one. I shall receive formerly a second proof which has not yet matured. (An article which I had sent to the Ann. Ec. Norm. about 18 months <sup>ago,</sup> has just appeared! Periodical <sup>and</sup> fully)

Yours truly

H. Fréchet

Expédié par

M

Demi à

Rue

L'inscription du nom et de l'adresse de l'expéditeur est facultative

N°

de l'expéditeur

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

CARTE POSTALE

*Ce côté est exclusivement réservé à l'adresse.*



M. Dr Norbert Wiener  
50 Buckingham St.  
Cambridge, Mass.

E. Tab. This



ANNALS OF MATHEMATICS

PRINCETON, N. J.

P. O. Box 53

February 1, 1922

Dear Dr Wiener,

By all means send your paper to the L.M.S. - it looks  
as if there was still going to be great delay before the new list get  
to work on the Annals again.

Wishing you every possible good luck in your  
application for the London chair, I am

Yours very sincerely

J. M. L. L. L.

Rice Institute  
Houston, Tex

Feb 9 [1922]

Dear Wiener

You will be wondering whether I received your letter about the London Chair. I wrote to them my opinion of your suitability for the position and it was partly praise & partly otherwise. That is to say I think highly of your promise as a mathematician but — and, I naturally expect you to disagree with me on this — I feel that you have not yet attained as established a position as have not had as much experience as they try to get for such a position. A professor in England is not merely a man of professional rank & ability — he is a very active & sometimes autocratic head of a department.

To tell the truth I think it very improbable that they would choose an American unless they had some very special reasons for doing so — and I doubt if it would be good for you if your application were successful. You would be rather loaded down with work & would most likely get stuck in a rut.

I nearly put in for the job myself & doubted if I had any chance but I didn't apply because I feel I owe Rice Institute something for the leave they gave me. Besides that, H. A. Wilson was once professor of physics in London & has a low opinion of it as fossilized & full of red-tape & conservative politics. It may be quite different now.

It was no use to give you any pointers about applying because I am as much in the dark as you are. The various Universities in England are all different in their ways of looking at such things. In this case just a straightforward application would be best — of course Hardy's recommendation if you managed to get that would have considerable weight. I'm not forgetting the fellow but Evans wants to know why Mass. Tech. doesn't want him. Anyhow Lovell is away at present & I feel it would be better to bring up the matter next term when there is not so much excuse for postponing a decision.

Yours sincerely  
P. J. Daniell.

Thanks for reprints which interest me considerably.

Columbia University  
in the City of New York

Department of Mathematics

March 17, 1927. LOCAL

Dear Wiener,

I enjoyed reading your article in the current number of the Monist. I was particularly interested in the problem you stated in connection with the definition of a point and found an example which shows that the definition should be modified. Here it is:

Let  $a, b, c$  denote three convex solids intersecting in pairs but having no point in common. Let the set of all convex solids be well-ordered and let  $a_i$  denote the

Columbia University  
in the City of New York

Department of Mathematics

LOCAL

first one of the set. If  $a_1$  intersects  $a$  and  $b$  and  $c$  then let  $f(a_1)$  be the set consisting of  $a, b, c$ , and  $a_1$ , and otherwise let  $f(a_1)$  be the set consisting of  $a, b$  and  $c$ . Let  $a_2$  denote the second convex solid and, again, if  $a_2$  intersects each element of  $f(a_1)$  let  $f(a_2)$  denote the sum of the elements of  $f(a_1)$  and  $a_2$ , otherwise  $f(a_2)$  and  $f(a_1)$  denote the same set.

It is now obvious how  $f(a_n)$ , <sup>( $n = \omega$  transfinite ordinal)</sup> is defined by transfinite induction.

The set of convex solids made up of all the solids belonging to all the sets  $f(a_i)$  where  $i$  is a transfinite ordinal, satisfies the

Columbia University  
in the City of New York

Department of Mathematics

3.

-LOCAL

Two conditions of the definition  
of a point but there is no point  
common to all the convex solids  
of this set since the set contains  
the sets  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  which have  
no point in common.

Yours,

G. A. Pfeiffer

Rice Institute  
Houston, Texas  
Mar 18 [1922]

Dear Wiener

A few days ago I spoke to the President about the case of Maria. ~~We think that~~ we are all interested in him and if he will send in a formal application, stating the usual things - age, education, degrees and what courses he has taken in mathematics, we would give him a prompt answer. Tyler has already written to Evans & you have recommended him to me so that he need not send any testimonials. I have already delayed this letter beyond the time so I omit further remarks.

yours sincerely  
P. J. Daniell.



Varsovie, le 29/IV 1922

UNIwersytet WarsZawski  
GABINET  
MATEMATYCZNY

L. ....

Monsieur et très honoré Collègue,

J'ai reçu seulement aujourd'hui votre aimable lettre du 26 mars ainsi que votre intéressante Note: „Note on a Paper of M. Banach”. Je la ferai publier avec un grand plaisir dans le tome IV des „Fundamenta Mathematicae” qui est actuellement sous presse.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur et très honoré Collègue, l'expression de mes sentiments très distingués

W. Sierpiński.

We were very interested to hear  
of your projected visit to England  
this year, & send you our best  
wishes; but we really have no  
doubt about your ability to get  
a lot out of it. I am afraid  
our travelling is frustrated for the  
present, although chances here  
include a sabbatical year.—

Please give our kindest regards  
to all your folk

Yours sincerely

B. Muscoe

The University of Sydney.

23. V. '22

Dear Wewer,

Just a line, in the  
midst of a busy life (!), to thank  
you for your kind note of congratulations.  
At present, I am giving six lectures  
a week in 2 courses — one on  
modern philosophy, & one on ethics;  
so that you will realize that my  
time is pretty fully occupied with  
preparation. In addition to this,  
I have to cover exams, etc etc;  
so you will, I hope, excuse the  
scheme (being) — of this note.



dad will get the prize, and that the  
scale of expenses in Europe will prove  
low enough to allow you to take the trip  
next summer. That it will delight you,  
I am sure, for it is glorious fun for us.

With love  
Harbert

# White Star Line



S.S. Pittsburgh  
July 1, 22

Dear ma & dad:

So far our trip has proved very pleasant.  
The weather has been wonderful, and we  
have suffered neither from sea-sickness, nor  
to any great extent, from the effects of our inoculation.  
Our fellow-passengers have proved very pleasant.  
Among them are Miner and his mother, who have  
been delightful, a Mr. Jenney whom I have met in the  
A.M.C., a young Harvard junior, Mr. Waite, who  
has quite succumbed to the fascinations of a  
Miss Ramma Osborne, a niece of Copy's, and a  
fellow-student of Constance, and a former student  
of mine (Phil. with Hocinli), a Harvard graduate

good times, however.

As to the more official amusements, I can say little, as I have scarcely participated in them, though Constance has gone into almost everything. I have an abhorrence of a large crowd of strangers craped up into a small space which quite overcomes any pleasure I might get by joining in.

We find that the orthodox scale of tipping is about half what we anticipated, thereby making a very appreciable saving in our expenses, which is augmented by the fact that many visés will be less costly. We are counting on an altogether splendid time.

We land in Liverpool early Monday. We shall probably look up Heath, take a few days off in North Wales, and then run down to London to call on the Yatesviches. Hereafter our plans remain completely unformed.

Let us hear about Bertha, Fritz, yourself, Barkis, the farm, and the Ford. We hope that

named Pratt, who is probably Jim Mursell's mirror image loose and firing for itself, but who for all that is very good fun, and a miscellaneous chorus of B rown boys, Harvard boys, and other supernumeraries. One of my students is on board, a Scotsman named Spence, a very fine fellow. Then there is one of Fritz' teachers and the sister of another, a librarian from Tech, etc., etc., etc. ~~Went~~

We play triangular chess, hold sing-songs with the aid of a song-book of Spence's, walk about the decks, and enjoy ourselves vastly. I am a bit afraid Miss Osborne has tried deliberately, though not with overwhelming success, to ~~win~~ annex several of ~~his~~ her friends to her train of followers — they literally follow at her heels — and has scarcely been subtle about it. We really are having

Frankfurtall. den 7. Juli 1912

Lieber Kollege Wiener!

Mögeht's mit der englischen Sprache,  
wie Thuen mit der deutschen: ich bin seit  
1914 ganz aus der Übung, was ich sehr be-  
daure. Ich beglückwünsche Sie zu Ihren  
zahlreichen schönen Arbeiten, für deren Zu-  
sendung ich Ihnen meinen herzlichsten  
Dank ausspreche. Ich dachte oft an Sie,  
und als ich Ihren Namen zufällig in einer  
Nummer der Zeitschrift Thues Instituts las,  
die ich bei einem Kollegen in Budapest  
sah, erholte ich mich sofort, Ihnen ein  
Lebenszeichen von mir zu geben. Ich freue  
mich sehr, dass Sie sich Thues Schwester  
nach Europa kommen, und hoffe Sie  
denn auch hier zu sehen. Den durch den  
Krieg verursachten Mangel an internationalen  
Beziehungen empfinde ich sehr lebhaft,

Erinnern Sie sich noch unserer gemeinsa-  
men geometrischen Arbeit, die  
leider unvollendet blieb?

und vermissen sehr die ausländische Lite-  
ratur. Was meine Exilreise in den ver-  
flossenen Jahren angeht, so war ich seit  
1914 fast beständig an der hiesigen Uni-  
versität und habe auch ziemlich viel  
gearbeitet. Seit 1916 bin ich verheiratet  
und im Besitz eines Töchterchens von  
4 Jahren.

Ich hoffe bald wieder Nachricht von  
Ihnen zu bekommen und nehme an,  
dass Sie inzwischen in London gut an-  
gelaugt und eine angenehme See-  
reise hinter sich haben (ein mir un-  
erreichbarer Wunsch!).

Mit herzlichster Begrüßung

Ihre aufrichtigste

W. H. H. H.

Adolf bald ist gegenwärtig in London; wenn  
Sie ihn sehen, grüßen Sie ihn bitte von mir.

generation.

We have met again the Mr.

Miner whom you saw when the boat  
docked at Boston, and find him <sup>altogether</sup>  
delightful companion. We are going to  
a show with him Friday night.

I have looked up Whitehead, and  
was told by him without any prompting  
whatever that I ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> very seriously  
considered for the King's College job  
~~but~~ <sup>it</sup> was only turned down because they  
were not certain whether I could give the  
precise courses they wanted in the way they  
wanted them. I may some day teach here yet!

Tomorrow Con & I take Mrs.  
Yatskevich to Cambridge and show  
her around. I shall also look  
up some friends. Monday night we  
sail for France. ~~By~~

By the way, I got a  
charming letter from my friend

High Barnet,  
July 12, '22.

Dear dad:

We are having a delightful  
time here with the Yatskeviches — they  
make us feel perfectly at home, and let  
us go and come like members of the  
family. They are unfortunately likely  
to be a bit late in coming to the  
States — probably not until the beginning  
of September.

They both seem to be very  
pessimistic as to ~~the~~ immediate and  
ultimate future of England. They believe  
that the ultra-conservatism of the Britons  
conjoined with the development of America  
and Germany, are bound to lead to  
the decline of Britain to a secondary  
commercial position. This <sup>tendency</sup> will <sup>surely</sup> cause and  
has already caused <sup>great</sup> unemployment, and cannot  
but ultimately lead to great social unrest,

The Yatsseviches consider the general fear and discontent of the people, coupled with the amazing incompetence and, as they say, corruption of the government, as furnishing a close parallel to the last days of Tsarist Russia. Probably the British stolidity and orderliness will mitigate the violence of the unrest which must ensue, but meanwhile England is on the brink of the Pit.

In this terrible juncture, Professor Yatssevich thinks, America will and must assume the hegemony of the world. Being a Siberian himself, he is inclined to think mundially rather than Europeanly, and to regard the decline of Western Europe as by no means ~~drowning~~ ~~in its~~ tantamount to the decline of civilization. It means however that American culture and scholarship has on itself the entire burden of the culture and scholarship of the next

which will inevitably divert yet more trade from British channels. In addition, the colonies, which could formerly be depended on for sources of raw materials, are becoming both industrially and politically autonomous. The consciousness of these facts either as present actualities or developments of the near future is already leading investors to place their money outside the country, thereby hastening the debacle. The result is inevitably an England overflooded with regard to its resources. The only relief lies in an extensive emigration to the Colonies, and in the ultimate acceptance of the position of a secondary power. While many realize that this is a foregone conclusion, and a ~~good~~ feeling of despair is general, the government fritters away its efforts on inessentials, hoping to divert the attention of the people from the desperate facts. These conditions are verified by almost all with whom we have had conversation.

5  
Dzass. I shall assuredly look  
him up.

We have already received  
two letters from you, and are  
delighted that all is well. We are  
particularly glad about Grandgent.

Here's hoping you get  
that French prize!

With love,

Warbert.

Frankfurt a. M. den 18. VII. 22

Außenposten Nr. 9

Tel. Eisenheim 435

Liebes Kollege Wiener!

Ich freue mich sehr mit Theodoriten und beginne bei  
im alten Europa. Ich hoffe nun bestimmt, dass Sie auch  
hierher kommen und sich von den verschiedenen Nachrichten  
über die Tenorung nicht abhocken lassen. Neulich war Goldberg  
am Christiania hier und war sehr zufrieden. Er wohnt im  
Hospiz Kornhuber, Schackhorststr. 20 in der Nähe des  
Bahnhofs. Auch im Basler Hospiz wohnt man preiswert.  
Ich bin gerne bereit für Sie Zimmer zu bestellen, wenn Sie  
mich schreiben, wann Sie kommen. Sie bringen doch auch Theodor  
Maweser mit? Unser Ferien beginnen Anfang August, aber  
ich bleibe vorläufig hier und arbeite an meinem Encyclopädie  
Artikel über Reihenentwickelungen.

Bernstein und auch Hertz sind noch immer in Göttingen. Hilbert  
wollte lange Zeit die Physik axiomatisieren, hat sich aber nun  
wieder der reinen Mathematik zugewandt. Neulich erschien  
eine sehr interessante Arbeit von ihm über die Grundlagen der  
Arithmetik. Landaun arbeitet auch noch immer sehr viel.  
Nun ich hoffe wir sprechen bald ausführlich mündlich mit-  
einander. Ich bin auch sehr gespannt auf Ihre Pariser Ein-  
drücke. Schen Sie Lebesgue? Ich erwachte gerne seine Arbeit über  
singuläre Integrale aus den Annales de Toulouse etwa 1910;  
aber ich fürchte es will nichts von uns wissen. Ich habe jetzt viel  
über konvergente Reihen gearbeitet.

Auf baldiges Wiedersehen hoffend

mit besten Grüßen

W. S. H. H. H.



Lieber Bertholden!

Der Berg an der  
anderen Seite von dieser  
Karte heisst der Donnerwetterberg.  
Nicht weit davon steht  
die Blitzenspitze, und  
da unten ist der Pitztaunental.  
mit herzlichster Liebe,

Norbert



Frl. Bertha Wiener,  
Applecroft Farm,  
Graton, Mass.

Vereinigte Staaten v.  
Nordamerika.



Grindelwald. Wetterhorn.



Sept. 27 22

My Dear Dr Wiener.

I regretted to have missed the opportunity of a chat with you. I hope however that a better opportunity may arise later on.

I expect that you return to the Boston Tec. Will your situation be touched by the appointment of Prof E. B. Wilson to Harvard University?

I have published an essay on the theory of abstract sets where I tried to compile what had been written on the subject (except the theory of number of dimension and ~~of~~ that of integrals on abstract sets). The results of my theses is thus melted with my further memoirs, a number of which ~~it~~ were entombed in little read periodicals such as C. R. of Ass. France. Jour. Ch. ds Sc.

My memoir was written 2 years ago so that I could only quote in a note, at the time of proof reading, your own contributions.

As I have only a few extracts, it may perhaps be sufficient to say that my memoir is printed in Sri Anutosh Mookerjee's Celebration Volume  
(Vol. II, Science)

University of Calcutta, 1922

which no doubt is actually at Harvard Univ. Library

Yours sincerely

M. Frechet

Paris 9 rue Chernoviz

le 21 novembre 1922

Cher Monsieur,

C'est avec le plus grand plaisir que j'apprends le résultat de vos recherches. Il se vérifie une fois de plus que c'est par la physique que les mathématiques sont destinées à se renouveler, puis que c'est en partant de l'étude du mouvement brownien que vous avez été amené à vous poser un problème, présentant des analogies avec celui que j'ai ~~traités~~ traité, mais aussi des différences importantes.

Je fais actuellement du Calcul des Probabilités. J'avais abandonné le Calcul Fonctionnel, faute d'idées nouvelles, et je ne puis mieux vous dire l'intérêt que présentent pour moi vos recherches qu'en vous disant que j'attends de lire le mémoire que vous voulez bien me promettre pour me remettre au Calcul Fonctionnel.

Brogez, cher Monsieur, à mes sentiments cordialement dévoués

J. Lévy

J'avais bien reçu votre carte d'Interlaken. Je ne vous en avais pas remercié, ne sachant pas si je devais vous écrire à ce moment à Cambridge.

2  
will come to compare favourably with  
other journals of its type.

That being so, I am anxious to have  
people who are authorities on various subjects  
write articles for it in its early issues  
especially. C. S. Myers, for instance, will have  
an article in the first number. And I  
am now writing to ask if you think you  
could send us along something to be published  
in it shortly. If you could, we should  
be delighted; though I am afraid we shall  
be in the unpeculiar condition of most  
scientific magazines & be unable to pay  
for it. If - taking this into account - you  
feel inclined to send us an article on,  
say, Mathematics & Philosophy, we shall  
be very grateful. What I should like would  
be an article on some such subject  
(perhaps mathematics & Logic, etc.)

The University of Sydney.

Dec 10, 22

Dear Wiener,

We are going to begin  
publishing early in 1922 a new philosophical  
& psychological quarterly with the extensive  
title "The Australasian Journal of Psychology  
& Philosophy". This journal will be the  
organ of a Society with a still for more  
extensive title, namely, "The Australasian  
Association of Psychology & Philosophy",  
which may be referred to as the A<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub> for  
short. We have so far no journal of  
this type in Australasia, & think that  
there is now sufficient interest in psychology  
& philosophy in this outback of civilization to  
justify me. We are trying to make the  
journal look well, & hope that it

4  
my studies) which marks the end of  
my first year's work - practically. I  
have had a heavy year, & next year will  
be nearly as bad. After that, I hope  
to have a good deal of spare time for  
research.

By the way, a young woman went from  
Sydney (without any academic qualification  
whatsoever\*) to Harvard a couple of years ago,  
& recently was given the D. Ed. there.  
Her name is Lorna Hodgkinson. There is  
a feeling that Harvard must be giving degrees  
rather easily. Could you get any information  
about this? She worked on 'abnormal'.

I hope your work continues of  
interest. I was pleased to see your article in the  
Month.

My wife joins with me in sending kind  
regards to yourself & to all your people.

Your loving

B. Muscio

\* no degree at all.

3  
If you send us along something,  
would you keep in mind that our  
local readers have not had much  
technical training. I don't mean that  
you should be popular. But  
perhaps you would develop your subject  
as though expounding it to a 1<sup>st</sup> year  
class at college, who had never heard of it  
before! Of course, I think that would  
be helpful to others besides those who  
have not had technical training in philosophy!  
From what I have said you will decide  
for yourself what sort of thing to do. Thus,  
you might write a general untechnical  
article on the relation of philosophy to  
mathematics historically - or anything else  
you like.

I have only today finished  
marking my examination papers (i.e. those of