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CORRESPONDENCE

Jan., 1952

N. WIENER - MC 22

Digitized

[ca Jan. 1952]

Dear Sir: This is a continuation of pages 1 & 2, postmarked 12-17-51.

(nh) will be observed soon as darkness into which nebulae are falling. This darkness will be coming fast. Eventually, (in some manner connected to 3 days), all protons (cubes) will be united in one large cube forever. The side of cube will be 12,000 furlongs. furlong is one-eighth mile. Forever accompanying cube will be an identical volume $\frac{1}{8}$ in $f(nh)$. cube will be able to travel in $f(nh)$ as it wills. Souls in cube will be able to travel (in cube) as they will. These souls are now ideas not confined to a number of cubes of $I(nh)$ -formed by the coalescing of 2 ps-as in living and dead bodies of men. Death and sleep are different degrees of consciousness of souls. The more ns in close proximity to these double ps, and in rapid motion-as ns within orbital negatrons-, the lower the level of consciousness. An effort will be made by ns , if able, to express mathematically, as much as possible. Regardless what this person does, you are urged to consider fundamental questions: in what does the consciousness of men reside? The "Einstein Shift" is not due to the falling of quanta, $cs0$, toward "center of gravity"; but to a duplication of it produced through $(n-a)$.

ps were once in cube, and will be again. The heavier snowfalls, the drier summers, lower intensity of quanta capable of killing microorganisms: caused by higher $(f-s)$ of the $g(f-s)I$ will serve as a prode to survival of the ones, now living, that are to have consciousness forever. That affectation of $cs0$, which are one with the "ether", is no cycle as far as $f(ns)$ is concerned; no more "ice ages". The $g(f-s)I$ which will extend to an i distance from cube will be the "illumination" of the $I(nh)$ in cube. In $f(nh)$; all I is $I(nh)$. There is no death, pain there. Find, as best you can, what is the will of God in these things; and, God willing, seek. Do you love being in a world with sensation-seekers. Shall we seek freedom? Real freedom which, except for the intervention of God, can never be found on this earth. When the "prode" is evident, those that think they are free will grieve. If you observe the "darkness", it will be to your own hurt not to publicize it. Don't hesitate for fear of panicking the people.

There may be an atomic war before August 20, 1952. After then you may observe the "darkness". We are "all in the same boat". You can't escape the "prode" by yourself. Cooperate. Try to survive so you can work.

THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING
TENNIS COURT ROAD,
CAMBRIDGE.
TELEPHONE 58231.

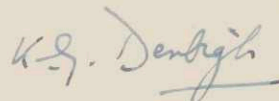
2nd January, 1952.

Professor Norbert Wiener,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Cambridge,
Mass.,
U.S.A.

Dear Professor Wiener,

Recently I had the very great pleasure of reading your "Cybernetics" for the first time and I was struck by some close correspondence of ideas with the theory of chemical reactions in open systems. In case this work may be of interest to you I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of one of my papers (others are concerned with the continuous reaction processes of the chemical industry) together with a paper by one of my collaborators, Mrs. Moore.

Yours sincerely,



K.G. Denbigh.

THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
PITTSBURGH 13, PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

January 4, 1952

Professor Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

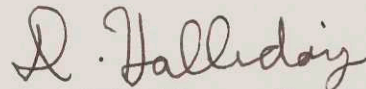
Dear Professor Wiener:

You must receive many requests to address groups of physicists on the subject of cybernetics. Is there any possibility that you might address our local Physical Society on this subject? We can promise you a capacity audience made up of scientists from the two local Universities, many local industrial laboratories, and members of interested groups who would be invited as guests. We will, of course, pay all your traveling expenses and a small honorarium.

Available dates are the first Thursday in February, March, April, or May. We sometimes meet on the second Thursday if a program cannot be arranged for the first one. The first Thursday in February suits us better than the others.

Is there any possibility that you might consider coming?

Sincerely yours,



D. Halliday, Chairman
Program Committee
Pittsburgh Physical Society

DH:hs

Association of Scientific Workers of India

BANGALORE BRANCH

N.N.Narayan Rao,
Secretary.


I.C.E Dept
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
BANGALORE 3 (INDIA)

Date 4th January 1952.

Dear Prof. Wiener,

Allow me to bring to your kind notice my letter dated 10th December 1951. As I have not received any acknowledgement so far, I feel that the letter has been mislaid somewhere in the post. I am therefore enclosing a copy herewith and hope you will find it convenient to send the message in time for the Symposium.

Yours sincerely,



(N.N.Narayan Rao).
Secretary.

Enclo:

PMB/NNNR.

Mr.N.N.Narayan Rao.

Dated: 10th December 1951.

Prof.Norbert Wiener,
Department of Mathematics,
Massachussetts Institutè of Technology,
B O S T O N, Mass.

Dear Prof. Wiener,

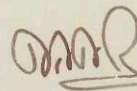
Please allow me to introduce myself on behalf of the Association of Scientific Workers of India. For the past few years this association has been working for the promotion of Scientific knowledge by arranging periodic meetings, organising scientific groups etc.

Some members of the Bangalore Chapter of this Association have been keenly interested for some time in arranging a symposium on Cybernetics. About a dozen members belonging to the Indian Institute of Science, Central College and the Mental Hospital of Bangalore and drawn from the fields of Mathematics, Physics, Electrical and Aeronautical Engineering, Physiology and Psychology have agreed to contribute to the symposium by presenting their view points.

All of us (who are mostly young men) realise the great demands of a subject like Cybernetics, but hope that a joint approach to understand the possibilities of the new field will be more fruitful than individual attempts. We feel, however, that our main difficulty lies in presenting an integrated account of the different approaches. Further we also feel that the task of presenting a suitable introduction to the subject is an extremely difficult one since none of the speakers feel competent to discuss the many sides of the problem.

In this situation we felt that we should request you to send us a message, which we should also like to serve the purpose of introducing the subject. We shall therefore regard it not merely a favour but an inspiration if you will be kind enough to do so as early as possible. As this meeting is scheduled tentatively for the third week of January 1952, we shall highly appreciate an Air Mail reply.

Yours sincerely,



Sd/-
Secretary.

TRUE COPY.

PMB/NNNR.

Nilo 16, Apt.2
Mexico, D.F. Mexico
January 4, 1952

Mr. Jerome Rothstein
Director, Evans Signal Laboratory
Belmar, N.J.

Dear Mr. Rothstein:

I am very pleased with your recent ideas and shall certainly incorporate them in my new book on cybernetics. In particular I am interested in the relation between cybernetics and quantum theory. While cybernetics apart from quantum theory puts a limit on observation, I think the chief difference made by quantum theory is that the limit in observation always occurs at precisely the same scale irrespective to size of the system in which it occurs. From the observation point of view this means an intrinsic limitation in observation, so the more complex the system is, the more unobservables there are in direct proportion to this complexity. The five-dimensional relativity suggests a way of stating this. There is a certain phase quantity which can not be observed directly, but which is necessary to make the system deterministic. I shall send you a copy of my paper as soon as my friend, Manuel Sandoval Vallarta, has had a closer look at it, and you will see that it contains a good many other ideas uniting modern physics.

My stay in Mexico is soon over, and by the end of January I shall be on the way home. I intend to spend a day or two with my daughter in Morristown, N.J., and I should like to know how I can get in touch with you to talk over various scientific matters face to face. Please let me know where Belmar is and how I can get there from Morristown. But one word of caution; I am giving no talks and shall come down solely for a private conversation with you.

Sincerely yours,

East-15-327

le 5 janvier 1952

Editions de Deux Rives

Paris

France

Messieurs:

A ma sortie de France il y a dix huit mois, il restait insur si vous voudriez traduire mon livre, The Human Use of Human Beings, ou non. A cette époque-la, j'avais promis a vous que si vous accepteriez mon livre, je vous enverrais mon prochain livre d'interet general. J'ai complete mon livre qui va apparaitre en mars dans la maison Simon and Schuster, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York. Le livre est intitule, Ex-Prodigy: Childhood and Youth. Si vous avez publie ou si vous avez decide a publier mon livre precedent, je reconnais ici que vous avez les droits d'examiner mon livre nouveau, et si vous le voulez a le publier. Si, par contre, vous avez abandonne votre idee a traduire The Human Use of Human Beings, je ne suis pas oblige a vous envoyer le livre nouveau. Je vous envoie cette lettre en attendant une decision prompte.

Veillez agreer, messieurs, mes sentiments les plus cordiaux,

Norbert Wiener

hb

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS — MEDICAL BRANCH
GALVESTON

THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
THE SCHOOL OF NURSING
THE TECHNICAL CURRICULA
THE POST-GRADUATE PROGRAM

THE JOHN SEALY HOSPITAL
THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
THE PSYCHOPATHIC HOSPITAL
THE STEWART CONVALESCENT HOME

January 7th., 1952

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Encouraged by a suggestion made by Dr. Paul Hempel, Department of Philosophy, and Dr. Henry Margenau, Department of Physics, both at Yale University, I write to you because I think that it will interest and amuse you to know that the name "Cybernetics" exists in philosophical literature already. It was coined by the Polish philosopher Karol Liebelt in the middle of the last century. His definition of "cybernetics" is: the art of governing people, and he published a book simply entitled "Cybernetics". If you are interested in more details about Liebelt and his book, I shall be glad to do my best in order to supply you with some more information.

With kindest regards, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

Wiktor W. Nowinski

Dr. Wiktor W. Nowinski
Associate Professor of
Biochemistry

WWN/lmg

9720 Kings Highway
Brooklyn 12, NY
Jan. 8, 1952

Honorable Dr. Norbert Wiener
Professor of Mathematics
Mass. Institute of Technology
Mass.

Honorable Prof.

As a junior collector of world famous autographs
I would be very proud to have your autograph for
my personal collection.

Respectfully yours,

Loirel Sauerhoff

TEMPLE ISRAEL
POPLAR & MONTGOMERY
MEMPHIS 4, TENNESSEE

Jan 8/52

My dear Prof Wiener:
The enclosed review of your book was sent to the Book Review ^{section} of the Commercial several months ago but thru some oversight on part of the editor of the section, was held back, tho four or five other reviews by me appeared promptly. I checked with him last week and he finally "caught up with himself." This accounts for the belatedness of its appearance. I'm sending it on with the thought that you might want to add it to others in your file.

However, this is not my primary reason for writing these lines. I am experiencing, shall I say, a kind of "feed-back" memory, - a very grateful memory. It was not my privilege to know your gifted father, of blessed memory, personally. But when I was a fledgling Rabbi, away back in 1909 in Ft Wayne Ind, I came across Dr Wiener's very interesting, intriguing and informative volume on Yiddish Literature and tho I still do not speak or read Yiddish fluently, his book communicated to me the Sprachgefühl as well as stimulated my zest for some of the Yiddish poets, especially Morris Rosenfeld, so that I set myself to translating a number of the poems on the basis of his transliteration of them in German letters and his ^{accompanying} prose version. His ^{slender} volume Songs of the Ghetto which introduced Rosenfeld

TEMPLE ISRAEL
POPLAR & MONTGOMERY
MEMPHIS 4, TENNESSEE

to the English public and made him famous, is a prized possession in my library. A number of my translations of Rosenfeld, preserving the rhyme and meter of the original, appeared in various Jewish periodicals at the time.

It so happens that a translation by me of David Frischman's satiric poem "A Tough Morsel" based on ^{the} Jonah and Whale incident, which poem I first learned from your revered father's anthology, appears in the current issue of "The Menorah Journal," tho the editor, to my chagrin, omitted seven of the twenty verses and made some other unwarranted verbal corrections without my permission. I am taking the liberty of enclosing a copy of said poem, which I trust you may enjoy perusing. Incidentally my nephew, Elliott E (Ettelson) Cohen is the Editor of Commentary.

With kind personal greetings and regards, I am

Very truly yours

H. W. Ettelson (Yale Ph.D. 1916)

Rabbi Temple Israel

Who Shall Run Robot Minds?

Scientist Examines His Machines And Turns To Human Powers

THE HUMAN USE OF HUMAN BEINGS. By Norbert Weiner. Houghton, Mifflin. \$3.

Reviewed by DR. HARRY W. ETTELSON, Rabbi, Temple Israel, Memphis.

THE QUESTION has facetiously been asked, "What becomes of all the bright children in the world?" The answer (in spite of cynics and wits) is that quite a number of them grow up to become our thinkers and doers, our leaders and notables in general. A shining example of a "prodigy who made good" is Dr. Norbert Weiner, whose most recent book is the subject of this review.

Norbert Weiner graduated from Tufts at 15 and at 19 he was a Ph.D., of Harvard. He is now a distinguished professor of mathematics at M.I.T. However, though his specialty is in the field of science, he received a thorough training in the classics and the humanities under the tutelage of his father, who was professor of Slavic literature at Harvard.

Twofold Education

This twofold education, shaping his mind and spirit, reveals its influence in the views and attitudes expressed in the little volume before us. This is a popularized and very much abbreviated version of his large volume of some year or so ago, under title of "Cybernetics," which aroused considerable discussion.

There are certain sections of our present book which, though as free as possible from technical terminology and electronic equations, may yet be a little difficult to follow by readers like myself, who do not quite understand the principles of feedback and entropy involved in the making of the marvelous mechanical brains of the huge calculating machines, in which field Dr. Weiner is one of the greatest authorities. However, these sections are only the smaller part of the book; moreover, even they are not so recondite as to keep the average intelligent layman from following the leading ideas which the main chapters of the book develop.

These leading ideas center about the concept of communication. Speech or language, written or spoken, represents for Dr. Weiner man's greatest achievement in contrast to the lower animals. Thanks to the recent technical advances in communication, the power of speech or language has been extended tremendously and has correspondingly increased man's capacity for good or evil through its use or abuse. Specifically, the astounding computers and calculators now developed have again raised the question, this time with greater urgency, as to whether or not man will be supplanted by the machines of his invention and our society become a society of robots.

New Science Needed

Dr. Weiner thinks that this calls for a new science, for which he has coined the name "Cybernetics" (based on the Greek root meaning steersman or control-man at the wheel). Cybernetics, according to our author, deals with the principles which should govern "control and communication" as between man and machine. Like technocracy and dianetics it seeks to combine a scientific theory with a philosophy for the social order. Unlike technocracy and dianetics, however, it derives its dynamics less from a concern about the economics involved and more from a solicitude for ethical values.

The most stimulating thing about the book is that its author, who has had so much to do with the building of the so-called "thinking" machines, is such a trenchant champion of untrammelled thinking for free men the world over, and likewise such an ardent opponent of any dictatorship, political or economic, that would make man into a machine or any ecclesiastical system that would tend to create mere blind believers. The title of the book is in itself heartening and challenging.

Complications Appear

The chapters, in one phase or another, explore the implications or applications of this central theme. Either they speak out against tendencies and techniques in modern civilization, which to Dr. Weiner seem to threaten the dignity of human personality, or they speak for certain attitudes and policies which he thinks will further human values. It is his insistence that to get the right answer from the built-in brains of machines, we must ask the right questions. Similarly, the right

answers to the great social questions can come only if we ask the right questions. The matter isn't simply one of "know-how" but of "what" and "why" as well.

There are a number of significant insights and illuminating ideas in the book in relation to civil rights, the free interchange of discoveries between scientists of different countries, the evils of censorship, needed amendments to the Patent Law, the conservation of national resources, education both on the school and college level, church and state, etc.

Some of the author's discussions and observations are in the nature of obiter dicta; others, let it be frankly admitted, reflect personal predilections and perhaps even prejudices on his part. One may not find oneself in agreement with this, that or the other view expressed in the book. But no one can read the book without feeling that its author is a forthright thinker as well as a forceful writer—one in whom science and the humanities have had a happy blending.

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 4

The School of Medicine

THE ELDRIDGE REEVES JOHNSON
FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL PHYSICS

8 January, 1952

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

My dear Professor Wiener:

You may recall that last spring you paid a visit to Oxford, where you gave a talk to the Oxford University Scientific Club, and that after your talk, and again the following morning at your room in Magdalen College, I tried to bring to your attention what I believe could be an exceptionally fruitful field for the application of communication theory, namely the field of molecular structure determination by X-ray diffraction. The electron density function of a crystal is a periodic function and consequently is equivalent to a (3-dimensional) array of Fourier coefficients; the magnitudes of these coefficients out to a certain maximum order can be measured experimentally, but their phases cannot be measured. The problem is to deduce that array of phases which, when associated with the observed magnitudes, will yield a function which has the basic property of any physical electron density function --- that is, which consists solely of real, positive "lumps" of electron density corresponding of course to the atoms of the structure. The shapes of the lumps are approximately known in advance, and also the number of lumps and the content of each, but their locations are not known.

Considerable progress has been made by crystallographers on this problem. I myself, for example, have found very nearly the complete solution for the case where all the atoms have the same, or nearly the same, content (i.e., atomic number), though there remain unsatisfactory features of my work. But there remains very much to be understood, and I think that you might be able to make a most important advance in the field.

I have now returned to the United States, where I am a Fellow of the Johnson Foundation, and I should be very pleased indeed if I could discuss the problem with you and perhaps interest you in it sufficiently that you would have a real try at it. I would be glad to come up to Cambridge to see you at any time that is convenient to you.

Sincerely yours,

David Sayre
David Sayre

THE WORCESTER FOUNDATION FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY
222 MAPLE AVENUE
SHREWSBURY, MASS.

January 10, 1952

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BUSINESS MANAGER AND
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD

BRUCE CRAWFORD

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Norbert:

I am enclosing a copy of the announcement of the forthcoming Thirteenth Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion to be held in September. You will note that the topic is symbolism and there are few, if any, persons better qualified to contribute to this subject than yourself. I do hope you will see your way to submitting a paper and participating in the Conference. Anything you would write on cybernetics in relation to this problem, or, for that matter, anything else in the field of your interest would be most stimulating to all of us.

With all best wishes,

Cordially yours,



Hudson Hoagland

HH:B

Enc.

CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE, PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION
3080 BROADWAY
NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

RIVERSIDE 9-8000

Those present at the Twelfth Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion agreed that the subject for 1952 should be "Symbols and Values," and the meetings are to be held from September 2 to 5, 1952.

The informal committee which includes Lyman Bryson, Louis Finkelstein, Harold D. Lasswell, Hudson Hoagland, R. M. MacIver, Richard McKeon, and ourselves, hopes that you will find it possible to be present. We also seek your help in clarifying, sharpening, delineating, and concretizing the theme problem, namely, the communication of ideas, particularly value judgments, through symbols, considering the dangers, problems, and possibilities.

It was the consensus of the committee that, for the purpose of the Conference, "symbol" should here be understood as referring to that type of symbol, as distinguished from mere sign, which conveys representation or is charged with value significance. We will be mainly concerned with the use, as well as the manipulation of symbols, in social relations, in religious, political, economic, educational, and other group activities.

This broad subject of symbolism will probably also be discussed at several succeeding conferences. In 1952 we plan to explore, so far as possible, the ramifications and operational implications of the problem.

Knowing that you have given much thought to the question of symbolism as it applies to your own studies and experiences, we are writing to urge that you prepare an essay for the Conference, discussing communication through symbols in the light of your own work. We would like to have the paper by March, if possible.

We would also very much like to have your suggestions regarding development of the program, especially as to topics.

Now that the program is merely in its initial stages, it would be particularly encouraging to hear that you are willing to help us. Naturally, we would be glad to do anything possible to clarify our plans, answering any questions that may occur to you.

The Conference has available a small fund that can cover the travel and hotel expenses of its paper writers.

We earnestly hope that we may hear from you in the near future and that you will indicate the general focus of your paper. A return sheet and envelope are enclosed for your convenience.

Faithfully yours,

Ordway Tead
Chairman, 1952 Conference

Wendell M. Stanley
Vice-Chairman

rb
enc.

Please return to:

Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion
3080 Broadway
New York 27, New York

I expect to do a paper on " _____
_____."

I will send in a two hundred word summary by _____.

I regret that I cannot undertake a paper _____.

Before reaching a decision, I would like to know the following:

I would suggest that invitations to prepare papers be sent the following: (Please give name and address)

Name _____

(Please use the back of this sheet if additional space is required.)

PROF. Dr. BALTH. VAN DER POL
GENÈVE

GENÈVE, le 10th January 1952
22, CHEMIN KRIEG

VDP/840

Professor N. Wiener,
Nilo 16, Apt. 2,
Mexico, D.F.,
Mexico.

Dear Wiener,

It was good to hear through your letter of November 21st that your health has much improved since you were here, and that you have shaken off the terrible headache from which you suffered in Geneva.

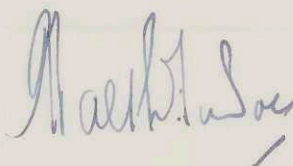
I am also glad to see from your letter that you are hard at work again on what seems to me to be an extremely wide field, and I need not say that I am looking forward to studying in detail your theories once you have put them on paper.

You probably know that Wiesner asked me to find somebody for him to study the correlation of the sun's activity with the ionospheric properties. After he had told me that he could provide living expenses for a scientist to be in Cambridge for about a year, I am now trying to find someone to suggest to him.

Your daughter did visit us but unfortunately I was in Paris at the time so my wife received her. My wife was glad to meet your clever and very original girl, and I was very sorry to miss her.

Wishing you much success with both your physiological and physical researches, and with my best regards to you both, also on behalf of my wife,

Yours sincerely,



1001 E Street
Belmar, N. J.
January 15, 1952

Professor N. Wiener
Nilo 16, Apt. 2
Mexico, D. F. Mexico

Dear Professor Wiener:

Thank you for your letter of January 4th.

Morristown is not far from Newark or Elizabeth, from either of which trains leave for Belmar. Both Pennsylvania Railroad and Jersey Central trains make the trip in about an hour and twenty minutes. Belmar is on the coast, about three miles south of Asbury Park, ten miles or so south of Long Branch. To go by automobile, simply follow a road map. From Elizabeth one drives south along Route 1-9-25 (the main north-south artery) turning off first wherever "Shore Points" are indicated, then "Asbury Park", and finally six miles before Asbury Park, where Belmar is indicated. Belmar is about an hour's drive from Elizabeth. My home address is 1001 "E" Street, Belmar, home telephone, Belmar 9-0214R. At the laboratory, I can be reached at Asbury Park 2-7440, extension 592 or 302. I hope your travel plans are such that there will be no conflict with the Physical Society Meeting at Columbia on January 31, February 1st and 2d, which I am committed to attend. Except for this, I can arrange my schedule to suit your convenience. In fact, should you be fatigued by travel, I would be willing to visit you in Morristown, Princeton or New York, subject to the above constraint on dates.

I am indeed looking forward to our meeting, our second one, incidentally. You may recall my dropping in to see you for a few minutes at M.I.T. a few years ago, when I spoke to you about random vs. apparently random sequences in relation to the "completeness" of quantum mechanics.

Sincerely yours,



Jerome Rothstein

[ans 1/22/52]

9 Plaza Fajes Washington
16/1 - 52. Mexico City

Dear Dr Wiener

I have great pleasure
in sending you
the manuscript
of your autobiography
you so kindly lent
me.

It is a strong and
illuminating record
and should help
dispel many of
the doubts & errors

even experienced
men & women
incur in when
attempting to
"guide" the young
I hope it will soon
be published
With kindest regards
to Mrs Wren &
yourself

Cordially yours
Isabel de Palencia

Palencia

Will do up Spanish - all translation
see page 140 U-M.



SIMON AND SCHUSTER, INC.
publishers

ROCKEFELLER CENTER, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York 20 • CABLE ADDRESS *Essandess* • TELEPHONE *Circle 5-6400*

January 17, 1952

My dear Professor Wiener:

While Mr. Schuster was abroad several of us had an opportunity to read *THE BENT TWIG*, and now that Mr. Schuster has returned, he has had the opportunity to examine the manuscript and to discuss it with us.

Unfortunately, none of us feels that, in its present state, the book would be very well received by the general public. There is no question but that the work affords a good deal of fascinating insight into the problems -- social, psychological, and familial -- of the Wunderkind. Yet, the very special nature of this problem, as well as certain natural reticences, limit the appeal of the book. In its present shape, the manuscript presents some very fundamental and fascinating editorial problems that I should be delighted to have the opportunity to discuss with you in person and very frankly if you had any inclination to do so -- and if, of course, it could be made geographically feasible. At the moment, I realize that this is almost certainly impossible; and as you will almost certainly be wanting to send the manuscript to another publisher who may appear less wrong-headed, I feel bound to return the manuscript to you.

I should add that one of the reasons we all looked forward so much to reading your book was the enthusiasm for Dr. Norbert Wiener expressed to both Mr. Schuster and myself by our good friend Irwin Edman. I therefore write this letter with an especially strong sense of disappointment and regret.

Very sincerely yours,

Henry W. Simon, Senior Editor

Professor Norbert Wiener
Nilo 16. Apt. 2
Mexico, D.F. Mexico

HWS:jgc

TTKA House
Auburn, Alabama
Jan. 19, 1951

Dr. Norbert Wiener, 2510
Professor of Mathematics,
The Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Boston, Massachusetts,

Dear Sir:

I am preparing a paper on
"Machines That Think". I found
your book, "Cybernetics", to be very
helpful. Could you send me
any kind of material about
electronic computers, pamphlets,
drawings, and etc. I would
appreciate it very much.

Yours Truly,

[and 2/15/52] Bill Whitaker

Research Lab of Electronics

Technical information - document room
Reference - J.W. - Forrester - Baxter Bldg - MIT

1/16/51

John H.

Ken H. Research Lab
Electronics Lab

2510

1924 Mona Avenue

Muskegon Heights, Mich.

Jan. 21, 1952

Sir:

May I have your autograph?

I am collecting signatures of the great educators of the World and would feel very highly honored if I could add your name to my collection.

I am enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope, and a card.

Would you please write your name on the card and send it to me?

Thank you.

Very sincerely yours,
Orville W. Jafke

[ans 2/12/52

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

DEPARTMENT OF ANATOMY

EUSTON 4400

GOWER STREET, W.C.1

Professor J. Z. Young, M.A., F.R.S.

AIR MAIL.

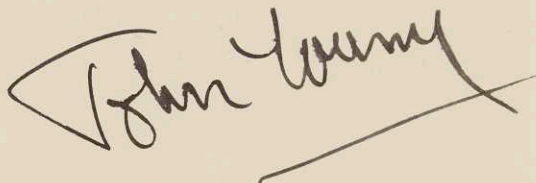
22nd January, 1952.

Dear Dr. Wiener,

Thank you very much for your letter. I hope I may be able to get up to Boston while I am in America. I will pass on your greetings to others here who very much enjoyed your visit and are looking forward to another one before long.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Z. Young". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Norbert Wiener,
53 Cedar Road,
Belmont,
Boston,
Massachusetts,
U.S.A.

CLEVELAND CLINIC

2020 EAST 93RD STREET

CLEVELAND 6, OHIO

RESEARCH DIVISION

January 22, 1952

TO: AUTHORS, NEUROCHEMISTRY VOLUME

FROM: Irvine H. Page

The manuscripts are practically all in the hands of the publisher, and the editors wonder whether any of you care to have them back for a quick revision before they go to press. It always takes longer to get a book in print than is anticipated. Therefore, if you feel it will not hold up the manuscript's going to press, we could return it to you if you would send it back immediately. Otherwise, it would be much better to leave it with the publisher and not hold up the publication of the book.

I think you will all be pleased to know that the manuscripts are excellent and therefore the book should serve a highly useful function.



THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

NORMAN · OKLAHOMA

January 22, 1952

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Professor of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Doctor Wiener:

I am nerving myself to write to you just after devouring your two books, Cybernetics, and The Human Use of Human Beings. I cannot remember ever having a more exciting evening with a book. I hope you will forgive me for being so late in discovering your work, and let me come in anyway. Because, by Joe, you are saying clearly in mathematics something I have been laboring with for twenty-five years! I congratulate you, sir, and I find myself tremendously thrilled by what you have to say.

Probably you never heard of me. But I used to be one of the writers you regard with such justified lack of enthusiasm in Chapter IX of Human Use. A dozen years ago, plagued with an incessant flock of would-be writers on my doorstep, all wanting to know how, and intrigued by the English Department dictum that it is "impossible" to make selling fiction writers, I joined the faculty here at The University of Oklahoma, coaching student writers.

I think this may be of more interest to you than I have indicated so far. The eventual result here was that we started producing writers who actually sold, not just one or two, but many of them. Their sales now run far up into the hundreds annually, and cover nearly the whole world. Thus, one lad wrote a best seller, Tokio Romance, in Japanese, another's first book was printed in Paris and so far has gone through eight editions, including Spanish and Italian translations, still others sell Saturday Evening Post and Collier's serials and short stories, we have listed a large number of book sales running all the way from scholarly works to paper backed novels---they pay



THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

NORMAN · OKLAHOMA

\$2,000 advance for those things, you know and some of them make as much as \$15,000 and more for the author---movies(The Bend of the River, current movie is from the book of a student, Bill Gulick) well, sales running from the literary magazines through and including the Sunday School publications.

Now what will interest you about this, or at least so I hope, is that it has been done on a Pattern, which, so far as I can follow you, seems to be very close to, if not exactly what you are outlining in Cybernetics.

I believe I am safe in saying that no similar classes in the world approach us in consistent number of sales, or range of sales. And this has been going on now for a dozen years. Professor W.S. Campbell, "Stanley Vestal," my colleague and I have been working patiently with little encouragement, and you can imagine, away out here, practically no natural advantages to prove it can be done. It can be!

But what wholly fascinated me about your books was when I followed you point by point, and not only found myself agreeing, but realized also you were stating something I myself had arrived at independently sometimes years ago! Your point of machine slavery (Cybernetics, Introd, Pg. 37, and also in Human Use) for example. Over ten years ago I was trying vainly to sell the New York editors I knew a book on that very subject---and I knew a great many of the cafs, being at that time still counted by my editors among the ten top action writers in the magazine field. I got exactly nowhere. So, you can understand how wistfully I congratulate you on getting the thing not only said, but in print!

There is a lot more. I think I must have counted close to a hundred points of close, if not exact, agreement of your books with the doctrines I teach these youngsters down here; and I think that is amazing, considering that our fields scarcely could be farther apart. But I thought you might like to know.

As an instance, what you call feedback we call flashback in fiction technique and so far as I can see, it's exactly the same thing. Its fictional purpose is to focus the story, to sharpen the outlines, just as you write factually on Pg. 157 Cybernetics. The breakdown phenomenon you describe on Pg. 190, Human Use we also recognize at the decision point of a story. And we distinguish further between what you call intention tremor and Parkinsonianism (though we use other terms, of course) by making that visible to the student. You can see it happen, along with other parts of a plot, simply by holding a bi-convex lens, an ordinary reading glass,



THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
NORMAN · OKLAHOMA

right against your eye and looking through it at some bright object six or eight feet away. As you move the glass toward the object, the upright image blurs and disappears (this is what we call the Black Moment in fiction plot) and as the subject tries to find the image again he makes those motions you describe! Still further, you can often tell whether he's fictionally far-sighted, seeing only the end of the plot (which would be Parkinson's disease, though I never until now made the association) or fictionally near-sighted with good intentions---intention tremor, which is another brand new term for me!

Forgive me for writing such a lengthy letter, and no need to answer this at all, unless you wish. But I thought you might be interested. Naturally, as artists of a sort, we go a bit farther out on the limb than you, or at least your books, do, and I think we have a point or two that you omit. Wasn't it Leibniz who said, "More frequently will he who does not understand an art (or a science either!) find something new than he who does?" We use Leibniz' monad too, by the bye, which probably will horrify both you and the great philosopher.

Still, on the universal principle that fools will rush in I couldn't resist writing in to say, thank you for a grand, intellectual adventure, and my wistful congratulations! A man who can make today's publishers print Truth is not only a seer, he's a genius!

Yours most admiringly,

Foster Harris
Associate Professor
Journalism

Nilo 16, Apt. 2
Mexico, D.F. Mexico
January 22, 1952

Prof. D. Halliday
Department of Physics
The University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburg 13, Pennsylvania

Dear Professor Halliday:

The first wave of my effort of cybernetics has by now spent itself. Before I care to face further audiences on the subject, I think I should have a good two years to renew my ideas and to write what will be not an introduction to the idea of cybernetics, but a comprehensive and thought out treatise of the subject. In addition, the last few years of lecturing efforts have shown me that the lecture platform takes more out of me in energy and fatigue than I can well afford. I must therefore regretfully decline to accept further lecture engagements for a considerable time in the future.

Sincerely yours,

[ans 1/22/52]

Nilo 16, Apt. 2
Mexico, D.F. Mexico
January 22, 1952

M. Robert Latour
33 Bd. de la Liberté
Rennes (Tav.)
France

Cher M. Latour:

Il me parait peu probable qu'on puisse enregistrer par des appareils en dehors du corps humain encore plus qu'on obtient par l'electroencephelographie; quoique les encephelogrammes contiennent beaucoup d'information sur les procédés nerveux du système humain, leur interprétation reste toujours incertaine et obscure. Avec les bruits du fond inséparable de chaque appareil pour recevoir les signaux très faible, il me semble que nous sommes très loin de la possibilité d'employer profitablement un tel appareil. Je ne nie pas que dans l'avenir lointain nous pourrions développer l'electro-encephelographie à un tel état de perfection; mais pour le présent il me semble, que vos idées manquent tout point d'appui pratique.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur, a mes sentiments respectueux.

Nilo 16, Apt. 2
Mexico, D.F. Mexico
January 22, 1952

Mr. Jerome Rothstein
1001 E Street
Belmar, N.J.

Dear Mr. Rothstein:

I shall arrive in New York late on the night of the 28th of this month. I shall probably leave there Friday, February first. I am tentatively making reservations at the Hotel Algonquin on 44th Street, and if I am unable to get rooms there, I shall at least call there for my correspondence. I shall get in touch with you when I arrive in New York, by telephone.

Sincerely yours,

Nilo 16, Apt. 2
Mexico, D.F. Mexico
January 22, 1952

Mr. David Sayre
The School of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia 4, Penn.

Dear Mr. Sayre:

I appreciate your letter from the University of Pennsylvania as to the question of molecular structure by X ray diffraction. I may have told you that the work of Patterson leading to the Patterson diagram was done under consultation with me. However, I agree with you, that there is still much to be done with the information problem by which we learn molecular structure. I have not yet approached the problem from the point of view of structure information theory, but I intend to do so in the future, and I would like to see the results.

I shall be in Cambridge from about the first of February on, and I shall be glad to see you at my office any time you come up. Only please write a letter so that my secretary may see that my absent-mindedness may not cause us to miss one another.

Sincerely yours,

12 FEB '52

DR. LEO DUB
/245-1/2 ALAMEDA AVENUE/
DOUGLASTON
LONG ISLAND/
NEW YORK

Dr. Leo Dub,
lecturer
Villa Hupfau
Sonnenstrasse 34 /II
INNSBRUCK
Austria

24th January 1952

Secretary
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

RECEIVED AT

FEB 11 1952

ADMISSIONS OFFICE
M. I. T.

Dear Sir:

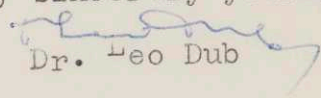
*Dr. Dub's
sending*

I should like to mention the method of Solar Heating developed at your Institute in one of my lectures here. Could you let me have a reprint of an article about Solar Heating describing this method in terms which a layman would understand?

Another theme which I should like to mention is Cybernetics. Is there a reprint of an article which describes the ~~method~~ in simple language?

My lectures are supposed to give the Austrian people information about American achievements.

Very sincerely yours,


Dr. Leo Dub

[ans 2/25/52]

[ca. Jan. 25, 1952]

Social Science Research Council

WASHINGTON OFFICE

726 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

American Anthropological Association

FRED EGGAN, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
RALPH L. BEALS, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT
LOS ANGELES
WENDELL C. BENNETT, YALE UNIVERSITY

American Economic Association

GEORGE W. STOCKING, VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
HAROLD A. INNIS, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THEODORE W. SCHULTZ, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

American Historical Association

SHEPARD B. CLOUGH, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
ELMER ELLIS, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
ROY F. NICHOLS, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

American Political Science Association

ARTHUR W. MACMAHON, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
DON K. PRICE, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CLEARING HOUSE
CHARLES FAIRMAN, STANFORD UNIVERSITY

American Psychological Association

LYLE H. LANIER, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
OTTO KLINEBERG, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
ROBERT R. BEARS, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

American Sociological Society

LEONARD S. COTTRELL, JR., CORNELL UNIVERSITY
DOROTHY S. THOMAS, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
LOWRY NELSON, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

American Statistical Association

PHILIP M. HAUSER, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
HOLBROOK WORKING, STANFORD UNIVERSITY
S. S. WILKS, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

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BRYCE WOOD; ELEANOR C. ISBELL; JOSEPH B. CASAGRANDE; CAROLYN E. ALLEN, FINANCIAL SECRETARY

We shall be grateful for your appraisal of the candidacy of
Karl W. Deutsch
for a Faculty Research Fellowship of the Social Science Research Council.
For the guidance of the awarding committee, we are seeking the advice not
only of those named by the candidate as references but also of others who
may be able to offer significant judgments.

Enclosed herewith are a leaflet briefly describing the Faculty
Research Fellowship Program, copies of the nomination form and candidate's
project statement, and a blank report form for your comments. Will you
be kind enough to return the last three items in the enclosed prepaid
envelope?

Your report might helpfully include comment on the following
and any other pertinent matters:

1. How would you compare this candidate's abilities, accomplishments, and promise of future research achievement with those of other workers of his age in the same field?
2. What is your judgment of his proposed research program?
3. From what you know both of the candidate and of his situation, would you predict that he would be able and likely to take full advantage of an appointment of the type which he seeks?
4. Do you think that the candidate is now at a stage in his career at which he would derive the maximum benefit from a period of freedom for independent research?

With thanks for your anticipated response, I am

Sincerely yours,

Elbridge Sibley
Elbridge Sibley

[ans 2/4/52]

PRELIMINARY NOMINATION for FACULTY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
PLEASE RETURN

RECEIVED

JAN 11 1952

TO

Social Science Research Council

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL
726 JACKSON PLACE
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

S.S.R.C., WASH. D.C.

This form must be accompanied by a one-page statement by the nominee, indicating the type of work he would undertake if awarded a fellowship and what related work he has already done; and a one-page letter from the sponsor, indicating his reasons for proposing the nominee and his willingness to endeavor to secure from the university or college the commitments indicated in the announcement of the fellowships, in the event that an award should be contemplated. To permit reproduction of copies for review by committee members, this form and both attachments must be typewritten with a very black ribbon, on only one side of the translucent paper supplied herewith.

Name of nominee Karl Wolfgang Deutsch

Position Associate Professor of History

Department Dept. of English and History

Institution Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Age 39 years

Academic degrees, and other graduate study (indicating dates, institutions, and fields of study): D. Pol. Sci., Charles University, Prague, 1938 (joint degree: Political Science; Law and Legal History; Economics); Ph.D. Harvard, 1951 (Government: International Relations; Political Theory; Comparative Government; History; International Law; Economics)

Major field of research interest: See attached sheet A.

See attached sheet B.

Citation of published work which best exemplifies nominee's achievement in research: On applicant's wartime research, 1944-45, See attached sheet B.

Name and title of a senior faculty member in this institution (other than the sponsor signing this nomination) who is well acquainted with the nominee's research

interest and work: Norbert Wiener, Professor of Mathematics, M.I.T. (till January 1951) c/o Institute Nacional de Cardiologia, Mexico, D. F.)

Names, titles, and addresses of two persons not attached to this institution who can offer informed judgment of the nominee's qualifications: Professor Rupert Emerson, Department of Government, Harvard University; Prof. Hans Kohn, Dept. of History, College of the City of New York; Prof. Siegmund Neumann, Dept. of Government, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.

Signature of nominee

Karl W. Deutsch

Mail address of nominee

81 Kilburn Road, Belmont 18, Massachusetts

Name of sponsor (please type)

John Ely Burchard

Position

Dean

Department

School of Humanities, M.I.T.

Signature of sponsor

John Ely Burchard

Date

1/10/52

Supplementary Statement B - Other Experience and Activities

Summer Prize in Political Science, Harvard University, 1951.

Associate, University Seminar on Organization, Columbia University, 1951/52

Fellow, Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion, 1951.

Member, Program Committee, Institute of the Unity of Science, 1950.

Visiting Associate Professor of Political Science, Williams College, Summer 1947.

Associate Professor, History, MIT, 1947 -

Chief, Southern Republics Section, Office of Research and Intelligence, Department of State, 1946.

Certificate of Merit, Research and Analysis Branch, O.S.S., 1945; for directing research on certain phases of Latin American nationalism and Axis ideologies.

Member, International Secretariat, United Nations Conference on International Organization, San Francisco, 1945.

Chief, Latin American Political Subdivision, Research and Analysis Branch, OSS., 1945.

Chief, South American Section, Research and Analysis Branch, O.S.S., 1944.

Assistant Professor, History, MIT, 1944-47.

Instructor, History and International Relations, MIT, 1942-44.

WILLIAM A. LEBRECHT

920 RIVERSIDE DRIVE

NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

WADSWORTH 8-3868

January 26, 1952

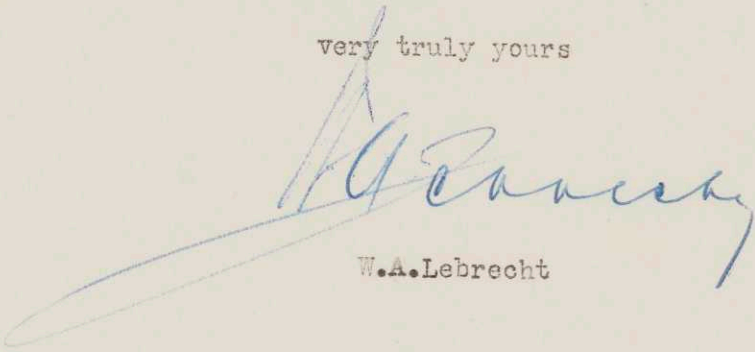
Prof. Norman Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
BOSTON, Mass.

Dear Sir:

My cousin Mr. W.A. Oerley - Diehlgasse 34, Vienna is a writer who specializes in questions and problems of a new type of automatic machinery produced in this country.

He asked me a few days ago to convey this enclosed letter - which is self-explanatory - to your address. It would be a great pleasure to me, if you can comply with the wishes of my cousin and I am

very truly yours



W.A. Lebrecht

encl.

[ans 2/25/52]

W. A. OERLEY
Diehlgasse 34
Vienna, V.
Austria

January 15th, 1952

Prof. Norman Wiener,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:-

About nine months ago "Time" published an article about your address on the possibility of equipping factories with fully automatic machinery. In connection with your speech a Mr. Luther Gulick was quoted on the same subject. "Time" however furnished only a very sketchy and unsatisfying outline. I am very much interested in obtaining additional informations:

- (1) from the technical point of view
 - (a) on what principles such automatic contrivances are operating
 - (b) whether or not such automatic machines are already in existence and - if so - what kind of work do they perform
- (2) from the economic point of view
 - (c) necessary investments for such machines
 - (d) costs of operating them
 - (e) percentage in lowering production costs
 - (f) saving of man power
- (3) from the social point of view
 - (g) possibility of unemployment for unskilled labourer and certain types of skilled workmen
 - (h) possibility of increased demand for other types of workmen and specialists
- (4) from the consumer's point of view
 - (i) will automatic production increase standardization and uniformity of products
 - (j) will automatic production further increase the difficulty of changing products

I have tried very hard to find or to obtain such informations here in Austria, but up to now without success. The reason why I take the liberty of writing to you is to inquire whether or not you are in a position - and if so willing - to assist me in obtaining the necessary data. Any material or informations on that subject or advise, where I could obtain material or informations would be of greatest value to me.

Hoping that my request is not too great an imposition on your valuable time, I remain, dear Sir, thanking you in advance for your kind interest

very truly yours,

W.A. Oberley



W.A. Oberley
Diehlgasse 34
Vienna, V., Austria

Sheldon Court
Ithaca, New York

January 28, 1952

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Chair of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I am enclosing a letter of introduction from Mrs. Frances Ancker Stierham.

As is stated in the letter, I will graduate this June from Cornell University with the degree of Bachelor of Engineering Physics. I am interested in pursuing a graduate course of study at M. I. T.

In case you are not familiar with the Engineering Physics curriculum, sir, I will give you a brief description of it.

In our five years of study, we take as many courses in both mathematics and physics as majors in these fields. I will have taken 13 physics courses (each full course) and 10 mathematics courses, and applied courses in physics in addition. Also, courses in electrical engineering and materials to a large extent, besides additional courses in the other engineering fields, fewer in number. In short, the course is a comprehensive as well as intensive one.

Because of the wide variety of material covered, I am not completely certain the course of study I wish to pursue as a graduate student. I have narrowed my choice down to two departments: Physics and Engineering Administration. I ask your advice on these. I would like to eventually be a consulting engineer in the field of engineering physics, if such a field could conceivably exist; that is to say, engineering with the theory behind it (the physics and the mathematics) of concern to me as well. I fear the physics may be too theoretical to be practical and the other the reverse. Perhaps I can offer further clarification to you.

I have another problem you may be able to advise me about. I am interested in getting my doctorate as well as my master's degree. Would it be possible to obtain the former in three year's time, omitting the master's if necessary to limit the time of study to the three years. Or would you advise my obtaining both degrees?

2.

I realize that if I were to study the Administration course this could not be done because of the numerous courses in that field that I would have to make up before going on to graduate study proper.

Further, I would not like to see my training in mathematics and physics be wasted, although administrative engineering holds an appeal for me.

I would appreciate any time you could devote to me, sir, and thank you very much for it.

Respectfully yours,

Philip M. Sherman

P.S. I am holding my application blank until I hear from you, in order to fill in the department of my choice.

[ans 2/13/52]

January 23, 1952

Dear Cousin Norbert:

I am hoping that this letter may serve to acquaint you with a young Cornell student of Engineering Physics, who is now in his final year at Cornell University.

Philip Sherman is a nephew of the most prominent pulp magazine editor who ever built up a magazine-chain in this country, Leo Margulies. And as you may remember, it was Leo Margulies who was so interested in getting hold of some of your science fiction stories for his magazines. At that time, however, you were absorbed in your writing of the book, *THE HUMAN USE OF HUMAN BEINGS*, as well as your scientific work in Mexico.

Anything you might be able to do that would advise Philip Sherman as to what course to follow in his desire to pursue a post-graduate course at M.I.T. would be very deeply appreciated by your cousin,

Frances

Frances Ancker Stierhem
321 East 43rd Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Wiener,

Jan 28, 1952

Would you please send me your autograph. It would be no trouble as I have enclosed a self addressed envelope. I have long been an admirer of yours, and enjoy following your career very much. If you are as nice as you look, I know I shall receive it.

Your faithful follower,
Emil Demme

[ans 2/13/52]

Sheldon Court
Ithaca, New York

January 30, 1952

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

When I wrote to you two days ago, sir, I spoke rather generally and did not in any way indicate what course of study I intended to follow were I to be admitted to M. I. T.

Since that time I have tentatively decided upon a field that combines solid-state physics and metallurgy. I have written to Profs. Morse and Cohen of these departments, respectively, for advice.

I write to you with this information because I feel it might be of some value to you in suggesting to me a reasonable course of study. Perhaps I have assumed too much in the way of what you are able to do for me. If so, I am sorry. Forgive me. I do not wish to take up too much of your time.

I thank you for any considerations at all.

Respectfully yours,

Philip M. Sherman



SIMON AND SCHUSTER, INC.

publishers

ROCKEFELLER CENTER, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York 20 • CABLE ADDRESS *Essandess* • TELEPHONE Circle 5-6400

January 31, 1952

Prof. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Prof. Wiener:

I was delighted to have you drop in the other day and to have the opportunity to discuss your manuscript with you with entire frankness and to reach a tentative agreement about the publication. This is my understanding: during the course of the summer, you plan to begin revising and rewriting along the lines we discussed. When you have completed a portion of the work - say about 50 pages - you will send them on to me to see whether we agree that the book promises to be one which we shall want to go ahead with. If the indications are clear that we see pretty much eye to eye, we will then either draw up a contract or, if there is still doubt in either your mind or ours, continue this arrangement until we can be more certain. Should you strike a snag at any time, I stand, of course, ready to pitch in with any ideas and suggestions I may have or be able to elicit from my colleagues at Simon and Schuster.

Meantime, I am enclosing a check for \$250.00. This amount, it is understood, is sent primarily as an expression of good faith on our part in the real possibilities of your successfully completing the autobiographical manuscript at present entitled *THE BENT TWIG* which we shall be very much pleased to have the opportunity to publish. Its acceptance by yourself corroborates, of course, your already expressed willingness to undertake the revisions and to submit the results to Simon and Schuster before any other American publisher. If we finally write a formal contract, the \$250.00 will be regarded as a portion of the advance against royalties we will then be in a position to offer. If, for any reason, Simon and Schuster does not publish the book but some other publisher does, the \$250.00 is returnable.

If the above paragraphs meet with your approval, will you be good enough to sign the enclosed carbon, thus formally giving corroboration to this informal agreement.

Very sincerely yours,

Henry W. Simon
for Simon and Schuster

HWS:EH
Encl. check

L.S.

[ans 2/7/52]