

146

CORRESPONDENCE

Feb. 1952

N. WIENER - MC 22

Digitized

TO FACULTY OF THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

The Faculty recently voted to allow departments to offer variants of the regular subjects in the first two years. I believe the Mathematics Department should offer a more rigorous treatment of mathematics in the first year and, if it seems to work out that way, to continue this into the second year. A new set of numbers to designate the subject will be advisable. We could use M811 and M812 for the first year subjects.

The following are asked to serve on a committee to arrange this program and the participation of all interested staff is welcomed:

Ambrose, Cohen, Douglass, Franklin, Hurewicz, Thomas, *Zeldin*

A meeting will be called early in the term.

Norman Levinson

Oral Examinations for the Doctorate

See Feb, 1952 WU

Monday, February 11 - 2- P.M. Room 2-355

Jacob Levin - Advisors: Levinson
Franklin
Coddington

Friday, February 15 - 9:30 A.M. Room 2-367

Evelyn Bender - Advisors: Cohen
Hurewicz
Singer

G.B. Thomas, Jr.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES 1952-53

First and Second Year Students

Crout
Franklin
Whitehead
Zeldin
Douglass (Chairman)

Graduate Students

Ambrose
Hurewicz
Levinson
Reissner
Thomas
Martin (Chairman)

Computing Laboratory

Crout
Lin
Reissner
Wadsworth
Hildebrand (Chairman)

Lecture Series

Iwasawa
Lin
Wiener
Salem (Chairman)

*July
Fri.*

Library

Cohen
Nash
Franklin (Chairman)

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE
OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA 3 · PENNSYLVANIA

FOUNDED FEBRUARY 5, 1824

LABORATORIES FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

HENRY B. ALLEN
Director

February 1, 1952

Dr. Norbert Wiener
5 Rue Léon Lhermitte
Paris 15, France

Dear Dr. Wiener:

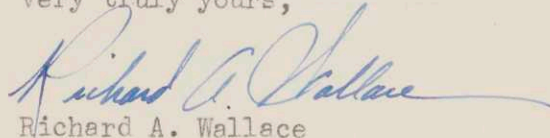
In regard to our correspondence last spring regarding a maze solving machine which I have been constructing, I am sending you a copy of the results of my work to date.

You will notice that my work is somewhat of an expansion of the cybernetic principles stated in your books. In thinking along these lines I find a strong resonance with your writings. I feel more and more certain that there are many revolutionary, but at this time only vaguely realized, possibilities for teleological machines.

My next machine is beginning to form in my mind. It will be able to duplicate, I hope, the Gestalt ability of the eye. It also may be able to learn. I am casting about a bit for other interested people, for doing this on my own time and funds in addition to my regular work has proved to be rather difficult for me.

I should greatly appreciate any comments or criticisms you may have on the present paper.

Very truly yours,


Richard A. Wallace

RW/eab

[ans 2/26/52]

Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation

Ninth Conference on Cybernetics

To the Members of the
Feedback Conference on Teleological Mechanisms

Chicago, Ill.
Feb. 2, 1952

Gentlemen-

The following is an extremely tentative agenda based on suggestions made by various members of the group. These suggestions are so brief that it is difficult to tell what the substance of the speakers' remarks will be and we may, therefore, when we get our heads together, desire to change radically the scheme outlined here. In as much as we have been repeatedly requested to give first place the more philosophical and sociological aspects of the problem I have put them in that order.

March 20 Morning Trapped universals in
reverberating circuits and
the escape from the
relativity of legal and
cultural norms F. S. C. Northrop

Afternoon To be opened by a short
comment on The Place of
Emotions in the Feedback
Concept L. S. Kubie

In the evening we will hear from W. Ross Ashby on Homeostasis. I hope he will give us a full description of his homeostat in as much as it embodies an extremely interesting variety of inverse feedback capable of securing dynamic stability under severe alterations of its connections and internal arrangements.

For the second day, March 21, it seems fairly clear that several people want to talk about central excitation and inhibition, particularly the latter, and it looks as though Dr. Ralph W. Gerard should put the ball in motion.

We have yet to hear whether Teuber, Wiener, Rosenblueth, von Neumann or Bateson have anything particular to add to this.

I am in hopes that sometime on the afternoon of the first day or of the second day Dr. Quastler will have something to say about feedback enzymic or genetic levels; and I am in hopes that Mead and Bavelas will find an opportunity on the morning or afternoon of the first day to say something of prediction from small to large groups.

I attach list of members and guests known to be coming and of members expected but not yet heard from. I understand that Drs. Marcel Monnier, Mottram Torre and J. Z. Young will be in this country attending other Macy symposia and that following a precedent set by other groups we may expect to have some or all of them as our guests.

Your obedient servant,

WSM p. encls.

Warren S. McCulloch

Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation
Ninth Conference on Cybernetics
March 20 & 21, 1952

Members who will attend

Dr. Warren S. McCulloch, Chairman
Dr. Alex Bavelas
Mr. Lawrence E. Frank
Dr. Frank Fremont-Smith
Dr. Ralph W. Gerard
Dr. G. E. Hutchinson
Dr. Heinrich Klüver
Dr. Lawrence S. Kubie
Dr. Rafael Lorente de No
Dr. Margaret Mead
Dr. F. S. C. Northrop
Mr. Walter Pitts
Dr. Gerhardt von Bonin
Dr. Heinz von Foerster
Dr. John von Neumann

Members expected,
but not yet heard from

Dr. Gregory Bateson
Mr. J. H. Bigelow
Dr. Arturo S. Rosenblueth
Dr. Hans Lukas Teuber
Dr. Norbert Wiener

Guests for this meeting

Dr. W. Ross Ashby
Director, Research Department
Barnwood House
Gloucester, England

Dr. John R. Bowman
Physical Chemist
Mellon Institute
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Professor Henry Quastler
Physiologist
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dr. Antoine Remond
Biophysicist, Sorbonne
EEG, Salpetriere
Research Assoc. in Psychiatry
Univ. of Ill., Chicago, pro tem

Professor Jerome B. Wiesner
Research Lab. of Electronics
M. I. T.
Cambridge, Mass.

Guests from abroad attending
other Macy meetings and
invited to ours

Dr. Marcel Monnier
Neurophysiologist
Lab. de Neurophysiol. Appliquee
Geneva

Dr. Mottram Torre
Paris

Dr. J. Z. Young
Anatomist
University College
London

Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation

Ninth Conference on Cybernetics

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Feedback Conference on Teleological Mechanisms

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Your obedient servant,

WSM p. encls.

W. S. C. Northrop

[ans 2-11-52]

Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation
Ninth Conference on Cybernetics
March 20 & 21, 1952

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Dr. Alex Bavelas
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Dr. Frank Fremont-Smith
Dr. Ralph W. Gerard
Dr. G. E. Hutchinson
Dr. Heinrich Klüver
Dr. Lawrence S. Kubie
Dr. Rafael Lorente de No
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Dr. F. S. C. Northrop
Mr. Walter Pitts
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Dr. Norbert Wiener

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Director, Research Department
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Physical Chemist
Mellon Institute
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Professor Henry Quastler
Physiologist
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dr. Antoine Remond
Biophysicist, Sorbonne
EEG, Salpetriere
Research Assoc. in Psychiatry
Univ. of Ill., Chicago, pro tem

Professor Jerome B. Wiesner
Research Lab. of Electronics
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Dr. Mottram Torre
Paris

Dr. J. Z. Young
Anatomist
University College
London

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS OF THE
JOSIAH MACY, JR. FOUNDATION CONFERENCES

RE: GUESTS FROM ABROAD

Dr. Knut Kjellberg
Regional Director for Europe
Maternal and Child Welfare Section
World Health Organization
Palais des Nations
Geneva, Switzerland

TO ATTEND: The Sixth Conference on Infancy and Childhood
March 17-18, 1952
Chairman: Dr. Leo Bartemeier
8-259 General Motors Building
Detroit 2, Michigan

DATES OF VISIT: About March 10 to about April

CONTACT: Directly, or address in care of the Foundation
to be held for arrival.

Dr. Knut Kjellberg is the Regional Health Officer for Europe of the World Health Organization. He is in charge of the maternal and child health programs. This includes advice on programs for handicapped children, premature infant care, and the organization of regional conferences on various aspects of child health, such as mental health, nutrition, etc. Another interest of Dr. Kjellberg's is the study of infant mortality, its causes, and prevention.

He will be accompanied by his wife who is particularly interested in nursery schools, being a graduate teacher in that field in Sweden.

BOOK REVIEW: The New England Journal of Medicine.
December 6, 1951. Vol. 245 No. 23

CYBERNETICS: Circular Causal and Feedback Mechanisms in Biologic and Social Systems: Transactions of the Seventh Conference, March 23-24, 1950, New York. Edited by Heinz von Foerster, Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Illinois. Assistant editors: Margaret Mead, American Museum of Natural History, New York, and Hans L. Tueber, Department of Neurology, New York University College of Medicine. 8^o, cloth, 249 pp., with 28 illustrations. New York: Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation, 1951. \$3.50.

This new volume of a standard series contains eight papers on varying subjects. Two papers may be especially noted: one on digital motions in the central nervous system and one on the relation of symbolic function in language formation and in neurosis.

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS OF THE
JOSIAH MACY, JR. FOUNDATION CONFERENCES

RE: GUESTS FROM ABROAD

Dr. J.Z. Young
Department of Anatomy
University College
Gower Street
London, W.C. 1, England

TO ATTEND: The Third Conference on Nerve Impulse,
March 3-4, 1952
Chairman: Dr. H. Houston Merritt
Neurological Institute
710 West 168th Street
New York 32, N.Y.

ARRIVAL DATE: March 2, 1952

CONTACT: Directly, or address in care of the Foundation to
be held for arrival.

Dr. J.Z. Young, Professor of Anatomy at the University College, London, England, is a leading authority in the field of functional neuroanatomy. Among his many outstanding contributions may be mentioned the introduction of the giant axon of squid into neurophysiology. This preparation has become of paramount importance as a tool for the analysis of the conduction of nerve impulses. However, the wide scope of Professor Young's interests, his great knowledge, and the originality of his ideas have made him an inspiring and stimulating leader in our present concepts of the organization and function of the nervous system.

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS OF THE
JOSIAH KILCH, JR. FOUNDATION CONFERENCES

RE: GUESTS FROM ABROAD

Dr. Marcel Monnier
Laboratoire de Neurophysiologie Appliquee
14, rue Barthelemy-Menn
Geneva, Switzerland

TO ATTEND: The Third Conference on PROBLEMS OF CONSCIOUSNESS,
March 10-11, 1952
Chairman: Dr. David Graham Wright
81 President Avenue
Providence 6, Rhode Island

CONTACT: Directly, or address in care of the Foundation
to be held for arrival.

Dr. Marcel Monnier is a specialist in neurophysiology, as applied to human problems. He was trained by, and worked with, Dr. W.R. Hess in Zurich for a number of years. Dr. Hess, as you perhaps know, was awarded the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1949 for the work he had done on localization of sleep centers and unconsciousness centers in animals by stimulation and by ablation experiments. Dr. Monnier served as first assistant to Dr. Hess until about five years ago when he, himself, became professor at the Institute of Physiology at the University of Zurich. Now as the Director of the Laboratory of Applied Neurophysiology he has, following Dr. Hess' retirement, carried on the active research work and experiments on consciousness in an attempt to find what centers and pathways are involved in different states of consciousness.

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS OF THE
JOSIAH MACY, JR. FOUNDATION CONFERENCES

RE: GUESTS FROM ABROAD

Dr. A.H.T. Robb-Smith
Professor of Pathology
Oxford University
Oxford, England

TO ATTEND: The Third Conference on CONNECTIVE TISSUES,
February 14-15, 1952.
Chairman: Dr. W. Paul Holbrook
Southwestern Clinic & Research Institute
Tucson, Arizona

CONTACT: Directly, or address in care of the Foundation
to be held for arrival.

Dr. Robb-Smith's interests are in the field of ground substance of connective tissues and has done work on the effect of clostridium infection. He has been using the electron microscope in his studies of basal membrane.

He will be accompanied by his wife Dr. Margaret N. Pickles, who is well-known for her work on hemolytic disease in the newborn. She is the author of a monograph on that subject which was published in 1949 by Charles C Thomas.

from letter sent, 4 Feb '52

Nashville Tenn

Jan 18/52

Dr. Wiener

Massachusetts Institute of
Technology Dear Sir,

I noticed
in one of our daily papers some
time ago in regard to your
electric glove. To help deaf
hear through fingers

like to get more information
in regard to it

Yours Respectfully

J. M. Gutschler,

47 Woodland St.,
Nashville Tenn,

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

RESEARCH LABORATORY OF ELECTRONICS

CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

February 4, 1952

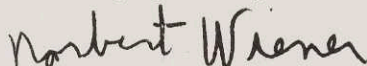
G.M. Gritschler
47 Woodland Street
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Sir or Madam :

Unfortunately, the hearing aid has not yet reached a stage in its development where it can be released to the public.

It is still in the research stage. If and when it is perfected, it will be announced in such a way that you will most certainly hear of it.

Sincerely yours,



Norbert Wiener

NW:z

2-155

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

77 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE

CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.



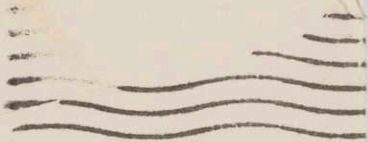
*Washed H
2-20*

G.M. Gritschler
47 Woodland Street
Nashville, Tennessee

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No. 153*

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February 3, 1952

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

Dear Dr. Wiener,

The paltry knowledge I have of cybernetics comes from an article written by you in a scientific periodical several years ago and what I was able to learn from a casual reading of 'Dianetics' was enough to convince me that the latter is the product of a sick mind and that you would disclaim any real connection with it. I would very much appreciate a letter from you to that effect so that I would be all the better armed to disabuse the minds of several of my friends of the notion that dianetics is a valid form of mental therapy. They mention your name with veneration, but they include Ron Hubbard in the same breath.

Thank you,
Sincerely yours,

Mel Simon

Mel Simon

123 1/2 North Harper Ave.

Los Angeles 48, California.

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[ans. 2/6/52]

Directors' Guild
Hollywood, Calif.

Handwritten initials or signature

Dear Mr. Hitchcock:

Dr. Morris E. Chafetz, my daughter, Peggy, and myself, Prof Norbert Wiener, have conceived a story which we feel would be of interest to you as a possible movie.

Since I have just published two books, "Cybernetics", and "The Human Use of Human Beings", and since I am a professor of Mathematics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology I am quite familiar with the difficulty a man of your position must encounter.

I am writing this letter in the hope that you may be able to furnish me with the ^{necessary} information ~~for~~ ^{for} submitting this story to you ^{for your} by the ^{+ ethical} proper means. ^{inspection}

Very truly yours

February 4, 1952

Mr. Alfred Hitchcock
Care of The Directors' Guild
Hollywood, California

Dear Mr. Hitchcock:

I am very much an admirer of your technique of the suspense and horror movie, and I appreciate the amount of careful thought and construction which have gone into your work. Like many of your audience I have from time to time believed that I have come across situations which could be employed by you. I know how much you must be annoyed by chiselers who approach you with the intention of tying you up in a plagiarism suit as well as by legitimate but stupid correspondents who do not realize the risk you run in answering fan mail and the time it takes you.

Let me then tell you just who I am in order to establish a presumption of my good faith and that you may know that I stand in a position in which I should be absolutely destroyed by any breach of good faith. My name is Norbert Wiener and I am Professor of Mathematics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. I have recently published two books. Cybernetics was published by John Wiley and Sons and is concerned with communication and control in the machine and in the animal. The Human Use of Human Beings was published by Houghton-Mifflin. You will find my personal record in Who's Who or in American Men of Science.

Now to business. I have recently been in Mexico working in a scientific laboratory where I have run into a combination of characters and even of possible situations lending themselves ideally to a suspense and horror movie of the type in which you are expert. Together with my daughter, Miss Peggy Wiener, and an American doctor, Dr. Morris E. Chafetz, we have written a synopsis of the proposed movie. Because we are without experience in screen technique, we have not attempted to go further and write it up as a scenario. This synopsis has been registered with The Authors' Guild in New York, and we should be delighted to pass it on to you for examination if and when it should be possible.

I can understand the difficulty a man in your position finds

Mr. Alfred Hitchcock - 2

February 4, 1952

with unsolicited material, and I shall be perfectly ready to accept a letter from you indicating that you do not wish to receive the document. I should regret this, both from my own point of view and from yours as I am sincerely convinced that we have laid our hands on an original and amusing situation.

If, then, you see any way clear to submitting our document either directly to yourself or to some person who can report to yourself, I shall be most delighted. Please let me know of your decision at the earliest opportunity.

Very sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener
Professor of Mathematics

hbb

My Dear Mr. Hitchcock,

I am writing on behalf of a group of three of us who are working for the time being in Mexico City. Our group includes Dr. Morris Chafez, an American physician engaged in medical work in Mexico, my daughter, Peggy, and myself, a professor of mathematics at M.I.T. engaged in physiological research. I refer you to my two recently published books, "Cybernetics" and "The Human Use of Human Beings" for further information about myself. We are all aficionados of the detective story and the story of suspense and are in particular admirers of your ability and technique for transferring these stories to the screen.

A situation has come to our attention involving what we consider an almost perfect setup for a screenplay of suspense against a background which is both unusual from the point of view of the public and has as well a certain ~~amusement~~ quasi-exotic charm.

The place is a hospital for the study of heart diseases. There are some laboratories situated in an isolated modernistic pavilion, and this is where our story occurs. It is an up-to-date organization in every way in which chemists^{ists}, physiology and pharmacologists work in their investigations, not only of the heart itself but of other medical which may throw light on the study of the heart and circulation. The chief of the laboratories is one of the great physiologists of the world. He is a vigorous, downright person with the highest scientific ideals and a limitless driving force which will not let him be satisfied with any half solution of his problems. His nickname is the slave driver but this name is applied in the most loving way as everyone down to the janitor knows the the man he drives hardest is himself. He paces the floor like a caged lion and his chief antipathy in life is those "visiting firemen" of American science who come down to superfluous conventions in Mexico and try to show their own importance by taking his time as laboratory guests.

Under the "jefe" are a number of workers from various countries

he is quite certain that he can get away with anything.

There remains the janitor. He is a peon by origin - but such a sophisticated peon. He is ~~x~~ tall, thin, gawky and self-deprecatory, and he speaks Spanish of such refinement that when we are writing a scientific paper one question we always ask ourselves is, "how would the janitor have said this?" He also speaks a fair amount of English and on one occasion is said to have reproved two sky-larking lab boys with the solemn statement, "That conduct is not worthy of an international scientist." He worships the jefe and is a minor trial to him by insisting that the barber and the bootblack come to his office to perform their respective functions in solemn formality. He is religious and we have not the slightest doubt that he prays for the success of the experiments.

My dear Mr. Hitchcock,

I am writing on behalf of a group of three of us who are working for the King Society at the Inst. Nat. Card. in Mexico City. Our group included Dr. Morris Chafetz, ~~an~~ American physician engaged in medical work in Mexico; ^{my} myself, a professor of Math. at the M. I. T. engaged in ~~joint~~ ^{physiological research} ~~at the I.N.C. & my daughter, 1957,~~ ^{at the I.N.C. & my daughter, 1957,} a recent graduate of Tufts College.

We are all aficionados of the detective novel & the story of suspense & are in particular admirers of your ability & technique for transferring these stories to the screen.

A situation has come to our attention involving what we consider an almost perfect setup for a screenplay of suspense against a background which is both unusual from the point of view of the general public of ~~the~~ as well as a certain quasi-exotic charm at least to the American moviegoer.

Let me first describe the general situation of work at the INC. as this is the background, which we are suggesting for a movie. The greater part of the Inst. is a hosp. for the study of heart diseases. The hosp. as such does not occur in the story we are writing, but I should like for the sake of completing your impression of the situation to say a few words about it.

It is perhaps the first hosp. in the world devoted to diseases of the heart, & its director, Dr. Ignazio Chaverz is a very famous medical man trained in France, who is devoting the greater part of his efforts to this great work of science & humanitarianism. He is admirably his Institution & an exceptional respect for the independence of his constituent members & this may be seen in particular emphasis in the laboratories.

The labs. are situated in an isolated modernistic pavilion built to the aid of local philanthropists & equipped in part through the assistance of the Rockefeller Foundation.

It is an up-to-date organization
in every way in which chemists, physiologists,
& pharmacologists unite in their in-
vestigations - not only of the heart
itself - but of other medical
matters which may throw light
on the study of the heart & circulation.
The chief of the labs. is A. Rosen-
bluth, one of the great physiologists
of the world & the former right
hand man of Cannon of Harvard.
He is a vigorous, down-right person
with the highest scientific ideals &
a limitless driving force which
will not let him be satisfied with
any half solution of his problems.
His nick name is the slave-
driver, but ~~slave~~ slave driver
is applied in the most loving
way, as everyone down to the

the janitor knows that the man
he drives hardest is himself.

He paces the floor like a caged
lion, his chief ambiguity in life
is those "visiting freshmen" of American
scientists, who come down to superfluous
conventions in Mexico & try to show
their own importance by taking his
time as laboratory guests. They go back
to the stable coast of having shaken
the hand of the great man, ~~which~~
Thus, they give rise to an invasion of
more of their own crowd, who fancy
they are gratifying "the jefe" by a
condescending admiration of his setup.

Under the jefe are an number
of workers from various countries
among whom are several Americans.

~~I, myself (professor Weir) am a mathematician~~
I, myself, Professor Weir ~~am~~ in Bristol

in the mathematical techniques of the
~~old~~ study of electrical phenomena
of nerves & we are continuing
under Rockefeller auspices a
collaboration, which began in the
states ^{some} 17 years ago.

Dr. Chapin divides his time be-
tween a medical post. in the
city of Mexico & ~~a job~~ as a
research fellow in physiology &
junior colleague & factotum to the
two of us. Another American
doctor is studying the circulation
of the heart & is using up two
dogs an experiment in running a study
of the heart effect in a transplanted
heart. My daughter, Peggy, is a
volunteer
assistant in these experiments.

Our prize exhibit is Dr. Sodi-Pallares!
He is a pharmacologist & toxicologist
& is chemical analyst for the Federal

District police force. He has ^{discovered} more new poisons in Mexican plants than anyone else I can think of & I believe that he is secretly hoping for the day when some of these will make their first criminal appearance. Since they have just come into the medical literature, it can scarcely be expected that they have any recognized tests.

Sodi-Pallares is a handsome man ^{of} middle height, dark complexion & with a handle-bar mustache, & is quite aware of his striking appearance. The embrace or friendly embrace between men - is a recognized Mexican custom, but nobody but Sodi performs it in a stiff & ritualistic way or

Each encounter. Sodi is an easy
chess player, but his chess is not
that recognized by the textbooks.
His knights have a habit of covering
an extra square at each move, &
if you are not attentive you
will find that your pieces dis-
appear from the board ~~then~~ under
rather inexplicable circumstances.
Sodi does all this with the
sweetest extreme good nature &
as a matter of pride & principle.
When you insist that the game is
to be sin trengos (without cheating)
he will appeal to you like a
little child for just one more
strategy.

He carries his pride in his
own cleverness far further than
this. He has a beautiful wife

but in a most notorious Don Juan-
even by Mexican standards - which
are scarcely exciting. He takes
cat's heads from the laboratory
& emulates the Tivaro Indians of
the upper Amazon by skinning
them to the proportion of the
end of one's thumb. His apartment
is a museum of religious statuary
for which he uses hat racks, & his
dining room is a copy of an
old-fashioned pupuier or booze-
joint inclusive of "John". On the
walls are inscriptions in which
extremely improper Spanish conjures
with G.I. English. He is a hell of
a fellow & he knows it, & he is
quite certain that he can get
away with anything.

There remains Orona. He is the fainter & is a person by origin - but such a sophisticated person! He is thin, tall, gawky & self-deprecating. He speaks his Spanish of such refinement that when we are writing a scientific paper our question we always ask ourselves is "How would Orona have said this?" He also speaks a fair amount of English & on one occasion he is said to have reproved two shy, larking lab boys to the solemn statement "That conduct is not worthy of an individualist scientist."

Orona, ~~the jefe~~ works the jefe & is a minor trial to him by insisting that the bank no the book bank come to his office & perform their functions in

stem formality. Olvera is
religiously wise not the
slightest doubt that he prays
for the success of the wife's
experiments. I hope that the
newer leads to a minor miracle,
because a miracle represents
a nasty interference to the due
course of scientific research.

You must remember that this
Heart Inst. is in Mexico - the old
land of human sacrifices & hearts
extracted by obsidian knives.
We have, indeed, a magnificent
mural of the hist. of cardiology
by Diego Rivera - but it says
nothing of all these things. If
our suggestion for a movie
should find favor, we should
supplement this mural by a

private - but non-existing mural -
in the laboratory partition. This
mural should show a very Indian
face, phys. subjects opening the
pericardium of a heart. The illustration
should come from below &
in front & should cast
nursing figures on the back
wall. These figures should re-
solve themselves into the high
priest of the war god - Wicheedy-
Podley, opening an abscess knife
the pericardium of a human sacrificed
victim. The painting should be
in latest manner of Diego Rivera.

So much for the background.
The action of the movie follows
immediately from the characters.
We suppose a professor &
an exhibitioner scientific
administrator & a policeman

+ exhibitionistic wife freshly down
 from the U.S. is a manifest
 desire to bring sweethearts & light
 into the paths of the infidel. Let
 there also be a suggestion
 that he has some control
 over the funds of the Institute
 + that he intends to use this
 control to divert some of the
 to his own lab. Let this find the
 character cones. To sodi in
 a point in which he would like
 to know ~~so~~ rather more
 about the actions of some
 of his drugs on a human patient.
 A drop or two more or less
 of blood will not show in
 the laboratory + there will be
 angle incubator shelves
 to receive cobaltated protei

refuse. Nothing could be squalid than
the disposal of the waste products
of an illicit toxicological investigation.
To cap the climax our intrepid
experimenters remove a doghead
from the stand where it is being
perfused by the blood of another
sick dog & replace it in
the heart of the "dirty friend".
As a member of the police I is
in a position to state a rumor
that the vanished administrator
has been seen around some
night clubs under rather
undignified circumstances & has
seen fit to disappear for the
time being.

The blood that is used for per-
fusion has been treated & heparin
& will not clot. However, the
fan the notices - though he does
not notice at the time that he
does notice - that the blood
on the floor does not run off
as it ought to, but remains as
a sticky, sticky clot. This
attracts no attention until
one of the scientists around the
place - who may be Mexican or
American - begins to reflect
on the chemist's chess game & begins
to wonder what sort of a character
it indicates. There are various
intermediate stages, which
can be introduced, where
over villain, sure & confident
of his own unrectitude, tries

to needle those about him to
a half-assertion of truths that
may have two meanings. At any
rate his security depends
entirely on his audacity & the
fact that he is not seriously
suspected. Once suspicion
really begins to come to a head
& the janitor's half forgotten
observation is taken at its
true value, there will be
a chance of using various
serological tests which will
unfailingly distinguish between
man & animal blood & may
go further than that in the
identification of the victim.
Probably these tests will
have to be made by the
suspected person himself, but

We shall suppose that this
assistant is an eager beaver
& will take the precautions
that his master is trying to
nullify. At any rate, the
culprit will have a wide
selection of efficient methods
for securing his own interests.

We are accompanying this
by a sort of unbusinesslike scenario.
We know that is not in shape
to be used as it stands, but it
may suggest to a more practical
head what should be done. We
hope that you will agree to
us that our idea has great
possibilities. If it should
come to the point where
you could see your way

clear to go ahead with it, we
suggest very strongly that
the movie be made in Mexico,
to the use of both Spanish-
speaking & English-speaking actors
to give the genuine affect
of the mixed scientific life
which is so characteristic of
our group, & to make the
film available for both a English
& Spanish-speaking markets. The
exoticness of Mexico - as Mexico -
should be played up & down the
remarkable collaboration, high-level
& binational environment which
actually exists about our
work should be played up.
You will see by our trial scenario
that there are plenty of opportunities,

for joy, honor, & gain more,
but we must defer to
your experience as to how to
sugar-coat the essential
sardism of the situation - what-
ever is in the public likes.

We know that persons in
your position are very subject
to annoyance in the form of dis-
honest plays - suits & the like.
This may prevent you from looking
at material which is submitted to
you in this way. Let me only
say that I will understand you
completely if you turn this material
down on the basis of this fear, but
that I have an established
reputation & position &
apart from the fact that I

dispute this dirty business as much
as you can possibly do, I
would be vulnerable to the least
suspicion of a lack of fair play.

Sincerely yours.

14	28
14	22
14	<u>19</u>
8	69
<u>19</u>	

319 West 105th St.
New York 25, N. Y.
February 4, 1952

Dear Professor Wiener,

As you may recall, I have written you before. I have been too busy with my thesis to follow up completely the advice you gave me--of whom to see around N. Y. about cybernetics.

I have been seeing whether there is any mathematical structure in the realm of ethics--in the reaching of decisions based on the comparison of non numerical objects (values). Thus far I see only that the mathematics of sets and maps may be useful in description--especially of the relation between ideals and specific actions. However, I shall continue to work on it. Do you have any suggestions?

Recently, in glancing through some periodicals, I noticed the mention of "a scientist prominent in cybernetics who refused to give information to the Guided Missiles department on the grounds that he could not hold himself responsible for the results of his action." Recalling a comment you made in your book Cybernetics I am taking the guess that the man referred to is you.

It seems a rare action indeed today. The artists disclaim responsibility--but believe in art for art's sake. The businessmen are busy running their businesses, etc. Young scientists such as myself, soon to step into the world of actions and implications and especially the inducements of industry and defense jobs, face a clearcut moral problem.

Do you believe that refusal to lend our talents to the military is a reasonable action--not just one that turns the balance of power in the favor of those without scruples?

I would appreciate very much your answer to these questions. Though I now subsist on fellowships, I want to answer this question ahead of time.

Sincerely,

Sherman Stein

[ans 2/13/52]

February 4, 1952

Mr. Alfred Hitchcock
Care of The Directors' Guild
Hollywood, California

Dear Mr. Hitchcock:

I am very much an admirer of your technique of the suspense and horror movie, and I appreciate the amount of careful thought and construction which have gone into your work. Like many of your audience I have from time to time believed that I have come across situations which could be employed by you. I know how much you must be annoyed by chiselers who approach you with the intention of tying you up in a plagiarism suit as well as by legitimate but stupid correspondents who do not realize the risk you run in answering fan mail and the time it takes you.

Let me then tell you just who I am in order to establish a presumption of my good faith and that you may know that I stand in a position in which I should be absolutely destroyed by any breach of good faith. My name is Norbert Wiener and I am Professor of Mathematics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. I have recently published two books. Cybernetics was published by John Wiley and Sons and is concerned with communication and control in the machine and in the animal. The Human Use of Human Beings was published by Houghton-Mifflin. You will find my personal record in Who's Who or in American Men of Science.

Now to business. I have recently been in Mexico working in a scientific laboratory where I have run into a combination of characters and even of possible situations lending themselves ideally to a suspense and horror movie of the type in which you are expert. Together with my daughter, Miss Peggy Wiener, and an American doctor, Dr. Morris E. Chafetz, we have written a synopsis of the proposed movie. Because we are without experience in screen technique, we have not attempted to go further and write it up as a scenario. This synopsis has been registered with The Authors' Guild in New York, and we should be delighted to pass it on to you for examination if and when it should be possible.

I can understand the difficulty a man in your position finds

Mr. Alfred Hitchcock - 2

February 4, 1952

with unsolicited material, and I shall be perfectly ready to accept a letter from you indicating that you do not wish to receive the document. I should regret this, both from my own point of view and from yours as I am sincerely convinced that we have laid our hands on an original and amusing situation.

If, then, you see any way clear to submitting our document either directly to yourself or to some person who can report to yourself, I shall be most delighted. Please let me know of your decision at the earliest opportunity.

Very sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener
Professor of Mathematics

hbb

My dear Mr. Sibley:

I consider Dr. Deutsch a young Sociologist of outstanding ability. As I am not a Sociologist myself, I am not in a position to give the names of other people of approximately the same rank, and I am in particular hampered by the fact that Dr. Deutsch represents a development in Sociology which is essentially different from, and in my opinion running far ahead of, the major part of existing developments. I regard Dr. Deutsch as my successor and disciple in applying to Sociology the ideas of communication and control theory which are embodied in my book, Cybernetics, and I know of no man more competent to carry this work to a successful conclusion. As this is essentially the research project he proposes, you have my answer to your Question 2.

As to Question 3, I am confident in both the ability and character of Dr. Deutsch, and I can think of no better man to whom to entrust this share of my own interests. As to Question 4, Dr. Deutsch is both young enough to work with full energy, and experienced enough to work with full judgment.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

February 4, 1952

Professor of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

6801 Bay Parkway
Brooklyn, 4, New York
Feb. 5, 1952

Dear Prof. Wiener,

A copy of a paper that I have written is enclosed for your consideration. It is an application of the Theory of Transfinite Sets to the notions of Entropy and Time. If the main assumption of this paper is valid, then a paper that I am preparing on the field of Quantum Mechanics should have important applications.

Since the ideas presented are unusual I have tried to start thereasoning from colloquial levels.

Yours truly,

William M. Honig
William M. Honig

GRANT COMPANY
114 SANSOME STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 4

February 5, 1952.

Dr. Norbert Wiener,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

It is my understanding that you have developed an aid to hearing through finger-tip manipulation. If available, I should greatly appreciate receiving information on this subject. The young woman for whom I am inquiring, a member of the Grant family, is totally deaf, suffering from advanced Otosclerosis (?) with nerve involvement. She is unable to use a hearing-aid instrument and at present is completely dependent on a limited ability to read lips.

Thanking you for your courtesy and attention in the matter,

Sincerely yours,

Mae McCabe

M

Assistant Secretary

From letter sent Feb. 13, 1952

Berkeley, California
6 February 1952

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

Dear Mr. Wiener:

Professor Northrop of Yale has suggested to me that I might communicate to you a proposed technique of historiography. Mr. Northrop mentioned your name because the technique depends upon a machine.

At the present time the machine proposed does not use electronic elements, but I have long thought that an entirely electronic system would be practical. A civilian consultant to the Navy happily made the same suggestion on his own initiative during a conference in which I explained the procedure of historiographical construction proposed by me. The same electronic system would probably suggest itself to you.

The background of ideas for my proposed technique is to be found in the work of Frederick J. Teggart. For many years he made an inquiry into historiography, its theories, methods, and techniques. A central conclusion based upon adequate evidence and analysis of this evidence is that narrative historiography cannot serve the purposes of a science of man. We have found out how to validate fact but for presentation or synthesis we generally use narrative construction. The late Professor Teggart made several concrete suggestions as how to go about creating a better system of presentation. The most valuable suggestions along this line refer to the marshalling of the data for presentation; he did not successfully solve the problem of presentation itself. The extent of his solution may be gleaned from his book, Rome and China.

I have as my goal the discovery and invention of a procedure-and-product of presentation which would be acceptable for sciences of man. The extent of my first proposed solution may be appraised in a set of hectographed essays. If you might be interested in reading these essays, I would like to send a copy to you.

Altho Mr. Northrop suggested that I write to you, I have long wished to write to you on my own initiative: first, because I have felt that you would by nature be interested; second, because at one point I quote you upon the meaning and use of an interval of time; third, because the blend of your curiosity and reputation would enhance the chances of securing sufficient funds to adequately test and demonstrate the proposed technique; and fourth, because you are in position to advise or discuss my technique with an MIT man who is apparently chief civilian scientist for some Air Force research projects (several Air Force officers are "sold" on the technique, but their civilian adviser has to make the decision to go ahead).

Please write me a card if you wish to quickly scan my proposal.

Very sincerely yours,

C. Parker Chiapella

C. Parker Chiapella
1717 La Loma Avenue,
Berkeley 9, California

[ans 2/4/52]

February 6, 1952

Mr. Mel Simon
123 -1/2 North Harper Avenue
Los Angeles 48, California

Dear Mr. Simon:

Thank you for your letter. You are quite right--I have never had any connections whatever with Dianetics. On several occasions, persons connected with Dianetics have tried to use my name in support of the book, the organization, or the persons involved. It has been necessary for me to have my lawyer write them a letter denying any connection with Dianetics, any approval of it or any approval of the persons implicated.

If I hear again that my name is being used by the Dianetics people in Los Angeles or elsewhere as in any way approving of their humbug, I shall take steps to enforce my legal rights.

Thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb



UAW • CIO

WALTER P. REUTHER.....PRESIDENT
EMIL MAZEY.....SECRETARY-TREASURER
RICHARD GOSSER.....VICE-PRESIDENT
JOHN W. LIVINGSTON..VICE-PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AIRCRAFT & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA

Solidarity House

8000 EAST JEFFERSON AVE.
DETROIT 14, MICHIGAN
PHONE LORAIN 8-4000

February 5, 1952

Dr. Norbert Weiner
Professor of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Doctor Weiner:

The Fifth International Education Conference of the UAW-CIO will be held in Cleveland from April 3-6, 1952, and will be attended by about 2,500 UAW Local Union Education Committee members and Local Union officers.

These conferences are now held in the years between our biennial Constitutional Conventions. At the conferences we try to provide a forum where we can discuss important problems and issues free from the legislative pressures which operate during our conventions. I might point out that it was at the Fourth Education Conference that the UAW-CIO formulated the basic program around which our collective bargaining efforts for pensions and medical care were subsequently conducted. At this coming Education Conference our Union will direct its attention to the many fundamental problems facing the free labor movement of the world in its efforts to fight effectively for peace, freedom, and economic justice.

Our Union would be honored to have you speak at a session of the Conference during which we will discuss the subject "Achieving and Maintaining Full Employment in a Free Society". We hope that you could organize your presentation on this general subject in such a manner that our delegates could evaluate the impact of science and improved technology on their jobs. Leon Keyserling, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors, will share the platform with you and will speak on likely economic developments in the future.

Dr. Norbert Weiner

- 2 -

February 5, 1952

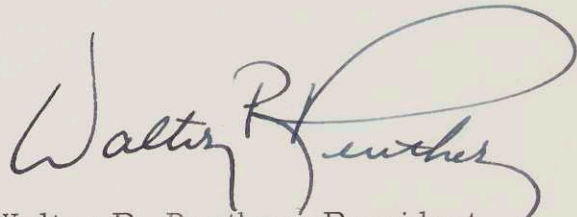
We plan to have the General Session in which you would participate on Friday, April 4th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The Conference itself will be so organized that after your talk the General Session will divide into small groups for face to face discussion of what has been said. These discussion groups will meet from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Friday afternoon. At 3:30 the General Session will reconvene for a question and answer period directed at a somewhat broader panel which would include Leon Keyserling and yourself.

We are most anxious to have you with us at this meeting, and I am sure that you would find the Education Conference a wonderfully satisfying experience. I am enclosing a call to the Conference which gives more details of the program.

Within the limits of our budget, we will provide a suitable honorarium and, of course, we will pay for any expenses you incur attending the meeting.

I would be grateful to you if you would let me know promptly if it is possible for you to accept this invitation.

Sincerely yours,



Walter P. Reuther, President
INTERNATIONAL UNION
UAW - CIO

WPR:ocl
liu 72 cio

[ans 2/7/52]

February 7, 1952

Mr. Walter P. Reuther
International Union, UAW-CIO
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit 14, Michigan

Dear Mr. Reuther:

I appreciate very much the invitation which you have extended to me to the Fifth International Education Conference to be held in Cleveland in April.

The fact is, however, that I have just returned from a very rigorous year's work in France and in Mexico together with a large quantity of lecturing and writing, and I am now under doctor's orders to take it easy and rest. I am afraid that, although I am in no danger, these orders are of the "or else" sort. I have therefore cut down my activity to my own original scientific articles and my books. Don't think that I won't continue to be a thorn in the sides of those who need thorns stuck in them; but big meetings are out for me from now on.

With full appreciation of your interest, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:hbb

February 7, 1952

Mr. Henry W. Simon
Simon and Schuster, Inc.
630 Fifth Avenue
New York 20, New York

My dear Mr. Simon:

Your letter and check arrived some days ago, and I would have answered it before except for the confusion of resuming my work at MIT.

I am very grateful and understand perfectly what you have bought, namely an option on my new book. I have already begun the work of revision, and by the time I have fifty pages in such a state as suits myself, my secretary, and my other critics, you shall receive it. Then we can find out whether it is the red or the green light. If it is the red light, I shall immediately forward back your check to you; and if it is the green light, I shall go ahead with the book.

I thank you very much for the courtesy of the interview you have given me.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:hbb

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

RIVERSIDE 9-8000

February 8, 1952

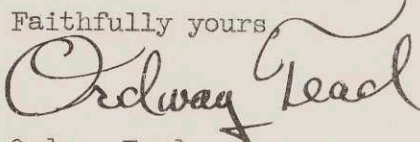
Dear Professor Wiener:

As indicated in our January invitation, the program committee of the Conference is eager to have you undertake a paper for its discussion of "Symbols and Values." It occurs to us that perhaps our original letter went astray, so we are enclosing the formal invitation which gives all the detailed information regarding our plans.

Our invitation is not a form letter sent broadcast, rather it went to carefully selected individuals, and we are really eager that your experience and wisdom should be brought to bear on this vital subject. Outside the gap which we are hoping you will fill, the program is shaping up well.

Because we have not heard from you to date, we would be willing to extend the deadline for receipt of your paper to June 1st.

We all hope that we may hear from you in the very near future and enclose a form for your convenience.

Faithfully yours,

Ordway Tead
Chairman, 1952 Conference

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

[Ans 2/11/52]

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

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,

Ordway Tead
Chairman, 1952 Conference

Wendell M. Stanley
Vice-Chairman

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.)

GENERAL ECOLOGY
HUMAN ECOLOGY
CONSERVATION
LAND USE

CHARLES C. ADAMS
149 MANNING BOULEVARD
ALBANY 3, NEW YORK

FEB 11 1952

Prof. Norbert Wiener,
Mass. Inst. of Technology,
Cambridge, Mass.,

Dear Professor Wiener: I would
appreciate it very much if you
could spare me a reprint of your
paper with Rosenbluth and Bigelow on
"Behavior, Purpose & Teleology, 1943, and
greatly obliged.

Very sincerely
Char. C. Adams.

6801 Bay Parkway
Brooklyn, 4, New York
February 11, 1952

Dear Prof. Wiener,

Sober reflection prompts me to extend to you my sincere apologies for sending you the paper, "A Consideration of the Notions of Entropy and Time." A reader of this paper would infer from the method of presentation and the general tone of the paper, only one idea: crackpot. I would appreciate it if you would return the paper to me, and for the present, forget the whole thing.

Yours truly,

William Honig
William Honig

[ans 2/13/52]

Feb. 13, 1952

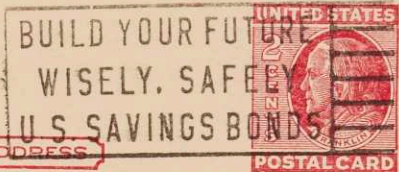
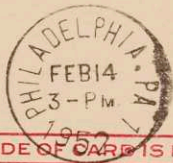
Dear Professor Wiener,

In your book, *Cybernetics*, page 109, footnote 1, a forthcoming book by Wiener and Doob on statistical theory which involves an extension of existing methods of sampling is mentioned. I wish to ask if this book has been published, or will be soon, as I am much interested in this subject.

Very truly,
Robert P. Coleman

29 Snowden Rd.
Bala-Cynwyd, Penna.

[ans 2/19/52]



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Professor N. Wiener
Mathematics Department
M. I. T.
Cambridge, Mass.

February 11, 1952

Mr. C. Parker Chiapella
1717 La Loma Avenue
Berkeley 9, California

Dear Mr. Chiapella:

Your letter finds me at a time when I must greatly contract my efforts and contacts because of extreme fatigue after a year of work abroad. Will you therefore pardon me if I do not give any explicit answer to your question.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:hb

February 11, 1952

Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation
565 Park Avenue
New York 21, New York

Gentlemen:

In view of my great fatigue and the amount of lecturing which I have done in recent years, I find it necessary to cut out absolutely all lecturing and participation in congresses.

In addition, I feel that the Macy meetings on Cybernetics have served their purpose, which was that of establishing this discipline as a matter of general interest. I think they have come to a stage where they are likely to be repetitious and not worth the very considerable expense of organizing them. May I request, therefore, that I be left out of the list of members of these meetings from now on.

As to Mr. Young, please tell him that I shall be very glad to see him here in Cambridge, but that I cannot come down to New York. I wish to thank Dr. Fremont-Smith for many past favors.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:hb

February 11, 1952

Mr. Ordway Tead
3080 Broadway
New York 27, New York

Dear Mr. Tead:

I have just come back from a year of study and travel in France and Mexico, and I find that I am so tired that I must radically revise my schedule of work. In particular all lectures and congresses are out for me for a protracted period. I therefore hope that you will excuse me from any participation in your conference on Science, Philosophy, and Religion. I am grateful to you for inviting me to participate, and I hope you will understand that for a considerable time I must confine my work to the most pressing demands of my own research.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:hb

February 12, 1952

Dr. Mark S. Blumberg
Operations Research Office
Johns Hopkins University
6410 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, Maryland

Dear Dr. Blumberg:

Professor Wiener has asked me to tell you that he has no reprints of "Purposeful and Non-Purposeful Behavior," published in Philosophy of Science in October, 1950. He advises that you may be able to secure one from his co-author, Dr. Arturo Rosenblueth, Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia, Calzada de la Piedad, 300, Mexico D.F., Mexico.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. G.B. Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

February 13, 1952

Mr. Emil N. Dern, Jr.
565 Rosedale St., Apt. 5
Pittsburgh 21, Penna.

Dear Mr. Dern:

Professor Wiener has asked me to thank you for your request for his autograph and the compliment to him which it implies.

However, Professor Wiener regrets that he does not give his autograph to anyone for collection purposes.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. G.B. Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

13 February 1952

Prof. Foster Harris
School of Journalism
University of Oklahoma
Norman, Oklahoma

Dear Professor Harris:

Professor Wiener has asked me to thank you for your interesting letter of January 22, with its kind comments on Cybernetics and The Human Use of Human Beings.

Professor Wiener has been abroad for a year of rigorous research and lecturing. It is only because he is so tired that he is unable to give full attention to your letter. We shall put it aside, however, and it may be that later in the spring he will write to you again.

Meanwhile, he is most appreciative of your thoughts.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. G.B. Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

February 13, 1952

Mr. William Honig
6801 Bay Parkway
Brooklyn 4, New York

Dear Mr. Honig:

Professor Wiener has asked me to return your manuscript to you. He urges me to tell you that its return does not indicate any evaluation of it at all. Professor Wiener has been abroad for a year of rigorous work and research, and his fatigue on returning to MIT has made it necessary for him to cut his activities to the barest minimum. Unfortunately, the consideration of unsolicited manuscripts is one of the activities which must be out for the present.

Please accept his thanks for sending the manuscript to him and his apology for returning it unread.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. G.B. Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

February 13, 1952

Mr. R.S. Hunt
c/o "Homefield"
Bisley Road
Stroud
Gloucestershire
England

Dear Mr. Hunt:

Professor Wiener has returned from his year abroad so tired that all his activities have been reduced to the barest minimum. One matter which he wanted to attend to was the reading of the manuscript which you sent to him through Professor Haldane in January of 1951. However, Professor Wiener regrets that he has not had the time during the past year, and will not have the time in the near future, to study it. I shall be happy to return the manuscript to you if you wish.

In a letter to Professor Haldane, you stated that you had hoped to study at MIT, especially in view of your interest in Cybernetics. Professor Wiener can do no more for you than to suggest that you write to the Dean of the Graduate School to make a direct inquiry.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. G.B. Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

MSS. - purpled. "Two kinds of work"
Filed with "Mss. sent for comment"

12 February 1952

Mr. Orville W. Jafke
1924 Mona Avenue
Muskegon Heights, Michigan

Dear Mr. Jafke:

Professor Wiener has asked me to thank you for your request for his autograph, and the compliment which it implies.

However, Professor Wiener does not give his autograph to anyone for collection purposes.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. G.B. Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

February 13, 1952

Mr. V. Mayes
13 Bannerman Avenue
Prestwich
Manchester, England

My dear Mr. Mayes:

As you may know, Professor Wiener has just returned from a year's absence. He finds himself very tired, and unable to give the kind of attention to his correspondence which he would like to give. He has asked me, therefore, to thank you for your letter, and to express to you his regret that he cannot answer it more fully. It may be that later in the spring he will write to you again.

For your interest, I am enclosing a copy of one of Professor Wiener's letters which was published in 1947 in The Atlantic Monthly, and a copy of another letter published two years later in The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists. Both of these are statements of Professor Wiener's views about his own participation in military projects.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. G.B. Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

13 February 1952

Mr. Philip M. Sherman
Sheldon Court
Ithaca, New York

Dear Mr. Sherman:

Professor Wiener has asked me to thank you for your letter. As you may know, he has been abroad for a year of rigorous lecturing and research, and his great fatigue on his return prevents him from giving as much attention to his correspondence as he would like to.

Any advice pertinent to your program of study will best be given by the Departments of Metallurgy and Physics to which your latest letter says you have written.

If you should decide to come to MIT for graduate study and if you should be admitted, Professor Wiener would be happy to meet you.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. G.B. Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

cc: Mrs. Frances A. Stierhem

February 13, 1952

Mr. Sherman Stein
319 West 105th Street
New York 25, New York

Dear Mr. Stein:

Your letter finds Professor Wiener very tired after a strenuous year abroad. He has asked me to thank you for your letter and to express to you his regret that he cannot give it the attention he would like to.

The question you raise is a very important one, and one about which Professor Wiener is concerned. It may be that later in the spring he will be free to write to you again.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. G.B. Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

DUN'S REVIEW

Published by

DUN & BRADSTREET, INC.
99 CHURCH STREET NEW YORK 8, N.Y.

February 14, 1952

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

This is in connection with our correspondence of last Summer in which we invited you to prepare an article on the subject of cybernetics for publication in "Dun's Review." At that time you were so loaded up with work that it was impossible for you to accept the invitation. We are writing now with the hope that you may be able to undertake the preparation of such an article.

In our original letter of last May 29 we mentioned as possible topics the basic concepts of cybernetics and their importance to business management. There are, of course, a number of social and other implications involved in the development and acceptance of self-regulatory mechanisms. However, since the magazine goes to top business executives representing virtually all the largest companies in the country, it might be better to direct the discussion mainly toward the effects on business management, planning, and policy.

Because of the interest among business men in the significance of electronic devices that in some areas can outmatch the abilities of the human brain and in the impact of such devices on the industrial and economic life of the country, we would like to include in an early number your thoughts and ideas concerning this important subject.

The articles in the magazine usually average about 3,000 words in length, but this is mentioned merely as a rough guide. Some are less and some extend to 3,500 words.

We have purposely avoided mentioning a deadline for this article. While we would like to include it in an early number, it would probably be much more convenient for you to fit it in your schedule than to try to change your schedule to meet a deadline. Perhaps it would be possible to complete the manuscript by the end of March.

As you may recall, it is customary for "Dun's Review" to provide an honorarium for contributors. The usual honorarium is \$100.

It would be especially good if you could accept this invitation and we will be looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Richard L. Kraybill
Richard L. Kraybill
Associate Editor

RLK:RA

[ans 2/19/52]

This looks to be in one devil of a mess
but I'm afraid I can't be helpful in cleaning
it up.

Lawrence Arguimbau.

2-15-52.



3

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.

February 15, 1952

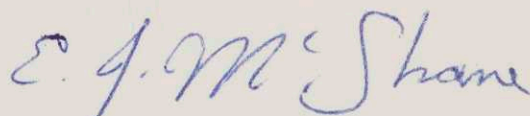
Professor Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

This year I happen to be President of our local chapter of Sigma Xi, and am supposed to invite the speaker for the annual public meeting at the time of the initiation of new members. I am writing you to ask if you would consider delivering this lecture. The honorarium is small. It is usually \$50.00 plus expenses while in Charlottesville, so one question to consider would be whether you expect to be somewhere south of New York in late April or early May. If so, we would accommodate the time of meeting to your schedule.

The audience at such a meeting consists largely of assorted scientists, together with a scattering of interested laymen. This is not an easy type of audience for a mathematician to address but I know by observation that you have made a success of just such occasions. I hope that you will be able to be with us for this ceremony of ours.

Yours sincerely,



E. J. McShane

EJMcS/nt

[unc 2/20/52]

February 15, 1952

Mr. Bill Whitaker
Pi Kappa Alpha House
Auburn, Alabama

Dear Mr. Whitaker:

Professor Wiener has asked me to answer your letter of January 19th. He regrets this delay in writing to you; however, he returned only very recently from an extended absence from MIT, and it has taken a long time to sort out his correspondence.

You must realize, of course, that the articles on Cybernetics and electronic computers which come to Professor Wiener's attention are legion, and that any attempt to sort them out to answer such requests as yours would be far too time-consuming to be considered. Furthermore, much of the information is of a very technical nature. I am enclosing as a "sample" an article describing an electronic differential analyzer. More articles of this sort can be acquired if you write directly to the Documents Room, Research Laboratory of Electronics, MIT, Cambridge 39, Mass.

With most of the more popular treatments you are doubtless familiar. May I suggest one, dealing with the application of electronic machines to factory use. The article, "Robots Run the Works," by John Kord Lagemann, appeared in Nation's Business, March, 1951. You say that you have read Cybernetics; perhaps you would find The Human Use of Human Beings helpful, also. This is Professor Wiener's own more popular treatment of Cybernetics.

I hope this information will be helpful.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. G.B. Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

RALPH PHILIP BOAS, JR.
1725 ORRINGTON AVENUE
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

17 February 1952

Dear Professor Wiener:

Some years ago you proved in a lecture a theorem to the general effect that a Dirichlet series with positive coefficients, if L^2 on its line of convergence near the real axis, is L^2 on the whole line. As far as I have noticed, this has not appeared in print. I can get it, and more general results (but not the L^1 case, unfortunately) incidentally out of some theorems on entire functions and I should like to quote your result as an illustration of possible applications of mine. May I have your permission to do so?

Sincerely yours,

R. P. Boas, Jr.

[ans 2/20/52]

TO Norbert Wiener

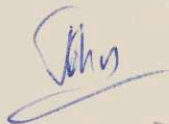
February 17, 1952

From JOHN E. PFEIFFER

1950 -
Some time in the near future I may be preparing a newsurvey of cybernetics--that is, a discussion of trends and research during the past two years. The discussion would include some of the objections of the anti-cyberneticists--and the rebuttals. Recently Mary Brazier called to my attention your "Purposeful and Nonpurposeful Behavior" in answer to Professor Tayler. Could you please send me a reprint as soon as possible?? I understand that little is left of the professor after you get through with him. If there is anything else you might care to send me also, I should be glad to see it. Also, I hope to see you during my next visit to Boston, although I don't know just when that will be.

P.O. Box 152
Old Lyme, Conn.

Sincerely,



[ans 2/19/52]

ROBERT W. MARKS
520 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

February 18, 1952

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I am a graduate student in philosophy in the Graduate Faculty, the New School for Social Research. As part of my work with Dr. Ernest Nagel and Dr. Albert Hofstadter I have designed and constructed an electrical computer for problems in the sentential calculus. I am taking the liberty of writing you in the hope that you might care to know about it.

The machine, which is a development from my degree thesis, "Cybernetic Implications of Some Relationships between Symbolic Logic and Switching Circuits (with special reference to the determination of valid inference from circuit analogues to statement combinations in the sentential calculus)," handles up to 32 statements in a single logical sentence. Using 72 relays and 42 signal lights, the computer will derive a deduction from any combination of premises (up to capacity), and develop all possible deductions from a given statement combination. A reading a memory section will scan and record the conclusions in the sequence of their development. References to the machine's operation and photographs of the several units are scheduled to appear in a forthcoming issue of Scientific American.

If you would at any time be interested in seeing the computer, I would be most happy to demonstrate it for you, whenever you are in New York. I could even bring it to Cambridge -- although the sections are rather bulky.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Marks

[ans 5/26/52]

Guest Speakers

Wednesday, 8:30 P.M.

Apr. 23 — LUTHER EVANS — “Unesco’s Role in International Communications”

Mr. Evans is Librarian of Congress and chairman, U. S. National Commission for Unesco.

Course: Mass Media and International Relations

Arno Huth

Thursday, 8:30 P.M.

Apr. 24 — HUGH MULLAN — “Hospital and Shock Therapies”

Dr. Mullan, psychiatrist and psychoanalyst, is on the staff of Vanderbilt Clinic.

Course: Neuroses and Psychoses

Sara Breitbart, *Chairman*

Music Note

ARTHUR BERGER, music critic, *New York Herald Tribune*, will be the guest of Henry Cowell in his course “The Meaning of Modern Music” Friday, April 25, 8:30 P.M.

Social Research — Spring Issue

CONTENTS

U. S. Defense in Europe ARNOLD BRECHT

The Origin of the Idea of National Right LEO STRAUSS

Labor Unrest in the British

Nationalized Sector ROBERT L. HEILBRONER

Nature, History and Existentialism KARL LÖWITH

What, No Nightingales? GERARD W. SPEYER

Hermann Broch (1886-1951) ERICH KAHLER

Book Reviews

Copies of Social Research may be obtained in the Library, or in Social Research office, 66 West 12th Street, N. Y.

School Dance: Sunday, April 27, 3:30 p.m. 5th fl. Adm. \$1; Guests, \$1.50

VOL. IX, NO. 34
APRIL 21, 1952
NEW SCHOOL BULLETIN
69 WEST 12TH STREET, N. Y. 11. N. Y.
TELEPHONE: OREGON 5-2700

Guest Speakers

The Rev. DONALD HARRINGTON

Minister of the Community Church of New York; vice president, United World Federalists, Inc.

The Answer of World Government

Course: The Spiritual Quest of Modern Man — Carl Hermann Voss, Chairman

APRIL 21 — MONDAY, 8:30 P.M.

LEE K. JAFFE

Director of public relations, Port of New York Authority; president, Government Public Relations Association.

Public Relations in the Port of New York Authority

Course: Government Public Relations — Henry Davis Nadig, Chairman

APRIL 23 — WEDNESDAY, 8:30 P.M.

ROBERT U. REDPATH, Jr.

Consultant on Design and Administration of Employee Benefit Systems.

Pension Planning

Course: Introduction to Estate Planning — Solomon Huber

APRIL 25 — FRIDAY, 2:00 P.M.

For other guest speakers, see page 4.

NEW SCHOOL BULLETIN. Published weekly from September through the first week in June by the NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH at 66 West 12th Street, New York 11, N. Y. Reentered as second class matter July 14, 1950, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

808

CHOOSING AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT

by Alvin Johnson

Under the Constitution we endow the President with full power over the vastest business in the whole world, the administration of the United States, only reserving for the Senate the function of confirming the top figures in the administration. We endow the President with the power to initiate legislation through messages to Congress, and with the power to veto acts of Congress, with only the reservation that the veto can be overridden by House and Senate under the difficult two-thirds rule.

The President is Commander-in-Chief of the Army and can remove or appoint even the highest officers. Foreign relations are in his hand, except where his power runs against the power of the purse.

Who chooses the man to wield this mightiest office in the world? We the people choose between two, occasionally three candidates for office. But who selects the candidates to be voted on? In one-third of the States we have indeed Presidential primaries, but the delegates we vote for are very loosely bound. The plain fact is that the candidates for the Presidency are selected by the professional politicians. We the people have only an indirect influence on the choices of the major parties.

That influence may be dominant when the major parties appear to be equally matched. Then the politicians ask themselves earnestly: Who will command the votes? They rack their brains to determine whom we the people really want for President. When there is great disparity between the parties the politicians have a free hand. The majority party can select anyone, however little known, however competent or incompetent; the minority party can't elect anyone, however well known and competent. So in the election of 1920 the Republicans could safely turn down the two strong candidates, Lowden and Wood, and nominate a notoriously weak man, Harding. The Democrats, having no chance, could as well nominate an unknown — Cox.

In this year of 1952 the two major parties seem evenly matched. Whatever their personal preferences, the politicians are forced to guide themselves by calculating on vote-getting power.

And this means that we the people will have a potent voice in the selection of candidates. The next President will be the choice of the democracy.

The Sequential Logic Computer

For analysis of inference and exhaustive deductions from all possible logical statements, and combinations of statements, in the calculus of propositions.

This machine, developed at the New School by ROBERT W. MARKS, graduate student, as an outgrowth of discussions with Dr. Albert Hofstadter in his courses on Philosophical Analysis and Problems of Logical Theory, for the first time provides an electrical analysis in a matter of seconds of complex problems in logic ordinarily involving long and extensive calculation. A series of photographs of the machine solving problems appeared in the *Scientific American*, March 21.

A STATEMENT BY MR. MARKS:

The theory behind the computer originated with a notion, I had, that consistency in logic was no different from consistency in the communication lines of electrical circuits, and that what was valid in terms of logical inference had its direct analogue in an electrical switching network which permitted a flow of current from source to goal.

The computer, in its present form, will combine up to 32 specific statements into a single logical assertion, and will determine:

- 1) *Whether the entire assertion is logically true or false.*
- 2) *Whether or not there may be certain conditions under which the assertion may be true (or false).*
- 3) *Whether or not a given deduction can be correctly drawn from the combination of facts or statements fed into the machine.*
- 4) *All possible inferences or deductions which can be drawn from any given combination of premises.*

At present, as far as I know, the computer has only theoretical significance. It can solve instantly virtually any problem in the sentential calculus (calculus of propositions). Its limitations in practical application are the limitations of the calculus itself. It has been suggested that possible future applications may lie in the rapid analysis of complex combinations of information in life insurance and other actuarial work, in long-range weather forecasting, in psychological testing, in statistical analysis, and in enabling guided missiles to make tactical decisions on the basis of information communicated while in flight.

The machine, in its present form, is approximately five feet long and two feet high. It contains 52 indicating lights, 72 telephone-type relays, and about 125 switching devices. The inside, including all coil windings, contains about five miles of wire.

I am now working on a supplementary unit, an electrical digital sequence counter (using the binary instead of the decimal system of counting). This unit, when combined with the present circuits, will make deductions or determine inferences (in 10 to 30 seconds) from up to a million combinations of given statements or premises.

Note: Mr. Marks will give a demonstration of his computer at the New School later. See *Bulletin* for date.

WILLESDEN 0554

HENRY GUTTMANN,
30, BRONDESBURY PARK,
LONDON, N.W.6.

February 19th, 1952.

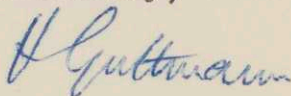
The Secretary,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Cambridge 39, (Mass.),
U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

I am preparing a book about the relative resources of the various countries of the world, with a view on the potentialities of the future. In this connection, I intend to bring in Cybernetics. I should, therefore, be very grateful if you would kindly send me a latest survey of work done in this respect, together with two or three photographs, graphs and any other material which could illustrate to the general public the revolutionary changes which Cybernetics may bring to certain processes of scientific research and industrial production.

I thank you in anticipation of your kind assistance in this matter, and remain,

Yours faithfully,



[ans 3/21/52]

American Design Awards

Established by Lord & Taylor in 1937

February 19, 1952

Committee

Miss Dorothy Shaver, Chairman

General Lucius Clay

Mr. S. Sloan Colt

Dean Donald K. David

Mrs. Edward Coleman Delafeld

Miss Mary Donlon

Brigadier General Georges F. Doriot

Mr. David Dubinsky

Dr. Lillian Gilbreth

Mr. John Gunther

Miss Helen Hayes

Mr. Roland Harriman

Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby

Mrs. Sergei Koussevitzky

Mrs. Albert Lasker

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Mr. Robert J. McKim

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer

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Mr. J. P. Stevens, Jr.

Mrs. Arthur Hays Sulzberger

Mr. Herbert Bayard Swope

Mr. Thomas J. Watson

Mr. John Hay Whitney

Dr. Norbert Wiener

Mrs. Wendell Willkie

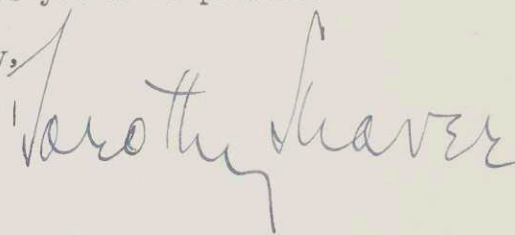
Dear Dr. Wiener:

The annual presentation of our Lord & Taylor Awards will take place at a luncheon on Wednesday, April the sixteenth in the grand ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria.

As you know, our Awards have always striven to recognize and encourage constructive creative achievement in every field of endeavor. This year they will single out men and women who have devoted their lives to helping America solve one of its most urgent and basic problems.

A committee sponsoring the Awards is now in the process of formation. I would deeply appreciate adding your name once again to those of our other distinguished committee members. Although I hope that you can join us on the dais at the luncheon, I know you understand that membership on the committee in no way obliges you to be present.

Sincerely,



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

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

RIVERSIDE 9-8000

February 19, 1952

Dear Professor Wiener:

It was thoughtful of you to reply as you did to our invitation for the Thirteenth Conference. However, we greatly regret your inability to help us at this time.

It is probable that another phase of the subject will be discussed at our 1953 meetings, and perhaps you can undertake a paper then.

Meanwhile we would very much like to have the benefit of your participation through comment on material submitted by others, and in the oral discussion.

In any event, we will keep in touch with you as our plans develop.

Cordially yours,

Ordway Tead
Ordway Tead /

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

ip

[ans 2/20/52]

February 19, 1952

Mr. Robert P. Coleman
29 Snowden Rd.
Bala-Cynwyd, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Coleman:

Doob has decided to do his own book on a scale in which my contribution would have been relatively unimportant, and I believe the book has already appeared. My own ideas are being developed in a manuscript for Hermann et Cie, Paris, which will contain my lectures at the College de France, and for which I am being ably helped by Dr. Schutzenbarger. This book is well under way, but not far enough for me to give you its publication date.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb

February 19, 1952

Mr. Richard L. Kraybill, Associate Editor
Dun's Review
Dun and Bradstreet, Inc.
99 Church Street
New York 8, New York

Dear Mr. Kraybill:

Thank you for the courtesy of your letter of February 14.

I find that I have extended myself too much over the last three or four years, and that for reasons of health and of fatigue I must give up completely for an extended period all public lecturing and all articles which are essentially on the level of public lecturing. I have enough scientific and literary projects of my own to last me the rest of my life.

While I appreciate the honor of the request you are making, I must tell you regretfully that I cannot conform to it now or for a long time to come.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb

February 19, 1952

Dr. Marcel Monnier
Care of Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation
565 Park Avenue
New York 21, New York

My dear Dr. Monnier:

I am very tired after my long absence from MIT, and I shall be unable to visit the Macy meetings this year. But I shall be very happy to see you in Cambridge if you are here after the New York meetings.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb

February 19, 1952

Mr. John E. Pfeiffer
P.O. Box 152
Old Lyme, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Pfeiffer:

Professor Wiener asks me to tell you that, for some reason which we are at a loss to understand, he has never received any reprints of "Purposeful and Nonpurposeful Behavior", which appeared in Philosophy of Science in October 1950.

You may be able to secure a reprint from Dr. Arturo Rosenblueth, Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia, Calzada de la Piedad, 300, Mexico D.F., Mexico. He was, as you doubtless know, Professor Wiener's co-author.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. George Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hbb

February 19, 1952

Dr. J.Z. Young
Care of Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation
565 Park Avenue
New York 21, New York

My dear Dr. Young:

Because of my great fatigue, I shall be unable to visit the Macy meetings this year. But I shall be most happy to see you in Cambridge if you will be here after the meetings.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb

JUAN SISTACH ODENA

España Industrial, 9

BARCELONA

(ESPAÑA)

20th february 1952

Dr. Robert WIENER
Massachussets

=====

Dear Sir,

I have read the news published by the local press on 5th january about your communication regarding the "ear glove", and I shall be glad to know whether such an apparatus has already improved and its worth at market; in the affirmative case, as also the seller's address.

I offer you my gratitude for my troubles and remain
faithfully yours,

Juan Sistach

Apr. 7 - from letter sent

"SCIENTIA,,

Via Roncaglia, 4 - ASSO (Como)

Asso, 20 Février 1952

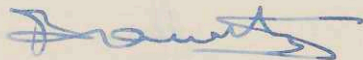
Cher Monsieur,

je vous prie vivement de m'excuser si je viens à nouveau vous déranger, mais je n'ai pas encore reçu de réponse à ma lettre précédente, par laquelle je vous renouvelais la prière de collaborer à notre Revue. - Si votre silence signifie que vous ne pouvez pas pour le moment satisfaire notre désir, je vous prie de vouloir bien me faire savoir au moins si je puis compter sur votre collaboration à l'avenir et à quelle date, approximativement, vous pensez pouvoir m'envoyer votre manuscrit si vivement désiré.

Je vous serais vraiment reconnaissant, cher Monsieur, de vouloir bien avoir l'amabilité de me répondre, ne fût-ce qu'un mot.

Agréez, je vous prie, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

p. "SCIENTIA,,



R

[ans 3/18/52] (Dott. Paolo Bonetti)

"SCIENTIA,,

Rivista internazionale di sintesi scientifica
Revue internationale de synthèse scientifique
International Review of scientific synthesis
Internat. Zeitschrift für wissenschaftliche Synthese
Revista internacional de síntesis científica

Via Roncaglia, 4 - ASSO
(Como, Italie)

NICOLA ZANICHELLI, Bologna

HERMANN & C.ie, Paris

ATLAS PUBL. & DISTR. Co. Ltd, London

STECHELT-HAFNER Inc., New York

ROBERT MÜLLER, Berlin

FRIEDR. KILIAN'S NACHFOLGER, Budapest

F. ROUGE & C.ie, Lausanne

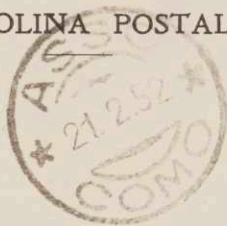
EDITORIAL HERDER, Barcelona

FERNANDO MACHADO & C.ía, Porto

THE MARUZEN Co., Tokyo

En cas d'insuffisance d'adresse prière de renvoyer à
"SCIENTIA,, Via Roncaglia, 4 - Asso
(Como, Italie)

CARTOLINA POSTALE



PROF. WIENER

53 Cedar Road

5, rue Leon Lhermite

Belmont 78

~~2ème étage~~

Mass U.S.A

~~PARIS XVI^e~~

Cyb. bibliog.

February 20, 1952

Dr. K. Andermann
17, Rosary Crescent
Highgate Hill
Brisbane, Australia

Dear Dr. Andermann:

I have just returned from a year of travel in Europe and Mexico in an almost disintegrated condition. As soon as I have reasonably assembled myself again, one of the things that I am going to give my secretary to do is the problem of preparing a bibliography of Cybernetics. You will automatically go on the mailing list.

Thank you for your inquiry about my cataract. Dr. Gunderson of Boston did the job, and I believe he considers me as one of his prize cases. However, while my eyes are in excellent condition, I am beginning to receive a few minor circulatory tokens of the progress of years.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb

February 20, 1952

Dr. Ralph P. Boas, Jr.
1725 Orrington Avenue
Evanston, Illinois

My dear Dr. Boas:

Curiously enough I had forgotten the result that you attribute to me. Are you sure that I really did the job?

At any rate, go ahead with your publication, and with my wishes for success.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb

February 20, 1952

Mr. M.S. Corrington
Home Instrument Department
Radio Corporation of America
RCA Victor Division
Camden 2, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Corrington:

I regret that there has been such a long delay in my reply to your letter. I have been abroad for the past year, and returned to MIT only quite recently.

So far as an answer to the question you raise is concerned, all I can say is that I am not at present actively engaged in engineering consultation.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

February 20, 1952

Dr. Sabastian Littauer
School of Engineering
Columbia University
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Littauer:

Professor Wiener has asked me to write to you to inquire whether it is possible to secure a number of copies of the speech he gave, entitled "Automatic Machinery," to the Society for the Advancement of Management in New York in the late autumn of 1950. I am quite sure I recall seeing a transcription of the meeting, but if one came to this office it is certainly lost now.

Would it be possible to secure about twenty-five copies of whatever record was kept?

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. George Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

[ans 3/4/52]

February 20, 1952

Mr. E.J. Mc Shane
University of Virginia
School of Mathematics
Charlottesville, Virginia

My dear McShane:

Three years of Cybernetics have run me ragged, and my doctors tell me that I have got to cut down on the lecturing racket -- "or else!"

Translated into an answer to your letter, this means, "No, God bless you!"

Regretfully,

Norbert Wiener

hbb

7-27

February 20, 1952

Dr. Wiktor W. Nowinski
University of Texas, Medical Branch
Galveston, Texas

My dear Dr. Nowinski:

It turns out that the word Cybernetics has also a history in French where it belongs to the tradition of Comptian positivism, and has the same sense which Liebelt gives it. After all, there are just so many available Greek roots for synthesizing the scientific vocabulary, and it isn't surprising that most of the significant contributions have been made already.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

February 20, 1952

Philosophy of Science
The Williams and Wilkins Company
Baltimore 2, Maryland

Gentlemen:

Professor Norbert Wiener has asked me to write to you to inquire whether it is possible to secure re-prints of the article "Purposeful and Nonpurposeful Behavior" which Professor Wiener wrote with Dr. Rosenblueth, and which was published in Philosophy of Science in October 1950.

Will you kindly let us know whether it is too late to secure reprints? If it is not, will you quote the quantity prices?

Very truly yours,

Mrs. George Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

February 20, 1952

Miss Dorothy Shaver, Chairman
American Design Awards
424 Fifth Avenue
New York 18, New York

My dear Miss Shaver:

Many thanks for your invitation for me to participate in the committee on the American Design Awards. It happens that I am just back from Mexico and Europe after a most strenuous year, and that I am under strict doctor's orders to take on no new responsibilities. May I then regretfully request you to pass by my name as a member of the committee.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb

February 20, 1952

Mr. Ordway Tead
Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion
3080 Broadway
New York 27, New York

My dear Mr. Tead:

I am afraid that the condition of my health and my future commitments require a prolonged period during which I stay aloof from new commitments. Therefore, I can give you no reasonable expectation that at any particular future time I can participate in the Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion, nor that I can undertake to comment on material submitted by others whether submitted to me by mail or in the oral discussion.

Regretfully yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb

February 20, 1952

Mr. Richard A. Wallace
The Franklin Institute
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Wallace:

I am just back on my job at MIT, and have just received your manuscript on a maze solving machine. I shall read it in the not too distant future, although I cannot promise you any date.

Meanwhile, I suggest that you get in touch with Dr. Grey Walter at the Burden Neurological Institute, Stapleton, near Bristol, England, and send him a spare copy of the manuscript to be forwarded to a Mr. Ashby who has been working parallel with Walter on the problem of machines that learn.

This is a subject which has progressed far more than the general public knows.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb

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February 21, 1952

OK
Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

I have developed a servo mechanism which we use for guiding model airplanes. Reading "Cybernetics", it occurred to me that it might be of interest to you because of the possibility that it is a type that appears in nature in animals to perform very rapid movement.

The fact that it is extremely economical of motor energy and stand-by current and very stable even with simple apparatus makes it suitable for an airplane model and suggests that it might have been a device adopted by nature.

If this is of any interest to you, I will be glad to send you further information.

Very truly yours,

Dan Calkin
Dan Calkin
M.S., M.I.T., '33

DC:JP



The American Physical Society

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK 27, N. Y.
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

February 25, 1952

DR. NORBERT WIENER

M.I.T.,

Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

We are organizing a symposium under the title "Entropy and Information" for the Washington meeting of the American Physical Society, May 1-3. We would like to have as the participants yourself, Szilard, Brillouin, and B. McMillan; and tentatively I am assigning thirty minutes to each of the four speakers. I hope that you will consent to take part, and will let me know at an early date of your acceptance. Unfortunately our Society cannot pay travelling-expenses.

I doubt whether I have talked with you since we met in Mexico City in 1946; but I still remember well our conversation in the home of Dr. Margain. I hope that you have since been able to revisit Mexico, as my wife and I were in 1950.

Sincerely yours,



KARL K. DARROW, Secretary

[ans 3/3/52]

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.

February 25, 1952

F

Professor Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

I was sorry to receive the news in your recent letter, not only because we will be unable to have you as our lecturer, but because I regret to hear that you have to cut down on your activities, which though exhausting are also fun. So let me express my wish that a temporary relaxation of activities will allow your storage batteries to recharge themselves briskly.

Yours sincerely,



E. J. McShane

EJMcS/nt

February 25, 1952

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

Lieber Herr Doctor!

Eine gewisse Frau Walther in Dalmstadt* veschäftigt sich
jetzt bien Übersetzung meines Buchs The Human Use of Human
Beings ins Deutsche. Sie hat schon wohl Dokumente darüber.
Ich schicke ihr Ihrem Brief, sobald ich ihr schriebe, und sie
wird Ihnen sicher die notwendigen Auskünfte mitteilen.

Ihr sehr ergebener,

Norbert Wiener

* Professor Dr. A. Walther
Institut Für Praktische Mathematik (IPM)
Technische Hochschule
Darmstadt

NW:hbb

cc: Professor Dr. A. Walther

February 25, 1952

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

Liebe Herr Oberley!

Ich schliesse hiertmit ein Exemplar einter vor zwei Jahren
in New York gehaltenen Rede ein. Wenn Sie mehr Auskünfte
über meine Sachen wollen, bitte schreiben sie an Frau Walter,
Institut für Praktische Mathematik (IPM), Technische Hochschule,
Darmstadt, die sich jetzt bien Übersetzen meines Bucks über
Kübernetik beschäftigt.

Hochachtungvoll Ihr,

Norbert Wiener

hbb
cc: W.A. Lebrecht

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

RIVERSIDE 9-8000

February 28, 1952

Dear Professor Wiener:

We have just received your letter dated February 20th, and of course regret the situation. At the same time, we can understand and sympathize with it.

Faithfully yours,

Ordway Tead
Ordway Tead

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

mf

26 Feb 1952

Dear Prof. Wiener -

I will be in Boston the week of the 23 to 29th of March,
and can take any one of the 24th, 25th or 26th for a
good long cybernetic session. The 27th, 28th & 29th are
taken up by a conference I am committed to attend.

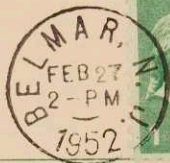
You should soon receive the text of my talk
"a Phenomenological Uncertainty Principle"

In Boston I can be reached % Weinsbe,
133 Summit Ave, Brookline, Mass, Boston 2-3041

Call - at home or here -

Sincerely yours,
from Rothstein
[ans 3/3/52]

Isome Rothstein
1001 E St
Belmar NJ



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Prof. Norbert Wiener
Mathematics Department
Mass. Inst. of Technology
Cambridge, Mass

February 29, 1952

Mr. Henry W. Simon
Simon and Schuster, Inc.
630 Fifth Avenue
New York 20, New York

My dear Mr. Simon:

I am sending you under this same cover not exactly fifty pages of revised manuscript, but a somewhat larger quantity. The reason for my doing this is that the very earliest revision touches the Preface and the orientation of my book among other books of similar character, and that this is followed by two chapters which are rather a synthesis of what I have learned of my parents than a recherche de temps perdu. I feel, therefore, that the material I send you should contain at least one good sample of my reconstruction of my own past experience to be a fair guide to criticism.

As you already have in your possession the unrevised copy of my manuscript, you will be able to see how much I have worked up the material and how far I am willing to go. It is probably a bad omen that I feel rather satisfied with the work that I have done, and that it seems to be the general criticism of my friends that the material is in much better shape. *This does not mean that I will not act on your suggestions.*

I cannot tell you how eagerly I am awaiting a word from you to indicate whether or not I am on the right road, and whether you are ready for me to go all the way out in the revision of the new book!

With thanks for your consideration, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hbb