

153

CORRESPONDENCE July, 1952

N. WIENER - MC 22



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July 1, 1952

Professor Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Professor Wiener:

We are interested in obtaining a copy of the book you have written on the subject of "Cybormetics", and would appreciate your advising us as to where we can purchase it.

We understand, also, that you have written several other books on the subject of increasing production, and we should like to have this same information on these books, too.

Your kindness in giving us this information will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

AKTIEBOLAGET VOLVO

E. M. Horen  
Buyer

emh/

[ans 7/17/52]



# SIMON AND SCHUSTER, INC.

*publishers*

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

July 1, 1952

Dear Dr. Weiner:

Today I have had the first opportunity to get down to serious work on your manuscript. I spent the morning at home and went carefully through the first five chapters. It will take me at least the balance of the week to do a thoroughgoing job of the entire manuscript, as there is no use in trying to do it in fits and starts between telephone conversations at the office.

As soon as I have finished with the text, I shall consider the matter of pictures which, as Mr. Barnes wrote you, is not quite so pressing from the point of view of time as the text is.

I find these first chapters, on the whole, in much better shape than they were, the one exception being, if memory serves, chapter one, where some of the color originally used in describing your Father's career has been sacrificed to more general comments. I shall compare this chapter with the original when I am through with the entire book and make any specific suggestions I can.

Otherwise, I have found that the major portion of my rather voluminous notes have to do with suggested cuts. These, I know, you fully expected. On the other hand, I found that the material you added, along the lines of the suggestions in my last letter before I left for Europe, is admirably done.

I shall not, at this point, bother you with further details but will send the whole job on when I have completed it. At that point, we can decide whether it is necessary to go over all these details in a meeting over a desk or whether it can be done just as efficaciously by mail. The excuse for a visit to New Hampshire is extremely attractive, but whether I can, in all conscience, accept your kind invitation is something I would rather not have to decide so soon after returning from a two month's absence in Europe!

With cordial greetings to Mrs. Weiner,

Very sincerely,

Dr. Norbert Weiner  
South Tamworth, N. H.



# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, INC.

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July 2, 1952

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Dear Friend:


Draft of an Open Letter to the American People, approved by the Board of Directors of the National Council, is enclosed. This letter is being sent to a representative group of Americans in all walks of life for endorsement and signatures.

We feel that it is important at this time for a number of American leaders to make a statement regarding the crucial issue of the Bonn Agreements. These agreements are freighted with danger to our own nation and the entire world.

It is our hope you will agree with us and find it possible to endorse this letter with its constructive recommendations. As soon as a fair number of signatures have been received, we shall publicize the Open Letter as widely as possible. Its influence should prove helpful in the present situation.

Will you sign the enclosed card and return to us at an early date. We shall appreciate your cooperation in this peace action.

Sincerely yours,



Prof. Henry Pratt Fairchild  
National Secretary

HPF:bc  
encs.



## OPEN LETTER TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

With a feeling of grave responsibility we address this Open Letter to the American people.

International events have reached a point of extreme danger to our own security and the peace of the world. The bi-partisan foreign policy of our Administration has in the last few years consistently veered away from conference with the Soviet Union and leaned more and more in the direction of building up internationally a military threat to the U.S.S.R. and of employing that threat to gain desired ends.

This policy was recently climaxed in the signing of the "general agreements" and the "European community agreement" with the West German government at Bonn. The primary aim of these agreements is to keep Germany divided and to attach the military potential of West Germany to the North Atlantic Alliance under General Ridgeway's command.

The danger of a war arising out of the Bonn agreements is heightened by the fact that they strengthen the reactionary forces inside of Germany, the Ruhr monopolists and the Nazi generals of the Wehrmacht. The U.S. Government is bound to support these elements because it depends on them to put through the ratification of the Bonn agreements, to enforce militarization and to deliver the German military cadres to NATO.

The United States has taken as allies the fascist elements in Germany, defeated at such a great cost in World War II, in order to develop a base for war against the U.S.S.R. Through these agreements we are placing the security of our country in the bloodstained hands of the revanchist Nazi generals who, once in power and in command of a re-established military organization, can plunge us into war almost at will.

The agreements with the Bonn government run contrary to the wishes of the German people who are being prevented from unification and peaceful democratic development in order to bring West Germany into a military alliance directed against the U.S.S.R., thus creating the danger of a civil war against the German Democratic Republic of East Germany. There is presently developing the widest struggle in all of the European countries concerned around the ratification of the Bonn agreements.



In the face of growing opposition within West Germany, Chancellor Adenauer is now reported ready to postpone the process of ratification in both houses of the German Parliament for two or three months, or even longer. The Government and people of East Germany unconditionally oppose these agreements, urging instead a real peace treaty based on complete sovereignty of the united German people pledged to the maintenance of world peace. In France the people in all political parties fear and oppose the rise of Nazi military power. In England there is great unrest, engendered by these Bonn agreements, among Laborites, Liberals and even in Conservative groups.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly in the past and only recently in a series of notes addressed to the United States, Great Britain and France, protested against the contemplated Bonn agreements as contrary to the Allied war pledges and to the Potsdam Agreement in particular. The U.S.S.R. has called for an agreement among the occupying powers on elections in all of Germany, East and West, for the creation of an all-German government capable of signing a peace treaty.

The struggle around the Bonn agreements within Germany, and in the other countries concerned, bids well to nullify these agreements by preventing their ratification, thus posing the constructive alternative of establishing a unified democratic Germany and signing a peace treaty with it. Such a solution would greatly contribute to the resolving of war tensions in Europe and facilitate agreements between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. on all other international problems.

Let the American people demonstrate to the people of Europe that a large body of Americans is mindful of the dangers emanating from the Bonn agreements. Let us petition the Senators of our respective states to vote against the ratification of the Bonn agreements. Let us address communications to the President, asking him to withhold signature on the agreements. Let us call upon the President to carry through a conference of the top statesmen of the Four Powers to negotiate a peace treaty with a unified Germany.

It is in the best interests of the United States and the peace of the world that we appeal for action while there is still time to turn America from the path of war onto the road which leads toward world peace and security.





THE CHAMPION PAPER AND FIBRE COMPANY

General Offices, HAMILTON, OHIO

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July 2, 1952

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

During the recent Short Course on Operations Research given by Case Institute, Dr. Sebastian Littauer of Columbia suggested that I send a copy of the enclosed paper to you.

I do so with a good deal of trepidation considering the naive nature of the paper and your reputation as America's outstanding expert on quantifying some of the relations I have discussed in very crude terms. Nevertheless, I hope you will accept it in the spirit in which it is given--if nothing more as a recognition of your outstanding work in what I personally feel is the science which holds most promise for humanity.

Yours very truly,

THE CHAMPION PAPER AND FIBRE COMPANY

Allen T. Roudebush  
Research and Development Department

ATR:jsi  
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CORRESPONDENCIA  
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AVENIDA CUAUHEMOC N°300  
MEXICO, D.F.

July 3, 1952

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

Dear Norbert:

I am ashamed not to have written to you before, if only a few lines to let you know how things were coming along. Anyhow, I expect that Chafetz has seen you already and explained how hectically crowded and busy my time has been. Since you left-one thing not finished and another already started-much overlap and no respite.

I shall get back to our paper next week and will see it through and send you a draft as soon as possible.

It appears at present impossible for me to go over this year for my stay with you. The reorganization of the Institute after the inauguration of the new buildings and departments is taking and will still take for several months much of my time. Chavez asked my promise that I would help him in this work, and since it is quite important, I gave him that promise. In addition, several of my students, who were away with fellowships, are returning in September. I must get them installed and started, and I must make sure that their positions in the Institute and outside are arranged satisfactorily. This also requires my presence here.

By the first of September it will be clear whether or not I can leave; but it is highly likely that I shall not be able to do it. I will they write to Morison and to Ted Martin, and to you of course, explaining the situation. *Refer*

I want to tell you how pleasant, stimulating and fruitful my work with you has been. I think that the results were excellent and personally it has influenced me deeply and it represents a very valuable experience. I hope that even if we do not get together this year, sometime, in the not too distant future, there will again be an opportunity for us to get together and renew our collaboration.

With my best to all your family and to you I remain,  
as ever.

Cordially

Dr. Arturo Rosenblueth

[and 7/16/52]

AR/gh



MUSEUM 5525  
EXT. 36.

UNION SOCIETY,  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION,  
MALET STREET, LONDON, W.C.1.

July 5th 1952.

Dear Professor,

I was impressed while listening to your talk over the BBC last year, with problems that the elimination of the human factor from much of industry presents to education. The Foundation Week Oration at this/<sup>Institute</sup> is generally given by an eminent academic speaker on a contemporary problem connected with education. I wonder if you could suggest such a speaker able to deal with such a subject from among your friends in this country (would it be too much to hope that you would be in London in March?)?

I hope that you will excuse the liberty that I have taken in writing to you.

Yours sincerely,

*R. B. Bastin*

Chairman, Foundation Week Committee.

[ans 7/17/52]





# SIMON AND SCHUSTER, INC.

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

July 8, 1952

Dear Dr. Weiner:

Over the long 4th of July weekend I was able to go through the manuscript in detail once more, and my impression on the whole was extremely good. Do not be alarmed by the long number of alterations suggested by the page listing below. As you will soon see, at least 90% of these are extremely minor matters of phraseology, sentence structure, cuts worth considering, etc. Very little serious revision is involved. Most of the corrections are made without question marks after them, the latter being reserved for those on which I feel least secure. The others - if previous experience with your reactions means anything - are almost all changes I feel certain you will agree to.

V I have now also had a chance, as I suggested in my last letter, to compare Chapter I with its original version. I still wish that you could have done more justice to the colorful figure your Father must have been in his youth, especially in Kansas. But I suppose that in view of the fact that you were not there to observe, not much more could be added.

I am somewhat unhappy about the opening chapter. The extensive comparison with the Mills - pere et fils - seems to me to hold up the promised narrative interest and is really not so enlightening - especially at this early point - as the amount of space given to it warrants. The fact is that the general discussion of infant prodigies covers an extraordinarily limited number of them and would appear to be a sample of reasoning from the specific to the general. I should, at the very least, make the point that generalizations are meant to apply only to the specifically intellectual type of prodigy, and the artistic - especially musical - type, of which there are far more examples in history, are not within your purview. Finally, the last two or three paragraphs are not related at all to the introductory chapter. Nevertheless, they are, to my mind, the most interesting portions of it. It might be worthwhile to consider a much shorter introductory chapter. I wish you would give this some thought.

The only other chapter that seems to me to require consideration for structural change is Chapter XI, pages 179-203. This struck me as being really two separate chapters and could be easily divided, one devoted to the discussion of your period in Cornell, the other dealing with Fritz, your Father, etc. This is a very easy change to make.

There is one other aspect of your career as an infant prodigy that seems to me



2-

to require a little further exemplification and development. That is the amount of publicity, both printed and otherwise, you had to endure during these crucial years, together with its immediate and ultimate effects upon you. You refer to articles written by your Father and others concerning your phenomenal development, but except in a footnote added to page 196, these references are very general and the immediate effect upon yourself is hardly mentioned. In view of the wide interest of the affect of publicity on private lives, and especially in view of your more detailed discussion of the Sidis and Berle articles, I think you owe your reader a few more facts here.

The list of numbers I am attaching refers to pages on which I have made one or more notes. I do not think it will take more than an hour or two of your time to go through all of them and make the appropriate penciling to indicate your agreement or lack of agreement with my suggestions. You, as author of the book, will, of course, always have the final word.

When you have had a chance to consider all this, I hope you will write to me to let me know whether you consider it advisable for us to get together. I believe I could arrange to come up to New Hampshire over a weekend with my wife. We should regard it as part vacation and I do not believe it would be necessary to bother you very much. All we would need is a few hours to go over any points on which we still do not see quite eye-to-eye.

By the time I hear from you, I shall have had a chance to go through the photographs you sent and to discuss with our designer just how extensive the illustrations should be. I am inclined to favor a few telling photographs, for this is essentially a reading book, not a looking-at book, and it is not worthwhile to raise the price very much in order to include many pictures.

That, however, is an off-the-top-of-the-head reaction before considering the matter carefully with the pictures before me.

Very sincerely,

*Henry Simon*

Dr. Norbert Weiner  
South Tamworth, N. H.

hws:lf  
enc.

[ans 7/13/52]



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# National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act

2 STONE STREET  
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Bowling Green 9-2558

July 9, 1952

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Dear Friend:

The McCarran Act and the need for its repeal should be an important issue in the civil liberties programs of the national party conventions meeting this month. The Committee has sent an Open Letter to the Platform Committees asking for planks calling for the repeal of the McCarran Act. It would also be very helpful for you to send letters to the official delegates from your state and district to the Democratic Party convention, as well as writing directly to the Platform Committee.

Enclosed is an Open Letter to Congressional candidates signed by one hundred of our initiators and sponsors asking for a declaration of their position with regard to the McCarran Act. Please add your signature and send this folder to one of your Congressional candidates. A form is enclosed for ordering more folders for you and your friends to send to all your candidates -- for both the Senate and the House. We want every candidate to receive such a barrage of these Open Letters that he will be convinced the American people want the McCarran Act repealed. The recent voting on the McCarran-Walter bill shows that Congress has not yet heard sufficiently from the people.

Also enclosed is a copy of a letter from James V. Bennett, Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons. This letter is but further proof of the urgent need to repeal the McCarran Act. Following closely in the footsteps of his predecessor, Attorney General James P. McGranery has declared his intention to "observe the mandate of the McCarran Act." Letters should be written to Attorney General McGranery urging him not to enforce the un-American McCarran Act, and to cease immediately setting up concentration camps. Protests against the building of these camps should also be sent to Mr. Bennett.

Contributions received from mailings to 20,000 new names have taken care of the basic operating costs of the office during the past six months. But summer is now here, many are on vacation and consequently the mail is less productive. Because of the importance of this election year we want to keep the office open all summer in order to send out many thousands of letters to new names, to Congressmen, to trade unions and other organizations. Won't you help by making as generous a contribution as possible?

*John B. Thompson*  
Dean John B. Thompson

Cordially yours,

*Leo Jung*  
Rabbi Leo Jung  
*Olive O. Van Horn*  
Olive O. Van Horn

For the Planning Committee  
NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
REPEAL THE McCARRAN ACT



The Westchester, Apt. 305-A  
Washington, D. C.  
July 9, 1952

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Department of Mathematics, M. I. T.  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener,

I have become very interested in the problem of machines that imitate animal behavior, building up their behavior patterns by the trial and error process. I am writing to inquire if it would be possible for me to obtain a position connected with the cybernetics program, which would be along this line. I have a master's degree in physics from Oklahoma University, and have worked for two years as a research assistant at O.U. under the Office of Naval Research, in a field involving some experience in electronics.

Since I have become interested in the field that lies between electronics and neurology, I have spent most of my spare time reading neurology, psychology, cybernetics, and so on, and working out plans for maze solving machines, and machines that learn various other tricks. Of course, maze solving machines such as the one built by Dr. Shannon are quite simple, but my approach is to consider circuits which bear a far greater resemblance to the central nervous system, and which are capable of a wide range of diverse functions. Also, I am mainly interested in circuits which have the capacity for learning to learn, and circuits which display conditioned reflexes and habit formation, and which operate on a random statistical basis, giving rise to learning and forgetting curves.

I would be happy to supply further details concerning both my professional qualifications and my ideas about learning machines, if you desire. I deeply appreciate your consideration of this application.

Respectfully,

*Robert J. Lee*  
Robert J. Lee

[Ans 7/19/52]



# DONALD LINCOLN HERR

B. S., M. S., E. E.

~~1237 YORK AVENUE~~  
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PROFESSIONAL SURVEYS

July 11, 1952

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

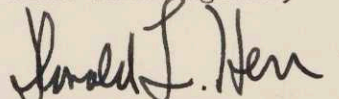
Enclosed herewith is a picture, not enlarged to show me off in my usual proportions, but rather to clearly picture a very peculiar type of leaf formation found on the branches of certain trees here in Riverside, California.

I am sending you this in the thought that you might find it of interest for the distribution of leaf size or amplitude is remarkably sinusoidal along the branch length. I have been led to suspect that perhaps the combined capillary and osmotic flow processes might be definable by the same differential equation characterizing the voltage and current distributions along a transmission line. If so -- and I imagine it would be quite a job to prove this -- it would be the first vegetable analog to this phenomenon of electrical transmission line voltage and current distribution.

I am sending a similar letter to Dr. D. B. Steinman, of New York City, and to Dr. and Mrs. Roy Waldo Miner of the New York Academy of Sciences. I remember that your motivation in the paper which you gave at the Academy conference on "Teleological Mechanisms" in 1946 was your discovery, with Dr. Rosenbluth of Mexico City, of an animal analog to feedback control systems.

Yours, even in the unusual aspects of science!

With warm regards,

  
DONALD L. HERR







[Donald L. Herr, 1952.]



Jerome Rothstein  
1001 E St.  
Belmar, N. J.

Dear Prof. Wiener -

July 12, 1951

I shall be in Boston from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> of July & hope you are in town (for part of the time, anyhow). We will stay % J. Weinsebe, 133 Summit Ave, Brookline Mass. I have decided to seek a position in Boston (after much urging by my wife); if I find one to my liking we will be able to discuss interesting problems much more frequently, & face to face.

The more I write of my two articles for Science & IRE, the bigger they get & the more do interesting byways open up. A consideration that will interest you is that the permanence & individuality of a physical object turns out to be tantamount to the group concept. Another is that the design of a logical language, the framing of a scientific theory, & the programming of a computer seem to be closely related.

I hope we can meet this trip. As my plans are necessarily vague at present, perhaps you help me with some information or suggestions, e.g. about the academic world.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Rothstein

[ans 7/19/52]



# COPY

So. Tamworth, N. H.  
July 12. 1952

Professor C. L. Young  
Department of Mathematics  
The University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Professor Young:

*\* position*  
I have received a letter directly from Donoghue and am favorably impressed by what I hear about him. As I am not in the *\** of giving out fellowships or jobs and as he is in physics, I am sending your letter to Prof. Frank who is head of the physics department. I am not making a direct recommendation, but I am telling Prof. Frank that your recommendation is to be taken most seriously.

With kind regards,

sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



# COPY

So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 13, 1952

Professor N. Frank  
Department of Physics  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Frank:

The accompanying letter concerning Donoghue and my reply need no comment. As to my own work I am cleaning up my literary obligations on the book and elsewhere, and am spending the summer in recovering physically and in a general reconsideration of the field of my work with Siegel next fall. The more I think of the field the surer I am that we have a problem by the right handle, but I want to come back as fresh and vigorous as possible for the real work. Margaret is pleased with my recovery, and I do an appreciable amount of hiking and light work around the house.

Best greetings to all.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 13, 1952

Dear M. Simon:

Cordial thanks for your letter of July 8. We see eye to eye in almost all matters; but in one matter it is clear we do not. My name is W I E N E R like the city of Vienne (Wien) and has nothing to do with either wine or weeping (weinen). For an editor of such meticulous precision in grammatical, stylistic, and orthographical criticisms, I wish you would get my name right. After this bit of minor exhibition of spleen let me say that your letter is better than I could ever have dreamed. In the first place, I agree to more than 90% of your suggestions which have to do with matters to which I assent on the spot. One or two of your cuts I disagree with. The material furnishes a little color to the narrative as in the case of the shaker village; but if you are adamant in cutting this out, I shall not gainsay you.

As to chapter one you are completely in the right that it needs more color concerning my father's early American career; that I am in a position to give. About 1910 father wrote an account of his early career for the late Boston Transcript, which is rich in color and from which I intend to borrow as far as copy right will let me and the laws of decency will permit me. In addition, I had just had a good talk with my father's old friend, Harry Wolfson, of the department of Semitic languages at Harvard, who confirms me in practically everything I have said about father, and who has given me a few colorful items suitable for chapter one.

As to my introduction, I am prepared to consider it to a reasonable extent, but I don't like losing some of the material it contains, though I am not at all clear whether I have introduced this matter at the right point in the book. I am shifting the discussion on Mill, Butler, and Gosse to chapter five, which, if you remember, deals with my father's manner of teaching me. I cannot put in much about the artistic or musical prodigy, because I don't know too much about them; although I have a suspicion that their problems and mine are closely related.

Your suggested change in chapter eleven seems to me eminently practical and reasonable. After all, it is only a bit of minor surgery.

The amount of publicity which the whole prodigy group including myself had to undergo in our critical years was



2.

large, but will be rather difficult to recover. I have the distinct recollection that there were other magazine articles beside the Bruce and the Dolbear ones, but my secretary has been unable to unearth these through the usual periodical index. The greater part of the least desirable publicity came through the daily papers and their Sunday supplements, and would need a considerable amount of rather sterile research to rediscover. However I agree with you that I should give qualitative material about the hunt of the reporters from the point of view of the quarry.

I have finished going through the notations on my manuscript. I shall also have obtained by the middle of this week typewritten copies of the Bruce and the Dolbear articles, as well as a copy of my father's articles in the late Transcript. All changes and corrections will have been made by the end of this week. My wife and myself would look forward very much to seeing you and Mrs. Simon here, and we have ample room to put you up.

I am quite in agreement with you in the matter of the pictures and in fact would not be shocked at all, if the book contained no pictures at all. However, the contract which I received put upon me the obligation to supply you with them. The decision is in your office, and I am really not concerned as to what it shall be.

None of us are too pleased with the title of the book, but we all agree that the title should tell what the book is about instead of amounting to a clue in crossword puzzle. The present title is satisfactory without being distinguished.

With thanks for your careful consideration of my book and with best regards in which my wife joins me, I remain,

sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

[ans 7/21/52]



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

July 14, 1952

Professor Norbert Wiener  
South Tamworth  
New Hampshire

Dear Professor Wiener:

We envy you and Mrs. Wiener the cool breezes of New Hampshire on this rather hot morning when the temperature is predicted to go to 98°.

Professor Martin has returned and we have been talking about office space for the Fall. As usual, it is a little crowded and I wonder whether we should plan on something for Dr. Rosenblueth. Is he planning to be at M.I.T. during the first semester? We will be able to give Mr. Segal a desk in your old office, 2-165, with one of the C.L.E. Moore Instructors and this should be quite convenient for him since it is only two doors from your office.

Things are rather quiet around the Department but the first half of the Summer Session ends this week so we shall have a little activity.

Sincerely,

*Ruth S. Goodwin*

Ruth S. Goodwin

[ans 7/19/52]



Professor Nobert Wiener  
Department of Mathematics,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, 39. Massachusetts, U.S.A.

15th July 1952

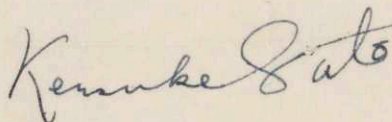
My dear Prof. Wiener.

I humbly beg your pardon for writing to you so abruptly and directly. I am one of young Japanese students of physiology. As you may understand from my reprints which have been sent under separate cover, I have many interests to find any application your "Information theory" and "cybernetics", in biology.

My works are aided with Prof. Katsumi Imahori in Hokkaidô University. But unfortunately, Prof. Imahori died suddenly on 1st, June with heart-failure. But I must go forward step by step. I would be grateful if you kindly forward your reprints, which may aid our works, to me.

I close this letter hoping that you will forgive me for my frank expression of various values.

Yours most sincerely



Kensuke Satô.  
Assistant Professor in physiology.  
Department of physiology,  
Niigata University,  
School of Medicine,  
Niigata, Japan.



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 15, 1952

Dr. H.L. Bockus  
250 South Eighteenth Street  
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Dr. Bockus:

I have not really contributed much to medicine, and the best work that I have done has been in briefing Dr. A. Rosenblueth on the mathematical side of his activity. On the other hand, my most characteristic work and the work on which I am going to talk to you, concerns the concept of homeostasis in medicine, both as concerns natural and artificial homeostasis.

I am now vegetating in the New Hampshire country side and am really getting rested, even though the temperature of the last few days has been a wee bit reminiscent of Yucatan.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 15, 1952

The Honorable Howard L. Boyle  
United States Attorney  
Southern District of Illinois  
Springfield, Illinois

Dear Counselor:

I am very sorry to have delayed answering your letter so long, but it came at a time when things had piled up on me. I appreciate Mr. Justice Frankfurter's reference to cybernetics and I am fundamentally in agreement with what he says. The point is this: cybernetics is a general epithet for the theory of communication and control and contains semantics or the theory of meaning as one of its branches. Mr. Justice Frankfurter seems to me to imply that the function of a judge is not merely to draw out of our statutory law semantic implications which are already clearly there, but to develop creatively the semantics of the enactment in such a manner as to form a code of law suitable to treat situations and turns of events actually beyond the contemplations of the legislators. In other words, the function of the judge is not to be the mere passive development of the intention of the legislators, but is to be an active process converting this often unclear and imperfectly thought out intention into a workable code of law. It would be a most wasteful employment of our best legal minds, if the judges were not given some such function, in fact whatever the formal pretense of the situation may be.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 15, 1922

Dear Dr. Gladstone:

I am doing an autobiographical book with Simon and Schuster, and it is quite conceivable that I might come down to New York in the summer. If so, I shall look you up. If I recollect correctly, we saw one another in Brooklyn just before my extensive trip to Europe and Mexico. This was interesting but exhausting, and I think I shall have a good deal to discuss with you when we meet next.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Wiener



RICHARD A. KERN, M.D., *President*  
LEWIS C. SCHEFFEY, M.D., *Vice President*  
LEANDRO M. TOCANTINS, M.D., *Secretary*  
FRANCIS C. GRANT, M.D., *Treasurer*

~~J. HAROLD AUSTIN, M.D., *Executive Secretary*~~



W. B. McDANIEL 2ND, *Librarian*  
ELLIOTT H. MORSE  
*Administrative Assistant Librarian*  
OLGA E. LANG, *Clerk of the College*

FOUNDED 1787

## College of Physicians of Philadelphia

19 SOUTH TWENTY-SECOND STREET

PHILADELPHIA 3

July 16, 1952.

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

It gives me pleasure to inform you that on July 14, 1952, you were awarded the Alvarenga Prize of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia for your contribution to the field of cybernetics.

The Alvarenga Prize was established by the Will of Pedro Francisco DaCosta Alvarenga of Lisbon, Portugal, an Associate Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, to be awarded annually by the College of Physicians on the anniversary of the death of the Testator, July 14, 1883.

The honorarium will be presented to you on the occasion of your lecture on October 7, 1952, and we hope you will supply us with your manuscript on that evening for publication in the Transactions & Studies.

There will also be a dinner given in your honor at the College preceding your lecture (Black tie).

Very sincerely yours,

*Leandro M. Tocantins*  
Leandro M. Tocantins, M. D.,  
Secretary

L:dm

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So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 16, 1952

Professor Arthur C. Hardy  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Professor Hardy:

I am enclosing the abstract of my paper at the Optical Society meeting and am beginning the work of organizing the paper. I understand that I am to be allotted about thirty minutes for the talk, and I think that when I finally give you the manuscript it should contain around 5000 words. I shall use no slides or other material requiring special apparatus, and I shall follow closely the field laid out in the outline. Sometime in the course of the summer I expect the main body of the paper to be written up, but I may delay this until the middle of September when it is easier for me with more secretarial assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

[ans 7/18/52]



## OPTICAL SOCIETY *of* AMERICA

# Abstract of Paper

(submitted for presentation at the forthcoming meeting)

The purpose of the abstract is to give: (1) a more definite description of the *nature* and *scope* of the paper than can be conveyed in the title, (2) the essential results in so far as may be possible in the limited space allowed. Greek letters, unusual symbols and complex mathematical formulae should not be used. Abstracts appear in the program of the meeting and are subsequently published in the Journal.

The Society reserves the right of original publication of all contributed papers presented at its meetings. Except by invitation, papers that have already been published should not be presented.

Please estimate carefully, and indicate in the allotted space, the number of minutes required to present the paper briefly but adequately.

Under bibliography, insert only those references that are necessary to an understanding of your paper *as you intend to present it*.

Equipment will be available at the meeting for projecting standard ( $3\frac{1}{4}$  x 4 in.) lantern slides. Authors requiring other types of projection equipment should notify the Chairman of the Program Committee.

In preparing standard-size lantern slides, it should be kept in mind that the useful area of the slide is a centrally located rectangle only  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches in height and 3 inches in width. If too much material is crowded into this area, the slide becomes illegible. As a guide, when slides are prepared from typewritten copy using pica (12 point) type, the copy should be double spaced and should not exceed 7 inches in height or  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches in width. A new typewriter ribbon should be used, and the type should be clean. The finished slide should bear a thumb mark, or operator's spot, placed at the lower left-hand corner of the slide when it is viewed as it will appear on the screen.

Abstracts should be submitted to the Secretary, PROFESSOR ARTHUR C. HARDY, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge 39, Massachusetts.



ABSTRACT

(Not more than 200 words — Please double space)

OPTICS AND THE NATURE OF SPECTRA

(Title of Paper)

Norbert Wiener Massachusetts Institute of Technology

(Author)

(Institution)

only a denumerable set of frequencies can be missing. This forces us to regard discrete spectra as mathematical limits and not as physical realities, and in quantum theory forces us to take a similar

The purpose of this abstract is to give a brief summary of the main results of the paper. The paper is divided into two parts. The first part is devoted to a discussion of the general theory of discrete spectra. The second part is devoted to a discussion of the application of this theory to quantum theory. The paper is intended for the physicist and the mathematician alike. It is hoped that it will be found useful to a wide circle of readers. The author is indebted to the following persons for their helpful criticisms: ...

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

(..... minutes)  
Estimated time for presentation



ABSTRACT

(Not more than 200 words — Please double space)

(Title of Paper)

Norbert Wiener

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

(Author)

(Institution)

Since the work of Maxwell uniting the fundamental equations of optics and of electromagnetic waves there have been two ranges of optics in which the observables are essentially different. In radio and now in radar optics we can penetrate into the time course of the individual oscillation and read off electric and magnetic intensities ~~and~~ <sup>as</sup> functions of the time. In the classical optics extending from the middle infra-red upward in frequency we do not have ~~clocks~~ <sup>clocks</sup> which can register fractions of a period. In consequence the quantities which we read are <sup>is</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>energies</sup> and coherency, which appear as quadratic expressions in the fundamental variables of electrical theory. The mathematical theory connecting the optics of amplitude and the optics of energy is the general theory of spectra as presented by me in Acta Mathematica of 1932. In this a state of light in the universe on <sup>is</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>an image or object plane</sup> is represented by an infinite Hermitian matrix, which is a function of the frequency. An optical instrument is a complex matrix which is a function of the frequency, and to obtain the effect of the instrument on a state of light we multiply the Hermitian matrix in front by the instrument matrix and behind by the Hermitian conjugation of the instrument matrix. This is equally true of the new optics of electrons, protons, etc.

The instrument matrix is restricted by the fundamental physical fact that instruments can only act on the past. I shall <sup>(..... minutes)</sup> give the mathematical properties of an instrument matrix <sup>time corresponding</sup> to this and shall show that in any real effective optical theory we are forced to deal with continuous spectra of a certain special kind from which only a denumerable set of frequencies can be missing.

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This forces us to regard *discrete* spectra as mathematical limits and not as physical realities, and in quantum theory forces us to take a similar attitude to systems <sup>not</sup> ~~in~~ containing almost all energy levels positive and negative.

## OPTICAL SOCIETY of AMERICA

# Abstract of Paper

(submitted for presentation at the forthcoming meeting)

The purpose of the abstract is to give: (1) a more definite description of the *nature* and *scope* of the paper than can be conveyed in the title, (2) the essential results in so far as may be possible in the limited space allowed. Greek letters, unusual symbols and complex mathematical formulae should not be used. Abstracts appear in the program of the meeting and are subsequently published in the Journal.

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Abstracts should be submitted to the Secretary, PROFESSOR ARTHUR C. HARDY, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge 39, Massachusetts.

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So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 17, 1952

Mr. E.M. Horen  
Buyer, Volvo  
19170-74 James Couzens Highway  
Detroit 35, Michigan

Dear Mr. Horen:

In reply to your inquiry of July 1, I am  
giving the titles and publishers of the books  
in question below:

Cybernetics by Norbert Wiener

Publishers: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York

The Human Use of Human Beings by Norbert Wiener

Publishers: Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston

Sincerely,

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 16, 1952

Dr. Arturo Rosenblueth  
Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia  
Avenida Cuauhtemoc No. 300  
Mexico, D. F. Mexico

Dear Arturo:

I am sorry that we won't be together next fall, but I am certain that before long we shall be working together again. I have a lot of quantum theory material to get off my hands, and I assure you that I will not be passing my time in idleness before our next contact. Meanwhile we are having a delightful summer in a climate of which I must admit to you a very passable imitation in Mexico.

Could you give me the full name of your secretary, Conchita? I am referring in a note to the people who have helped me on my book and she should be there.

Peggy is removing parts of the innerds of rats in connection with biological assays being made at the Worcester Institute for Biological Research. Whether as a reward for her sins or not, she has been convalescing from the whooping cough, which is not as childish an affliction as it may seem.

I have not heard from Chafetz as yet but expect to most any time. We left Belmont for Sandwich June 19 and don't plan to be back before the middle of September. With best regards and wishes to you and Virginia, as well as everyone in the laboratory I remain, as ever,

Cordially

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 16, 1952

Mr. Martin Shickman  
Chairman, Lectureship Committee  
333 East Albanus Street  
Philadelphia 20, Pa.

Dear Mr. Shickman:

I suppose not many realize how with the best will in the world a lecturer finds his lecture schedule getting ahead of him until it finally threatens to displace all of his original scientific activity. Well, that is where I stand, and I find it almost as hopeless to cope with the demands for lectures as a surgeon does with the rapidly metastasizing neoplasm. I am already giving the Alverenga prize talk at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia early in October, and that is about all the medical lecturing I can undertake in the Philadelphia district in one year. I am sorry, but that is where it stands. Either I spend the next few years getting new material to talk about and don't talk about it too much, or I find myself whipping a dead horse.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



# Benson - Lehner Corporation

Applied Cybernetics

2340 SAWTELLE BLVD. WEST LOS ANGELES 64, CALIFORNIA ARIZONA 9-3723 BRADSHAW 2-4629

July 17, 1952

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Department of Mathematics  
M. I. T.  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In addition to our continuing research and development work in the field of automatic data handling, we have, during the past two years, developed a group of general purpose machines which are now in regular production. These machines include automatic and semi-automatic plotters, packaged units which convert d.c. voltages into electrical decimal form for input to automatic tabulators and punched card equipment; equipment for reading and calibrating telemetry and other continuous trace records, as well as semi-automatic computing equipment for general laboratory and office use.

In view of the fact that the most effective way of acquainting you with both the technical and operational characteristics of this equipment is to enable you to see the machines in operation, we have made arrangements for demonstrations at several centrally located points.

We, therefore, take pleasure in extending to you a cordial invitation to visit our exhibit of data reduction equipment, which will be held in the Statler Hotel, New York City, from 9 AM to 5 PM, on Monday, August 4, 1952.

In addition to showing specific items of equipment, Mr. Bernard S. Benson, President of our corporation, who will be personally in charge of the demonstration, will welcome an opportunity to discuss any specialized data reduction problems with which you are concerned, as well as some of our current development projects, which include work on specialized film equipment and electronic digital computers.

Sincerely yours,

BENSON-LEHNER CORPORATION

*Harold J. Rounds, Jr.*

Harold J. Rounds, Jr.  
Technical Assistant to the President

*no answer*



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 17, 1952

Miss Hope English  
Charles Scribners Sons, Publishers  
597 Fifth Avenue  
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Miss Hope:

I have just received a copy of the novel Player Piano which you sent me. I have been reading bits of it from time to time, but I have not yet come to any definite conclusion. I am complimented by the references to myself and cybernetics, but you had better caution your author that he cannot with impunity continue to play fast and loose with the names of living people as he has done in the case of von Neumann. Furthermore, the way the introduction at the same time tries to avoid any criticism of science as it is being run today, weakens greatly the impact of the book as a serious critique of future science.

The book seems to belong very definitely to the highly specialized metier of the science fiction author. I, for one, am sufficiently along in years to be nostalgic for the writings of Jules Verne and H. G. Wells, who are primarily literary men instead of devotees of a new cult. In short, I feel that it was inevitable, that your book be written, and it will probably be written by different authors four or five times over with varying degrees of unoriginality.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

[ans 8/11/52]



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 17, 1952.

Dear Mr. Bastui:

My last year in Europe left me utterly exhausted and I don't see how I can be in Europe again by next March. One of the suggestions I would like to make for a speaker on the subject is Brunowski of the National Coal Board. I might also ask you to have a try at Gray Walter of the Burden Neurological Institute in Bristol.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



So Tamworth, N.H.  
July 17, 1952

Dr. Bronowski  
National Coal Board  
London, England

Dear Bronowski:

I have already got a publisher for my autobiography, namely, Simon and Schuster. My English arrangements are not yet complete, but we can probably get F. V. Morley of Eyre and Spottiswoode to take the sheets. Could you therefore return the copy I sent you at your convenience and at my expense.

I have been marking time on our book, as I have been so tired and loaded up with other work. Sometime within the academic year I hope to come back to it and to send you a manuscript.

With greetings from my wife and daughter as well as myself I remain,

sincerely yours,

Herbert Wiener

[ans 8/6/52]

[ans 7/30/52]



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 17, 1952

Dean Herbert C. Hunsaker  
Cleveland College  
Western Reserve University  
Cleveland 14, Ohio

Dear Dean Hunsaker:

I <sup>do</sup> except the invitation on your program on December 10, and also except the subject you have assigned to me. I shall be present at the dinner before the lecture. In addition to the topics you mention, there is a little bustle of excitement now concerning machines which are supposed to write down intelligible written language on the basis of supposed speech, or inversely, to read the printed text aloud. These ideas can go as far as machines for translating one language into another. They are closely related to the cataloguing machines in which Vannevar Bush has so much interest. It is my opinion that the difficulty of these machines in comparison with computing machines in factories has been vastly underrated. I think the time has come both to explain the deep effects which the automatization of industry will have on our civilization, and the facile way in which a considerable number of our minor prophets have underestimated the difficulty of mental activity.

This phenomenon is closely related to the prevailing disease of the big laboratory and of the Edison like random search for every conceivable possibility without a preliminary screening of our possibilities by the use of intelligence. The prevalent unintellectual trend of the rulers of research at the present time threatens our very existence not as a nation but as individuals of whom this nation is composed.

I apologize for delaying my reply, but I had to organize my lecture schedule for this fall. I hope this has not greatly inconvenienced you.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



Box 498  
Osterville, Mass.  
July 26, 1952

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
M.I.T.  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Miss Hope English, of Charles Scribner's Sons, has forwarded to me your comments on my novel, *Player Piano*.

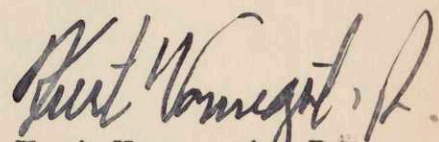
I am writing to offer my thanks to you for having taken the trouble to read the book and give your opinion of it.

I thoughtlessly picked the name von Neumann out of the air, and apologize if any harm has been done or offense given by my use of it. The name was used innocently, as were all the names in the book.

As for the introduction, to which you objected, I had personal reasons for writing it. In the book itself you will find an indictment of science as it is being run today. No matter what the introduction says, the indictment of today was meant to be and is, I hope, clear.

Again, my thanks.

Yours truly,

  
Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

*Mr. answer*



# OPTICAL SOCIETY *of* AMERICA

ARTHUR C. HARDY, *Secretary*

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS

July 18, 1952.

Professor Norbert Wiener,  
South Tamworth,  
New Hampshire.

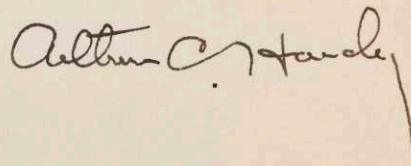
Dear Professor Wiener:

I wish to acknowledge with thanks your letter of July 16 and the abstract that accompanied it.

The tentative plan is to make your paper the first on our three-day program, which means that it will be called up on Thursday morning, October 9. I certainly understand your desire to postpone the completion of your manuscript until you have the benefit of secretarial assistance in September, and I am sure that this will be entirely satisfactory.

Best wishes for a good summer, -

Sincerely,



ACH:Bo



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

Prof. Lind. 576  
(Chemistry)

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

So. Tamworth. N.H.  
July 19, 1952

Miss Ruth Goodwin  
Department of Mathematics  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Miss Goodwin:

Dr. Rosenblueth is not coming this fall and is putting of the last lap of his work with me until a later occasion. Your arrangements for Dr. Siegel's office space seems to me O.K. I am also enclosing two letters of request for reprints. Would you be kind enough to attend to them?

Please tell Mrs. Baldwin when she returns, that I have made good progress on the abstracts and articles of my talks already contracted in the fall. My complete list of lectures during the first term is:

1. Alvarenga Prize Lecture, Philadelphia, Oct. 7,
2. Lecture at Optical Society Meeting, M.I.T. Oct. 9,
3. Lecture, Mechanical Engineering Society, New York, Dec 3,
4. Lecture, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Dec. 10,

I am not going to add to this list. I have received the corrected version from Simon and Schuster and have made the few extra corrections asked for. The few remaining details we shall probably straighten out in a few days face to face with Mr. Simon.

The heat has been almost as bad by New Hampshire standards as by Boston standards. However, we can dress for it in a manner not quite acceptable in the city, and there is always a pond to immerse ourselves in.

Sincerely yours,

*Norbert Wiener*

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 19, 1952

Miss Ruth Goodwin  
Department of Mathematics  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Miss Goodwin:

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Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 19, 1952

Mr. R.C. Gibbs  
Chairman, Committee, Advisory to OOR  
National Research Council  
2101 Constitutional Avenue  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

\*logic  
The work of Mr. Davis looks all right and practical. I am sufficiently far away from modern symbolic\*to assess it too precisely, but it impresses me as intelligent, practicable, and worthwhile.

Sincerely,

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 19, 1952

Dr. J. Hori  
The Institute of Low Temperature Science  
Hokkaido University  
Sapporo, Japan

DEar Dr. Hori:

I was so sorry to hear of Professor Imahori's death. I am glad to see that the continuation of his work is in such able hands as your own.

I have been reading your semi-group paper, and am much impressed. It is related to prediction theory ( which deals with its quadratic aspects ), and has deep applications to the fundamentals of quantum theory, in which I am now engaged. Please let me have all your reprints.

Sincerely,

Norbert Wiener

[ans 8/2/52]



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 19, 1952

Mr. Paul E. Klopsteg  
Assistant Director, Division of Mathematical, Physical and  
National Science Foundation      Engineering Sciences  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Klopsteg:

Pardon me for my delay in giving my opinion on the Chevalley project. I have been so exhausted at the end of my year's work, that I am only now beginning to discharge my duties of correspondence.

Chevalley is one of the great names in mathematics. Furthermore, unlike another project on Harmonic Analysis on which my opinion has been asked recently, Chevalley's project rings true. He has caught the problem by the right end, and Schwarz's work as a tool, and uses not the last word on possible topologies for Harmonic Analysis. I would only suggest that he look into Hermite functions as a tool in his work (and their generalisations). Chevalley's is reasonable in expense and well thought out. I would give it a top rating among your mathematical projects in all respects.

\*project

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 19, 1952

Mr. Robert J. Lee  
The Westchester, Apt. 305-A  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Lee:

There is no program of cybernetic research at M.I.T. with which I have any connection. Therefore I am not in a position to give you any advice in the matter. I suggest, that your nearest opposite numbers are in England, and that you get in touch with Grey Walter of the Burden Neurological Institute at Bristol, England ~~and~~ W. Ross Ashby of the Department of Research, Barnwood House, Gloucester, England. I shall be glad to hear any details of your work.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth N. H.  
July 19, 1952

Dr. Jerome Rothstein  
c/o Mr. J. Weinreb  
133 Summit Ave.  
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Rothstein:

I most certainly shall not be in Boston over the time you name, as I am resting and vegetating up here in New Hampshire. As you know, New Hampshire is generally an airconditioned state, but something seems to have gone wrong with the airconditioning. If you want to see me up here, let me know. Our telephone is: Center Sandwich 46 ring 2, but our post office is: South Tamworth, N.H. If you come up by car, we are about a mile off Route 25, which crosses the state between Meredith and Conway. It is best to come by the Meredith end. Anybody in Sandwich or Moultonboro can tell you where we live. If you come by train, Mount Whittier and Meredith are about equally desirable stations but we should be notified of your coming, so we can meet the train. We can put you up over night.

Siegel and I are beginning to work over the relation between prediction theory and quantum theory. It cuts very deep, and I shall have something to say about it in the first speech of the October meeting of the American Optical Society in Boston on October 9. One interesting result is that in quantum stage which is subject to experiment starting and stopping almost all energy levels both positive and negative must appear. My work is very closely related to your own and also to that of Bohm, but I think my critique of existing theory is more radical. At any rate, from my present point of view the work looks like a complete success.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Winer

[ans 7/26/52]



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 19, 1952

Dear Ted:

I hope the year at Princeton was up to standard. I suppose you know all about my plans with Siegel. I am very thoroughly resting up here in the mountains and am finishing odds and ends of literary efforts, as you will see by my note to Miss Goodwin.

As you know, I have completely closed off relations with the electronics lab and have heard something about their methods of securing your approval of our dead-end kids by giving you inadequate information of the real situation.

I hear that the weather in Boston would not be appreciated as a relief by Meshach, Shadrach and Nabednego. Margaret joins me in sending our regards to you and your family.

I am enclosing Arturo's letter for you to read. Please return it to me when convenient.

Cordially,

Norbert

[ans 7/22/52]



July 19, 1952

Mr. D. L. Szekely  
Dipl. Civil Engineer  
Jerusalem, Israel  
29 Abarbanel Street

Dear Mr. Szekely:

I have received your interesting note a few days ago, and I am convinced that there is something in your ideas, although I am afraid that it will take great care to prevent this science of sciences from degenerating into a mere empty formalism. I should like to be kept in touch with your work. You always can reach me at M.I.T.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



MARTIN D. SHICKMAN  
333 EAST ALBANUS STREET  
PHILADELPHIA 20, PA.

July 20, 1952

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
South Tamworth, N.H.

Dear Dr. Wiener;

We certainly can appreciate the reasons which required you to decline our invitation. We will all do our best to be present at your visit to The Philadelphia College of Physicians this fall.

Thank you again.

Yours respectfully,

*Martin Shickman*

Chairman, Lectureship Committee  
Phi Delta Epsilon Fraternity  
Jefferson Medical College



Collection Request Committee  
1411 Delta Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  
Museum of Natural History  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Sir,

Reference is made to your letter of 10/10/68.

Enclosed for you are two copies of the report of the

Committee on the subject of the proposed acquisition of the

specimens of the genus *Amphispiza* from the collection of

Dr. H. S. Gentry.

Very respectfully,  
W. H. Henshaw

Sam. - Mar  
7, 1968  
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J. R.

AMERICAN  
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202



# NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

CHICAGO 11, ILLINOIS

July 21, 1952

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL  
WARD MEMORIAL BUILDING  
303 E. CHICAGO AVENUE

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
South Tamworth, New Hampshire

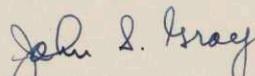
Dear Doctor Wiener:

Dr. Gonzalez-Fernandez has been with us now for about a month, with, I believe, considerable mutual satisfaction. He has been assimilating our material at a remarkable rate, and has already contributed to our understanding. Apparently, what we have to offer is exactly what he was looking for. He had previous training in "old school" physiology, he then had some mathematical and cybernetic training with you. What he was seeking was a chance to put the two together, and this is exactly what we have been trying to do ourselves with less formal preparation in cybernetics, but more experience in physiological problems requiring its approach.

Having thus definitely established this mutual interest, I have offered him a Fellowship in Physiology, starting August 1, and continuing to next May. The funds (\$150/mo.) are provided by a U. S. Public Health Research Grant, which we have to study Respiratory Regulation. Furthermore, we have suggested that Jose register in our Graduate School and obtain an M.S. in Physiology during his year here. His Fellowship will waive tuition. His financial status and visa status are thus assured, and he will not apply for any other Fellowship.

I presume you would wish to know that Jose is thus being taken care of.

Sincerely,

  
John S. Gray, Ph.D., M.D.  
Chairman, Dept. of Physiology

JSG/mb







SIMON AND SCHUSTER, INC.

*publishers*

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

July 21, 1952

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I am sorry I missed your phone call Friday. The fact is that I had been in bed for a couple of days with an infected balancing nerve - or whatever that thing is in your inner ear. I never knew before that a room could go around so fast, but it's all over now.

The manuscript arrived back here today; and I think that the most efficacious thing to do would be for me to go over your revisions and in that way get an idea of the necessity of our getting together behind a table.

At the present time, it would be wiser for me not to take up time to come to New Hampshire, ~~as~~ much as I should like to get away from this oppressive weather, and see a few unregimented trees. I am still snowed under with work I did not do while I was in Europe, and I don't feel entitled to make another trip. It would be rather a long run in any case, as the doctor forbids me to use airplanes and I do not have a car this year.

From your letter, I should judge that we are now in sufficient agreement to be able to shoot at an early go-to-press date. At any rate, I shall get at the manuscript in the very near future and write you again.

Very cordially,

*Henry Simon*

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
South Tamworth, N. H.

hws:lf



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

July 22, 1952

Professor Norbert Wiener  
South Tamworth  
New Hampshire

Dear Professor Wiener:

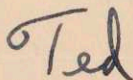
Thank you for your letter and for sending me Arturo's letter. I am returning his letter to you. I know about your plans with Siegel and your scientific work in the area. I am glad that you are doing this work. It is a field which needs your ideas.

I am very sorry about the problem created last winter by R.L.E. but I hope that conditions in the Department will be favorable enough to help make up for part of the inconvenience caused you.

I had a very stimulating year in Princeton and I am quite pleased about the mathematics which I accomplished. Norman handled things well here during the year.

Please give Margaret best regards from Lucy and me. We hope that you are both well.

Cordially,



W.T. Martin

WTM/maf



WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY  
CLEVELAND 14, OHIO

CLEVELAND COLLEGE  
167 PUBLIC SQUARE

July 23, 1952

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

Dear Mr. Wiener:

We in the Publicity Department are delighted to know that you are to be a speaker on our Heritage of Modern Man lecture series.

In order to speed the production of the advance publicity brochure, it is imperative that we have material from you as immediately as possible. We will require a photograph (three glossies preferred, if available) and biographical material.

Can you make arrangements to have this material forwarded to us not later than August 10th?

Sincerely yours,

*Eleanor Farnham*

Eleanor Farnham  
Director of Publicity

[ans 8/11/52]



**"The unexamined life is not worth living."**

—Socrates

Men and women always have the choice of accepting the ready-made precepts and concepts of their time, or of examining for themselves what is true and what is false, who is wise and who is pretentious, whether current trends represent genuine progress or just busy-ness. But first of all, man must know himself. Such examination is not easy. For a person with a mind of his own there is no other way than to question and doubt, to explore and discover. Only so can he find that unique individual who is himself. Only then can he think for himself.

For **The Heritage of Modern Man** lectures for 1951 and 1952, Cleveland College has assembled eight men, each of whom will approach, from the area of his own competence, the question of how a person can come to terms with himself and his environment.

Beginning with a preliminary, and characteristically American, warning against our getting too morose about this self-examination, the series proceeds with a philosopher and two psychologists who will help us find out why we act the way we act and what we do to society when we act that way, a creative architect who will tell us what our environment does to us and how it should be redesigned, a semanticist who will show us how the words we read and hear affect us, an attorney who will define political maturity and show why most of us have not yet grown up, and a clergyman who will set forth the religious and spiritual necessities of the good life.

The speakers, in accordance with the traditions of this series, are prepared not merely to speak, but to answer questions. The program, though primarily serving the Great Books community groups and the students in the Basic Arts program of liberal education for adults, is open to the public. Season tuition is six dollars. There will be no admissions to single lectures this season.

**EIGHT LECTURES • SIX DOLLARS**

**LECTURES ONCE A MONTH**

**Wednesday Evenings at 8:00 o'clock**

**ENGINEERS AUDITORIUM**

**St. Clair Avenue and Ontario Street**

**Tuition receipts for the lecture series may be secured from the Office of the Bursar, Cleveland College, 167 Public Square, Cleveland 14, Ohio.**

**There will be no single admissions for individual lectures.**

Cleveland College  
167 Public Square  
Cleveland 14, Ohio

# **The Heritage of Modern Man**

**1951-1952**

**Theme: KNOW THYSELF**

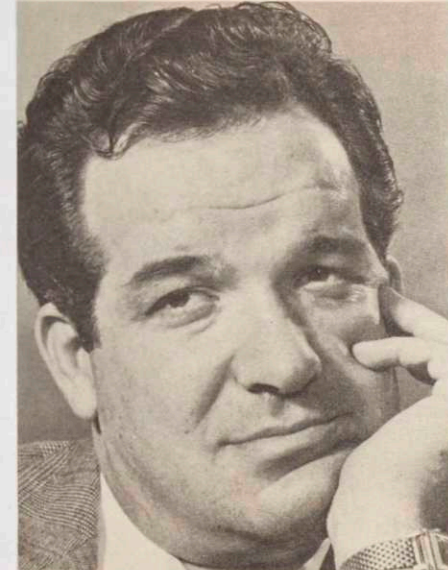
A SERIES OF LECTURES PRESENTED BY  
**School of General Studies**  
**CLEVELAND COLLEGE**  
of  
**Western Reserve University**

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**PAID**  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Permit No. 1402



OCTOBER 17, 1951

### The Importance of Laughing at Yourself



AL CAPP, creator of Li'l Abner and the Shmoo, cited by the United States government for work with Treasury Department and U. S. Army Ground Forces, contributor to *The Atlantic Monthly*.

NOVEMBER 14, 1951

### Discovering Your Emotions and Drives



RICHARD W. WALLEN, Associate Professor of Psychology at Western Reserve University and a clinical psychologist specializing in the fields of memory, personality, and attitudes.

DECEMBER 12, 1951

### The Democratic Personality



GORDON W. ALLPORT, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychology, Harvard University and Chairman of the Committee on Higher Degrees of the Department of Social Relations which combines social and clinical psychology, sociology, and anthropology.

JANUARY 16, 1952

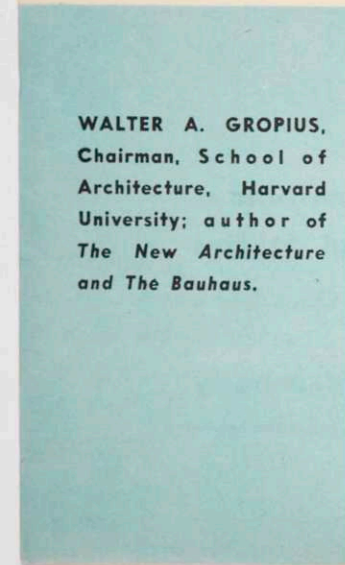
### Discovering Your Own Philosophy



PHILIP BLAIR RICE, Chairman of Philosophy Department, Kenyon College; associate editor, *Kenyon Review*, vice-president and president-elect (1952-53) of the American Philosophical Association, Western Division.

FEBRUARY 13, 1952

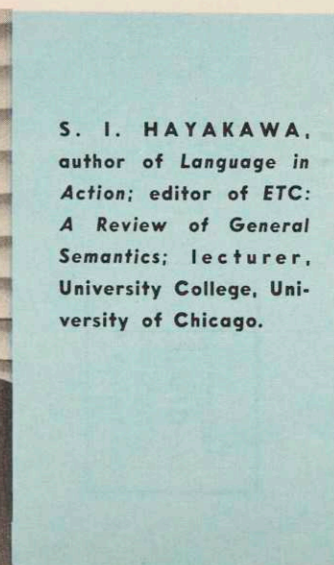
### What To Do About Your Environment



WALTER A. GROPIUS, Chairman, School of Architecture, Harvard University; author of *The New Architecture and The Bauhaus*.

MARCH 19, 1952

### What Words Do To Us



S. I. HAYAKAWA, author of *Language in Action*; editor of *ETC: A Review of General Semantics*; lecturer, University College, University of Chicago.

APRIL 16, 1952

### The Distinctions Between People and Morons—The Problem of Political Maturity



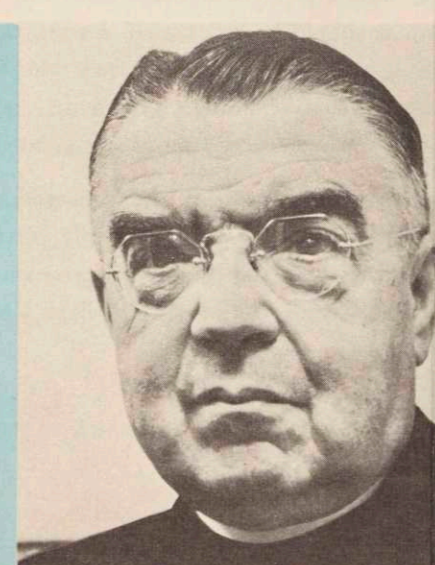
THURMAN ARNOLD, Attorney-at-law frequently in government service; author of *The Folklore of Capitalism and Democracy and Free Enterprise*.

MAY 14, 1952

### Reason, Faith, and Happiness



BERNARD IDDINGS BELL, Consultant on Religion and Education, University of Chicago; author of *The Crisis in Education*.



**BURSAR'S OFFICE, CLEVELAND COLLEGE**  
167 Public Square, Cleveland 14, Ohio

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me for the **Heritage of Modern Man** lectures during the season of 1951-52. I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the tuition cost. (Each season admission, \$6. Please make checks payable to Cleveland College.)

Below I have listed the names and addresses of the persons I am enrolling in the lecture series. Enclosed is a stamped, addressed envelope in which you may return admission cards to me.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONS ENROLLING (please print)**

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Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_

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CARNEGIE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

SCHENLEY PARK

PITTSBURGH 13, PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

July 23, 1952

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

For some time I have desired to get away from teaching for a year and enjoy some mathematical activity undisturbed by academic routine. Accordingly, I am applying for some fellowships which if granted will enable me to carry out my wishes. May I use your name as a sponsor in my applications? I would appreciate it very much if you would let me know within the next month.

The methods which you employed with Hopf in 1933 appear to have much deeper implications than I originally suspected. The important issue appears to be the study of kernels which are asymptotic to Fourier kernels in some restricted sense. I have been working along these lines for the past two months and have made some progress. I shall write you at length when certain details are completely clarified.

The weather in Pittsburgh has been unbearable these past two weeks but we are looking forward to some measure of relief when we leave for the Canadian woods this week-end.

With best wishes to you and my friends at the Institute,

Sincerely,

*Albert*

Albert E. Héins  
Professor  
of Mathematics

*answered  
by Norbert*

AEH/EB

[ans 7/30/52]



Kings County Hospital  
Clarkson Ave.  
Brooklyn 3, N.Y.

July 23, 1952

Dr. Norbert Weiner  
Mass. Institute of Technology  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I have just received your very wonderful work "Cybernetics" and ran across the statement on page 31 that you were preparing an outline for training persons interested in this field. I would be very grateful for any suggestions that you might offer as to proper background literature that I might study to prepare myself for a greater understanding of the field of Cybernetics. I am at present a resident physician in medicine at the Kings County Hospital. Previous to my medical training, I had been trained in the army at Harvard and M.I.T. in electronics and worked as a Radar Officer in the Air Corps and as a radio engineer later in Civilian life.

I would also appreciate any reprints you might have available in this field, especially your article written with Dr. Rosenblueth in 1943 on "Purposive Behavior".

Thanking you in advance for your consideration,

I remain,

Sincerely Yours,

*Alfred Moldovan*  
Alfred Moldovan M.D.

[AMS 8/15/52]





SIMON AND SCHUSTER, INC.  
*publishers*

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

July 25, 1952

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I have now gone through the manuscript one more time, noting all the changes you have made. The only further change I have made myself is to add a final sentence to Chapter XIV, page 257, to read as follows:

"Here we were comparatively at peace."

I made this addition only because something is needed to wind up the chapter. If you do not like that sentence, it will be easy to substitute another, of your own composition, in proof.

Otherwise, I really believe the manuscript is ready for the manufacturing department. This means it gets styled (book-publishing jargon for "copy-read") and then to the printer.

It struck me all the way through that we say eye-to-eye so well to this point that further editorial work would be pointless. Should there be any serious questions in your mind, there would still be time for us to write or even to meet before the book is set up, as the styling usually takes a minimum of two weeks and often a good deal longer.

I have also had the opportunity to go through the pictures you sent me. I think we have practically everything we need, though if there were a more easily reproducible picture of your father, it would help. I have not yet gone over these pictures with ~~the~~ technicians, and so shall report to you later on this matter if they have anything of interest to say or suggest.

The book, as you know, is being scheduled for the Spring of next year, though we have not yet picked a precise month. The Gollancz autobiography, already in press, is scheduled for January, and I think it would be a good idea to put two months between these two books.

At any rate, this will give us plenty of time to get out a good-looking book, to alert the reviewers, and to take the other necessary steps to assure the most favorable possible reception.

I feel very grateful to you for your consistently understanding and effective cooperation on the editorial details, and I know a very fine book has resulted. The next step is up to us - and the final one to the public.

Very sincerely,

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
South Tamworth, N. H.

hws:lf



133 Summit Ave  
Brookline, Mass  
July 26, 1952

Dear Prof. Wiener,

Thank you for the invitation, but as you have no doubt divined, I have been so taken up with looking into the various possibilities here that there has been little time for anything else. There are a number of interesting possibilities, but as yet no firm offers - several weeks for checking references etc seems necessary.

I am glad to hear that you & Siegel are making good progress, & am naturally avid for more details. My own work is now taking a biochemical turn - e.g. speculations about information storage in genes, catalysts, enzymes, etc as related a kind of molecular network theory.

I hope I find something suitable here so that we can be up here this autumn.

Sincerely yours, J Rothstein

P.S. we return to NJ July 29





THIS SIDE OF CARDS FOR ADDRESS

Prof. N. Wiener  
So. Tamworth, N. H.





*Salem State Teachers College*  
*Salem, Massachusetts*

26 Roundy Street  
Beverly, Mass.  
July 29, 1952

Professor Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

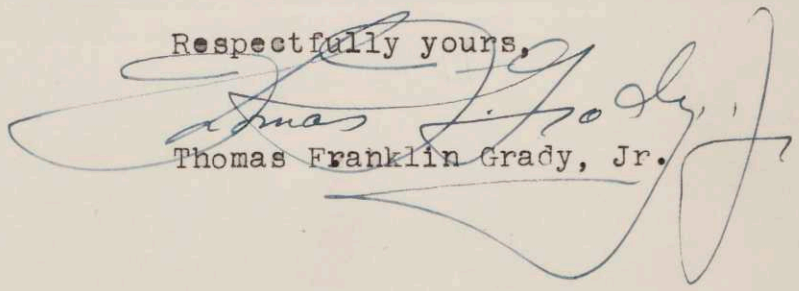
I write to you as a humble student of English Literature who is a devoted student also of the incomparable Sherlock Holmes.

I have received your name as the result of a long search to ascertain the names of the "Speckled Band of Boston."

This organization is the epitome of my ideals regarding the appreciation of that great mind of whom we speak. If you would be good enough to furnish me with the names of the "Keeper of the band" or of the "cheetah" so I will be able to obtain the requirements for membership, I shall be most grateful.

Awaiting your reply, I am

Respectfully yours,

  
Thomas Franklin Grady, Jr.

TFG/a

[ans 9/22/52]



**JEAN PAJUS**  
515 MADISON AVENUE, SUITE 825  
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

PLAZA 3-4985

July 28, 1952

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

Dear Prof. Wiener:-

As per the suggestion of Dr. Gumbel, I am taking the liberty of sending you a letter dealing with the German Re-armament which was published in the New York Times, Washington Post, Christian Science Monitor and other American publications.

Hoping this will be of interest to you, I  
am

Sincerely yours,

*Jean Pajus*  
Jean Pajus

Enc.

*no answer*



# Letters to T

## German Rearming Questioned

### Emergence Feared of Group Dedicated to Militarism

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

The undersigned, who are acquainted with German history and political realities, look with misgivings at the current unrealistic policy of the United States toward Germany. We believe that rearming of Germany, in any form, will harm the interests of this country.

The policy is unrealistic because it does not take into consideration the basic post-war attitude of the German people. Numerous polls show that the German masses are against remilitarization—partly for purely utilitarian reasons. Having suffered defeat in two world wars they do not want to be soldiers and defenders of Western civilization. They have tried to forget their past glories of militarism and cannot understand our pressure to re-educate them as soldiers.

Their reaction is comprehensible. We believe it would be desirable to encourage the Germans to take care of the victims of nazism—the orphans, the widows and the expellees—and to reconstruct their destroyed cities and factories instead of building barracks and manufacturing arms.

#### Distrust of Leadership

Americans, being responsible for the new Germany, run the risk of being accused of being hypocrites and unstable mentors, not exponents of moral world leadership.

Our policy planners believe that the German people are for rearmament under a European command because the Government of Dr. Adenauer says so. In reality the German masses today increasingly distrust the so-called leaders on whose support we are now counting. Nor can we be sanguine about the loyalty to Western ideals of a remilitarized Germany.

German professional militarists and those who stood behind Hitler always have and always will (even under a European command) defend what they consider their own interests. They will have the power to exploit the differences between the East and the West in order to resurrect a powerful Reich—as they did in the past. America thus would risk the collapse of her whole European policy by misplaced faith in leaders whose greater self-interest is to make an accord with Russia for the reunification of Germany and for Eastern markets. Such a policy is bound to have wide popular support among the German people, who desire, first and last, national unity.

#### Treaty Ratification

As American citizens we view with apprehension the undue haste in ratifying a treaty whose financial, military and moral consequences may so endanger our interests. Since no guarantees against German military domination of Western Europe exist, we believe that Germany's western neighbors will not be eager to ratify the treaty. Germany's neighbors are rightly afraid of any German army. The destruction caused in the last war is still visible. Therefore the United States' efforts to weaken Russian domination of Eastern Europe and Russian influence in the West will not succeed with this policy.

Only peace can assure Germany's future. This can be accomplished if Germany remains demilitarized. A demilitarized Germany will tend to take away from Russia her fear of encirclement; it would eliminate the danger of a resurgent German militarism, whether Communist or Rightist; it would eliminate the ancient Franco-German tensions; and, if backed by an over-all treaty within the framework of the United Nations, it could contribute to the unity and peace of Europe.

E. J. GUMBEL, L. HARRISON LAYTON,  
EMIL LENGYEL, JEAN PAJUS, ALBERT SIMARD.

New York, July 7, 1952.

#### Hazards in Modern Auto Design

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WALTHAM 54 · MASSACHUSETTS

July 28, 1952

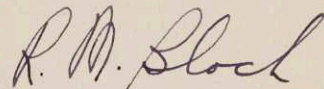
Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Department of Mathematics  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

The Raytheon Manufacturing Company and the Special Devices Center of the Office of Naval Research cordially invite you to attend an informal demonstration of RAYDAC - the Raytheon Digital Automatic Computer - on Thursday, July 31, 1952.

The Computer will be on display during the entire day at the Computer Department, 100 River Street, Waltham, Massachusetts.

Sincerely yours,



Richard M. Bloch, Manager  
Computer Department

RMB:sm



# SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

2 WEST 45TH STREET · NEW YORK 36, N. Y. · MURRAY HILL 7-1200

July 28, 1952

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I enclose our check in payment for your collaboration with George di Santillana on an article for our issue about automatic control.

Sincerely yours,

*Gerard Piel.*

Gerard Piel  
Publisher

enc.

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

[ans 8/18/52]



Publication -

COPY

July 29, 1952

The Editor  
Scientia  
Via Roncaglia 4  
Asso, Como  
Italy

Dear Sir:

I am returning the corrected proofs of my article  
and would like the fifty free copies in the original  
text.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 29, 1952

Dear Miss Goodwin:

I am coming to Cambridge to attend to some business Thursday afternoon of this week and shall drop into the office Friday morning. In case there is anyone who would like to consult with me, I am relying on your discretion to alert them or not as you think best.

Sincerely,

Norbert Wiener



HUGH LACY

545 PASADENA STREET  
WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA  
PHONE OXFORD 428-389

July 30, 1952

Professor Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

I am taking the liberty of sending you a copy of my book "Beyond Hypnosis" under separate cover. I hope it will be possible for you to find the time to read it, and if you care to, to write me what you think of it.

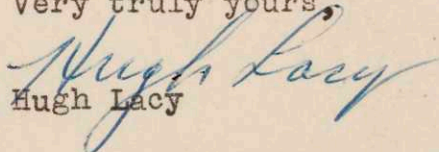
If you should write me please indicate whether or not I may have the privilege of quoting your comments --on a future cover jacket or otherwise.

Regardless of quotable comments I am interested in your opinion.

I have read your books with great interest.

Thanking you,

Very truly yours,

  
Hugh Lacy



Telephone:  
Cleeve Hill 241

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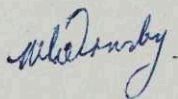
30th July, 1952.

Professor Norbert Wiener,  
So Tamworth,  
New Hampshire,  
U.S.A.

Dear Professor Wiener,

Dr. Bronowski has asked me to return your manuscript as you requested, and to say that he will be writing to you in a few days time.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss) M.E. Ornsby.  
Secretary to Dr. J. Bronowski.

[ans 8/29/52]



THE ANALYSTS JOURNAL  
HELEN SLADE, MANAGING EDITOR  
400 EAST 57TH STREET  
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

July 30 1952

Mr. Norbet Wiener  
M.I.T.  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Wiener:

You may be interested to know a number of financial analysts have taken to using "Cybernetics" as a method of more careful security analysis.

The Journal of the Financial Analysts Societies is issued quarterly. Among contributors to our next issue will be George Oliver May, Geoffrey Moore, Solomon Fabricant, Agness Joy Wickens. It would be not only an honor, but a boon to financial and security analysts could you write something concerning the application of Cybernetics to financial examinations. Next dead line will be Sept 15.

May I at this late date add your talk at the American Statistical Assn. has been of lasting benefit to me?

We are in a position to give contributors 500 reprints of their articles. This is what most seemingly desire. Again, Please.

Sincerely



Helen Slade.

[Ans 8/18/52]



So. Tamworth, N.H.  
July 30, 1952

Professor Albert E. Heins  
Department of Mathematics  
Carnegie Institute of Technology  
Schenley Park  
Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

Dear Heins:

You may certainly use my name as a sponsor in your application. I agree that the Wiener-Hopf equations can be very considerably generalized. This is correlated with the abandonment of the complete hypothesis of stability in prediction theory and with its replacement by a hypothesis of mere asymptotic stability. This hits very near the work which I shall have under way next fall on the application of prediction to quantum theory.

I hope you found refuge from the heat. It has broken here in New Hampshire and we are going through a period of cool nights.

I shall be talking at the Optical Society meeting at M.I.T. on the ninth of October. If you should be around about that time, I think we shall find plenty to discuss together.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener