

178

CORRESPONDENCE

sept. 1953

N. WIENER · MC 22



OPERATIONS RESEARCH SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA

JOHN B. LATHROP, SECRETARY  
C/O ARTHUR D. LITTLE, INC.  
30 MEMORIAL DRIVE  
CAMBRIDGE 42, MASS.

SK:nt

September 2, 1953

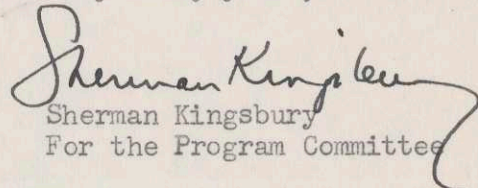
Professor Norbert Wiener  
Room 2-155  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

I understand from Professor Morse that you have agreed to address the November meeting of the Operations Research Society on Monday afternoon, November 23. We all are very much looking forward to your talk.

In order to make plans for the printed program to be issued shortly, we would be very grateful if you could provide a title for your talk. We have scheduled your talk for 1:30, and have left an hour open for it. If this is not satisfactory to you, please let me know as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

  
Sherman Kingsbury  
For the Program Committee

[ans 9/7/53]





# The Henry Ford Museum AND Greenfield Village

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

September 4, 1953

THE EDISON INSTITUTE

William Clay Ford, *President*  
A. K. Mills, *Executive Director*

## CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Doctor Wiener:

I am writing to you at the suggestion of several museum people with whom I have talked in the past month or so, and I hope you will not consider this letter an added burden.

As you probably know, The Henry Ford Museum contains some of the best mechanical arts collections in this country, if not in the world. These include steam engines, automobiles, carriages, trains, bicycles, agricultural material, and collections showing the growth and development of the electric light, telephone, radio, camera, etc.

Practically all of this material was assembled by Mr. Henry Ford between 1929 and 1940 and is placed in one large room covering more than eight acres in the main Museum building. While it is now effectively shown, we feel that it is confusing the average visitor, that it does not tell its story as effectively as it might, and that in some areas there is unquestionably duplication. Some of the major collections, including the Edison material, could, we think, be broken down into an exhibition in the Museum and a study collection perhaps placed in another building for the use of students.

Since the opening of the Museum we have never had a first-class mechanical arts curator. Mr. Ford himself, of course, had a great interest in this material and personally placed most of it on the floor.

Unlike some similar organizations such as The Franklin Institute in Philadelphia and the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, we do not need financial help from outside organizations. We are adequately financed through our own earnings and grants we have had from the Ford Fund and The Ford Foundation. In addition, we are offered many gifts from large corporations as well as individuals.

What we do need, Dr. Wiener, is a competent, knowledgeable mechanical arts curator. I know this is a hard job to fill, and I cannot help but feel that the ideal person would be a young man who might take

[and 9/30/53]



CHASKIEL GROSSMAN, M. D. 117 Spiers Rd Newton Ct.  
~~25 LINCOLN STREET~~ FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

9. 7. '53

Dear Dr. Wiener,

While reading your autobiography I came across your reputed descent from Rambam. If, by chance, you haven't yet seen your "ancestor" on a postage stamp, you may be able to look at him on the enclosed specimen.

Yours sincerely

Chaskiel Grossman





New York City, Sept. 7. 53.

Dear prof. Norbert Wiener.

I have been awarded  
a fellowship to study any  
aspect of American culture I  
choose. I want very much to  
go to your laboratory and study  
what you are doing. May I?

I hope you remember me.

De ventligste hilsner

Piet Hein



South Tamworth  
New Hampshire

September 7, 1953

Professor Clifford Bell  
Head, Mathematics Extension  
University of California  
Los Angeles 24, California

Dear Professor Bell:

This is to confirm my receipt of yours of August 24. I am coming with my wife and shall probably be a day or two in southern California before I make contact with you. I shall let you know my plans in more detail as soon as they are definite. Meanwhile, I fully concur in the plans you have made.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:jo



South Tamworth  
New Hampshire

September 7, 1953

Mr. Stuart Chase  
Georgetown  
Connecticut

Dear Mr. Chase:

I am delighted to receive your letter of August 28. I shall be down at M. I. T. from the ninth till Sunday the thirteenth. From noon Sunday the thirteenth on I shall be back at my summer house in East Sandwich, New Hampshire, and shall be glad to have you people drop in.

Our telephone number is Center Sandwich 46 ring 22.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:je



South Tamworth  
New Hampshire

September 7, 1953

Mr. John T. Frye  
1810 Spear Street  
Logansport, Indiana

My dear Mr. Frye:

Many thanks for your note of August 29. My second book on the subject of Cybernetics and entitled the HUMAN USE OF HUMAN BEINGS has appeared under the imprint of Houghton Mifflin.

Sincerely yours,

Horbert Wiener

NW:jo



South Tamworth  
New Hampshire

September 7, 1953

Mr. Sherman Kingsbury  
Operations Research Society of America  
30 Memorial Drive  
Cambridge 42, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Kingsbury:

I suggested tentatively for the title of my paper  
OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND COMMUNICATION. This is a  
theme that I have not worked up yet, but it is  
manifestly capable of being worked up, and I have  
ample time before the talk to give it to you in  
proper shape.

Sincerely yours,

Horbert Wiener

NW:je



South Tamworth  
New Hampshire

September 7, 1953

Secretariat  
Board of Foreign Scholarships  
Room 526 SA-26  
Educational Exchange Service  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I find that international contacts between scientists of different countries are vital for the maintenance of the level of science, not only in those countries but here at home. The war and the various political and economic consequences of the war have made it much more difficult to maintain these contacts. The Fulbright Foundation is doing invaluable work in maintaining international scientific contacts at an extremely difficult time.

However, the technique and methods of the Fulbright leaves a great deal to be desired. It is important for people in the lower economic brackets to which most scholars belong to know well in advance whether they will be able to go abroad and under what conditions, so that they can arrange their affairs both in the United States and abroad. I have found the correspondence of the Fulbright was tardy and chancy in this respect. In general, the money given is excessive for one person and not enough for two, and it is not easy to make arrangements on the spur of the moment which will not involve the possibility or the likelihood of a considerable loss on the part of the scholar having family responsibilities accepting a Fulbright grant. In general, the consequence has been that in many cases the best American scholars have not been able to take advantage of Fulbright grants, and that the level of Fulbright scholars, although high, is not as high as it should be.

The income tax arrangements for Fulbright fellows are onerous and unjust. In particular, I see no reason for the distinction made between those who go over for research and those who go over for teaching. As to myself, perhaps my main interest in going was research, although the thing that made my trip possible was an invitation from the College de France to teach there, and this invitation I could not have refused without



September 7, 1953

gross discourtesy. As I was engaged in research as well as in teaching at every moment, and as the preparation of my course was only possible on the basis of new research, I have thus been penalized for doing the only thing I could have done in decency.

I regard it, and here my wife concurs with me, as utterly essential that any person going abroad on a Fulbright grant of any sort to any European countries should speak the language of the country. This is not only of importance from the standpoint of international good will, but equally from the standpoint of the difficulties that Fulbright fellows will experience in the country of their destination. Here I particularly wish to emphasize the housing tangle, which is almost unsolvable in France, and probably elsewhere. If it had not been that we were at home in the French language, and furthermore that we had already had extensive acquaintanceship both among Americans and French, we could not have dealt with the problem.

I hope that these suggestions may prove of use to you.

Respectfully yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:jc



THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

2 EAST 103 STREET, NEW YORK 29, N. Y.

TELEPHONE TRAFALGAR 6-8200

September 8, 1953

Dear Norbert:

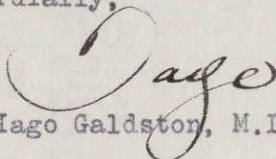
On July 16th I sent you a form asking for certain information which I need in order to publish our programme.

I have not received it, and hence I am sending you a duplicate to fill in. Please return it to me promptly. I am sure you appreciate that it takes quite a bit of time to get a programme published.

Dick caught sight of you some time ago and said you looked in fine shape.

My best to you,

Cordially,



Iago Galdston, M.D.

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

/am  
encl.



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
3518 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
LOS ANGELES 7

September 9, 1953

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I was most interested in your recent article, "Some maxims for biologists and psychologists." which appeared in *Dialectica*, 1950, 4, 186-191. If reprints are still available, I should be grateful to you for sending me one.

Sincerely,

*Herman Harvey*  
Herman Harvey  
Department of Psychology

HH:h

*sent  
copy*

*10/1/53*



COPY

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
PORTLAND 1, OREGON

DEPARTMENT OF ANATOMY

September 9, 1953

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I am planning to apply to the U. S. Public Health Service for a special research fellowship to do some studies at MIT. I am writing you this letter to inquire if it would be possible to undertake a research project principally in your department toward a degree of doctorate in mathematics.

Briefly, I have a contract with the Office of Naval Research and U. S. Public Health Service to investigate the communication aspect of the central nervous system, particularly in reference to the auditory system. I am sending you reprints, under separate cover, to give you some idea of the work. The work is progressing satisfactorily but I feel the need of further training in mathematics, communications and statistics in order to make further progress in the field.

My training in mathematics consists of two years of calculus at Reed College, under Dr. F. L. Griffin, and some independent study of advanced calculus for engineers, statistics, communication and probability theory. I have also studied elementary aspects of mathematics in connection with electronics and acoustics. Last year I aided in teaching statistics here at the medical school.

My plan under the fellowship is to take the courses necessary for a doctorate and special training in communications, probability and statistics, with the selection of a research problem involving mathematics in communication theory or some aspect thereof.



TO: Dr. Norbert Wiener

Page 2  
9-9-53

I would appreciate knowing your impression of the proposal and whether you would be willing to undertake the direction of my work if the fellowship should be granted as proposed. The tentative starting date of the fellowship would be between March and June of 1954 and would terminate in June of 1955.

I am personally acquainted with Drs. Bekesy, Newman, Licklider, and others there in Cambridge.

Sincerely yours,

Archie R. Tunturi, M.D., Ph.D.

ART:gf

*Neenah*  
SUCCESS BOND  
FAC CONTENT  
MADE IN U.S.A.



In A. W. M. C. ...  
Messrs. ...  
Sept. 9-53

By use of a light meter a page  
of riceid cloud was exposed illuminated  
or against a lighted back ground the  
letters could be given an ~~electric~~ <sup>electric</sup> quality by  
this means + stamp into the enclosed  
~~electric~~ <sup>electric</sup> phonics typewriter. This  
seem to have some value in a apparatus  
to read aloud from a printed page.

F.H.

If the printed or written matter were given  
a fourfold process <sup>or ~~three~~</sup> the sound might  
be coordinated with the above typewriter  
or actuate the down process as  
recently developed by H. G. man.

\*\*\*

from



BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED  
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT  
BY ORDINARY MAIL.



POSTAGE PAID 6  
Professor Norbert Wiener, F.R.S.,  
Department of Mathematics,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
MASSACHUSETTS  
(U.S.A.)



Corr - 66

First fold here

Third fold here

Second fold here

Sender's name and address:—

Dr. B.N. Prasad, D.Sc., Ph.D., M.Sc.,  
F.N.I.,  
General Secretary (Out-station),  
Indian Science Congress Assn.,  
Lakshmi Niwas,  
George Town,  
Allahabad-2. (INDIA)

To open cut here



Ref.No.ISCA/FS-18/53-54.

"LAKSHMI NIWAS"  
George Town, Allahabad-2.(INDIA)  
D/- September 10, 1953.

Dear Professor Wiener,

Kindly refer to my previous letter No.ISCA/FS-1/53-54 dated the 13th August, 1953, in connection with your most welcome visit to India.

I have received a copy of your letter dated the 24th July, 1953, addressed to Professor M.S. Sundaram, Education Department, Embassy of India, Washington. I hope by this time all the arrangements regarding obtaining of passport and visa must have been completed.

While preparing an itinerary of your programme, we shall fully bear in mind the suggestions you have given in your letter and shall take every care so that your <sup>tips</sup> may not prove unduly straining.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

B. N. Prasad  
(B.N. PRASAD)

Professor Norbert Wiener, F.R.S.,  
Department of Mathematics,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
MASSACHUSETTS.  
U.S.A.

3

[ms 16/5/53]



STUART CHASE

Saturday

Telegrams: Redding, Connecticut

GEORGETOWN, CONNECTICUT

Dear Dr. Wiener - That's fine, we'll  
telephone as soon as we get settled  
at the Lake. Brook & Bredle Mrs,  
Wolfboro. Leaving here Monday.

Yours

Stuart Chase



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Dr. Norbert Wiener  
East Sandwich  
New Hampshire



groff ~~and lucy~~ conklin

432 west 22 street  
new york 11, n. y.

Sept. 14, 1953

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Back home and relatively settled, and now catching up on some urgent correspondence. My first word for you is that Fantasy and Science Fiction found they could not use "The Brain" because my book would come out with it before they would have a chance to print it. I'm terribly sorry I didn't have the sense to send it to them earlier. Forgive me, please.

The other point is: have you had a chance to give any thought to my proposal for a symposium called "The Peopled Universe"? I'd like to have your reactions to it if and when you have the time.

Most cordially,

*T. P. Conklin*

[and 9/30/53]



# The Call Association, Inc.

303 FOURTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 10, N. Y. • GRamercy 3-4286

A NON-PROFIT FOUNDATION DEDICATED TO THE CREATION OF A COOPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH

**President**

NORMAN THOMAS

September 16, 1953

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EDMUND WILSON

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

Dear Prof. Wiener:

I was happy to receive your letter earlier this year, when you were good enough to suggest that you might find it possible to write an article for the Call at some later date.

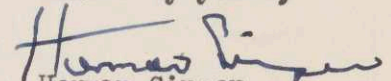
The Call is now changing into a monthly magazine form, and we are particularly anxious to make our first (October) issue as worthwhile as possible.

We wonder, therefore, if you would be kind enough to contribute an article to the October Call. It had occurred to me, in view of the recent discussion of automation in some business publications, you might be interested in dealing with a theme such as "Automation: Myth, Threat or Hope." Of course, any theme or treatment you might select would be most valuable and interesting.

I do hope it will be possible for you to write an article of some 2,500-3,000 words in time for our first issue, whose deadline is September 28.

Thank you for your courtesy.

Sincerely yours,

  
Herman Singer  
Associate Editor

[ans 9/30/53]



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Department of Mathematics  
Los Angeles 24, California

September 19, 1953

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

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you very much for your fine cooperation in making it possible to produce, on schedule, the brochure concerning MATHEMATICS FOR MODERN ENGINEERING. I enclose two additional copies for your convenience.

Some people have expressed the opinion that the course might be frightening to the average engineer, who probably did only fairly well when he took his mathematics several years ago. I have consistently assured them that all of you are noted for your keen appreciation of these difficulties, that you are clear, interesting, and inspiring lecturers, that you probably will dwell extensively on historical considerations, will thoroughly motivate your discussions, will extensively illustrate them with simple applications, and will not too much use the audience as a sounding board for your own latest researches, so that each auditor should leave each session with a much clearer grasp of "what it is all about"!

Please excuse me for writing you again in this vein, but I have been urgently requested to do so; and of course I share the opinion that we must constantly bear in mind the nature of our audience.

Sincerely yours,

*E. F. Beckenbach*

E. F. Beckenbach

EFB:mh



77-12 Vleigh Place,  
Flushing, 67, New York,  
September 20, 1953.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I hope that you will not feel it is presumptuous of me to ask you for advice. I do so because your two books, Cybernetics and The Human Use of Human Beings, Ashby's Design for a Brain, and Walter's The Living Brain have opened up a new approach to psychology for me, one for which I had been groping but toward which I could find no direction. And, from what I could learn of your philosophy, it seemed to me that yours was advice that I would value especially.

I am a senior at Barnard College and am majoring in psychology. I plan to enter the field of experimental psychology and would like to be equipped, eventually, to do work such as that indicated in yours and the other books I have mentioned.

When I graduate, I will have taken one year of advanced physics, a term of analytic geometry and a year of calculus (including possibly a term of advanced calculus, if I am given special permission), and a course in zoology, as well as courses in psychology, including a year of experimental psychology and a term of statistics, and courses in English, philosophy, anthropology, sociology, etc.

It has become apparent to me, especially after reading Cybernetics, in which I found so much that was beyond me, that a background in advanced mathematics is requisite for the work that I would like to do. I imagine that the ideal program for me would be a combination of mathematics, physics and psychology. I realize that, regardless of which university I attend, I will be taking basic courses; however I feel that almost as valuable as the classes I take, will be the contact I will be able to have with fruitful, advanced work being done. For this reason, I would rather not continue studying psychology at Columbia.

4



Do you think that Massachusetts Institute of Technology is the place for me to go for my Master's degree? If it is, what courses should I plan to take? Would it be advisable for me to take a combined course of mathematics, physics and psychology, or would it be better for me to get my Master's in mathematics? If it is not, where would it be best for me to go?

I shall be more than grateful if you find time to answer; however, in any case, I shall owe you a debt since it is through your books that I have regained confidence that even today it is possible to have a vital, progressive attitude towards science. I hope that your pessimism will prove unwarranted and that the second industrial revolution, to which you have contributed so much, will prove a happier one than that preceding it.

Sincerely,

*Carol Schnitzer*

Carol Schnitzer

[ans 10/5/53]



john diebold

September 21, 1953

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

At the risk of imposing on your good nature, this is a second attempt to persuade you to talk informally to the American Management Association seminar in New York City.

Gordon Brown talked to the first three day session of the group in September and found them very receptive. He and I discussed the possibility of your being free to address the final three day session, which will be held October 14th through 16th. I realized that I may not have made clear the informal character of the seminar and the fact that no paper need be prepared -- in fact, an informal discussion would be preferred. The time required would thus be limited to the trip to New York, the expenses for which would, of course, be covered by the American Management Association.

The group of executives attending the seminar would be very honored, Professor Wiener, to have you talk to them about the industrial meaning of cybernetics, if it is at all possible for you to fit such a trip into your very busy schedule. I hope that it will be.

With very best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely,

*John Diebold*

62 Columbia Terrace  
Weehawken, New Jersey

②

[avg 10/13/53]



THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

2 EAST 103 STREET

NEW YORK 29, N. Y.

TELEPHONE TRAFALGAR 6-8200

September 21, 1953

Dear Norbert:

It was a great pleasure to hear your voice. It rings with enthusiasm and is in itself inspiring.

So as to comply with your request, I am sending you again details of the organization of your lecture.

Yours will be the opening address of the series, on Wednesday evening, November 4, 1953. You are to be at the Academy at 6:30 P.M., or earlier; dinner will be at seven o'clock.

The lecture will begin promptly at 8:30. You will have from fifty to seventy-five minutes for your address and a question period is to follow.

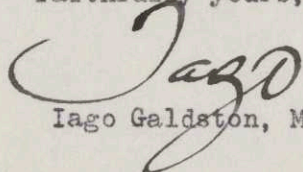
In the instructions sent you on April 30th, I offered the following suggestion for the basis of the historical instruction to your presentation.

I have in mind (but, of course, subject to your elaboration and modification) some historic references as Galvani's use of electric currents in studying nerve function and muscle contraction; the use of static electricity as a diagnosis and therapeutic instrument; Einthoven's electro Galvanometer; the later application of the electronic valve in brain wave studies. Then, possibly, you might switch from the historical to the current situation, touching on the field in which you are so very well informed, namely, the application of the science of physics, in anesthesia, in respiration, in the guidance of the blind, deafness, etc.

Your experience with the work you are doing on electro encephalography will, I am sure, be most interesting, but please bear in mind that you have a lay audience and pitch your language and your thought formulations so that they will be comprehensible to them.

Do send me the 250-word summary right away, for I need it for publication of the programme.

Faithfully yours,

  
Iago Galdston, M.D.

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39  
Massachusetts

/am

[and 9/30/53]



THE  
NEW YORKER

No. 25 WEST 43RD STREET



EDITORIAL OFFICES  
OXFORD 3-1414

September 22, 1953

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I understand that we are making \$20 apiece from the Reader's Digest for the quotation attributed to you in that article in This Week. This is all very well, but I would like to point out that three words in the quotation, ~~were~~ including two conjunctives, were actually invented by me personally. You are therefore morally obligated to me for the sum of 50 cents, which ~~will~~ I expect you to pay off in coffee next time you are in New York. Remember, it's a date. I'd like to see you again.

Sincerely,

Thomas Whiteside

P.S. I am doing a Profile on Sylvester L. Weaver, the NBC man, and I understand you've talked to him. What were your impressions of him, and what did you talk about?

[and 9/30/53]



UNIVERSITY



OF KENTUCKY

LEXINGTON

September 23, 1953.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Professor Norbert Weiner  
Department of Mathematics  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

Professor Feshbach has told me about your forthcoming paper on quantum mechanics. If you have an extra preprint of this paper, I would appreciate your sending one, as this is a subject of great interest to me. You may recall that you discussed this topic with me when I was a student in your Mathematics of Biology class at M.I.T.

Very truly yours,

*John R. Lamarsh*  
John R. Lamarsh  
Assistant Professor of  
Physics

JRL/gh

*Send  
copy*

*10/1/53*



JOHN SIMON GUGGENHEIM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

551 Fifth Avenue

New York City 17

September 23, 1953

TO FELLOWS:

When you were sent a copy of our Report for 1951-52 there was enclosed a message that we would appreciate suggestions from the Fellows about top-grade applicants for future Guggenheim Fellowships. This letter is to reinforce that message; to urge you, please, to think about it; and to ask you to give us the benefit of your advice as soon as you can. If you are one of those Fellows who already has written us in response to our first message, please remember that this is a perennial concern of ours and that next year as well as this year, and throughout every year, we shall be interested in your suggestions. For Fellowship grants, to assist first-class prospects, are our perennial, and only, concern.

Our Fellowships now are granted to citizens and permanent residents of Canada, of the United States, of all the American Republics, of the British Caribbean and of the Republic of the Philippines. Your suggestions are invited with respect to persons from any and all of these sources of Guggenheim Fellows.

We often are asked questions about the size of our grants. The published announcement (copy enclosed) of our Fellowships says this on the subject:

"The grants will in the normal case be \$3,000 for a year of twelve months . . . in general, the amount of the grant will be adjusted to the needs of each Fellow, considering his other resources and the purpose and scope of his studies."

The fact is that our grants nowadays, more often than not, run to more than "\$3,000 for a year of twelve months," and, accordingly, I am asked, and asked reasonably, why we don't say so. My answer goes like this, in essence: This announcement goes out by the thousands every year, and I am not anxious to attract many applications of the character that I feel sure would be attracted by a statement of a larger dollar figure. Furthermore, I belong to the administrative school that thinks it better to promise less and do more, rather than to promise more and do less.

On another subject, our announcement, near the end of the first paragraph, refers to a development of our Fellowship awards. We described this development in our Report for 1949-50, as follows:



" . . . grants also will be made to persons who need types of assistance, other than those ordinarily comprehended within the term fellowship, to bring their intellectual and artistic capacities to still higher levels of quality. Thus we shall continue to grant the type of assistance which we heretofore have granted, to which shall be added other types of assistance. The new types of assistance contemplate grants for the following purposes among others: for field expenses for gathering data, provision for assistance and assistants for various purposes to enable the Fellow to get on with his studies, provision for travel, the purchase of photographs, photostats, scientific apparatus of modest cost, supplies needed for the studies, and generally to provide the needed tools of research and artistic creation to bring the scholar's and the artist's productivity up to his best. It is contemplated that this new kind of Fellowship award may extend over a period of several years."

Some Fellows have expressed their apprehension that these developments of our plans might result in crowding out younger scholars and creative workers from our Fellowship lists. The answer is that it has not done so and will not do so; for the Trustees of the Foundation are resolved that young scholars and artists of first-rate promise shall have the first claims to our money and that grants to them shall be the first charge on our budgets.

I return to the prime purpose of this letter: to ask for your assistance in getting in touch with first-rate prospects for our grants. The nominal due-date for applications for 1954-55 is October 15, 1953; but that is not a dead-line and we shall continue to accept requests as long as we can, consistent with having enough time to prepare them for the consideration of the Committee of Selection.

Your help will be appreciated.

*With feelings of thanks*  
*Yes*  
*[Signature]*

Henry Allen Moe  
Secretary

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

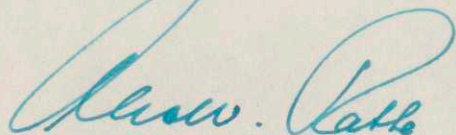
[see 12-8-53  
and 12-10-53]



Dear Dr. Wiener:

I read with the greatest of pleasure that you have consented again to come to New York to address the SAM's Metropolitan Chapter in February. Naturally, both Mrs. Rathe and I are looking forward to that occasion with real anticipation. If that would be convenient for you, we'd love to have your company for lunch or dinner - either in New York or at our home (165 Westchester Avenue, Thornwood, NY).

Kind regards.



September 23, 1953

[ans 9/30/53]

From the Desk of PROF. ALEX W. RATHE



COMDR. J. F. CUNIFF, CEC, USN  
513 ESSEX CIRCLE  
NAVAL ORDNANCE TEST STATION, INYOKERN  
CHINA LAKE, CALIFORNIA

24 September 1953

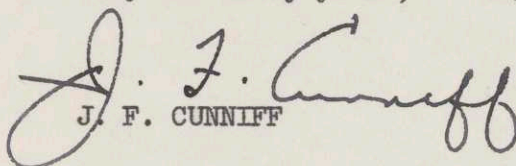
My dear Dr. Wiener:

I noticed just today in a bulletin crossing my desk that you are scheduled for a lecture at this Station on October 21st.

I was a student at M.I.T. in Course I from 1921 to 1925 and during that time my mathematic professors included Passano, Bailey and Douglas. Also, I either had instruction from you in one of your regular classes or attended some of your lectures.

If you had time on the 21st, I would be very happy to have you as a guest at luncheon at my quarters and meet my family. Of course, this latter group is now of limited size since both our children are married and away from us.

Very sincerely yours,

  
J. F. CUNIFF

JFC:ln

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

[ans 9/30/53]



# JOHN WILEY & SONS, INC.

ESTABLISHED 1807

PUBLISHERS OF BOOKS

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NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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TELEPHONE  
MURRAY HILL 9-7630

September 24, 1953

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
South Tamworth, New Hampshire

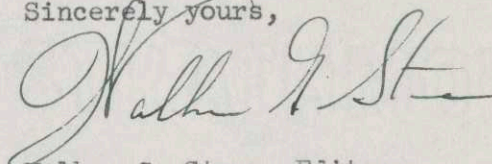
Dear Dr. Wiener:

On August 18th Mr. W. Bradford Wiley invited you to comment on Dr. D.A. Sholl's (University College, London) prospectus for his proposed new book on THEORIES, MODELS AND BRAINS.

Mr. Wiley invited you to offer your frank opinion on Dr. Sholl's abilities and his proposal.

We do hope that you will look kindly toward this request and favor us with your reply by return mail.

Sincerely yours,



Walker G. Stone, Editor  
Engineering Sciences

WGS:bh

[ans 9/30/53]





THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

*Extension Division*

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING  
Madison 6, Wisconsin  
September 24, 1953

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I have read of the three one-day talks that you are giving at The University of California entitled; "Theory of Prediction," to be presented October 19, 20, and 22, 1953.

Part of my duties at The University Extension Division of The University of Wisconsin, here at Madison is planning and conducting engineering institutes. As part of the series of programs we offer, I have been contemplating adding several one-day subjects slanted to the applied mathematics field.

Perhaps your itinerary on returning to Cambridge, Massachusetts would allow you to stop over in Madison and present a very similar subject to that given at the University of California.

The University of Wisconsin will issue an honorarium reimbursing you for expenses incurred in such a venture. This type of activity of the University must be self supporting so I would appreciate determining what your fee would be for appearing on our program.

There is not much time to print and distribute an announcement of the program so let me know at your earliest convenience if you are interested in accepting this invitation and what date is most suitable for you.

Cordially yours,

*R. C. Tegtmeyer*

R. C. Tegtmeyer  
Institute Coordinator

RCT:N

Enc.

[ans 9/30/53]



*Programs  
already scheduled*

The University of Wisconsin  
University Extension Division and College of Engineering  
-----

SCHEDULE OF ENGINEERING INSTITUTES

-- 1953 --

Diesel Operators -----September 30, October 1 and 2  
Graphical Presentations-----October 6, 7, and 8  
Illumination-----October 12, 13, and 14  
Automatic Process Control-----October 19 and 20  
Steam Plant Operation-----October 21, 22, and 23  
  
Automation in Chemical Industry-----November 12 and 13  
Economics of Construction-----November 16 and 17  
Tool Engineering-----November 18, 19, and 20  
Surveyors-----December 1, 2, and 3  
Plant Maintenance-----December 9, 10, and 11

-- 1954 --

Welding Applications-----January 13, 14, and 15  
Electric Meters-----January 20, 21, and 22  
Industrial Heat Transfer-----January 25, 26, and 27  
Industrial Waste Problems-----January 28 and 29  
Industrial Instrumentation-----February 2 and 3  
  
Television-----February 10, 11, and 12  
Highway Engineering-----February 23 through 26  
Drafting Practices-----March 10, 11, and 12  
Industrial Ventilation-----March 16 and 17  
Corrosion Control-----March 24, 25, and 26  
  
Industrial Research Organization-----April 6 and 7  
Mathematical Methods-----April 14, 15, and 16  
Engineering Organization-----April 27 and 28  
Fleet Supervisors-----May 3 through 7  
Power System Protection-----May 12, 13, and 14  
  
Atomic Energy-----May 19, 20, and 21  
Industrial Furnace Applications-----May 26, 27, and 28  
Technical Report Writing-----June 1 and 2  
Automation in Manufacturing-----June 29 and 30  
Warm Air Heating-----July 13 through 16



DOUBLEDAY & COMPANY, INC., Publishers



575 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 22 - MURRAY HILL 8-5300

September 25, 1953

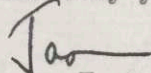
Dear Professor Wiener:

Here at last is the type-script with the revisions. I am terribly sorry that it took so long, but I wanted several people here to read it before I passed it back to you and it's only now ready. I am sending to you more or less what we accomplished in New Hampshire with a few further stylistic revisions that I made here in the office. There are also one or two question marks in the text which I hope you will answer. Please consider this a tentative revision and mark it up as much as you like. We still have a few months before the press becomes urgent, and I think that the book still needs more continuity and in some places more depth. I have not returned the final chapter, which we all feel ~~is~~ inappropriate to the body of the book, and I hope that you will consider attacking the problem of a summary in a different manner. Your argument with the Society of Jesus might make a good magazine article or perhaps a good conclusion to a different book, but to consider that the Jesuits and to a lesser extent the Communists sum up the obstacles to effective communication in our world seems to oversimplify the situation extremely.

I have not dealt with the footnote problem since with the revisions in the present text some of them probably won't apply as they did in the original edition, but I hope you will have a chance to run through them and see which goes where.

With best wishes to you and Mrs. Wiener,

Sincerely yours,

  
Jason Epstein

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

①  
JE:nr

①  
70

Cons. 10-6-53]



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO  
ALBUQUERQUE

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND ASTRONOMY

25 September 1953

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

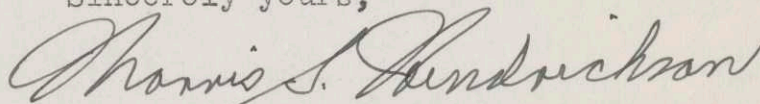
Dear Professor Wiener:

In reading a pamphlet put out by the Extension Division of the University of California, I noticed that you are giving a lecture there on October 19th. It seemed quite probable to me that in traveling to meet your lecture engagement, you would pass through Albuquerque. If such should be the case, we would very much like to have you stop over here to present a lecture to us.

I would appreciate it very much if you would let me know whether this would be possible and what remuneration you would consider sufficient to repay you for your time, trouble and added expenses.

Since we are quite isolated from most of the mathematical world, we would like to take advantage of every opportunity to hear someone of your professional standing. Our funds for such undertakings are quite limited, however, and we usually have to pick someone up "on the fly".

Sincerely yours,



Morris S. Hendrickson, Chairman  
Department of Mathematics  
& Astronomy

MSH/ael



[ans 10/5/53]





# SIMON AND SCHUSTER, INC.

*publishers*

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

September 25, 1953

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Joe Barnes has now had the opportunity to read your manuscript carefully, and Mr. Schuster has also been called in, though he has not read the entire manuscript. I am afraid that the general feeling against publishing, which I was anticipating when you telephoned recently, prevails.

I should like to go into some detail about the rationale of this decision, partly because I believe I owe it to you as your editor and your friend, partly because it may suggest to you other uses that large portions of the material might be put to.

From the point of view of publication on a general trade list, your present book unavoidably lacks the principal ingredient that I believe made a success of the first book - that is, a tense and deeply human conflict. I refer, of course, to the conflict between the extraordinarily gifted child and the world of grown-ups, a conflict exemplified in a peculiarly poignant way by your childhood relationship with your father. Once that conflict was largely resolved, your story could not help losing the popular dramatic content which made the first book so widely appealing.

Mr. Barnes, in a careful analytical report on your new manuscript, points out that it contains four main stories interwoven with each other: (1) a portrait gallery of certain great contemporary men in science; (2) the story of your own academic career on several continents; (3) the moral problems of modern science; (4) the story of mathematical research over the last generation. In addition, there is a certain amount of personal material not always germane to the principal threads of the story.

Now, these four principal threads hold very considerable interest, though not necessarily with the same audience. Most important, perhaps, is the fact that on account of your attempt to weave them all into autobiographical form, none of them is really sufficiently developed to be entirely satisfactory. Thus, for example, what you have to say about Heaviside, or about Pupin, or about Haldane, or even about Bush is of considerable interest but too slight to be entirely satisfying. Again, the chapter you have on the moral problems of modern scientists (which, incidentally, strikes me as the single, most successful chapter in the whole book) does not go into the subject comprehensively enough or in enough detail quite to stand on its own feet detached from the rest of the book; nor even within the framework of the book, is the statement and your position on the question quite sufficient. In regard to the fourth thread - the story of mathematical research - you have attempted not to frighten away the



SIMON AND SCHUSTER, INC.

Ungelehrte by holding the technical language at a minimum. I am afraid that particular device makes you fall between two stools - that is, there is probably not enough of the material and of detail to satisfy a professional mathematician, while the comparatively small references are completely missed by even the intelligent non-mathematician with the result that he feels mildly irritated rather than enlightened. At least this is so for a reader like myself, who is hard put to it to distinguish between a Brownian movement and a watch movement.

For myself, I despair of the possibility of advising you just how this material might be whipped into shape for a book for popular consumption. Frankly, if I could see any way of doing it (and I have given it a good deal of thought), I should certainly make the attempt; for I was delighted with the way my conscientious, though sometimes severe, criticism of your original manuscript was received and with the gratifying way in which my general suggestions - when they were valid - were immediately realized in the form of excellent revisions. This process is the most deeply gratifying that an editor can have, and you may be sure that I should jump at the chance of going through it again if I honestly thought there was a likelihood of success. But it would be frustrating to both of us if we were to embark on such an arduous voyage without a pretty clear idea of a good chance to bring the ship safely home.

What, then, can be done with the available material that is latent in the manuscript? I believe that you have here material for the basis of a number of stimulating, enlightening, and valuable contributions to various magazines. With a little more research, perhaps, a whole series of portraits of scientists might emerge for a magazine like the Atlantic Monthly. I could understand, however, how this type of research and writing would not particularly appeal to you. There are other possibilities in each of the other threads. For example, a somewhat enlarged statement on the moral problems of modern science with more specific examples and with more reference to the problems of other scientists besides yourself would be welcome in many places. The history of mathematics in the last generation or two could be done for a magazine like Scientific American. And so I could go on.

Should you embark on this kind of literary decomposition of your present manuscript and reconstruction of some of its component elements, there could easily evolve another book, one made up of a series of self-sufficient essays which, added up together and reflecting light from each other might make an extremely valuable statement of your own philosophy of science specifically, as well as of other aspects of the current scene (such as academic life, education, international understanding, etc.). Such a book might even bear the title of the present manuscript: I AM A MATHEMATICIAN.

However, I am perhaps going a little too fast. I have made quite a few observations and you may find you do or do not agree with most of them. In any event, I should very much like to know your reaction to them; and if there is any way in which bouncing your ideas against my mind may help, I am always ready for the exercise.

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

Very sincerely yours,

*Henry C. Simon*

hws:lf

[AND 10/5/53]



Sir Shanti S. Bhatnagar, D.Sc., F.R.S.  
Secretary to the Government of India

5194/PA/53

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
& SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

New Delhi, 26th Sept., 1953.

My dear *Prof. Norbert Wiener,*

I was happy to learn that you will be coming to India for the next session of the Indian Science Congress Association to be held in Hyderabad in January 1954. I am looking forward to meeting you. Could you please let me know the particular institutes, universities and places you would like to visit while in India and also tell me the date and time you expect to arrive in India, so that necessary arrangements for your stay and itinerary in India may be made in good time.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

*S. S. Bhatnagar*

(S. S. BHATNAGAR)

Prof. Norbert Wiener, FRS.,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Massachusetts (U.S.A.).

(9)

[Cons 10/5/53]



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

September 28, 1953

Dear Wiener,

I have learned to my great delight that you are to come to Berkeley next month to lecture.

Knowing full well that lecture committees have a habit of absorbing all the time of their guests, I thought I would write early and ask if you could spare a little time to renew old - and for me and Miss Kingsley - highly valued acquaintances. We live side by side (we rent a house from her) only a short walk from the University. (5)

I am now on a sabbatical, writing the second volume on colonial



cites - you assisted as midwife  
in the delivery of the other at Tech  
in 1938. Thus I can be reached  
best at home - the only Biden (mfl)  
in the directory.

I can come and pick you up  
at any time, and we'd love to have  
you for dinner, tea, or ~~any~~ any time you  
desire - even unto a vegetarian  
repast. If Mrs. Wiener is to be  
with you, of course we want to see  
her too.

California is so vast, that  
unless one makes a few plans  
~~to~~ people can pass and never  
know of each other's presence.

Where will you be staying?

Faithfully,

Carl Bidenbaugh

[Cms 10/5/53]

Thornwell 3-9294  
1617 Euclid Ave  
Berkeley 9.

P.S. My regards to  
all old Tech friends,  
especially Shunk.



THE NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR GENERAL SEMANTICS, Inc.

~~546 BROADWAY~~ • NEW YORK ~~NY~~ N. Y.

~~CANAL 6-0962x~~

~~CANAL 6-0350x~~

New York Academy of Sciences Building  
2 East 63rd Street  
TE 8-0230

September 28, 1953

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

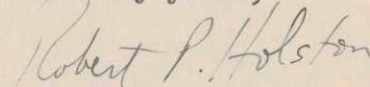
Would you be interested in addressing the New York Society for General Semantics on relationships you see between Korzybski's work and your own? Many of our members have read your books with great interest and profit, and would appreciate the opportunity of hearing you in person.

Unfortunately, our treasury does not permit us to pay our speakers an honorarium. We can, however, sometimes manage expenses. Out-of-towners who speak to our group generally give us an evening on the occasion of a trip to New York for some other business.

I notice that you will be talking to the Society for the Advancement of Management on February 18th, and wondered if either the 17th or 19th would therefore provide possibilities? Or any other time that would be more convenient for you.

I hope you will see your way to making a favorable reply.

Sincerely yours,



Robert P. Holston, Ph.D.  
President

RPH:cw





THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

2 EAST 103 STREET, NEW YORK 29, N. Y.

TELEPHONE TRAFALGAR 6-8200

September 29, 1953

Dear Norbert:

I am sure you will not recognize "your baby," but here is the summary of your lecture which I plan to publish in the programme.

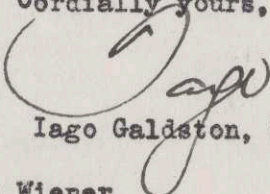
I know that your presentation will be most interesting.

May I beg of you once again to be sure to get your audience oriented before you plunge into great depths. Do spend a good bit of your time citing the simple historical instances in which physics was utilized in medicine.

Despite your excellent propoganda, Cybernetics, the Theory of Communication, and the Theory of Control are still strange and mystifying concepts for the average man. BE YE, THEREFORE, MERCIFUL and bear in mind that these are Laity Lectures.

Also, is there anyone who you would like me to invite as a guest to the dinner preceding your lecture?

Cordially yours,

  
Iago Galdston, M.D.

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

/am  
encl.

[am 10/13/53]



STATEMENT TO ACCOMPANY THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE LAITY  
LECTURE BY NORBERT WIENER, Ph.D.

WHEN HIPPOCRATES, more than 2,000 years ago, built a machine with which to move dislocated joints back into their normal position he "applied physics to medicine." The science of physics has always played a prominent role in the healing art, and more so today than ever before.

The speaker, Professor Norbert Wiener, one of the world's noted mathematicians and the inventor of Cybernetics, is pre-eminently competent to deal with this subject.

Looking upon the treatment of disease as an "operational problem," Professor Wiener will show both the historical and the contemporaneous application of physics to medicine.



94.1 MC, Channel 231  
Phone: ASHberry 3-6767

# K P F A

2207 Shattuck Avenue  
Berkeley 4, California

A NON-PROFIT LISTENER-SPONSORED RADIO STATION

September 29, 1953

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I understand from Professor Morrey of the University of California that you are going to be delivering a lecture on the "Theory of Prediction" at the Berkeley campus on October 22.

In the past, we have had a number of programs on cybernetics, including the one with Gregory Bateson. We would very much like to be able to record an interview with you at your convenience while you are here in the Bay Area, dealing perhaps with some of the issues raised in your various books in the field. There would be no necessity of any advance preparation for such an interview, but simply an informal exploration of the points you would like to cover immediately prior to recording the interview. The whole process would probably take about an hour, and we are close by the University of California campus.

I hope very much that it may be possible for you to record such an interview when you are out here. Hoping to hear from you at your early convenience.

Sincerely yours,

*Wallace Hamilton*  
Wallace Hamilton  
Public Affairs

wh:mv  
Enc.: Folio

cc: Professor Morrey  
Gregory Bateson

9

OWNED AND OPERATED BY PACIFICA FOUNDATION

[ans 10/6/53]





## THE READER'S DIGEST

PLEASANTVILLE • NEW YORK

No robot could come even close to duplicating the human brain. A machine even remotely like it would have to be about the size of Rockefeller Center, and it would take several lifetimes to wire it up. The electrical-power requirements would be about equal to the power used now to supply the greater part of New York City. And the necessary cooling system would be so enormous that you'd probably have to divert the Hudson to supply it.

— Dr. Norbert Wiener, quoted by Thomas Whiteside in *This Week*

September 29, 1953

Dear Dr. Wiener:

The attached item, attributed to you, is scheduled to appear on page 46 of our November issue. We take pleasure in enclosing our check for \$20 in payment.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Belmont  
Massachusetts

*Corinne Johnson*



# HUGHES

## *Research and Development Laboratories*

HUGHES AIRCRAFT COMPANY • DIVISION HUGHES TOOL COMPANY

CULVER CITY • LOS ANGELES COUNTY • CALIFORNIA

Telephones: EXbrook 8-2711 • TExas 0-7111

September 29, 1953

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

I notice that you plan to be in the Los Angeles area near the middle of October and wonder whether we could persuade you to speak in our Laboratories on any subject you choose. It might be a one-hour version of your "Theory of prediction" lecture scheduled for the University of California at Los Angeles on 19 October or anything else that you have readily on tap and would be interested in giving.

The proposed talk would constitute one of our Research Lecture Series, which are usually scheduled for 4:00 P.M. and on any weekday except Saturday. Our Laboratories and the UCLA campus are about 20 min apart by taxicab or Company car, and we are about 15 min from the International Airport. I see that you are scheduled for evenings at UCLA on Monday, 19 October, at Corona (about 75 mi southeast of here) on Tuesday 20 October, and at Berkeley on Thursday 22 October. Any day of this week would be satisfactory, or of the preceding or following weeks, for instance, Friday 16 October. Of course we would take care of any hotel and meal expense resulting from an alteration of your schedule to give the lecture. There is also a lecture honorarium of one hundred dollars.

The plan we like to follow when possible is to have the lecturer arrive at the Laboratories in time for a noon luncheon with a small group, followed by a trip through the Laboratories and a tea just before the lecture. We have some 4000 people in our research and development laboratories, about 1200 of whom are professional scientists and engineers. I believe that some of the work in progress here would interest you, especially that on analog and digital computers, on diodes and transistors, and on new types of traveling wave and storage tubes. Incidentally,

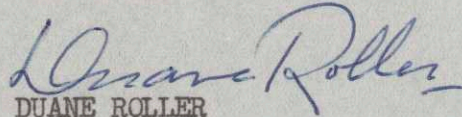
6



our research lectures are intended to be rather general in character and need not pertain in any special way to the particular fields being pursued here. We have tried to make the series outstanding, some recent speakers being Carl Anderson, Ed Condon, Karl Darrow, Harvey Fletcher, Harold Urey, Ed McMillan, Jesse DuMond, Eugene Wigner, and J. H. Van Vleck.

I am sorry to burden you with a letter of such length, but hope that this detailed information will be of some help to you in reaching a decision. You may not remember me; but I was at Wabash College, in the physics department, when you visited there. We met you at the Indianapolis airport, and Mrs. Roller was the car driver through the near-cloudburst that we encountered on the way to Crawfordsville and, I recall, also took you on a tour of the town the next day. Both of us send very best personal regards.

Sincerely,



DUANE ROLLER  
Assistant Director

DR:he  
Enclosure

[ans 10/5/53]



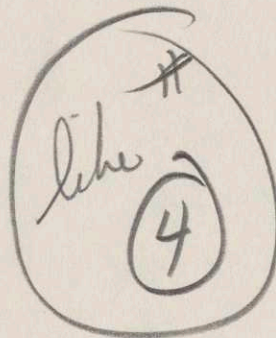
September 29, 1953

Dear Sir:

I have recently finished reading your book entitled "Cybernetics". As a Graduate Mechanical Engineer, with additional course work in Psychology and Zoology. I am extremely interested in the material you describe.

Are there any positions, or educational opportunities available in this field for people like myself?

Thank you for your response.



Sincerely yours,

*Stanley Zimmerman*  
Stanley Zimmerman

1075 Gerard Avenue  
New York 52, N. Y.

[msd 10/5/53]



# National Society for the Study of Communication

Committee on General Methodologies

Seth Fessenden, Chairman  
University of Denver  
Denver, Colorado

September 30, 1953

*Dear Dr Weenier,  
I hope the summer has  
provided some rest so that  
you're back under full steam.  
Sincerely,  
Seth*

Dear Program Participant:

I am enclosing a copy of the program activities for the day on which we appear. I hope it will be satisfactory for you. If the arrangement is not, please let me know and I'll do my best to make the desired changes at once.

You will note that we have one and a half hours allotted to us. May I offer as a tentative schedule for our program the following:

Time allowed to me for introducing speakers - 10 minutes. Each of you is so well known that I feel very little detail will be needed. I'll submit to you my planned comments well in advance of the meeting date.

Time allowed for each speaker in a preliminary statement - 10 minutes. This would permit the presentation of a paper approximately 1500 words in length. It would be very fine if these papers could be circulated before the meeting date. Also, I would like to consider considering them later for a symposium publication.

Time allowed for interchange of discussion on the papers before we open the session to general forum. - 20 minutes.

Time allowed for audience participation and panel discussion of questions raised - 20 minutes.

Sincerely yours,

*Seth Fessenden*  
Seth A. Fessenden

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[ans 10/6/53]



National Society for the Study of Communication Sectional meetings

Monday, December 28, 1953

WHAT SHOULD BE THE PREPARATION OF TEACHERS OF COMMUNICATION?

Time: 10:55 am - 12:15

Sponsor and Chairman: Dr. Burton Byers, Instructor Guidance Consultant  
Provost Marshal General's School

Areas covered: Linguistics, Outside fields (philosophy, psychology, graphic arts, statistics, education, literature, etc.),  
Theory and practice of democracy in the United States, Ethical responsibilities peculiar to the teaching of communication.

Participants: Paul Bagwell, Michigan State University  
Dallas Dickey, University of Florida  
Francis Drake, University of Minnesota  
Kenneth Harwood, University of Alabama  
Janette Stout, Troy State Teachers College, Alabama

WHAT IS COMMUNICATION:

Time: 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Sponsor: NSSC Committee on Definition, Dr. Irving Lee, Chairman  
Chairman: Dr. John Keltner, University of Oklahoma

Participants: Irving J. Lee, Northwestern University  
Francis Cartier, Florida State University  
Herold Lillywhite, University of Oregon Medical School  
Kenneth Clark, University of Washington  
Orville Pence, University of Washington

TOWARD A THEORY OF COMMUNICATION

Time: 3:40 - 5:10 p.m.

Sponsor: Dr. Elwood Murray, University of Denver  
Chairman: Dr. Seth Fessenden, University of Denver

Participants: Norbert Wiener, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Allen Walker Read, Columbia University  
J. L. Moreno, Sociometric Institute  
M. Kendig, Director, Institute of General Semantics.



September 30, 1953

Dear Program Participants:

I am enclosing a copy of the program activities for the day on which we appear. I hope it will be satisfactory for you. If the arrangement is not, please let me know and I'll do my best to make the desired changes at once.

You will note that we have one and a half hours allotted to us. May I offer as a tentative schedule for our program the following:

Time allowed to me for introducing speakers - 10 minutes. Each of you is so well known that I feel very little detail will be needed. I'll submit to you my planned comments well in advance of the meeting date.

Time allowed for each speaker in a preliminary statement - 10 minutes. This would permit the presentation of a paper approximately 1500 words in length. It would be very fine if these papers could be circulated before the meeting date. Also, I would like to consider our's circulating them later for a symposium publication.

Time allowed for interchange of discussion on the papers before we open the session to general forum - 20 minutes.

Time allowed for audience participation and panel discussion of questions raised - 30 minutes.

Sincerely yours,

Seth A. Fossenden

[ans 11/10/53]





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September 30, 1953

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

The New York City Chapter of the Society of Professional Engineers is holding a banquet the evening of November 19th at the Hotel Statler in New York City and would like you to address the group.

The Society is willing to pay your expenses if you are free to come; it proposes "the philosophy of automatic control" as a possible title of your address.

Please let me know your decision.

Sincerely yours,

*Larry Vinick*  
Larry Vinick

LV:rm

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[and 10/6/53]



September 30, 1953

Mr. Groff Conklin  
432 West 22nd Street  
New York 11, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Conklin:

Dont worry about Fantasy and Science Fiction not using the Brain. But on the other hand I assume that they are using the material of The Broom Closet. As to the other point: I am not very sympathetic to and never have been toward a symposium called "The Peopled Universe". As to the narrowness of the conditions necessary for life at all, and in particular for human life, I refer you to an old and interesting book by Lawrence Henderson entitled "The Fitness of the Environment". It is based on the old idea of homeostasis of Claude Bernard and of Cannon. To my mind the facts pointed out in The Fitness of the Environment render it extremely improbable that any other planet should contain any form of life sufficiently like human life that we might be able to come into effective communication with them. Moreover, this is not a field in which I am an expert nor one about which I have written in the vein of science fiction, so that I am unwilling to send you a memorandum concerning it either over my normal signature or my pseudonym.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



September 30, 1953

My dear Commander Cunniff:

Your letter of the twenty-fourth has just come in. I shall certainly be with you as a guest on the twenty-first. My wife is accompanying me to California but I am not quite sure whether she is going to China Lake, are you? As you can gather our family like your own also consists in children away from home.

sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



September 30, 1953

Dear Galdston:

I have already sent you the abstract of my talk at the Academy of Medicine, and if you want a title I suggest: "Medicine and Operational Analysis". I shall use no slides, I am a Ph. D. and am a professor at M.I.T. I think this closes everything.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

P. S.

Do I pay for the expenses for this trip or does the Academy?



September 30, 1953

Mr. A. K. Mills  
Executive Director  
The Edison Institute  
Dearborn, Michigan

Dear Mr. Mills:

I hope you will pardon me for the delay in answering your letter of September 4. The fact is that with the bulk of correspondence I have and with my method of work I put a great deal of dependence in a secretary. The young lady who occupied that position for the summer left me about the time your letter was received while my permanent secretary arrives next week.

I am very much interested in the problem of the industrial museum, and I think that the United States owes to itself to do even more than it has in the past in this direction. I think I know what requirements I should make for the curator of such a collection. He should be a reasonably young man of a rather precise mentality, an expert in several fields of mechanical endeavor and should have a philosophic viewpoint concerning the meaning and history of engineering.

The man who seems to me to fulfill these requirements very precisely is Mr. Julian Bigelow, now attached to the Institute of Advanced Studies at Princeton in connection with the development of atomic, trisped, computing machinery. Mr. Bigelow and I were partners in our warwork which concerned the design of predictors for firecontrol against airplanes. His interest in engineering is many-sided and of a high cultural value, and he is one of the most meticulously conscientious men whom I know.

I should estimate his age as in the early forties; that is he is young enough to have ideas and enthusiasms, but old enough to greatly value a position with the opportunities which you mention. You can count on many years of his continued activity, and his interests are stable and intellectual rather than ambitious for power. He is married and has one child. His wife is herself a scientist, being active in



2.

psychology in which he himself is interested as one quite relevant to the needs of a curator of a museum who has to undertake to come into rapport with the intellect and desires of the public by a rather special channel.

If you should happen to be in Boston at any time I should be glad to make contact with you and talk over this matter or any others which may be of interest to us both.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



September 30, 1953

Prof. Alex W. Rathe  
Washington Square College  
New York University  
Washington Square  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Rathe:

I regret to say that you have been misinformed. I have not consented to come to New York to address the Society for the Advancement of Management, Metropolitan Chapter, in February. In fact I have completely given up for the future all talks for which I have to pay my own expenses, and except under very special circumstances I shall eschew all outside talks which do not bring me a remuneration of at least two hundred dollars. I reserve to myself the right to determine which cases are special and which are not. As I have already spoken before your group without remuneration, I feel that the case is no longer special.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

[ans 10/3/53]



September 30, 1953

Dear Mr. Singer:

I regret to say that my lecturing and writing schedule writing schedule is full for 1953 and the spring of 1954. Furthermore, I have made the decision decision that such work as I may do in the future with a view toward influencing public opinion will be done in books in which I take the full responsibility for my views rather than articles in which I cannot help sharing this responsibility with publishers and editors.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



September 30, 1953

Mr. Walker G. Stone  
Editor, Engineering Sciences  
John Wiley & Sons, Inc.  
440<sup>F</sup> Burth Avenue  
New York 16, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Stone:

The last few days have seen my return from the country and in the consequent confusion of moving my documents from one place to another I have lost from my car the notes concerning the book which you asked me to evaluate for you. Would you therefor find it possible to send me by return mail another copy of these notes, and I shall do my best to give you a prompt evaluation of them.

I am present between two secretaries and my wife is helping me out, but for a certain time I postponed answering letters because I had hopes of getting a permanent secretary somewhat earlier than I had found possible.

Will you pass on to Mr. Matheson the fact that I am already engaged in organizing a treatise on cybernetics which I shall either write alone or in collaboration with Dr. Bronowski of England, and which I hope to be able to submit to him in the course of the next eighteen months. I shall be writing up parts of it immediatly for the various lectures I have been asked to give. I have several other matters which I shall take up with Mr. Matheson either by correspondence or on a visit to New York.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



September 30, 1953

Mr. R. C. Tegtmeier  
Extension Division, Dept. of Engineering  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Tegtmeier:

I regret that my schedule in California is so full that I cannot take on any other obligation that week, and that my duties at Tech do not permit my absence for more than a week. In fact, I am cutting my program of lecturing very heavily, as I find myself unable to endure the strain which this has meant for me in the past years. My schedule of lectures is full until sometime in February, and even after that except on special occasions do I intend to accept any lectures for which my remuneration is less than two hundred dollars plus travelling expenses. You will understand that I am not asking to be taken at this fee.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener



September 30, 1953

Mr. Thomas Whiteside  
The New Yorker  
No. 25 West 43rd Street  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Whiteside:

I have been looking through the Readers Digest and I have not seen the quotation from which we are to make twenty dollars a-piece. As to the thirty cents which I am morally obligated to pay in coffee, let me tell you, Sir, that it does not require the pressure of a debt of honor to make me wish to see you the next time I am in New York. When this may be I do not now know, but I shall notify you when the occasion comes around and we shall have some very interesting discussions together. As to Mr. Weaver, he talked to me and made a good impression on me, and he seems quite honestly eager to atone for the sins of television by devoting a considerable part of his efforts by developing television for legitimate cultural purposes.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener