

207

CORRESPONDENCE Jan. 1-21, 1955

N. WIENER MC 22

KURT WIESER

Ostern 1955

Mondsee american zone Austria
Wien 19., american zone
Schreiberweg 43 Tel. B-17-0-54
Zl. 177

Hw. Herrn Professor Dr.

Norbert Wiener
an der Universität ~~Wien~~ *Cambridge*

Sehr geehrter Herr Professor !

Ich habe mir erlaubt, Ihnen in den letzten Tagen mein Buch opus 171. Grundlagen der Organisationslehre - getrennt als Drucksache - zu übersenden. Bitte lesen Sie dort, wie ich in der Tradition meiner Familie herangewachsen bin. So bin ich nach dem ersten Krieg als Soldat meiner Heimat mit der lebendigen Vorstellung der "Organisationsgesetze der Wirklichkeit" heimgekehrt und mit der Meinung, dass deren Darstellung eine neue Epoche herbeiführen werde. Im Praktischen habe ich durch Realisierung meiner Organisationsvorstellungen aus dem Nichts grosse - auch sozial wertvolle - Unternehmen geschaffen. Durch die ungeheuren Gebiete der neuen Theorie konnte ich mich nur langsam durcharbeiten, weil mir zweimal - nach beiden Kriegen - ein grosses Vermögen wieder zerstört worden ist. Deshalb konnte ich erst in den letzten Jahren die vielfältigen Beweise einer ganzen Kosmologie - wie mir scheint - lückenlos, genau nach den Regeln der Wissenschaft zusammenschliessen. Es haben sich geschlossene Beweise ergeben, dass das herrschende Weltbild unserer richtigen Wissenschaften nachweisbare Irrtümer enthält; dass es durch ein moderneres ersetzt werden kann; dass dieses ungeahnten geistigen, sozialen und sachlichen Aufstieg bringen wird, sodass es die Aufgabe aller Verantwortlichen ist, das zu diskutieren. Inzwischen hat Norbert Wiener (auch aus Wien, in USA reich gefördert, während ich gehemmt war) einen Teil meiner Entdeckungen auch entdeckt und in seiner Kybernetik bereits weltberühmt gemacht. Das wird uns die Publizierung erleichtern. Obwohl meine Fachwissenschaft "Organisationslehre" dafür als erste zuständig ist, kann ich in solchem Neuland auch nur lückenhafte Kenntnisse haben. Um Zusammenarbeit aller Berufenen an einem Abschnitt der Geistesgeschichte zu erreichen, bitte ich Sie daher ^{um} frdl. Durchsicht und Stellungnahme zu diesem Buch und um Förderung dieser Aufgabe.

Damit empfehle ich mich, sehr geehrter Herr Professor, mit freundlichen Grüßen als

Ihr ergebener

Wieser



Wiener

70. Geburtstag von
Kurd Wieser
in Wien 1954
mit 3 Söhnen und
anderer Familie.

087E

[ca. 1955]

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
CAMBRIDGE MASSACHUSETTS

DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES

Dear Professor Wiener;

I have at last discharged the promised task of reading your Ms. "I Am a Mathematician" completely and carefully. In no way has my earlier opinion of its general interest, importance and literary merit been altered. There are gaps in the narration which I hope you can fill; there are episodes that should be relocated in the text; there is some repetition but surprisingly little of it; there are very minor details of grammar and punctuation to be expected in a draft of this type. You are too hard on Van Bush (if I read you aright) and his colleagues. In a few places you have written in too great detail but in all too many instances you have afforded only a fleeting glimpse which your reader will wish had been a good look... in the tradition of the French playwright [Toujours l'ombre de la couche mais la couche, jamais!... my French leaves much to be desired] There is much skeletonized going to and fro which could be fleshed out to advantage.

In a word I liked it - and dim fourth copy that it was, read it with relish

P.D.T.

[date]

no answer

JOHN DUNCAN PEARMAIN
20 LOUISBURG SQUARE
BOSTON 8, MASS.

Capital -
- 7-9062

January 1 - 1955

heart failure,
American
increased in
of the
diet deficient
as the
leaves in "well
aged"

increase in
of the
diet deficient
as the
leaves in "well
aged"

There is mounting evidence that
and all the degenerative diseases stems from
unbalanced diet
We get a diet
ago,

public
these elements
several years

Robert Wiener, Esq. - Professor of Mathematics
Massachusetts Inst. of Technology
Cambridge Mass.

Dear Professor Wiener: - your book - "The Human Use
of Human Being" - I finished reading early this A.M.
and find your thesis, that we as headed toward
normality and chaos, all too correct in what
we see going on about us in the world today.

While the world, as you say, is much more concerned
with personal antagonists than with nature as an
antagonist, we, each of us, is still, biologically,
an animal in so far as, say, our daily intake of
food is concerned and what our bodily functions do
with it.

Those who put some 700 chemicals into American
food-stuff without knowing the long-term effect
on human beings of such chemicals (or animals)
are perhaps ~~regarding~~ ^{trusting} the whirlwind by ~~thus going~~
against natural law, or nature; as also, by what
they take out of whole wheat in making the
impossible "food" known as enriched white bread.

Those who upset the balance of nature with a
deluge of poison sprays and water-soluble chemical
fertilizers, whose bacteria ^{as well as plants} have never known
these use until recently, are the innovators
not those who follow age-old methods of agriculture.

The enclosed report on my trip abroad to study
organic farming in relation to diet and health
may be of interest to you in relation to these
matters and your own line of reasoning - and the
chance of our race for survival with best wishes.
Sincerely yours,
John Pearmain

January 3, 1955

Dear Epstein:

Many thanks for your letter of December 28. I am immediately getting busy on the rewriting of chapter 4.

As I am to have many interruptions in my work before I go to India, I should appreciate greatly having the successive chapters sent me by you as you are finished with their revision instead of being dangled along in parts to make me act like a good boy and devote the proper time to each. I assure you that in any case I will give them all the attention I have given to the first three chapters, but with my many responsibilities I should like to fit in the time I spend on them as it is convenient to me rather than to have long periods during which I cannot work because I cannot speed up my secretary more than a certain amount, and other periods during which I have to work in a terrifically concentrated way. I assure you that I am grateful for your revisions and take the lessons to heart.

Best wishes from both of us to Mrs. Epstein and you.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

Mr. Jason Epstein
Doubleday and Company, Inc.
575 Madison Avenue
New York 22, New York

NW:gf

January 3, 1955

Dean G. A. Hawkins
Office of the Dean of Engineering
Lafayette, Indiana

Dear Dean Hawkins:

While your invitation to talk at Purdue interests me very much, it finds me in a period in which I have a turmoil of various obligations including a planned trip to Europe, Israel, and India next summer for which I must get myself ready. I therefore must regretfully decline your kind invitation.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

January 3, 1955

Dear Ikehara:

I am to be abroad again this summer. My itinerary is as follows: In late June or early July I will travel a little bit in Europe for the sake of pleasure. In the middle of August I shall leave for Israel. And in September I shall depart for India where I will stay until April 1956.

I am just thinking that on my way back to the United States in the spring of 1956, there might be a chance to stop in Japan. Would there be any possible way to manage a series of lectures in Japan?

Margaret and I are well. The daughters are grown up and married, and I have two grandchildren. Both my daughters retain very friendly remembrances of you. Dube is settled in France and is remarried.

I wish to thank you so much for what you have done for my books and hope all is going well.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Wiener

NW:gf

Dr. S. Ikehara
Department of Mathematics
Tokyo Institute of Technology
Oh-okayama, Meguro-Ku
Tokyo, Japan

January 3, 1955

Dr. Hans Lamm
414 West 120th Street
New York 27, New York

My dear Dr. Lamm:

Your request for a statement for your book If I Were Young Again finds me at a very busy time and I cannot fulfill it. Moreover, I am by no means entirely in favor of these mass undertakings in view of the fact that they tend to divert busy men from their own work and that they have apparent importance and subtentiousness which is likely to give a wrong impression of the real views of the many authors as to the problems on which they have been thinking.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

January 3, 1955

Mr. Harry W. Laidler, Executive Director
League for Industrial Democracy, Inc.
112 East 19th Street
New York 3, New York

Dear Mr. Laidler:

I am at present engaged in writing two quite different books and in preparing for a trip to Europe, Israel, and India to come this summer. This is only a part of my duties which include regular class work and advice to several projects at M.I.T. In view of this I am forced to cut my calendar to the bone and must regretfully decline to speak on Friday evening, April 22, at the Commodore.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

not sent

3 Januar 1955

Prof. Dr. Arnold Metzger
St. Paulsplatz 9
München 15 (Germany)
Deutschland

Sehr Geehrter Herr Professor:

Wie Sie schon wissen, habe ich es vor eine Reihe Vorträge erst in Israel und später in Indien zu halten.

Ich fahre vielleicht mitte Juni von den Vereinigten Staten weg und möchte erst einige Wochen in England und West Europa verbringen. Um nicht unmöglich Kreuz und Kwär zu fahren, würde ich meinen Münchener Vortrag möglich spät in Juli halten.

Wenn Sie mir möglich ^{et}früh mitteilen können würde es mir am bekwemmsten sein in dem ich meine Pläne bald bestimmen will.

Hochachtungsvoll, Ihr ergebener,

Norbert Wiener

NW:GF

January 3, 1955

Professor Jerzy Neyman
Statistical Laboratory
University of California
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Professor Neyman:

I wish to thank you for the courtesy of your invitation and to express my pleasure at the valuable contacts I had with you and your people, in particular with Barankin and LeCam.

I am now busily writing up the material I have on the theory of non-linear prediction for an article for you and shall have it in your hands within a week.

My wife joins me in sending her compliments.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

P. S. Next summer I shall have to refuse your kind invitation because in all probability I will be in Europe on the way to India. I leave India in April of 1956 to return to the United States, very possibly by way of the Pacific. Might it be possible to negotiate for a visit to you people during the late spring of summer of 1956?

[copy 1/7/55]

January 3, 1955

Dear Doctor Severance:

I shall certainly be at the January 24 meeting of the Alumni Council at the Faculty Club. I shall try to make the February meeting in New York and I am now consulting with Brown about dates.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

Dr. D. P. Severance
Alumni Association
1-280

NW:gf

January 3, 1955

Mr. M. S. Sundaram
Education Department
Embassy of India
2107 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Professor Sundaram:

I am now busy making my plans to go to India and I am delighted with your friendly letter. However, I must request that my transportation subsidy cover not only expenses from Cairo to India but also airplane expenses from one of the Air India Airfields in Europe to Cairo and also steamship expenses from an American port to a European port. My reason for the request is the following. I would not be taking any European trip nor any trip to Israel if I were not going to India. My Israeli trip only covers my out-of-pocket expenses from Cairo to Cairo and all my European expenses are to be paid out of my own pocket. As a matter of fact, I could not take the trip at all if my fixed expenses in the United States, amounting to about half my present salary were not being paid by M.I.T. Thus my expenses to Europe are actual out-of-pocket expenses, incidental to my trip to India, which I would not otherwise incur.

Seeing, however, that I intend to leave for Europe a few weeks earlier than my trip to India, it seems to me entirely fitting that these travel expenses for my wife and myself be at the lower rate for boat travel, which is quite appreciably less than plane travel. As a matter of fact, I see no reason why my travel from a European port by the shortest route to Cairo or to Israel should not be by boat, as I shall not be hurried for time. I am planning to arrive in India by the middle of September. In other words, I am reducing the expenses well below the full rate plane expenses from America to India and therefore reducing the amount of foreign exchange which my trip will demand from me. I view my proposed travel in Europe as a diversion which I shall make entirely out of my own pocket and which I would abandon together with the entire trip if I had to travel the sectors of the travel of my wife and myself from here to Europe and from Europe to Cairo. I trust that this point of view will meet your approval, because I am simply not in a position to end the entire trip out of pocket.

I have a lot of interesting and important work which I am preparing for my trip, and my wife and I are looking forward to it.

Sincerely yours,

MINISTÉRIO DA AERONÁUTICA
CENTRO TÉCNICO DE AERONÁUTICA
INSTITUTO DE PESQUISAS E DESENVOLVIMENTO DA AERONÁUTICA

From: Herbert Dumans
Centro Técnico da Aeronáutica, IPD
S. José dos Campos, Est. S. Paulo, Brasil

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

São José dos Campos, January 4th 1954

Dear Sir:

I had the privilege of reading two outstanding books of yours, namely "Cybernetics" and "Humand use of human beings" and since then I am very much concerned with the subject of Cybernetics, its progress, development, etc.

Therefore, please inform me about the publications or scientific reports related to this matter, in order to get them for the use of this Center.

I am interested too about the topic of the utmost importance referred in Cybernetics concerning "a scheme of training which will secure for them both the necessary mathematical, physical and engineering background and the proper acquaintance with biological, psychological and medical techniques".

Thanking you the attention you may give to this matter,
I am

very truly yours,



Herbert Dumans, Captain
MG BAF

HD/ec.

cc:CSE

[ans 1/19/54]

Der *Monat*

EINE INTERNATIONALE ZEITSCHRIFT

Berlin-Dahlem, 4 January 1955
Schorlemer Allee 28

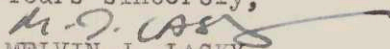
Prof. Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Prof. Wiener,

I am preparing for Doubleday in New York a general collection of new essays -- in the form of an Anchor review, and I should like to ask you whether you could not let me have something for one of the first series. We are trying to "continue the dialogue" which the Anchor series has established, and it will be especially interesting if many of the authors included in that group of books go on from their original points of departure. Thus I already have essays from David Riesman, Francis Fergusson, and others. Do you have something unpublished on hand which you could let me see? I know from Jason Epstein what trouble you took to "revise and clarify" for the new edition of "The Human Use of Human Beings" but in view of the unabated confused controversy over "cybernetics" perhaps you would want, in an article of ten or fifteen manuscript pages, to tackle some current aspects of this and related problems. Would you let me know?

With cordial greetings and best wishes for the new year, I am

Yours sincerely,


MELVIN J. LASKY

Editor "Der Monat"

[ans 1/16/55]

9642 4th St., E.O.V.
Norfolk, Virginia
January 5, 1955

Dr. Norman Weiner
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Weiner:

Forgive my bothering you - but I know
no one to turn to for a hearing. The attitude
reflected in your excellent works emboldens
me to try you.

Through use of a sort of semantic -
philosophic symbolic analysis (of my devising)
I've found an apparent modification of
a widely-held physical concept.

As popularly stated, it is generally
assumed that as mass in motion approaches
light-speed, it contracts indefinitely in the
direction of travel.

My analysis seems to say - again in
popular language - that any mass in motion
in a continuum will extend indefinitely
in the "direction" of motion as light-speed is
approached.

Now; here are my questions:

1. Are my conclusions wholly ridiculous
in view of considerations (there are many!) of
which I am ignorant?
2. If pursuit of the matter is warranted,
are there any physical or intellectual tests I
may make to prove or disprove the thesis?
3. Granting pursuance, would you
suggest anyone to whom I might direct my questions?

Thank you for your consideration.

Frederic F. Clair

[ans 2/28/55]

DR. CHARLES V. RICHARDS
321 DUNKIRK ROAD
BALTIMORE, MD.

1-6-55

Dear Professor Wiener,

Will you consider me presumptuous
in asking you to approve or criticize
the enclosed and sign on Line 2. (you reg. #)

I shall then ask. ex. 3000 of John Hopkins
who champions Symbolic Logic to sign on #3.

Further, I should like to organize a letters
group for this purpose. Die with reg. #
should at 20th of Jan. make the society
to do its work.

What do you think?

Cordially,

Victor J. Stenger, Ph.D.

co. "Bion Moscow
Lit. Agent."

January 6, 1955

Mr. E. J. Whelan
Commercial Service Department
Western Union
230 Congress Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Whelan:

In reference to our telephone conversation of this afternoon, I am enclosing the reply voucher to the value of 5.00.

Professor Wiener send the following telegram on January 3:

To: Fundacion Venezolana para el Avance de la Ciencia
Instituto de Investigaciones Medicas
Plaza Morelos
Caracas, Venezuela

Text: "Highly honored invitation deliver opening lecture. Regret exceedingly multiplicity of duties before leaving for India June 1955 till Sept 1956 prevents acceptance. Hope later Venezuelan visit possible

Norbert Wiener."

If possible, could I receive a receipt for this?

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

Gabrielle Fuchs
Secretary to Professor Wiener

gf

Enclosure

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK 20

DIVISION OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

ANDREW J. WARREN, M.D., DIRECTOR
JOHN B. GRANT, M.D., ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
ROBERT S. MORISON, M.D., ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
WADE W. OLIVER, M.D., ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
ROLLA B. HILL, M.D., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
M. ELIZABETH TENNANT, R.N., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
JOHN M. WEIR, M.D., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

CABLE ADDRESS:
ROCKFOUND, NEW YORK

January 7, 1955

Dear Doctor Wiener:

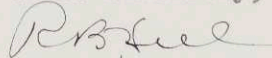
The Division of Medicine and Public Health has awarded a fellowship to Dr. Antonio Motta de Souza Barbosa, Assistant Professor of Pathology at the Medical School, University of Recife, Brazil, for study in the United States and England.

Doctor Barbosais, from all accounts, a most unusual person with a wide range of interests, who seems destined to occupy a key teaching position at Recife. He is highly recommended by Drs. Robert Watson and John M. Weir of our organization.

As you will see from the enclosed note by Doctor Barbosa, he does not propose to study pathology, but instead to study cybernetics as applied to biology. The head of the Department of Pathology, Dr. Bezerra Coutinho, is also interested in cybernetics. Possibly the mathematical background of Doctor Barbosa is somewhat deficient, but it is believed he has mathematical ability enough to overcome this possible defect.

As you will also see, he would like to work in your department, and we would like to place him with you. He is expected to arrive in this country around March 1, 1955. Will it be possible for you to take him under your wing at that time?

Yours sincerely,



Rolla B. Hill, M.D.

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

RBH:MAS
Enclosure

[ans 1/13/55]

(COPY)

I intend to study cybernetics, i.e., the government and communication theory and its application to biology. For your information, Recife Medical School is one of the rare schools in Brazil where the theory of cybernetics is given as being the most important part of the plan of general pathology, curriculum of which I am an instructor. As far as I am concerned, cybernetics has been studied by several authors as dissociated pieces. My intention is to search such pieces and after a careful perusal, to put them together to the benefit of biology. Especial attention will be paid to the following items:

- a) The concept of genetic effect "per se" and during embryogenesis.
- b) The study of stability and the criterion of ultrastability within the stationary or equiposed biological systems.

These studies can be made with Dr. Wiener, Dr. Shannon, Dr. Pitts, Dr. Stern, Dr. Warren McCulloch, in U.S.A., and with Dr. W. R. Ashby in Gloucester, England. The studies require a certain mathematical tool. For the purpose I am at present attending a mathematical course at the "Instituto de Fisica" in Recife. The course is a revision of the subject. I presume that I am able to follow an explanation of cybernetics supported by mathematical tool, as far as integral and differential calculus can go.

I have no assurance that I would be admitted to the institutions I propose to work in. However, I suggest that I may undergo a qualification test in order to verify whether I am actually able to follow such a course with regards to mathematics. If not, I should like to have a training or familiarization mathematical course before entering to work with the aforesaid mathematicians, who shall be good enough to trace a program suitable to cover my deficiencies, previous to a second attempt for admission.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
STATISTICAL LABORATORY
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

January 7, 1955

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

Many thanks for your letter of January 3. I wish to express to you our appreciation of the trouble you took to come to Berkeley, and of the very interesting lecture you gave. All of us are looking forward to having your manuscript. All these pleasant feelings are somewhat marred by your inability to come to see us next summer when the scholarly encounters could be more leisurely and, therefore, more productive than during the crowded meeting we had in December. However, I am looking forward to the possibilities during the summer of 1956, when you will be on your way home from India.

Wishing you a very pleasant trip, and with kind regards to Mrs. Wiener,

Yours sincerely,

J. Neyman

J. Neyman

JN:dmo

mk
P. S. We would appreciate it if you could send us the stubs of your airplane ticket at your early convenience, as we must submit them to the Controller's Office with the Travel Expense Voucher.

[ans 1/13/55]

DOUBLEDAY & COMPANY, INC., Publishers 575 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 22 ~ MURRAY HILL 8-5300



January 7, 1955

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

I am enclosing herewith your copy of the amendment letter reducing the export royalty on your forthcoming Anchor book.

Thank you very much for agreeing to this change in the contract. It is a great help to us.

Sincerely yours,

Natalie Rosin

Natalie Rosin
ANCHOR BOOKS

NR:mph

Enclosure

January 7, 195⁵

Dear Jason:

I am enclosing a revised version of Chapter 4. I have followed your suggestions very substantially, but the result is longer than you hinted was necessary, because of some of the overflow from Chapter 3, which I am transferring to Chapter 4.

In accordance with your recommendations, as you will see, I have spread Chapter 4 into Chapters 4 and 5. I am now waiting for Chapter 6 and the succeeding chapters, and shall get to work on them as soon as they come in. I have an idea that Chapter 4 is the point of maximum difficulty in the book.

I have submitted the material to my wife and various colleagues and I am taking advantage of their suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

Mr. Jason Epstein
Doubleday and Co.
575 Madison Avenue
New York 22, New York

Enclosure

NW:gf

January 7, 1955

Professor Ernst Simon
Director, Department of Higher and
Secondary Education
Hebrew University and Ministry of Education and Culture
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Professor Simon:

Thank you for your kind invitation asking me to contribute to the Hebrew Educational Encyclopedia.

Unfortunately, I have such a very busy schedule right now and will soon be involved in making plans for an extended trip to India that I find it impossible to take on any new work at all for many months to come.

Regretfully yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

AUFBAU RECONSTRUCTION

An American Weekly

Published in New York City by the New World Club, Inc.

MANFRED GEORGE, EDITOR

January 8, 1955

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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CIRCULATION MANAGER

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

During the past year, Aufbau, leading German language weekly in the United States, has been besieged by its readers with all kind of questions about the burning problem of Science and Freedom. There is a deep anxiety among them which is only natural as its solution might boost, or destroy, our entire civilization.

For this reason, we have decided to conduct a symposium on this vital question in the special issue which will shortly appear on the occasion of our 20th anniversary. This will assure it a prominent place as well as widest publicity.

Attached you will find some material about the work and scope of our paper. Aufbau is read not only in the United States but all over the world, wherever German speaking emigrants from Hitler-dominated Europe have settled. Our readers, the majority of whom are intellectuals, business and professional men and women, have an excellent educational background and closely follow scientific developments. Among the members of our Advisory Board are Dr. Albert Einstein and Mr. Thomas Mann.

We are asking the foremost scientists to contribute their opinion, and we shall be ever so grateful if you will let us have a short reply on the following two questions which, it seems to us, sum up the problems involved:

How can the need for security be reconciled with the need for a free exchange of scientific information?

How can a way be found for international exploitation of atomic discoveries for constructive peace-time use rather than destruction?

Your views are, naturally, of greatest interest to all concerned, and we hope that our symposium will contribute a little towards clarification at a time when clarification is badly needed.

Yours very sincerely

Manfred George
Manfred George
Editor

mg/gr

Route 2. Madison, Wis
8 January 1954

[1955]

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

Dear Professor Wiener,

I am a student of Electrical Engineering at the University of Wisconsin. I have read several of your books, and this Christmas I received "The Human Use of Human Beings" as a gift. Certain passages were particularly interesting, as I had a chance to compare your "speculations" on life in the age of automation to a fictionalized account which I had just finished.

The fiction I refer to is a novel originally titled "Player Piano", and rereleased in a pocket edition under a new title: "Utopia 14".

I can't know whether or not you've read this book, but on the off-chance that you haven't, I'm sending it to you, and hope that you will be able to take the time to read it.

Incidentally, if you are interested in the effects of automation as applied to the office, I suggest the book "White Collar". I don't recall off-hand the author or publisher, but it was written by a young social psychologist from Columbia, I think you will find it interesting.

I realize that this may seem awfully presumptuous of me, a Junior student in the Engine School recommending books to a Professor of Mathematics at MIT, but I felt that a bit of semi-science-fiction might furnish you with an entertaining moment or two.

Sincerely,

Arthur G. Hansen, Jr.
Arthur G. Hansen, Jr.

[ans 1/13/55]



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

JAN 10 1955

In reply refer to
F130-Wiener, Norbert

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

Dear Mr. Wiener:

In reply to your letter dated December 20, 1954, you are informed that consideration will be given to the issue of passports to you and your wife upon the receipt of formal applications therefor executed in accordance with the procedures set forth in the enclosed Circular.

It is not the practice of the Department to issue two passports to an applicant as you indicate in your letter under acknowledgement. Your attention is invited to the Circular regarding travel to Israel, which is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. B. Shipley".

R. B. Shipley,
Director, Passport Office.

Enclosures:
Two Circulars

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS WHEN MAKING APPLICATION FOR PASSPORT

1. An application for a passport must be executed before a clerk of a Federal court or a State court authorized by law to naturalize aliens, or before an agent of the Department of State. An application executed before any other official will not be accepted. Passport Agents of the Department of State are located in Boston (United States Post Office and Court House Bldg.), Chicago (United States Court House, Room 252), New Orleans (International Trade Mart), New York (45 Broadway, also at Rockefeller Center, International Bldg.) and San Francisco (126 Federal Office Bldg.). In Washington it is desired that applications be executed in the Passport Office of the State Department.

NECESSARY PROOF TO ESTABLISH AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP

IMPORTANT--All documents, such as birth certificates, baptismal certificates, certified copies of records, affidavits, etc., submitted as evidence of the American citizenship of an applicant for a passport must give the place and date of birth and bear the seal of the office and signature of the officer before whom such documents were executed or by whom they were issued. Birth and baptismal certificates to be acceptable must show that the birth or baptism was recorded shortly after birth.

2. A native American citizen must submit with his application for a passport a birth certificate, or, if such a certificate is not obtainable, a baptismal certificate or a certified copy of the record of baptism. If neither of these certificates is obtainable, the applicant should submit in lieu thereof an affidavit executed by a parent, brother, sister, or other relative, preferably an older person, or the physician who attended the birth, setting forth the date and place of birth of the applicant. If an affidavit of a relative or physician cannot be obtained, an affidavit of some other reputable person having knowledge of facts which enable him to testify as to the place and date of birth should be submitted. In the affidavit a brief statement should be made showing how and through what source knowledge of the place and date of birth was acquired.

3. A person who claims American citizenship through birth abroad of a native or naturalized American father or mother should prove the parent's birth in the United States or naturalization as a citizen of this country by documentary evidence of the kind indicated in paragraph 2 or 6.

4. (a) A woman who was married to an American citizen prior to September 22, 1922, must submit evidence of her husband's American citizenship.

(b) An American woman who was married to an American citizen or to an alien on or after September 22, 1922, must submit evidence of her own citizenship.

(c) An American woman who lost American citizenship by marriage to an alien, but who alleges that after the termination of the marital relation and prior to September 22, 1922, she resumed American citizenship, must submit the evidence that she was an American citizen at the time of marriage. If the marital relation is alleged to have been terminated by divorce, a certified copy of the decree of court granting the absolute divorce should be submitted. A legal separation or an interlocutory decree of divorce does not terminate marriage.

(d) An American woman who lost citizenship by marriage to an alien prior to September 22, 1922, and resumed American citizenship after that date must submit documentary evidence of her naturalization.

5. A person who claims American citizenship by naturalization must submit with his application a certificate of naturalization.

6. (a) A person who claims citizenship through the naturalization of a parent may submit with his application the naturalization certificate of the parent through whom he derived citizenship, or a certificate of derivative citizenship issued by the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization under the provisions of the naturalization laws.

(b) A woman who claims citizenship through the naturalization of her husband prior to September 22, 1922, may submit the latter's certificate or naturalization or a derivative certificate of citizenship issued by the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization under the provisions of the naturalization laws.

7. An applicant who holds an expired or unexpired passport issued since January 2, 1918, should submit the old passport for cancellation. Such document will be accepted as evidence of citizenship if proper documentary evidence of American nationality was submitted with the previous application. If a previous passport, issued since January 2, 1918, which has definitely expired cannot be presented for surrender or cancellation, it is necessary to state briefly in the new application the disposition of the previous passport. However, if the previous passport has not definitely expired it is necessary to submit under oath a separate statement setting forth in circumstantial detail the disposition of the valid passport.

PHOTOGRAPHS

8. Two recently taken photographs (duplicate) must be submitted of each person named in the application, one affixed to the application, the other, signed by the applicant, must accompany the application unattached. A group photograph should be used when a wife, or wife and children, are included in one application. Photographs must be full face, on thin paper, with a light background, and not over 3 by 3 inches nor less than 2 1/2 by 2 1/2 inches in size. Snapshot, newspaper, magazine, or full-length photographs will not be accepted. Photographs printed on photographic paper the back of which is glazed will not adhere to passports and therefore will not be accepted.

IDENTIFYING WITNESS

9. The identifying witness must appear in person with the applicant and fill in and sign the affidavit (on the application form) before a clerk of court or an agent of the Department of State. The identifying witness should be an adult American citizen (man or woman) who is able to state under oath that he has known the applicant for at least 2 years; that the applicant is the person he represents himself to be; and that the facts stated in the application are true to the best of the witness' knowledge and belief. An expired American passport bearing a signed photograph may be used as identification in lieu of an identifying witness. In cases of persons who have not previously obtained passports, the applicant or the witness must be known to the clerk of court or the Passport Agent, or the applicant or the witness must be able to establish his identity, beyond reasonable doubt, by documentary evidence which should be listed on the application. If the applicant or the witness is not known to the clerk of court or Passport Agent and conclusive documentary evidence of the identity of either cannot be presented, the applicant will be required to obtain as a witness to his application an American citizen established in a recognized profession or business and having his office or place of business within the jurisdiction of the court or passport agency. However, if a clerk of court or a Passport Agent considers that an applicant has not been satisfactorily identified, he may forward the application to the Department of State with a statement of the facts in the case, giving the names of two or more persons with whom the Department may communicate in order to satisfy itself of the identity and citizenship of the applicant. A husband or wife is not acceptable as an identifying witness of the spouse unless his or her identity is established to the satisfaction of the clerk of court, Passport Agent, such as by the presentation of driver's permits, etc.

LETTERS FROM BUSINESS CONCERNS AND FROM MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS

10. Applications of persons proceeding abroad on business must be accompanied by a letter from the head of the firm, or in his absence from the person in charge, showing the countries to be visited and the necessity for travel therein.

When a missionary applies for a passport he should submit to the Department a letter showing the name of the organization which he represents, the station to which he wishes to proceed, whether he has previously served abroad as a missionary, whether he is returning to a station previously occupied, whether he will be replacing a missionary who is returning to the United States and, if so, the name of the missionary, or whether he will be an addition to the existing missionary staff. The letter should also show the date or the approximate date of the proposed departure and the travel arrangements which have been made.

PASSPORT APPLICATIONS FROM PERSONS SUBJECT TO THE DRAFT

11. Passport applications may be accepted from persons who are of the military draft age. However, such persons should keep their local boards advised of their whereabouts.

FEEES FOR PASSPORT AND APPLICATION

12. The total of the fees for passport and application is \$10. (\$9 must accompany the application to Washington and should be in the form of currency or a postal money order made payable to the Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., and \$1 paid to the clerk of court or agent before whom the application is executed). No fee is collected for the issuance or renewal of a passport to a person proceeding abroad on official business or to members of his household who desire to accompany or join him but the fee of \$1 for the execution of the application for a passport must be collected. Drafts or checks will not be accepted either for the issue of passports or for the renewal thereof.

13. Under the Act of May 16, 1932, a passport is valid for 2 years from the date of issue unless limited to a shorter period. It may be renewed for a period of 2 years upon payment of fee of \$5, but the final date of expiration shall not be more than 4 years from the original date of issue. A passport which was issued within the period of 4 years prior to the time when application for renewal is made may be renewed.

Requests for renewal may be made by personal application or letter addressed to the Department of State, a Passport Agent, a Consular Officer of the United States, or the Chief Executives of Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, or American Samoa, and the fee, in currency or postal money order, should accompany each request.

Department of State
Passport Office

AMERICAN TRAVELERS TO THE ARAB COUNTRIES,
ISRAEL, AND JERUSALEM

As an aftermath of the hostilities in 1948 and 1949 between certain Arab states and Israel, which ended in the division of Jerusalem into Israel- and Jordan-held sections, the regulations governing travel in Arab countries are subject to frequent change. At the present time, the Arab countries usually, with the exception of Egypt and sometimes Lebanon,

- (1) refuse entry to persons of Jewish faith and background regardless of nationality, and
- (2) either refuse entry or make it very difficult for travelers with Israeli visas in their passports.

It is, therefore, suggested that travelers visit the Arab countries first through Lebanon or Egypt and enter Israel from Jordan via Jerusalem. An Israeli visa can be obtained there upon entry.

Once the traveler crosses from one territory to another, he must continue his journey and cannot recross either to Israel or Jordan. Exception is usually made for Christians residing in or visiting Israel who may cross over and back for the Christmas and Easter services in Bethlehem and Jordan-held (or "Old City" of) Jerusalem, where the majority of the Holy Places are located. Permission for those crossings must be obtained well in advance.

Mandelbaum Gate in Jerusalem is the only point of entry into Israel from any Arab country or vice versa. There are also no direct connections between the travel agencies on the two sides of Jerusalem and tourists who plan to cross the lines should make their transport arrangements for their return trip before arriving in either Israel or the Arab states. These travel agents can make application for crossing the lines from the authorities on the side of the city of Jerusalem in which they reside, but, at the same time, the American Consulate General at Mamillah Road on the Israel-held side or at Nablus Road on the Jordan-held side should be requested to obtain permission from the authorities on the opposite side. The information required in the applications for crossing is: name; passport number; date and place of birth; religion; visa number, if any; proposed date of crossing, direction i.e. from Israel to Jordan or the reverse; and the purpose of trip. Seventy-two hours' advance notice is usually required. Arab offices are closed on Fridays, Israeli ones on Saturdays, and the Consulate General, except for emergencies, on Sundays. Neither the Israeli nor the Jordan authorities guarantee to approve all requests or to explain any refusals. Travelers may apply in advance at any Israeli consulate for an open-date line-crossing permit and the required Israeli visa, to be is-

sued as they cross from the Jordan-held Old City of Jerusalem to the Israel-held New City. Neither the visa nor the line-crossing permit is actually given until arrival in Jerusalem. This procedure, though not necessary, is recommended and will facilitate the obtaining of the visa and permit upon arrival. No preliminary clearance for line crossing is possible on the Jordan side.

Hotel reservations on both sides should be made well in advance especially over the Christmas and Easter feasts on the Jordan side and Passover on the Israeli side.

The Holy Shrines, Bethlehem, the Church of the Nativity, the Holy Sepulchre, the Garden of Gethsemane, and other important sites connected with the birth and death of Christ are on the Jordan side. The room of the Last Supper and the Church of the Dormition are in Israel-held Jerusalem, and Nazareth and Galilee are in Israel.

Passport Office,
Department of State,
March 12, 1954

January 10, 1955

Dear Jason:

I am enclosing a revised version of Chapters 4 and 5. I have followed your suggestions very substantially, but the result is longer than you hinted was necessary, because of some of the overflow from Chapter 3, which I am transferring to Chapter 4.

In accordance with your recommendations, as you will see, I have spread Chapter 4 into Chapters 4 and 5. I am now waiting for Chapter 6 (the old Chapter 5) and the succeeding chapters, and shall get to work on them as soon as they come in. I have an idea that Chapter 4 is the point of maximum difficulty in the book.

I have submitted the material to my wife and various colleagues, and I am taking advantage of their suggestions.

I have just heard from Lasky concerning the article for the new Anchor books periodical. I have sent him the Kipling paper which I wrote with Karl Deutsch. I think that will do although he seems to want something on cybernetics from me. I am too busy with your book and with a new scientific book to do an article to order at the present time.

I believe you told me that the journal would pay for its articles. I am writing to Lasky in this sense and asking that if the article be accepted that the pay be divided equally between Karl Deutsch and myself.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

Enclosure

Mr. Jason Epstein
Doubleday and Co.
575 Madison Avenue
New York 22, New York

January 10, 1955

Mr. Melvin J. Lasky, Editor
"DerrMonat"
Schorlemer Allee 28
Berlin-Dahlem, Germany

Dear Mr. Lasky:

Some time ago, Jason Epstein spoke to me about the new journal the Anchor series was getting out, and solicited an article from me. Karl Deutsch and I used this occasion to write on some new Kpling material which had come to our attention.

Jason later returned it to me, not as a token of rejection but simply because he was uncertain of the date on which the new journal would begin to function and did not wish to slow us. He told me to submit it to the new journal. Accordingly, I submit it herewith.

I assume that the journal is a paying proposition, and that if my article is accepted, I should like the fee for it to be divided equally between Dr. Karl Deutsch of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and myself.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

Enclosure

JOHN WILEY & SONS, INC.

ESTABLISHED 1807

PUBLISHERS OF BOOKS

440 FOURTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

January 11, 1955

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TELEPHONE
MURRAY HILL 9-7630

Mr. David R. Powers
Research Assistant
Harvard University
Graduate School of Business Administration
Soldiers Field
Boston 63, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Powers:

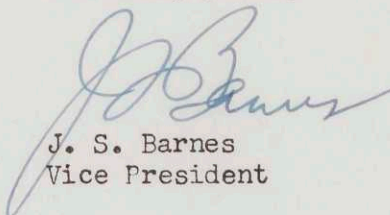
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Sincerely yours,



J. S. Barnes
Vice President

JSB:ED

Horbert Weiner; **CYBERNETICS**

"Perhaps I may clarify the historical background . . . worth anyone's money, to buy." pp 37-38

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

January 11, 1955

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

This letter is to express the sincere appreciation of the National Science Foundation's Division of Mathematical, Physical, and Engineering Sciences for the service you have rendered during the past year in reviewing mathematical sciences research proposals which have been submitted to the Foundation. We hope that you, also, have derived some satisfaction from your participation in the Foundation's important program of support of basic research and education in the sciences.

Our best wishes for a happy, successful New Year.

Cordially yours,

Leon W. Cohen

Leon W. Cohen
Program Director
for Mathematical Sciences

Enclosure:

"Program Activities of the
National Science Foundation"



January 11, 1955

Dear Professor Wiener:

I hope that Chapter IV, which when it is finished will become Chapters IV and V or even IV, V, and VI, is underway. I will send Chapter V along shortly, or in fact as soon as you tell me that you are on the point of being finished with Chapter IV.

If the work goes as well from now on as it did in the first three chapters, then we should be finished in no time, but what's more important the book will be a work of major literary distinction. Please don't be apprehensive about the time, we will be through well before you have to go to India.

Best wishes to you and Mrs. Wiener from
both of us,

Sincerely,


Jason Epstein

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

JE:nr

*P.S. Chs. IV + V have just arrived. My ch. V will
be on its way in a few days.*



George Washington Memorial Library

Founded as a bi-national institution in 1932

Stuttgart, Germany, January 11, 1955
Charlottenplatz 17 St/eg

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

We take pleasure in thanking you for your autobiography titled "Ex-Prodigy: My Childhood and Youth" which you had announced in your note of November 17th and which we received a few days ago from your publishers. This fascinating story of your remarkable family and your extraordinary childhood and youth will be eagerly welcomed by our readers. They will be especially interested in your description of Germany before World War I.

Thank you very much for having so readily complied with our request.- An acknowledgment of receipt will be addressed to your publishers.

Yours very truly,

P. Gehring.

(Prof. Dr. P. Gehring)

5350 Coolbrook Ave
Montreal 29, P.Q.
Canada

Jan 11th/55

Professor N. Wiener,
M.I.T.

Dear Sir:

Having read your book "The human use of human beings" I feel that I must write to you to thank you for the pleasure it has been to read it. Not only does the book give answers to a lot of problems (many of which, at first, did not seem to be problems of communication), but also gives birth to a whole new generation of questions and opens new orbits of thinking for the reader.

I hope you realize how hard it is to write a letter like this without flattering, and to thank an unknown person for a very intine pleasure. I cannot very well thank you on behalf of the world, nor on behalf of your science, but since you are the author of the book, you certainly have the right to receive my personal thanks. () assure you that I am an average reader and suggest, therefore, that you integrate my gratitude over the number of copies sold to get

a more proper impression of the value of your book).

Being a recent immigrant from Denmark I clearly realize how important it would be to have the book published in a Scandinavian language; if it hasn't yet been translated I should like to translate it into Danish and get your permission to arrange to have it published. I am in no doubt about my qualifications to make a first-class translation of the book, and doubtlessly will the translation find its publisher; it must, however, be realized that this enterprise hardly is going to be an economic oil-well for us, because Scandinavia has so few inhabitants, and so few copies can be sold. Nevertheless, the sooner cybernetics is taken up in Scandinavia, the better, and "The human use of human beings" is magnificent to fertilize the soils with before planting the science of cybernetics.

I should be very glad indeed to hear from you about this matter, and remain

yours truly

Niels Lind
M.Sc. (Eng.)

[and 1/15/55]

WALTER RAPAPORT, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF MENTAL HYGIENE

GOODWIN J. KNIGHT
GOVERNOR

JAMES T. SHELTON, M.D.
SUPERINTENDENT AND
MEDICAL DIRECTOR



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE

Porterville State Hospital

P. O. BOX 2000
PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA

January 11, 1955

Jan 17 ok

Dr. Norbert Weiner
Mass. Inst. Tech.
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Doctor Weiner:

Subject: Cybernetics

Will you kindly send me any available information on your experimental work on cybernetics. If there is any cost involved, please advise me so that I may cover these costs.

Sincerely,

Eduardo Z. Schmidt, M.D.
mjh

Eduardo Z. Schmidt, M. D.

EZS/mjh

Photography

January 12, 1955

Professor Jerzy Neyman
Statistical Laboratory
University of California
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Professor Neyman:

I am enclosing the ticket stub for Professor Wiener's flights of December 22 and December 29, 1954, from Boston to San Francisco and return. The total fare was 335.10.

Sincerely yours,

Gabrielle Fuchs
Secretary to Professor Wiener

gf

Enclosure

[ms 1/21/55]

January 13, 1955

Dr. Jacob Rycus
Academic Secretary
The Weizmann Institute of Science
Rehovoth, Israel

Dear Dr. Rycus:

Please accept my apology for not responding earlier to the telegram from Professor Chaim Pekeris and your letters regarding the trip of Professor Norbert Wiener to Israel in connection with his stay in India this summer. When Dr. David Passow and I telegraphed Meyer Weisgal November 23, I thought that Professor Wiener was leaving in a short time, and later delay came from the fact that I expected Dr. Passow at M.I.T. at almost any time. Professor Wiener is just now applying for his U.S. passport, so there is no urgency at present. This letter will outline some of the factors, but it seems to me that the situation is simple and will work out well.

I have had several very pleasant conversations with Professor Wiener, and know that I can help him make his arrangement for a smooth transit from the India trip to an Israel trip even with Cairo as the change point. In December 1953 my wife, daughter, and I entered Israel over Mandelbaum Gate after I had lectured in Egypt and visited Arab Jerusalem, and in May Professor Sherrill came to the Institute with a separate Israeli visitor's visa, obtained from the Israeli Consulate in New York, which he showed to the officials at Lydda Airport. On June 27 we all crossed Mandelbaum Gate and had no trouble in Jordan and negligible trouble in obtaining a transit visa for Lebanon to fly to Turkey.

At the office of the Israeli Consul in New York*, the staff (Miss Racah for us and for Professor Sherrill) is most helpful in arranging a visa to be on hand at the Port of Entry to Israel. In our case, the visa authority was held at Mandelbaum Gate, and the Immigration Officer helped me get a U.S. Laissez Passer at the Jordan branch of the U.S. Consulate, on which he stamped the visa (\$10). Professor Sherrill paid for his visa in New York, and he was given a separate booklet. I would recommend in any case that Professor Wiener also use the separate booklet because of the likelihood that he may want to visit or pass through other Arab countries before his new passport expires.

I see no reason why there should be any uneasiness on the part of an American citizen about travelling in Moslem countries with an interest in Israel. I told everyone I talked with in Egypt that I was going to spend time in Israel working at the Weizmann Institute and found no hostility and considerable interest in the Institute. I also talked widely about my Israel trip in Jordan in December 1953 and June 1954, since discussion of this type is the only way to relieve the Arab psychosis. Indeed, I heard in Jordan of David Ginsburg's synthesis of morphine.

* (Miss Esther Herrlitz)

January 13, 1955

Any official who handled my passport in December knew that I was going to cross Mandelbaum, the official reason being to go to Nazareth. On our second trip, any official knew that I had been in Israel some time, and would see the authorization to cross Mandelbaum Gate into Israel written in Arabic.

There was no customs search on either entry to Jordan (from Egypt December 23, and at Mandelbaum Gate June 27). The Jordanian officer at the guard house asked me in English if I had Israeli money or stamps, or letters addressed to me in Israel, in my luggage or on my person (all of which I had for souvenir purposes), and I replied "No". This is a perfunctory question, for Jordan refuses to recognize the Medinat Israel, but does not want to inhibit the badly needed tourist traffic or to offend the U.N. or the U.S. by impeding legitimate nominal Christian tourist or pilgrim traffic. No official used in English or Arabic the words "Jew" or "Israel", but neither language uses the circumlocutions, in English, "the other side" or "Mandelbomo". There is indeed fairly heavy traffic over Mandelbaum, and up-to-date tourist agencies encourage it.

The situation is still simpler in Egypt, as Jews not of Israeli citizenship are more than tolerated. Egypt accepts atheism as a nominal religion (I just don't know about this for Jordan) on the visa application. Furthermore Egypt does not require visa for stopover in transit if this is less than 48 hours (I believe), whereas Jordan and Lebanon (the stickiest of the three) do.

I do not want to be too long-winded, but I thought that this information might help Israelis connected with the Institute to feel better when their guests succumb to the allure of tourism in the Arab world, or have to cross it as Professor Wiener does.

I may add that Professor and Mrs. Wiener have to use Air India for their trip, and may be in Pakistan or Iran on it. I have told him that August or early September is the worst time in weather for Israel, but all Israelis say Rehovoth at its worst is not as bad as Boston in a bad summer. As things now stand, he does not care to apply for a Jordan visa, but if he did and received it, he could easily enter Israel as we did, flying from Cairo to Kolundia Airport (Ramallah) in Jordan, seeing the Old City a few days preferably staying at the lovely American Colony Hotel, and crossing Mandelbaum by appointment, with the aid of the U.S. Consul, the Jordan Office being right at the gate. It is more likely that he and Mrs. Wiener will return from India to Cairo via Air India, transplane comfortably to Cyprus, and fly in to Lydda by Air France, TWA, KLM, or El Al Airline. They would presumably -- after about two weeks -- fly out of Lydda to Rome by any of these airlines, and continue to Boston by convenient carrier.

I will be glad to act as advisor of desirable complications. I know that the Wieners will enjoy a visit to Israel and the Weizmann Institute very much, and that they will be very warmly received, as we were.

Yours sincerely,

C.C.

Charles D. Coryell

CDC:cpv

cc: Prof. and Mrs. Wiener
Meyer Weisgal

January 13, 1955

Professor E. W. Barankin
Mathematics Department
University of California
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Barankin:

Just a note to let you know how much Margaret and I appreciated the courtesy of your wife and yourself.

I am busy at present writing up the material we discussed in California.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

P. S. I shall probably be in California in the summer of 1956.

January 13, 1955

Mr. Manfred George
Editor
AUFBAU
2700 Broadway
New York 25, New York

My dear Mr. George:

One of the chief menacēs to scientific freedom at the present time is the constant distraction of the author by requests for politico-scientific papers, which often come to him at a time at which he is most busy with his central work of developing his own ideas. This is such a period in my life.

I have stated my views on scientific freedom emphatically and repeatedly, and if I am to exercise scientific freedom rather than talk about, I must let these past statements speak for themselves. No amount of propaganda for scientific freedom is of the least value if the scientist who has attained to a certain degree the ear of the public is forced to spend the rest of his life as a barren propagandist. This perversion of science is quite equal in its importance to that other perversion by which the scientist becomes the big-shot administrator. In either case, he is dead as a scientist. Disposal of his remains is of interest only to the undertaker.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

January 13, 1955

Mr. Arthur G. Hansen, Jr.
Route 2
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Hansen:

I have already in my possession the book, Player Piano, and I found it interesting. However, I am afraid that I am not too much a devotee of science fiction. It is a milieu which seems to me to have a very limited scope and technique, so that one almost knows from the title of a book exactly what to expect.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NE:gf

January 13, 1955

Dr. Rolla B. Hill
Division of Medicine and Public Health
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York 20, New York

Dear Doctor Hill:

I shall be glad to receive Dr. Barbosa, and to talk with him. However, my stay at M.I.T. this year will last only till the end of June when I shall travel to Europe and shall be away in India and elsewhere.

If Dr. Barbosa will contact me, I shall try to devote time to him for the rest of my stay here.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

[ans 1/17/55]

January 13, 1955

Mr. Niels Lind
5350 Coolbrook Avenue
Montreal 29, P.Q.
Canada

Dear Mr. Lind:

Many thanks for your letter about my books. "The Human Use of Human Beings" has been translated into Swedish and is entitled "Materia Maskiner Människor". If there will be any interest in Denmark in a separate Danish translation I should be delighted if you would get into contact with the Houghton Mifflin Company in Boston, who are my publishers.

Jeg var i Danmark omtrent for tredive Ar siden, og jeg har lært nog Dansk at kunde tale med mine Venner. Jeg kan lide Danmark saa meget, og jeg haaber, at jeg kan besøge Danmark igen om Fremtiden.

Deres,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

January 13, 1955

Mr. Magoroh Maruyama
Biedersteinerstrasse 49
München 23, Germany

My dear Mr. Maruyama:

While I have been thinking of the possibility of giving a lecture in Berlin this summer on my way to India, your letter has contributed greatly to a growing doubt I have regarding the wisdom of this undertaking. I am very much worried over the possibility of getting myself into a nationalistic and ideological row into which I have not the slightest desire to enter.

It is quite true that my books have been written for the American public with the American social picture in view. What else could I do? I have some familiarity with the German social picture as it was before the first World War and between the two wars, but the present picture is in fact strange to me and I would not presume to address a public which thinks in these terms unknown to me. As to what you say about the scientific method and the traditional German idealism, I certainly have no intention to flatter the advocates of something which to my way of looking is very remote from any reality in which I am interested. At present I am much disposed to avoid all lecturing in Germany. I know what a hornet's nest one can get into by becoming either a nationalistic or anti-nationalistic symbol in a country in the present state of confusion of Germany. I have been there before.

As to whether my views receive an acceptance in Germany or not, the matter has not the slightest interest to me. If the views contain something of value, they will receive a certain acceptance sooner or later on their own merits and if not, they will go by the board. The whole question of converting people to my point of view is not worth the very slightest degree of polemics on my part and I do not intend to undertake in polemics. To my way of thinking, a scientific author has no duty except to state his views honestly and accessively, and after that I stick to the principle:

"Geh hin mein Buch in aller Welt
Gott weiss was dir koemt zu
Mann reise dich, Mann beise dich
Wenn nur Mann mir nichts tut!"

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

Jan 17 ok.

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

CABLE ADDRESS
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TECHNICAL BOOK DEPARTMENT

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RIDLEY M. ENSLOW, JR.
SALES MANAGER AND EDITOR

January 14, 1955

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

As an observer of your output of work over the last few years, I know that you are too busy to read many manuscripts for publishers. Nonetheless, I write seeking your help because we now have an important manuscript in which I suspect you would be intensely interested. The title of this book is INFORMATION. It extends information theory and its applications into the social and biological sciences along somewhat different lines from those followed by you and Mr. Shannon of Bell Laboratories.

The author of this book is a physical chemist with a very fine reputation, despite his brief years. He is extremely eager to obtain the views and recommendations of others who have kindred interests in such subject matter areas.

Should you agree to examine his rough draft of about 550 pages, your reaction would be very helpful to the author and ourselves. Although your main payment would be the satisfaction of seeing an utterly engrossing and original manuscript, we would also like you to accept an honorarium of \$45 for your effort.

If we may send the manuscript to you, please signify as much by initialing and returning the enclosed copy of my letter. When this signification arrives, we will send the manuscript to you along with a more detailed description of what we would like to know.

Yours very cordially,

Ridley M. Enslow Jr.

RME/ag



January 14, 1955

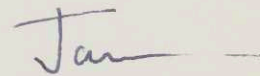
Dear Professor Wiener:

I will be coming up to Boston on Thursday, January 20, and I will have with me at that time Chapters V and VI as well as your Chapters IV and V, which I think need a little further explanation. With luck I may be able to bring you Chapters VII and VIII as well, but I think that we should try to spend an hour or so discussing them in your office.

Won't you let me know if you will have time for me? I am free all day, except for lunch time.

With best wishes,

Yours,


Jason Epstein

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

JE:nr

[ans 1-17-55]

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS
MINNEAPOLIS 14

PROGRAM IN AMERICAN STUDIES

January 14, 1955

Mr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Wiener:

The Carnegie Corporation of New York has made a substantial grant to our Program in American Studies for its general support and for a faculty research project during 1955-56.

In the faculty seminar we propose to study relationships between American civilization and science and technology during the Age of Jackson and during recent decades. The general approach which we shall take is suggested in the enclosed memorandum entitled "Science and Technology in the United States". Possible procedures for 1955-56 are suggested in the memorandum headed "Tentative Proposals for the Study of the Impact of Industrial Technology upon American Culture."

Obviously it will be impossible to do more than explore selected aspects of the topic in one year. It is probable that we can draw in part on work now in progress here, but we are determined to include other aspects of the impact of science and technology on our culture. Examples of studies now under way at Minnesota which may be useful are these:

- A study of the influence of technology and mechanization in developing in individuals and groups, a sense of alienation from American culture as a whole (Arnold Rose; see the enclosed statement);
- A study of reactions to the industrial revolution and the machine in literature and in popular culture during the Age of Jackson (see enclosed statement from Leo Marx);
- A study of relations between the machine and woman during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century (see enclosed statement from Bernard Bowron).

We propose to bring representatives of the social sciences, the natural sciences and the humanities into the group of five people who will engage in this study. Four will be drawn from the Minnesota staff:

- Arnold Rose, Professor of Sociology, co-author of An American Dilemma;
- Leo Marx, Assistant Professor of English (Ph.D. in American Civilization and Acting Administrative Secretary of American Studies, 1954-55);
- Bernard Bowron, Assistant Professor of English (Ph.D. in American Civilization and Administrative Secretary of American Studies, on leave 1954-55);
- J.W. Buchta, Professor of Physics.

The fifth man in the seminar will be a visiting professor. The Committee in American Studies of this University has voted to invite you to fill this post. Our staff teach three courses but a two-thirds load seems to us appropriate for a visiting professor. Your time would thus be divided between (1) a course primarily for graduates, in a field of your selection, (2) the faculty seminar on science and technology, (3) your own work---writing or whatever. Our academic year begins late in September and ends in the middle of June. The stipend indicated in our application for a grant from Carnegie is \$12,000; if this seems to you inadequate, we can discuss the matter further.

Funds are also available for bringing a few consultants to this campus during the winter and spring of 1955, to help plan the seminar. We hope that you can be with us for a few days in this capacity.

For your further information concerning our conception of American Studies and procedures, I am mailing you a small volume on American Studies published by the University of Minnesota Press and a paper evaluating our Program.

Your interest in technics and culture and also in American civilization encourage us to hope that what we are doing will attract you. We shall be grateful for an early reply, even a tentative one, by collect telegram.

Cordially yours,

Tremaine McDowell

Tremaine McDowell
Chairman

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE UNITED STATES:

An Interdisciplinary Seminar

Interdisciplinary Research

Students of American civilization who work with the materials and employ the methods of several academic departments are increasingly impressed by the extent to which the same materials and the same methods appear in two or more academic departments. This common denominator is notably larger than most departmentalized specialists recognize. Unaware of the extent of their common interests, individuals from several departments meet for a two-hour session or a three-day conference on American culture and fail to communicate with each other. But continuing faculty seminars in other areas, on this campus and elsewhere, have brought men in different disciplines to some degree of mutual understanding.

The Minnesota Program in American Studies now proposes to give a group of men and women, well informed concerning one or another area of American civilization, an opportunity to learn what materials and methods they have in common, to restudy familiar aspects of American and to study relatively unexplored aspects, and to emerge with new knowledge of the United States and of the interdisciplinary approach.

Our Program in American Studies is not looking for the discipline or even for a discipline of American Studies; rather, we seek to develop methodologies. Now that we and other programs have demonstrated the usefulness of familiar techniques from the established disciplines, we are exploring fresh approaches to American civilization which still draw on familiar techniques but combine them and adjust them to new materials in such a fashion that new methodologies emerge. Such a synthesis is greater than the sum of its parts. In such study, undertaken either in a seminar or in a dissertation, we look for a problem that needs to be solved (something which a one-discipline man may say should be but cannot be done) and then we work out an appropriate methodology.

Science and Technology in the United States

The area chosen for study by the Minnesota Program is science and technology in the United States. There is extreme need for study of this aspect of our national experience. Few specialists exist and fewer courses--even in terms of a single discipline such as the history of science. We do not yet know much more than the names and accomplishments of our principal scientists. We probably do not begin to know even that much about our technologists, for many of them belong more or less in that limbo of popular culture where so much is not recorded in documents--or where we do not yet know what, properly speaking, a document is.

This is to say that we do not have any systematic notion of what science and technology have done to shape our modes of thought. But there is a further area, equally or perhaps more significant, where we are almost completely in the dark. What has the American mind, product of a peculiar national experience, done to scientific and technological thought? An answer would surely involve the question of how far a pragmatic civilization found it possible to draw distinctions between science and technology in the first place. So a group of specialists investigating this general area must include not only scientists and historians of science. It must include intellectual-cultural

historians, philosophers, and cultural anthropologists versed in the mechanics of folklore.

The Minnesota Program already has given considerable attention to this area. One quarter of our doctoral seminar in American Studies examines the progress of industrialization in the United States, with attention to science and technology. Professor Leo Marx is already engaged on a book about American attitudes toward science and technology in the Pre-Civil War period as evidenced both by our major literary figures and by statements drawn from the semi-popular culture in that period. Professor Bernard Bowron is undertaking a somewhat similar study in the Post-Civil War period, relating images and concepts of technology with those of nature. Lowell Tozer produced in his Ph.D. dissertation a study of the shifting response to technology in the 1893 and 1923 Chicago Expositions. Aurele Durocher is completing a Ph.D. dissertation on early resistances to scientific and technological progress. We have, thus, begun to mark out this field for ourselves. But to do it properly, there is much more knowledge (not yet systematized) that we need.

Our preliminary excursions in this area indicate that a full-scale study should deal with the two periods which bracket the development of American industrialism. The first is that period concerning which Tocquville gave us his acute insights: the Age of Jackson. The second is of necessity the contemporary period, from the beginning of World War II to the present moment. This is the period of worldwide recognition of the triumphs of American technology, the period so close to us that we can draw on the intangibles of popular culture, and the period of which non-industrialized peoples can perhaps learn wisdom as they move into their own technological revolution.

Until a faculty conference formulates a program for the study of science and technology, we can only suggest topics most likely to repay research. It is possible that such a project would deal in one way or other with such contradictory attitudes as these:

- traditional agrarian fear of industrialism,
- popular worship of the machine as either a force of nature or as an agent for men's control of nature,
- uncritical admiration or rational approval of efficiency and of functionalism,
- approval and rejection of scientific knowledge by intellectuals and by anti-intellectuals,
- the persuasive influence of scientism in shaping American thought in the non-scientific and non-technical fields.

Only a faculty conference can determine the most effective ways of coming to an understanding of the attitudes just enumerated or of similar problems. Among possible materials for research, the following might prove to be fruitful, if studied in the age of Jackson and in our own times:

- the iconography of science and technology in the graphic arts,
- symbols of science and technology in literature and sub-literature,
- the teaching of science and engineering,
- popularization of science through the lyceum, periodicals, books and modern media of mass communication,
- mechanics societies, labor unions and the NAM,
- technocracy,
- and, of course, much more.

Tentative Proposals for Study of the Impact
of Industrial Technology upon American Culture

The most inclusive cultural analysis "depends upon the combined use of many materials--interviews, oral and written literature, films, painting and the plastic arts..." But this task "is perhaps best suited to group research."

The Study of Culture at a Distance, eds. Margaret Mead and Rhoda Metraux, 1953

General Objectives: The faculty seminar to be held during 1955-56 under the auspices of the Program in American Studies of the University of Minnesota will deal with the continuity of certain American responses to industrial technology in selected periods since the onset of mechanization on a massive scale. The investigation will move through three stages: (1) formulation of hypotheses concerning these responses, (2) development of methods for testing these hypotheses, (3) verification, rejection, or modification of the hypotheses in the light of such testing.

The Derivation of Hypotheses. Tentative formulation of hypotheses will be undertaken during the winter and spring of 1955 jointly by the three Minnesota staff members chosen for participation in the seminar and consultants from other institutions. During the fall of 1955, these hypotheses will be refined and phrased for testing.

Possible sources for hypotheses to be examined are these:

(1) The work of Leo Marx of the University of Minnesota on responses to mechanization from 1830--1860. Mr. Marx has been occupied with this study for several years; perhaps he can present tentative hypotheses for consideration during next winter and spring and more conclusive suggestions, he hopes, by next fall.

(2) The study of responses to mechanization from 1876--1907 now being made by Bernard Bowron of the University of Minnesota. Since this project was initiated only recently, Mr. Bowron will presumably not be able to formulate suggestions as soon as Mr. Marx can. Both men are drawing their data from literary and non-literary sources; included in the latter are graphic art, periodicals, and other materials of popular culture.

(3) The thinking on industrial technology in recent years, of faculty members who will participate in the seminar and of consultants on this campus and elsewhere. These scholars concerned with contemporary American civilization will be urged to suggest at the earliest possible date, problems for research and hypotheses to be explored.

Suggested Tasks for the Seminar. Depending to some extent on the special fields of the participants, the seminar might devote itself to such tasks during 1955-56, as the following.

(1) Testing the hypotheses derived from these sources, in various areas of American civilization during approximately the same periods (such areas, for example, as political thought, philosophy, history of science, folklore, or art).

(2) The formulation of alternative or corrolary hypotheses in any of the fields under study.

(3) The formulation by a social scientist of methods for testing the present role of these ideas and attitudes discovered in the past (their prevalence, absence, or evolution). The seminar would then attempt such testing on a carefully limited scale.

(4) Incidental to these activities of the seminar, a contribution to research in science and technology will be made by the establishment of a continually expanding bibliography in this field. The absence of a comprehensive bibliography relating science and technology to American culture is at present a serious impediment to work on the subject.

Method of Study. (1) Nature of the hypotheses. One such hypothesis as a basis of study of materials in literature and in popular culture is that the onset of industrial technics, while manifestly greeted with enthusiasm as contributing to progress, power, and productivity, often also aroused feelings of alienation or anomie. A study of the imagery of technology (as opposed, in many instances, to overt statements about it) suggests that the machine was widely felt to be a threat to man's sense of solidarity with nature. This response, by no means confined to people with any social stake in the preindustrial order, seems to characterize both periods in the past now under examination, and thus invites investigation in the present.

(2) This hypothesis could be examined, first, horizontally, i.e., in other areas of thought and expression parallel in time to the materials in literature and popular culture. For example, a member of the seminar trained in philosophy might investigate the degree to which this response is reflected in modes of speculation in the same general period; or a historian of art would inquire into the ways in which American painters recorded, or did not record, similar attitudes and emotions.

(3) The participating social scientist would then formulate a means of testing living informants as to the degree to which the same attitudes and emotions persist in modern America or have been modified. The social scientist's chief responsibility during the year 1955-1956 would be to (a) assist other members of the seminar to state their propositions in terms viable for testing; (b) experiment with the application of sociological methods to historical rather than contemporary data;*

(c) construct the behavioral test to be applied in a pilot inquiry; and (d) initiate such an inquiry. For, as the anthropologists cited at the outset remark, "irrespective of other sources, studies of imagery ultimately depend upon...work with informants."

Conduct of the Seminar: During 1955-56 the seminar of three, plus the coordinator and a visiting professor, would proceed in the following manner. Its deliberations would begin with an analysis and clarification of the starting hypotheses. Then each member of the seminar, depending on his own field of competence, would work on his materials. Through the year, the group would meet frequently enough to arrive at some conception of the responses common to all areas under study.

*It should be emphasized that there is no intention whatever of setting up a division of labor that arbitrarily assigns the contemporary period to social science and the past to humanities. On the contrary, one of the most useful contributions this seminar could possibly make would be to find more ways for scholars from the social sciences and from the humanities to work, literally, together. Past and present should therefore be the concern of both, in the undertaking here proposed.

THE MACHINE IN THE GARDEN: Technological Imagery in
Literature and Society, 1830-1860

(Work in progress by Leo Marx, Associate Professor of
English and Acting Administrative Secretary of American
Studies, University of Minnesota)

The response of American writers to industrialism has been a typical and in many respects singular feature of our culture. For one thing, our first significant literary generation, that of Emerson and Hawthorne, came to maturity during a decisive phase of this nation's Industrial Revolution. Hence from the beginning our mature literature has embodied the experience of a people crossing the line which sets off the era of machine production from the rest of human history. As Emerson said, speaking of the century as the "age of tools," so many inventions had been added in his time that life seemed "almost made over new."

I propose to discover what this sense of the transformation of life by the machine has contributed to the temper of American literature. My emphasis will be upon the major writers of the American "renaissance" era. For it is my impression that the themes and images with which they responded to the onset of industrialism have provided a continuing source of meaning for American writers.

Although this study is intended to illuminate the literature of the era before the Civil War, it will not be exclusively literary in focus. For the fact remains that the writers I am concerned with wrote very little about industrialization as such. My view is that the themes they chose, largely from tradition, were themes peculiarly relevant to an age in which machines were making "life over new." But the very abruptness of the change in America prevented them from a full verbalization of this connection between their themes and the contemporary scene. As a result the links I am looking for are somewhat below the surface, and can only be established by the discovery of certain lines of associative continuity between the work of these men on the one hand and more popular levels of culture on the other.

With the help of a graduate assistant and grant from the Research Fund of this University, I have made a rather thorough canvass of the responses to industrialism in the magazines of the period. On the basis of this study I am convinced that it is possible to demonstrate that the awareness of mechanization played a far larger part in the literature of this period than has been imagined. My method is that of iconological analysis translated to the study of literature. I believe I can show that the imagery of industrialism in the popular culture of the era is closely related to imagery and theme in literature, in painting, and in political thought.

My study will be divided into three main parts. The first section will deal with the chief ideas and images associated with the onset of industrialism outside of literature. The second section will develop the chief imagistic themes used by artists in the period. The third section will focus upon several complete works of literature to actually demonstrate the way in which an understanding of the industrial iconology assists total understanding of the works.

WOMEN AND MACHINERY: Cultural Tensions in American
Imagery of Native and Technology, 1876-1907

(Work in progress by Bernard Bowron, associate professor of English and Administrative Secretary of American Studies at the University of Minnesota on leave 1954-55)

A number of years' work with literary and popular concepts of realism and the nature of the commonplace, and the significance of woman in relation to such concepts, has made me quite as concerned with their cultural as with their literary consequences. It has also led to a tentative discovery that seems most appropriate for exploration in the interdisciplinary terms of the Minnesota American Studies Program.

Over and over again, Americans of the post-Civil War period use female imagery to embody a deeply-felt commitment to the preindustrial past. This tendency goes much further than one might anticipate. It isn't just a matter of the woman's role as wife and mother, and hence as conservator of older and more stable values in an age of explosive social change. Deeper than this, and in complex ways, female imagery is associated with the organic order in general, and hence is used in symbolic contrast to the rising order of technology.

Henry Adams was on the right track in his intuitive counterposing of *Virgin-Venus* and the *Dynamo* as symbols of great consequences for the student of our cultural evolution. Fortunately for such a student, this intuition was not confined to the hypersensitive Henry Adamses. It was widely shared by all sorts of Americans, including both novelists and writers of advertising copy who treated the advent of farm machinery, for example, as something that must be justified by relating it (in a lyrical, not a commercial fashion) to the increased fecundity of the earth. To be sure, these men were trying for a friendly synthesis of the organic and the technological, not putting the two in hostile opposition, as Henry Adams does. But why couldn't they accept the machine on its own terms? Their compulsive inability or unwillingness to do so testifies, I strongly suspect, that they shared Henry Adams' uneasiness about mass technology.

I want to find out how widespread and how long-lived such uneasiness was, in one period of technology's infiltration of American culture.

Bernard Bowron

Memorandum

To: Professor Tremaine McDowell

From: Arnold M. Rose

Subject: Proposed Research During the Academic Year 1955-56 in Connection with the American Studies Seminar.

There is one major and two minor research problems that I should like to work on during the academic year 1955-56.

1. The major problem for research is a continuing series of studies on the isolating effects of industrialization and urbanization. The two principal specific studies that I shall be engaged on are: a. a study of the sociological and psychological characteristics of social isolates in a metropolitan area, b. a study of the effects of long distance migration on the sense of social integration and equilibrium.

2. A study of the industrialization and urbanization of rural areas as a consequence of technological change. This would be a study measuring and analyzing the changes in rural areas and to point up the extent to which they have become sociologically and psychologically quite similar to urban areas.

3. A study of the effects on social science of the adoption of certain concepts from the natural sciences. The concepts to be studied will be the three related ones of "equilibrium", "homeostasis" and "function". This will be at once a factual study of the use of these concepts in the social sciences and a critical analysis of their effects on social science theory and research.

I believe that I can complete the two minor projects and make substantial progress on the major project during the academic year 1955-56.

January 15, 1955

Dear Mr. Wiener,

In the face of ever increasing professional isolation, we believe that it is of the utmost importance to find ways and means of bringing together those who are actively concerned with all the various visual aspects of our world.

We hope that you will join us and others whom we have invited (see attached list) to discuss the prospects for an International Design Conference in 1955. The meeting will be held at The Museum of Modern Art, at 5:30 P.M. on Wednesday, January 26th, in the Fourth Floor Projection Room.

Principal discussants will be Jose Luis Sert, Dean of the Graduate School of Design, Harvard University; Will Burtin designer and Leo Lionni, designer. The chairman of the evening will be Alfred Auerbach.

Please call LOngacre 4-7255 to confirm your presence.

Sincerely yours,

Will Burtin, for:

Will Burtin
Mildred Constantine
Sol Cornberg
Leo Lionni
Just Lunning
Alvin Lustig
Charles Whitney

[and 1/19/55]

INTERNATIONAL DESIGN CONFERENCE - meeting January 26, 1955 - list of invitees

AABLE, Liza	LANGER, Suzanne K.
AGHA, M. F.	LEEDS, Harold
ALBERS, Josef	LEIBOWITZ, Matthew
AUERBACH, Alfred	LESLIE, Robert L.
BARZUN, Jacques	LIONNI, Leo
BEGG, John	LIPCHITZ, Jacques
BENSON, Emanuel	LOEWY, Raymond
BERTOIA, Harry	LUNNING, Just
BIRNIE, James	LUSTIG, Alvin
BLAKE, Peter	MAAS, Carl
BRENNAN, Francis	MATTER, Herbert
BUNSCHAFT, Gordon	MENDEL, Hortense
BURTIN, Will	MITARACHI, Jane
CHERMAYEFF, Serge	MULLER-MUNK, Peter
COINER, Charles	NARDIN, Warren
CONSTANTINE, Mildred	NELSON, George
CONTINI, Edgardo	NIVOLA, Costantino
CORNBERG, Sol	NOGUCHI, Isamu
DANIEL, Greta	OERI, Georgine
DAVIS, Harold	OZENFANT, Amedee
DONATI, Enrico	PAINÉ, R.D., Jr.
DREXLER, Arthur	PARR, Albert E.
FOGELMAN, James	PEI, I. M.
FULLER, Buckminster	PERESSUTTI, Enrico
FUNARO, Bruno	RAND, Paul
GAGE, Robert	ROTHROCK, David
GIDEON, Siegfried	SAARINEN, Eero
GOLDMAN, Lee	SAARINEN, Mrs. Eero
GROPIUS, Walter	SACKLER, Arthur
GROTZ, Paul	SCHAFFER, Robert H.
GRUENBERG, Elliot	SERT, Jose Luis
GRUEN, Victor	SHAHN, Ben
GRUMBAUM, James	SHAPIRO, Meyer
GUEFT, Olga	STEINBERG, Leo
HARRISON, Wallace	STEINBERG, Saul
HASKELL, Douglas	STERNE, Hedda
HOUGHTON, Arthur	STOLLER, Ezra
HOWE, George	STONOROV, Oscar
ISENOUR, George	SWEENEY, James Johnson
JOHNSON, Philip	THOMPSON, Bradbury
KAHN, Louis	VAN HOUTEN, Lazette
KALLMAN, G. M.	WALKER, R.
KAUFMANN, Edgar, Jr.	WALLANCE, Don
KEPES, Gyorgy	WARD, John
KLEIN, William	WEAVER, Sylvester L., Jr.
KNOLL, Florence	WHITNEY, Charles
KNOLL, Hans	WIENER, Norbert
KOOK, Ed	



THE POCKET BOOK MAGAZINE

a periodical of ideas, inspiration, information and issues • 699 madison avenue, new york 21, n. y. • TEmpleton 8-8806

FRANKLIN WATTS • Editor

January 15, 1955

Prof. Norbert Wiener
Dept. of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I am happy to send you under separate cover an advance copy of the second issue of PB--The Pocket Book Magazine. Your article, EIGHT YEARS OF CYBERNETICS AND THE ELECTRONIC BRAIN, is one of the most outstanding pieces in this issue, and I want to thank you again for contributing it.

You may be interested to hear that Pocket Books are printing a larger edition of Issue 2 than of Issue 1. We have been deeply gratified by the widespread enthusiasm with which Issue 1 was received. Issue 2, we feel, meets the same high standard of quality. February 1 has been set as the publication date.

Several contributors have asked about buying copies to send to their personal friends. We shall be glad to address and postpay to addresses in the United States as many copies as you like at a cost of \$.20 a copy to you. Just send us your list of names with your check and we shall gladly do the rest.

All best wishes.

Cordially,

Franklin Watts
e

FW:ms

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THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF THE LIBERAL ARTS
STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA

MATHEMATICS

Jan. 16, 1955

Dear Prof. Wiener,

The Pennsylvania State University is celebrating its hundredth anniversary this year and as part of its participation in the celebration, the mathematics department is anxious to have some eminent mathematician give a lecture on the campus.

We further hoped to have a mathematician who was more of a universalist than is customary among our breed who could give an address of more widespread appeal than is normally the case.

We are therefore hoping that you will accept this invitation to visit us in the spring at a time to suit your convenience. We should indeed be much pleased and were it not for the fact that it sounds so trite, I should be inclined to add honoured by your visit.

State College is 30 miles from Lewistown which is located on the main line of the P.R.R. or is about 60 miles from Williamsport ~~xxxx~~ which is a stop on the direct flight from Boston to Washington, or is about 20 miles from Moshannon an airport served by some airlines. Which ever way you elected to come, your arrival ~~xxx~~ to and departure from State College would be made as easy and convenient as possible.

I hope that I may be favoured with an early acceptance of this invitation and meanwhile remain

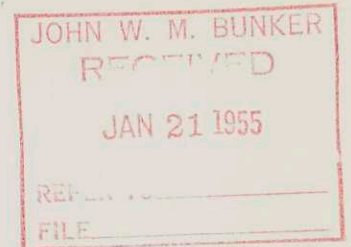
Yours sincerely,

Raymond Ayoub
Raymond Ayoub.

[ans 1/24/55]

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK 20



DIVISION OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH
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CABLE ADDRESS:
ROCKFOUND, NEW YORK

January 17, 1955

Dear Doctor Wiener:

Thank you for your letter of January 13th, in which you state that you will be glad to receive Doctor Barbosa and allow him to work in your Department until your departure at the end of June.

Since he will be coming around the 1st of March, which is in the middle of a term, I am wondering just what procedure should be followed and whether he should apply for admission as a special student at M.I.T. for the time he will be there. Perhaps you will be good enough to ask the Dean or the Admissions Officer what procedure we should follow.

Thanking you again, I am

Yours sincerely,

Rolla B. Hill, M.D.

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

RBH:MAS



THE WORCESTER FOUNDATION FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY

Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

January 17, 1955

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

Dear Norbert:

I believe I may have sent a copy of the enclosed reprint to you. The one I am enclosing is the only one left and I would appreciate having it back. It contains a summary of the work on the time sense and physiological rhythms, particularly in reference to the EEG. I would very much appreciate having your comments.

Sincerely yours,

Hudson Hoagland

HH:B

Enc.

[and 1/19/55]

SIMMONS COLLEGE

BOSTON 15, MASSACHUSETTS

DIVISION OF SOCIAL STUDIES

January 17, 1955

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

The Simmons College Chapter of the American Association of University Professors is inaugurating a lecture series this year and would be delighted to have you as its first speaker. The meeting is planned for an evening in the latter part of April (a definite date to be set later). Choice of subject will be up to the speaker.

This year's meeting has a special significance since it will honor Bancroft Beatley, the retiring President of Simmons College. Mr. Beatley, as you may know, has made a notable record in defending and preserving academic freedom.

Our limited treasury permits us to offer the modest honorarium of \$35.00.

We hope very much that you are in a position to accept our invitation.

Very truly yours,

Stanley M. Jacks

Stanley M. Jacks, President
Simmons College Chapter
AAUP

SMJ:RH

[ans 1/29/55]



Ref: EA.71.01

January 17, 1955.

Columba 5-5050

Dear Professor Wiener,

Thank you for your letter of January
the 3rd.

On receipt of your earlier letter of
December the 20th I wrote on your behalf to Dr. S.S.
Bhatnagar but unhappily before my letter could have
reached him, he passed away. He was the one man
who in our scientific field could take rapid decisions
and I am now waiting to know who will be taking Dr.
Bhatnagar's place in order to communicate with India
again. I am wondering whether you may not like to
write directly to Professor Mahanalobis, Director
of the Central Statistics Institute, Calcutta. I
fully appreciate your reasons for asking for full
transportation costs for yourself and your wife from
America to Europe and from Europe to India and back.
I will hear from India in response to my letter to
the late Dr. Bhatnagar and when once I am able to
ascertain the availability of funds, I shall resume
correspondence again on the subject. In the meantime,
if you would like to write personal letters to people
in India with whom you have established contact, it
might be quite helpful.

Yours sincerely,

M. S. Sundaram

M.S. Sundaram.

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

MSS:lc

[ans 1/30/55]

Math Dept

January 17, 1955

Mr. Jason Epstein
Doubleday and Company, Inc.
575 Madison Avenue
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Epstein:

Thank you for your letter of January 14. Professor Wiener will be able to see you at any time that is convenient for you on Thursday, January 20. I would suggest that 2 p.m. is a good time to see him, or whenever your luncheon date is over.

Sincerely yours,

Gabrielle Fuchs, Secretary to
Professor Wiener

NW:gf

Ministers
REV. FREDERICK M. MEEK, D.D.
REV. EMERSON L. CURRY
REV. ERIC M. RICKARD, JR.

MRS. CLAUDE W. FISHER, Secretary
TELEPHONE KEnmore 6-1970

Old South Church in Boston

CONGREGATIONAL
[Third Church in Boston, 1669]
COPLEY SQUARE

January 18, 1955

Professor Norman A. Wiener
c/o Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Would it be possible for you to speak to the Old South Seminar, our group for graduate students and young working people, on one of the evenings of either February 6, 20, or 27? Many of the people in our group have expressed a concern and interest in the work you are doing in Cybernetics. They are wondering what implications this work will have for the future, especially in regards to secretarial and the like type of work in which many of them are employed.

Our group has their evening program at 7:30 every Sunday evening. The speaker usually speaks about 30 to 45 minutes and then has a brief period of time for questions from the floor. Of course, this program is very informal and so it can be altered to the convenience of any speaker.

Our usual Sunday evening attendance numbers around 150. The group is comprised of graduate students and young working people between the ages of 20 and 35. Also, we offer a modest honorarium.

With sincere hope that you can accept this invitation,
I am

Sincerely yours,

George A. Graham
B.

George A. Graham
Assistant for Young Adult Work

amb

{ans 2/4/55}

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

January 18, 1955

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

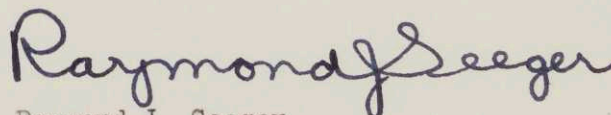
We were greatly pleased to learn of your willingness to speak to our NSF colloquium. Your secretary suggested several dates. We would be pleased to have you come on February 2d, if this is agreeable to you.

In your letter of December 15th, you mentioned the "unpleasant experience" you had with respect to government reimbursement of travel some-time ago. The ruling of the government in this connection is that if your flight is cancelled (for which the airline would make no charge to you) you would be reimbursed for the lowest first-class accommodations by rail (lower berth). If such accommodation is not available, you would then be reimbursed for the next lowest means of travel provided that you attached a justification on your part that a lower berth had not been available. I hope that these rulings will not inconvenience you or make you feel that "too much red tape" is involved to warrant your being with us. Will you please let me know at your earliest convenience the subject of the talk that you will give? Also let us know if you need any equipment, i.e., projector or blackboard.

Travel authorizations have been requested for you and will be forwarded to you within a few days.

We are all looking forward to hearing from you. I believe that Dr. Leon Cohen, our Program Director for Mathematical Sciences, will be particularly pleased at the opportunity to discuss several matters of his program with you.

Sincerely,



Raymond J. Seeger
Assistant Director (Acting)

[ans 1/21/55]

January 18, 1955

Professor J. J. Burckhardt
Bergheimstrasse 4
Zürich 32, Switzerland

Dear Professor Burckhardt:

I am enclosing the corrected second proof of
Professor Norbert Wiener's article, "On the Factorization
of Matrices."

Professor Wiener would appreciate receiving 100
reprints (which I believe are free of charge) of the
article when they are ready.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

Gabrielle Fuchs, Secretary to
Professor Wiener

gf

Enclosure

Dear Haldane:

Let me consider your equation 3 of the form

$$\varphi(t) = \int_0^{\infty} F[\varphi(t-x)] f(x) dx$$

$f(x)$ I understand to represent the distribution of eggs from the laying of the mother. It will naturally be a curve of somewhat this character

Let us take $f(x) = x^2 e^{-ax}$. I don't say that this is right but it is certainly not an unreasonable representation of the sort of curve with which we are dealing. We have

$$\int_0^{\infty} x^2 e^{-ax} e^{ikx} dx = \frac{c}{(a-ik)^3}$$

in which in general cases the Fourier transform of $f(x)$ will be a rational fraction in ik . In the particular case in question we shall have

$$\left(a - \frac{d}{dt}\right)^3 \varphi(t) = c F(\varphi(t))$$

In more general cases, we shall still have an ordinary differential equation of quite low degree. In the most general case f can be represented very well by a polynomial in a very small number of Laguerre functions which will give us the rational representation of the operator we want and the differential equation in φ .

Having obtained this differential equation, the numerical solution of your problem is easy. On the one hand you can solve your differential equation by a step by step process such as is used in the computation of orbits in astronomy or of trajectories in ballistics. On the other hand, if you have access to a Bush differential analyzer or other rapid computing machine, the problem is in ideal form for machine computation. In this case the F curve will be put on a drafting board attached to the machine and one machine attendant will be kept busy following it. You can find the necessary technique in papers by Vannevar Bush and you can find the proper apparatus in various English engineering laboratories, such as I believe, the engineering laboratory at Cambridge.

Let me know as soon as you can what you think of this method. If it satisfies your needs, please let me know at once

January 18, 1955

and I shall try to polish it up. Otherwise I shall look for new leads.

One thing is certain. In our joint paper your name comes first. This is my firm decision.

Margaret and I send Helen and you our best regards. We should be in England this summer on our way to India. Peggy, as you know, who is married very happily, is also working on steroid hormones in an industrial laboratory.

Sincerely,

Norbert Wiener

Professor J. B. S. Haldane
Department of Biometry
London University
Gower Street
London, England

NW:gf

$$\psi(t) = \int_0^{\infty} \phi(t-x) f(x) dx$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \psi(t) = \phi(t) - \int_0^{\infty} \phi(t-x) f(x) dx$$

$$\left(\frac{d}{dt} - f \right) \psi(t) = \phi(t)$$

$$\psi(t) = \int_0^{\infty} \phi(t-x) e^{-\int_0^x f(\tau) d\tau} dx$$

Let us consider your equation of the form

I understand to represent the distribution of eggs from the laying of the mother. It will naturally be a curve of some kind.

Let us take $f(x) = x^2 e^{-ax}$

Let us take $f(x) = \frac{e^{-ax}}{(a - ix)^2}$

Let us take $f(x) = \frac{e^{-ax}}{(a - ix)^3}$

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January 18, 1955

January 18, 1955

Professor Arnold Metzger
St. Paulsplatz 9
Munich, Germany

Dear Professor Metzger:

I have been receiving letters recently from a gentleman by the name of Magoroh Maruyama. While Mr. Maruyama does not suggest to me in sommany terms not to come to Germany, he has pointed out to me what you have also pointed out, that I shall be treading on a great many toes if I give a public lecture in Germany and frankly I think that this is neither necessary nor desirable. In the first place, there is a very strong attitude in Germany that the classical German metaphysical tradition is the only valid philosophical tradition and that an American giving philosophical lectures in Germany will be bringing coals to New Castle. This, according to my informer and to a certain extent according to yourself, is closely tied up with every shade of nationalism in Germany from the mild supporters of the regime before the first world war to the most irreconcilable Nazis.

From what I hear there has been a considerable measure of controversy concerning cybernetics, and this controversy has not been unmixed with a political coloring. Under the circumstances, so long as Germany feels rightly or not that its position in the world has been eclipsed and that it is still essentially an occupied country, I can not expect a public lecture of mine on a subject close to the pride of the Germans to be accepted or even heard without bitter controversy. The fact that I am a Jew will do nothing to allay this controversy. Under the circumstances, the moment is not propitious for me to give a public lecture on my ideas in Germany. It can do no good, and it can do a great deal of harm.

I do not possess the missionary spirit and I have no desire to peddle my ideas as if I were running a medicine show. If my ideas are fundamentally right, they will prevail in the long run, and if they are not, I do not wish them to prevail. To give a public lecture in Germany would put me in the position of making a propaganda which is fundamentally repugnat to me. May I, therefore, ask you in all humility to cancel my lecture. I shall very possibly be in Germany this summer, and if I am I intend to look you up. I shall have no hesitation to talk of my ideas and work with you as an individual or with any other individuals of good will

whether they agree with me or do not. My work is going along well and I am getting most significant results with brain waves as a mode of exploring some of the functions of the brain.

I thank you for your courtesy in inviting me but I think that too many Americans are giving lectures abroad for propaganda purposes and are not doing their own credit nor the credit of their country any good. There are times when silence is the best propaganda.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

January 19, 1955

Mr. Will Burtin
International Design Conference 1955
550 Fifth Avenue
New York 36, New York

Dear Mr. Burtin:

My schedule of work has got into such a knot that I have only Alexander's alternative, to cut it open with a knife.

I have a trip to India ahead of me in the near future and two books to finish before I begin the trip or on the trip. I am under doctor's orders not to take anything new on, and my wife is insisting on my strict compliance to these orders. Thus I must regretfully turn down this occasion to meet such a group of interesting people.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

January 19, 1955

Captain Herbert Dumans
Centro Tecnico da Aeronautica, IPD
S. Jose dos Campos,
Est. Sao Paulo, Brasil

My dear Mr. Dumans:

I am enclosing a copy of the big bibliography
of my publications and trust that you can choose
what you want on my work in Cybernetics.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

Enclosure

January 19, 1955

Dear Hoagland:

Your paper on the relation of chemical kinetics and the brain wave is most interesting and conclusive. However, while it indicates the existence of a clock in the brain, I do not see that it necessarily points to a clock that will keep in phase with itself for so long a time as we have observed. In other words, what you say is perfectly consistent with the clocking being an average clocking. The observation that there is a single sharp frequency which can be picked up outside of the brain does not seem to me to be either a necessary consequence of your ideas nor a necessary proof of them. In other words, I can see very definitely that you have been feeling out for a sharp elementary clocking process, but it is not clear to me that this process will have to be localized in a single elementary sharp clock whose action can be distinguished from that of the rest of the brain.

I have now arrived at a theoretical explanation of why the brain shows a broad band of alpha rhythm with an exceedingly sharp central alpha rhythm of rather low intensity. In the first place, I am convinced that while you may have control mechanisms without a clock, which work on a purely sequential basis, such mechanisms will be extremely inefficient in their use of them. If the release of processes is the completion of previous processes, and they are not kept in strict phase relations with one another, then a good deal of the control apparatus will be standing idle at any given time, waiting for messages to come in. A synaptic mechanism, or a similar machine-switching mechanism will unite only such messages as come in within a very narrow time tolerance. Without a clock, the precise use of such a mechanism is impossible. A purely sequential brain would have to have an enormous storing capacity to hold messages until the appropriate time for using them.

Let us then suppose that a clock is quite essential to an efficient communication and control system. This clock need not operate at a high energy level. When, however, it is called on to perform some useful function, its output will have to go through some sort of amplification which will raise its low power level to the point at which it can operate other apparatus. This will mean very probably that for brief bits of time the clock will be modulated by a power apparatus. The effect of such modulation is to spread the natural frequency band of the clock because of starting and stopping transients. What we should thus expect to find is a narrow central clock rhythm of high precision but weak power immersed in a much wider secondary band centered about the same frequency of high power and of relatively low precision. This is in fact what we do observe.

It may seem to you that these arguments are arguments for purpose and design like those of the old natural theology. I do not

January 19, 1955

think this criticism will be entirely just. It is an observation and not a hypothesis that whatever the brain accomplishes it does accomplish purposive action. Knowing that it is capable of performing such action, we have a perfect right to compare it with other mechanisms for accomplishing similar action, and to see to what extent it shares with them in structural or functional working characteristics. That it does share in so high a degree such characteristics is in my mind a significant fact.

Let me take up the same idea from a related point of view. However, by talking with men engaged to work on the automatic milling machine, it takes its orders from tape rather than from direct human control. There are three different motions involved in this machine. Namely, an up and down motion of the work, a to and fro motion of the tool, and a right and left motion of the tool. If these were not held together by a clock, good functioning would be difficult or impossible. This clock is not a powerful instrument and it is very often working freely as a consequence. If one were observing the electrical stray of the instrument as one observes the electrical stray of the brain, by electroencephalogram, the record would be very weak. On the other hand, when this clock is used to regulate power impulses to the work or the tools, these impulses will be on a far higher level than those of the clock itself. The clock will, in effect, turn off and on at varying intervals one of a large number of power clocks, and the intervals during which these power clocks will be at work will not be long enough to make sharp frequencies possible.

Another parallel instance is the ordinary television set. You will always be able to pick up the sweep frequency, but it will be weak as compared with the modulated sweep frequencies which form the picture. These modulated sweep frequencies will be spread over a band of quite considerable width. The sweep frequencies correspond to the primary clock in the machine, and the modulated sweep frequencies to the clock as a carrier of actual information to the machine.

I want you to understand that I am thoroughly aware that the clock idea is yours and that you have been right all along. All I claim for my group and myself is the discovery of a very precise central clock, not merely as something convenient for theory, but as a definite physiologically observable entity. The moral is clear. Your work on pacemakers goes far beyond the study of the brain and includes the heart and many other organs. Let me suggest that an application of my autocorrelation technique to these related problems is very likely to yield further physiological results of importance.

With best wishes from house to house.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/gf

Dr. Hudson Hoagland
The Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

P. S. Enclosed is the reprint of your article.

[ans 1/25/55]

January 19, 1955

Mr. Harvard Hollenberg
The Bronx High School of Science
120 East 184 Street
New York 68, New York

My dear Mr. Hollenberg:

Many thanks for your kind letter of December 14. The fact is (a) that I very seldom go to New York, and (b) that when I do, my schedule there is very full.

I am at present extremely tired and loaded up with more work than I can see my way to complete within the time in which I am supposed to complete it. So please be merciful and don't make extra demands on my efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

January 19, 1955

Mr. Tremaine McDowell, Chairman
College of Science, Literature, and the Arts
Program in American Studies
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Mr. McDowell:

Naturally your offer to me of a visiting professorship is interesting, but I am afraid that I must regretfully refuse it. The reason is that I have already accepted an invitation to spend most of the academic year of which you speak in India, and I have made my plans accordingly. Moreover, I still have a considerable body of work of publication to clear up; and, in particular, my most pressing duty is to finish a book which I am now undertaking on the grammar of the semi-exact sciences.

When I am through with this work my next and very pressing task is to exploit some new methods that a group here have developed for the study of brain waves. Thus, any work of mine of a primarily sociological nature is several years ahead if indeed I intend to devote the major part of my effort to it.

I trust you will understand my situation, and I regret that I cannot work together with your very interesting group.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

January 19, 1955

Mr. Andrew G. Pikler
Code 2920/f
U. S. Navy Electronics Laboratory
San Diego 52, California

Dear Mr. Pikler:

It may interest you to know that the existence of the precise psychophysical clock is more than a hypothesis, and that we have actually identified it by study of the autocorrelation function of the electroencephalogram.

This shows conclusively that beside an alpha rhythm which is rather broad in frequency, there is a central alpha rhythm of highly precise frequency but not very great intensity. As we follow the autocorrelation for larger and larger lags, this central frequency becomes more and more important as compared with the broad frequency band. This central frequency represents a very precise clocking mechanism.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

January 19, 1955

Dr. Georg Unger
Haus Siebeneck
Dornach, Switzerland

Sehr geehrter Herr Unger:

Ich interessiere mich natürlich dafür Studenten und Mitarbeiter aus aller Welt zu haben. Leider werde ich von Juni 1955 bis September 1956 abwesend sein. Ich habe versprochen längere Zeit in Indien zu verbringen.

Im Sommer vermutlich in August, werde ich eine kurze Zeit in der Schweiz verbringen, und hoffentlich werden wir die Gelegenheit finden uns kennen zu lernen und verschiedene wissenschaftlichen Themen zu besprechen.

Ihr sehr ergebener,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

January 19, 1955

Mr. Franklin Watts, Editor
The Pocket Book Magazine
699 Madison Avenue
New York 21, New York

My dear Mr. Watts:

Just a friendly note to acknowledge the receipt of your very pleasant letter concerning the second edition of the Pocket Book Magazine.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf



January 20, 1955

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Professor:

Thank you for your acceptance, through Donald Severance, of our request for you to speak to the New York Alumni on February 2nd. I enclose herewith a copy of our news letter which has gone out to all M. I. T. Alumni in the greater New York area.

The meeting will be held in the downstairs room of Longchamps at 42nd Street and Lexington Avenue, which is right across the street from the Commodore Hotel. Cocktails will be served from 5:30 on, notwithstanding the time shown on the announcement. Your talk will be after dinner. I suggest that I meet you at the cocktail party, which will permit you to meet me at any time which is convenient to you.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. L. Bruneau, Jr.', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

A. L. Bruneau, Jr.
President

Sehr geehrter Herr Wiener,

Der Orell Füssli Verlag schickte Ihnen kürzlich die zweite Korrektur Ihres Artikels "On the Factorization of Matrices" zu. Ich möchte Sie höflich ersuchen, mir die Korrektur per Luftpost zu retournieren, da die Arbeit bereits Ende Februar erscheinen soll. Bei der Durchsicht Ihrer Arbeit sind uns hier in der zweiten Korrektur folgende Dinge aufgefallen, auf die wir Sie aufmerksam machen möchten:

S.1: Widmung steht: the inspiration, sollte es heissen: the inspirer?

Th.1 ff. an stelle von $\|$ stets ein π .

Formel (1.01) und (1.04) ist der Punkt am Ende wegzulassen.
Die Formel (1.07) kommt zweimal vor.

S.3 : "integral" vor Formel (1.18) streichen ?

S.5: Formel (2.3) sollte heissen (2.13)

§ 3 "their common part H_1 and H_2 " soll heissen $H_1 H_2$?

Anstatt $P_1 P_2 P_1$ $P_2 P_1 f$ soll stehen ?

S.6 Mitte anstatt L_2 wohl L^2 ? *ebenso S. 10, 11*

S.7 Zweimal die Formel 3.08

S.8 Formel 3.12 rechte Seite: \mathbb{Z} $\mathbb{1}$ $\mathbb{2}$

S.9ff. Was bedeutet \mathbb{M} , ist es richtig, unter die Buchstaben eine

Schlange ~ zu setzen ?

Mit bestem Dank und freundlichen Grüßen verbleibe ich Ihr

J. J. Burckhardt

J. J. Burckhardt

hörtlich eruchen, mir die Korrektur der Luftgase zu revidieren, da die Arbeit bereits Ende Februar erscheinen soll. Bei der Durchsicht Ihrer Arbeit sind uns hier in der zweiten Korrektur folgende Dinge auf-

gefallen, auf die wir Sie aufmerksam machen möchten:

2.1: Widmung steht: the inspiration, sollte es heißen: the inspiration?

Th. 1 ff. an stelle von W stets ein W.

Formel (1.01) und (1.04) ist der Punkt am Ende wegzulassen.

Die Formel (1.07) kommt zweimal vor.

2.3: "integral" vor Formel (1.18) streichen?

2.5: Formel (2.3) sollte heißen (2.13)

2.3 "their common part H₁ and H₂" soll heißen H₁H₂?

Ansatz P P P P P P soll stehen?

2.6 Mitte ansatz L wohl L?

2.7 Zweimal die Formel 3.08

2.8 Formel 3.12 rechte Seite: K I

2.9ff. Was bedeutet M, ist es richtig, unter die Buchstaben eine

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
of the MASSACHUSETTS
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Cambridge

January 20, 1955

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Room 2-155
M. I. T.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the arrangements for the January 24 meeting of the Alumni Council at the M.I.T. Faculty Club. Dinner will start at 6:15 p.m., but you are cordially invited to join the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association at about 5:45 p.m. in Private Dining Room #4.


Mr. Hugh S. Ferguson, President of the Alumni Association, will be presiding at our Alumni Council meeting. The meeting itself will start around 7:30, and I suspect it will close about 9:00. I would expect an audience of about 150 varying in age from 22 to 92, thoroughly heterogenous as to profession. As far as M.I.T. is concerned this is a fairly well informed alumni group for many of them attend five to seven of these meetings a year.

I am suggesting that Gordon Brown present a brief introduction of the film "Machines That Think" -- indicating how it came to be, et cetera. Following the showing of this film, I would hope that the rest of the meeting could be devoted to a free exchange of questions and answers. Mr. McDonough will also be on the program. There will be no reporters present.

The Alumni Council is accustomed to short talks by members of the faculty followed by a moderate question period. Hence, to rely on a question period for the bulk of the meeting is for us a thoroughly new experiment.

Of course, business dress is in order. Let me know if you have any questions about the meeting.

Sincerely yours,


D. P. Severance

DPS:em

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

January 20, 1955

Mrs. McLellan
Admissions Office

Dear Mrs. McLellan:

I am enclosing a letter we received from the Rockefeller Foundation in reference to Dr. Barbosa, an instructor from the Recife Medical School in Brazil. Professor Wiener is willing to receive and devote a little time to him during his stay here.

Dr. Barbosa has excellent references. He intends to study cybernetics, i.e., the government and communication theory and its application to biology.

Would you please send the information requested by Dr. Hill and let us have a copy of your letter.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Gabrielle Fuchs

Gabrielle Fuchs, Secretary
to Professor Wiener

Enclosure
gf

P. S. I can be reached at extension 198 if there are any questions. -GF

Barbosa

January 20, 1955

Mrs. McLellan
Admissions Office

Dear Mrs. McLellan:

I am enclosing a letter we received from the Rockefeller Foundation in reference to Dr. Barbosa, an instructor from the Recife Medical School in Brazil. Professor Wiener is willing to receive and devote a little time to him during his stay here.

Dr. Barbosa has excellent references. He intends to study cybernetics, i.e., the government and communication theory and its application to biology.

Would you please send the information requested by Dr. Hill and let us have a copy of your letter.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Gabrielle Fuchs, Secretary
to Professor Wiener

Enclosure
gf

P. S. I can be reached at extension 198 if there are any questions. -GF

COPY

January 20, 1955

Professor Mahalanobis

Dear Prof. Mahalanobis:

My wife and I received the delightful Christmas card sent by Mrs. Mahalanobis and yourself, and I carry the pleasantest memories of my stay with you in India, together with the expectation of sharing with my wife another such stay in the course of this coming year.

My scientific work has been going along fruitfully, and I have been able to integrate into it a good deal of what I did on my Indian trip. In particular, Masani at Bombay suggested to me a problem of matrix factorization, which I have completely solved and which is about to come out in the Swiss Comentarii Mathematici. In this article I explicitly mention Masani and the part of my work done in India.

I am finishing the second volume of my autobiography either this week or next, and simultaneously I am writing a book which I will call The Grammar of the Semi-Exact Sciences. This will contain some of the work I talked about last year, but will go far further in the study of the relation between statistics and dynamics. I do not expect to have the work completed before my trip to India, and intend to devote whatever spare time I find there to finish it. In the task of finishing it there will be a large number of problems for Indian statisticians and probability theory men, and the fact of having the book under way will be of considerable help, I hope in making my work of instruction profitable to the Indians.

A problem has come up concerning my trip to India, and I am respectfully requesting you to help me out, as I have just heard with great regret from Mr. Sundaram that Professor Bhatnagar has just died. I feel the loss as that of a personal friend as well as a great blow to the tremendous progress which Indian science is making in its internal development and in its world reputation. Furthermore, certain negotiations which I have had with Sundaram concerning my trip are left hanging in the air. He asks me to write to you concerning them.

You remember the arrangement we made concerning my trip to India next summer. I intend to arrive in India some time in the middle of September and perhaps to go up to Kashmir for a few weeks until the weather becomes suitable for me to come down to the plains again and undertake my work. This is a matter that I talked over with Prasad when he was here a few weeks ago. I intend to stay in India perhaps until April or perhaps longer. My schedule at present is flexible, so I will be completely at your disposal. As you remember, the terms of my trip covered transportation for my wife and myself to India and back, and all expenses in India.

Since receiving my Indian invitation. I have had a request from Israel for me to give a couple of lectures at the Weizmann

Institute, and before that, my wife and I want a few weeks in Europe particularly devoted to visiting my wife's relatives. These extra trips I would not undertake at all at this time if it were not for the trip to India. Therefore, it seems to me that it is a fair interpretation of your offer to ask for the following things:

(a) Transportation some time in June or July for my wife and myself to Europe. In general, we should prefer this transportation to be by boat as it is more restful, and we certainly will not put you to any greater expense for this than the air transportation to connect up with Air India at some European Airport.

(b) We undertake to pay all European expenses out of our own pocket as well as expenses in Israel.

(c) We request transportation either by Air India to Cairo or by boat to Israel or to some place in the Near East from which we can find transportation to Israel. We expect to leave late in August or early in September.

(d) We also request Air India transportation from Cairo to Bombay after our stay in Israel, which will be some time in early or middle September.

(e) We request all Indian expenses except, of course, purchases which we make on our own account to be taken back to the United States.

(f) We request transportation back to the United States. It is possible that after my Indian stay I may receive an invitation to Japan and may come back by the Pacific. If that is the case, we request only such portion of the transportation as a trip back to America by the most direct air route would involve. This part of our trip is not certain, and if no arrangement can be found, we shall be glad to go back by the European route. I realize the difficulty of getting foreign exchange, and I do not know how far one can go further East than India on an Indian line. In any case, I do not request that any money be spent on foreign exchange other than what would be necessary to transport us by air from Europe to New York or Boston.

Can you see these arrangements through as expeditiously as possible as it will take some time for us to make our arrangements? I think you will consider them equitable, as we would not be making the trip at all except for the Indian invitation. We are not putting you over and above the minimum expense necessary to get us to India and back.

Peggy was delighted with the earrings which Mrs. Mahalanobis so kindly helped me purchase. We are tremendously pleased with her marriage and the young man. He is an engineer at the Bell Telephone Laboratories, and Peggy is continuing for a little while to work as a biochemist with a pharmaceutical firm until they have established a good financial basis for having a family. We are also delighted with our Kashmiri tea set, which has excited much attention among our friends. I am learning Hindi and have already made considerable progress in the language. Margaret intends to start learning it in India. The last trip was a great privilege for us and we are looking forward to the new trip. I do not intend to make it merely a pleasure trip, however, although it will give me great pleasure, but sincerely to put my ideas and whatever teaching ability I have at the disposal of my Indian friends.

With best wishes from house to house, I remain, sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

[ans 1/31/55]

CMH

Zürich 32, Bergheimstr.4 , Jan.21, 1955

Dear Miss Fuchs,

Yesterday I sent to Prof. Wiener a letter concerning the second proofs of the paper for the Comment. Math. Helv., hoping he would notice it for the second proof. Today I receive this second proofs together with your letter from 18. Jan. and I see that this is not the case.

Having read here the proofs together with some friends I would tell you that some points are not clear and so I return the proofs with our remarks.- Especially we have the following questions:

What means L in Th.1, what L_2 in §2 ?

What means \tilde{M} in (3.21) and what M in the line after (3.29) ?

The same for \tilde{H} and H .

I beg you to read carefully the proofs and to return them as soon as possible.

I noticed the 100 reprints, free of charge.

Sincerely yours

J. J. Burckhardt

J. J. Burckhardt

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
STATISTICAL LABORATORY
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

January 21, 1955

Miss Gabrielle Fuchs
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Fuchs:

We wish to thank you for your letter of January 12, which enclosed the ticket stub for Professor Wiener's flight to Berkeley. Unfortunately there is an additional form with which we must bother you.

The regulations of the University require that a formal voucher be submitted to cover the expenditure of funds for travel. This voucher must be signed by the claimant. We have filled out the form in question for Mr. Wiener but must have his signature before it can be submitted for payment. The executed voucher should be returned directly to us, and I am enclosing a return envelope for your convenience.

Thank you for your assistance in completing this final detail.

Sincerely yours,

Maryann Durham

Maryann Durham
Secretary, Statistical Laboratory

Enclosure

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TECHNICAL BOOK DEPARTMENT

CHARLES L. SKELLEY
MANAGER

RIDLEY M. ENSLOW, JR.
SALES MANAGER AND EDITOR

January 21, 1955

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

We are delighted that you are to examine the manuscript INFORMATION for us.

It is our policy to keep the name of our reviewer in confidence, so that he need have no hesitation in giving his frank opinion. It is likely that we will want to send an unsigned copy of your report to the author.

We seek your opinion about whether this manuscript will be a contribution to the literature. If you think it has possibilities, we would like any suggestions about how the book could be further improved prior to publication. Attached to the front of the manuscript is a criticism of the manuscript which was written by the author himself. When you read this, you will see that he sets high standards for himself and that he views the present manuscript as being nothing but a rough draft which will be reworked in the light of more considered judgment.

In addition to your criticisms of the conceptual aspects of the book, we would like to know whether important topics are omitted or whether some aspects of information theory have been allotted more space than they deserve.

You will note that the author is attempting to present information theory to both the educated layman and the more sophisticated scientist at the same time. In order to meet this requirement, the book must be interestingly written and scientifically important. Your books achieve this dual purpose. That's why we think that you are the ideal person for this critical job.

Looking forward with keen anticipation to receiving your comments,

Yours very cordially,

Ridley M. Enslow Jr.

RME/ag

[ans 2/28/55]

January 21, 1955

Memorandum to: Dr. Gordon S. Brown
Dr. Norbert Wiener

Enclosed is a copy of the announcement of your February 2 meeting with the M.I.T. Club of New York. If you arrive in the city and wish to contact any officers of the Club, I would suggest that you call either Mr. A. Louis Bruneau at Von Minden & Bruneau, 150 Broadway, or Mr. Milton R. McGuire, The Cooper-Bessemer Corp., 25 W. 43rd Street, unless, of course, you receive word from New York of a different person to contact.



D. P. Severance

DPS:em
cc: Mr. A. L. Bruneau

NEWSLETTER



Giant "mechanical brains". No longer science-fiction but existing . . . and more coming into being. How do they work? Are they really—as some say—beginning to control our nation's economy? Will they reshape our political outlook? Our spiritual outlook? In an attempt to answer one of the most discussed and pressing problems facing us today—

We are proud to announce that
DR. NORBERT WIENER & DR. GORDON BROWN
will speak on the subject

AUTOMATION

at an informal
Dinner Meeting, Wednesday Feb. 2

LONGCHAMPS, 42nd Street*

*Due to the exceptional interest of this meeting, it is requested that all reservations be made promptly. Guests are limited to two per alumnus.

Cocktails—6 PM

Dinner—7 PM

Cost—\$4.00 includes everything

DR. NORBERT WIENER

Philosopher . . . mathematician . . . linguist. One of the great minds of our time. The man who added a new word to our vocabulary—"cybernetics" . . . and whose theories have added new dimensions to almost all the professional disciplines of the 20th century.



DR. GORDON BROWN

Consultant to U.S. government on guided missiles and other programs. Director of the M.I.T. Servo Mechanism Laboratory since 1941 (first of its kind in the nation). Head of Electrical Engineering Department.

M.I.T. Club of New York
 105 East 40th St.,
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 MUrray Hill 5-8400

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 444 Madison Ave., N.Y. 22

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

John E. Plantinga '45
 Meyer, Strong & Jones
 101 Park Ave., N.Y. 17

KILLIAN WARNS AGAINST FEAR OF SCIENTIST'S WORK, METHODS

Warning that the service of science in national defense may divert attention from its true character as a humanizing, creative and spiritual force, Dr. Killian called recently for a wider recognition and understanding of its beneficial nature.

"With the growing recognition of the importance of science to the national welfare," Dr. Killian said, "There have appeared adverse reactions to science—reactions of fear, uneasiness and misunderstanding with respect to the work and methods of the scientist."

Discussing new forces affecting science, Dr. Killian declared that, "The most insistent and commanding intellectual problem of our period is survival—the defense of the free world against sustained ideological assault and possible thermonuclear attack. One of the many requirements

imposed upon the nation by this brutal fact is an inescapable demand upon scholars and educational institutions to serve the national defense and to strengthen the free world."

"One of the responsibilities of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in the light of these current conditions, is to explain, to demonstrate, and to symbolize the beneficent nature of science and of creative intelligence. While discharging to the level best of our ability our responsibilities for defense, we must also keep steadily before us the importance of providing a favorable environment for pure research, for the prospering of disinterested curiosity, for the pursuit of science as a noble end in itself and for the encouragement of creative intelligence."

Textile Group Chews The Rag

In the textile business? Like to talk? Like to listen? If the answer is "yes" to any of the foregoing you might be interested in knowing about the group of Tech grads who meet for luncheon at the M.I.T. Club bar the first business Monday of every month. Time — 12:30. Nucleus of the group are:

Paul Choquette	General Dyestuff
John Dixon	U.S. Rubber
Bob Gaines	Union Carbide & Carbon
George Hotte	National Aniline
Andy Mooradian	Pacific Mills
Dexter Stevens	Wellington Sears
Bill Van Nostrand	Martin Fabrics

Whole thing is pretty informal. No officers. No titles. Purpose of the group is to promote good fellowship among Tech Alumni in New York's textile business and to discuss matters of general field interest without being under the pressure of business. Call Bill Van Nostrand for details. (LO 4-2020)

Titanium Turnout Tests Club's Mettle

M.I.T. in New York seems to be gaining momentum. Toss a small dinner-meeting with reservations for 90 or so and what happens. More than one hundred forty show up. However, Ralph Wilts, who handled arrangements, exerted the diplomacy of a Persian Room maitre d' and everyone was accommodated.

Guest speaker was Tom Lippert, Manager of Sales and Technical Services for Titanium Metal Corp. A fortunate choice, because during the Q & A's following his talk some of the boys began asking rather abstruse questions. He answered them all. Neatly too, we thought.

All in all, a thoroughly enjoyable affair, and if you didn't attend we suggest you make reservations now for the next dinner-meeting, Feb. 2, when Professors Wiener and Brown discuss Automation.

General Foods Grant Awarded Harold W. Rich

The first award of a \$4000 General Foods fellowship was made to Harold M. Rich, a graduate student in Tech's Department of Food Technology, it has been announced by the M.I.T. News Service.

The 1954 grant given to Mr. Rich is the first of a new series of national fellowships established by the General Foods Fund, Inc. and is awarded on the basis of a national competition administered by the Institute of Food Technologists.

Rich is a 1952 grad of the Department of Food Technology.

Alumni in Westchester Form Auxiliary Group

First organizational meeting of M.I.T. grads living in Westchester and Fairfield counties will be held at the Scarsdale Country Club, Feb. 24, 8:30 PM. All resident alumni are invited. Call Tony Hittle '36 at MU 7-8000 for details.

Prof. Rostow Writes New Book On Communist China

Success or failure of the Communist regime in China lies substantially in the hands of the Free World—especially the United States—declares Dr. Walt W. Rostow, Professor of History at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

This is his summary of the first comprehensive study of the new government which rules nearly 500 million people. His book, entitled, "The Prospects For Communist

China", is published by the Technology Press of M.I.T. in association with John Wiley and Sons, Inc., of New York.

"The Prospects for Communist China" is the result of a year-long intensive study in the Center for International Studies at M.I.T. Since few relatively objective observers are allowed extensive access to Communist China, the bulk of the data came from official Communist sources, including the Communist Chinese press.

"Although the use of this material poses many difficulties", Dr. Rostow notes, "it appears that a major modern society—even a totalitarian society—cannot be maintained without revealing the main line of its evolution in some open sources."

Noted Pianist Joins Faculty

An unusual opportunity to learn the mind and works of a distinguished pianist-composer recently came to students with the appointment of Ernst Levy as Carnegie Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Humanities.

Mr. Levy offers four lecture-recitals on Beethoven piano sonatas, two lectures on Pythagorean philosophy, and a seminar on the Beethoven piano sonatas. In addition, Mr. Levy will be faculty resident in the master's suite of Munroe House. "The appointment of Mr. Levy," Dean Burchard pointed out, "gives M.I.T. students an especially valuable opportunity to meet, on an informal and personal level, a magnificent pianist and a prolific composer."

Mr. Levy was Professorial Lecturer in the Division of the Humanities at the University of Chicago. In 1952, he was also appointed Professor of Musicology and conductor of the chorus of the Chicago Musical College.

Religion at M.I.T.

Inquiries have been received regarding the opportunities and facilities available for religious and spiritual experience present at the Institute. We thought it would be worthwhile to present some facts of general interest on this subject.

There are five special groups established on campus to bring together students of similar religious beliefs and interests. These groups are: The Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, Hillel Foundation, the Catholic Club, the Christian Science Organization, and the Seabury Society (Episcopal). In addition, the new secretary of the T.C.A., Mr. Robert Holden, came to M.I.T. from a Unitarian pastorate and, since joining the staff, has been particularly active in helping students develop the specifically religious aspects of the T.C.A.

While M.I.T. has no official chaplain, fourteen members of the clergy are currently taking an active part in promoting the religious and spiritual welfare of our students. Eight of these clergymen hold regular office hours at the Institute, with three of the eight each averaging about three full days a week on campus. Besides the facilities of the T.C.A., three consultation rooms—one in Walker Memorial and two in the Hayden Library—are available on a full-time basis for student-clergy contacts.

**MAKE YOUR
RESERVATIONS NOW
FOR
WIENER/BROWN
AUTOMATION MEETING
FEB. 2**

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



THOMAS D'ARCY BROPHY
Chairman of the Board
Kenyon & Eckhardt, Inc.

Somebody decided to take Cinderella to the Ball one day and that's how Thomas D'Arcy Brophy became chief executive of one of the world's largest advertising agencies.

Let us explain:

Tom started by being born in Butte, Montana in 1893. Little Gonzaga College in the State of Washington (where he paved the way for Bing Crosby) prepped him for Tech's class

of '16. Three years in World War I, a stint as an architectural draftsman, and then, his first important job as Director of Market Research and Sales Promotion with Anaconda Copper brings us up to 1920. By 1923, he was a Vice President of Anaconda.

In 1929, he went over to Revere Copper & Brass. Revere's advertising at that time was handled by two gentlemen named Otis Kenyon and Henry

Eckhardt. They liked Tom's approach to things. And they asked him into K & E. 1929 saw practically everything turn into pumpkins . . . except T. D'A.B., K & E, and the advertising business — which metamorphosed into a profession — much thanks to the efforts of Tom Brophy.

For Tom felt then, and still feels, that advertising is the Cinderella of American business, that it's looked upon as an expensive, expendable garnishment. He considers advertising "an essential ingredient to our economy . . . it is to selling what the machine is to production . . . (it) mass-produces customers for a mass production economy . . . makes jobs . . . reduces selling costs . . . increases profits". 'Of course' some people say, 'these are just opinions. One man's conclusions'. True. But Brophy became Chairman of K & E's Board by being able to back up conclusions with convincing facts. (10% for the answer . . . 90% for the correct equation that got it. Just as at M.I.T.)

As it was, Tom exhibited a precocious propensity for chairmanships. At the old Boston Tech in 1916, when it was decided to move to Cambridge and become the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he was Chairman of the Undergraduate Committee in charge of the transfer. Later, at the great Mid-Century Convocation (Winston Churchill invited as one of the speakers) key arrangements in the U.S. were handled by Chairman Brophy. In between, his work during World War II as Chairman of the Information Committee of the National War Fund (including British and American War Relief) earned him an appointment as Honorary Commander of the British Empire — a signal honor for an American and a rarer one for an Irishman. And as President of the American Heritage Foundation, he was largely responsible for the famous Freedom Train, the national non-partisan Register and Vote Campaign of 1952, and this year's Crusade for Freedom. Also, as you members know, he is a past president of the M.I.T. Club of N.Y. Quite a man, this Brophy, wot?

Cinderella could want no better escort.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

4:00

1-21-1955

Memo to

DEAN BUNKER

Room

We have been asked by Prof. Thresher
to answer the attached. B.A.T. thought
he should be a Guest or V.f.

I called Miss Fuchs & she says he will not be
taking anything for academic credit.

from

B

Room

January 21, 1955

Reservations
Hotel Dixie
250 West 43rd Street
New York, New York

Gentlemen:

Would you please reserve a single room with bath for
the night of February 2, 1955, for Professor Norbert Wiener.

I would appreciate receiving a confirmation of the
room and the price.

Sincerely yours,

Gabrielle Fuchs
Secretary to Professor Wiener

gf

January 21, 1955

Mr. Jason Epstein
Doubleday and Co., Inc.
575 Madison Avenue
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Epstein:

Professor Wiener will arrive in New York approximately at 5 p.m. on February 2, since he is only expected to speak after 6 p.m. He will be staying overnight at the Hotel Dixie on 43rd Street, and he would like to know if a luncheon date for February 3 is convenient for you.

If this is all right, would you please let me know at what time you wish to see Professor Wiener.

Sincerely yours,

Gabrielle Fuchs, Secretary
to Professor Wiener

gf

January 21, 1955

Mr. Raymond J. Seeger
Acting Assistant Director
National Science Foundation
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Seeger:

The February 2 date for the NSF Colloquium is definitely out, as I have already assumed an obligation to speak on that date before an M.I.T. Alumni Club in New York. Other times might be possible, but I am looking to you to make a definite suggestion.

I have been asked by my doctor to cut down my schedule considerably. Therefore, I cannot guarantee that I will be able to speak to your Colloquium.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:gf

P. S. No projector will be necessary, but as you know, a mathematician needs a blackboard.

[ans 1/27/55]