

164

CORRESPONDENCE Feb. 1-10, 1953

N. WIENER NO 22

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

.....19.....

Memo to..... Room.....

Dr. F. ~~Rez~~ Reza, Elect. Engineering--Ex. 2530

A native of Iran. Would like to arrange a visit for Prof. Wiener in Iran under the auspices of the government in connectionwith the Indian trip.

Get in touch ~~whi~~ with him as trip plans clarify.

Also, bear in mind the Israel-Arab ~~viasa~~ problem.
from..... Room.....

B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATION
M.I.T. SIMMONS TUFTS JACKSON
5 Bryant Street
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

MIT NEWSLETTER

NOMINATIONS FOR NEW OFFICERS

Nominations for new officers of M.I.T. Hillel will be made at the semi-monthly Student Council meeting which will be held on Wednesday, March 11, at 5 p.m., in Crafts Library Lounge of East Campus.

BRUNCH AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

On Sunday morning, March 22, at 10:30, in the Moore Room, 6-321, there will be a brunch for Hillel members, at which time nominations for officers will be re-opened, and final elections will be held.

CONFERENCE ON MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS

Plans are under way to organize a seminar on the political, economic, social, and religious trends in the Middle East. The committee to organize the Seminar will hold its first meeting on Monday, March 16, at 5 p.m. in the Tyler Lounge of the Walker Memorial Building. If you are interested in this program, but cannot attend the meeting, please contact Larry Lewin in Hayden 211.

ONEG SHABBAT

Hillel is pleased to announce that it will hold its next Oneg Shabbat on Friday, March 13, at 8:30 p.m. in the Hayden Library Lounge.

Our guest speaker at that time will be Professor Norbert Wiener, whose topic will be "THE EDUCATION OF A SCHOLAR." A discussion period will follow Professor Wiener's talk.

Refreshments will be served.

You and your friends are very cordially invited to attend.

WEDNESDAY DISCUSSION GROUP

March 18 5 p.m.
Crafts Lounge

The next discussion group topic will be "THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE OF SEFIRAH" (Sefirah is the observance of a 7 week period between Pesach and Shavuoth during which the Omer is counted, and weddings and festivities are not held.

STUDENTS WHO WILL BE ON THE CAMPUS DURING SPRING VACATION AND WISH TO ATTEND THE PASSOVER SEDER ARE ASKED TO CALL THE HILLEL OFFICE, TROWERIDGE 6 - 3894.

[ca Feb, 1953]

CERCLE d'ETUDES CYBERNETIQUES

Monsieur et cher Collège,

Nous avons l'honneur de vous annoncer que notre prochaine réunion aura lieu le

Samedi 7 février 1953, à 17 h.

à l'Institut d'Histoire des Sciences, 13 rue du Four, Paris (6°), métro Mabillon.

Nous vous prions d'agréer, Monsieur et cher Collège, l'expression de nos sentiments distingués.

PROGRAMME DE LA SEANCE :

" MONDE DES MACHINES ET VOIE TECHNIQUE "

par M. Jacques LAFITTE

REVUE: "STRUCTURE ET EVOLUTION DES TECHNIQUES" :

La Revue "Structure et Evolution des Techniques" publie dans chaque numéro une rubrique consacrée à notre Cercle et un article se rapportant aux questions qui nous intéressent. De façon plus générale cette publication présente: un Bilan des informations scientifiques et techniques, des Esquisses de synthèses rationnelles, des Confrontations entre techniques et valeurs.

Abonnement pour un an : France - 750 francs
Etranger - 1000 francs

C.C.P.: Paris 67 1832, S.E.T. Association, 2 rue Mabillon
Paris (6°)

ADHESIONS AU CERCLE :

Ecrire à S.E.T. C.E.Cyb, 2, rue Mabillon, Paris (6°).

mi

Cadieux -

[ca Feb, 1953]

CERCLE d'ETUDES CYBERNETIQUES

(Set-Cecyb, 2, rue Mabillon, Paris - 6°)

Monsieur et cher Collègue,

Nous avons l'honneur de vous annoncer que les Membres du Cercle d'Etudes Cybernétiques sont invités à venir assister les

Jeudis 19 et 26 février 1953, à 15 h.,
(Sorbonne, Faculté des Lettres, salle C)

aux

"DEUX LECONS SUR LA LOGIQUE MATHEMATIQUE", de
M. J. RIGUET, Docteur es sciences

- I. Introduction à l'algèbre de Boole.
2. Introduction à la logique des relations.

(Ces Conférences n'exigent aucune connaissance spéciale préalable).

Le Secrétaire
R. VALLÉE



Variety Store Merchandiser

publications

192 Lexington Ave., New York 16. N. Y. • Murray Hill 3-5362

February 2, 1953

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

Dear Sir:

It's my hope that you will permit a rank amateur in the field of electronics to ask a question which I have difficulty finding the answer to in business circles. The question concerns the application of electronics to inventory keeping in the retail operation. I am attempting to apprise retailers of their stake in the development of electronic merchandising methods, and at the very root of the article is the problem of inserting information into the electronic machines with a speed comparable to their computing pace.

It is my thought that we must project our thinking toward the ideal method of getting inventory information into the machines at the point of sale without resorting to punch cards and tapes. In other words, what ideally will be the method for a sales girl to record her sale and have it recorded at once in the continuous inventory?

My own thought on this subject is that ideally this method of inserting such information must embody the principles of the "electric eye". At the sales counter, the clerk would drop or otherwise insert part of the sales ticket into a machine and the information as to size, color, etc. would be transmitted instantaneously to the electronic machines handling the inventory totals. Thus retailers would have an accurate, up-to-the-second record of their complete inventory.

The question I have asked of you probably comes under the heading of a request for professional advice. And it is also a probability that you will be reluctant to attempt to answer such an informal request. One further word: I shall not quote you under any circumstances unless you give me specific permission to do so.

My thanks in advance for any help you choose to give me.

Very truly yours,

Bernard Corrigan
Bernard Corrigan

FORMERLY SYNDICATE STORE MERCHANDISER

[ans 2/9/53]

LIFE

TIME & LIFE BUILDING
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
NEW YORK 20

EDITORIAL OFFICES

February 2, 1953

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

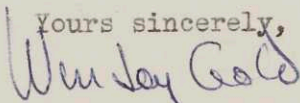
Dear Dr. Wiener:

Permit me to explain to you directly our view of the outcome of our assigning Sloan Wilson to do a close-up of you for LIFE Magazine.

I understand that Mr. Wilson has told you that we rejected the manuscript. We did not do so. We asked Mr. Wilson for a revision, which is quite a different thing. We did so because, in our opinion, the manuscript lacked distinction in writing and, in general, failed to present its subject matter vividly, memorably or understandably enough for a large reading audience. It is possible that you have received a different impression of our reasons for returning the manuscript to Mr. Wilson. In any case, I hope you will accept my assurance that this was not done because we have any preconceptions of what an article should say about you, but do have standards that we try to get our articles to measure up to. These standards have to do with insight, information and quality of journalism.

The editors of LIFE are still anxious to publish an article about the founder of the science of Cybernetics, and we hope that we can have your cooperation in having such an article written. At the moment we have no other author assigned to undertake the piece, but it would encourage us to know that you would receive anyone designated by us without prejudice.

Yours sincerely,



William Jay Gold
Articles Editor

WJG:jf

[ans 2/9/53]

ULMAN SOCIETY, INC.

Founded 1944 in memory of Judge Joseph N. Ulman of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City to carry on his work for the rehabilitation of young offenders

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BALTIMORE 1, MARYLAND

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PLAZA 1176

VICTOR JELENKO
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Secretary

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Treasurer

February 2nd, 1953

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Association

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Executive Director
The Osborne Association, Inc.

G. Howland Shaw, President
Industrial Areas Foundation

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I am sending you a copy of my book "The Republic of the Schools" in which I took the liberty of referring to your creation, the word "cybernetics", and also to "The Human Use of Human Beings". I have a feeling you will be interested in the philosophy set forth in my book, and I hope you will agree that if my proposals are followed before it is too late they will tend to prevent the mechanization of the human race. I do not know of any other way it can be prevented outside of supernatural intervention, do you?

With best wishes for your continued energetic work in warning humans of their danger,

Very sincerely,

Victor Jelenko
VICTOR JELENKO

J:H

[ans 4/7/53]



UNITED STATES LINES



10, RUE AUBER, PARIS 9^e

ORIOLE LINE
AMERICA FRANCE LINE

AMERICAN PIONEER LINE
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TEL. OPÉRA 05-87
OPÉRA 89-80

TEL. ADDRESS: SEAPOSTES

February 2nd 1953,

Sir,

Our Paris office has decided to publish in the next few months the first issue of a yearly review which will present the most advanced activities in the literary, artistic and scientific fields on both sides of the Atlantic.

We think it natural because of your exception position in the revelation of the possibilities of Cybernetics to ask you to do us the honor of accepting to have your name included in the Committee of Honor of this review.

.../...

[ans 2/9/53]

You might be interested to know the list of the personalities that we have approached for the different cultural fields to which they are linked:

Prince Louis de Broglie, Marcel Duchamp, T. S. Eliot, Etienne Gilson, Julian Huxley, Gabriel Marcel, Professeur Henri Mondor, Eugene O'Neil, Jean Paulhan, Herbert Read, Bertrand Russell, James J. Sweeney, Lionello Venturi, Orson Welles, Thornton Wilder, Frank Lloyd Wright.

Furthermore, we wonder if you would condescend to write a short article for this publication. Among our contributions in the scientific field, we will have an article by Louis de Broglie on his recent coming back to a new determinism in microphysics. (You must certainly be aware of the definite influence of Mr. Bohms on this position). Mr. Stéphane Lupasco, who is considered as the most revolutionary man in logics to day, will summarize the developpement of Hilbertian logics up to his own recent works, and I am now trying to obtain an article on the influence of Carnap and Wittgenstein in the United States.

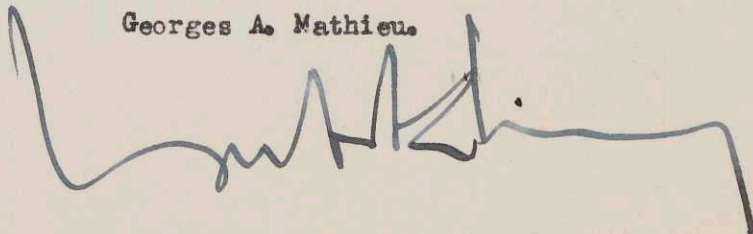
I have read with a very great interest your book, "Cybernetics", and I have thought that your views on the philosophic implications and epistemologic consequences of the present advancement of Cybernetics would be most interesting.

I have not yet been able to reach Mr. Freymann but I have been assured that you would be quite at ease to treat such a subject. However, I do not wish to impose anything to you and I would be very happy if you would accept to write a "metacybernetic" approach. (The article could be very short: 75 to 100 typewritten lines would be quite sufficient).

At your disposal to supply you with further information about the spirit of this review, I beg to remain,

Yours very respectfully,

Georges A. Mathieu.



Professor Norbert Wiener,
Institute of Technology,
Massachusetts.

46-
278
2 weeks

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

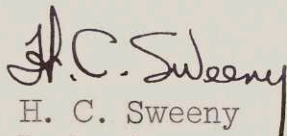
February 2, 1953

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Sir

As our school is interested in the automation of production, I would appreciate a copy of the talk, "The Formal Concepts of Automatic Production" which you gave at the 1952 ASME meeting.

Yours very truly



H. C. Sweeny
Instructor

g

[ans 2/10/53]

CABLE ADDRESS
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19833

February 2, 1953

A **22549**

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Room 2-155 - Massachusetts Ave.,
Cambridge, Mass.

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One Air Tkt. Topeka - K. C. -Chicago 2/5/53	34.27
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COPY

February 2, 1953

Colonel D.B. Diehl
Industrial College of the Armed Forces
Washington, D.C.

Your Ref: SAOIC 201

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing a draft of my lecture for delivery on Tuesday, February 10. My custom is not to read my lectures--rather to use my manuscripts as the general orientation of my thoughts. I should be very grateful if you could look over this manuscript and make any suggestions as to information I have not included which would be of particular interest to your group.

I shall arrive in Washington on The Federal at 8:20 a.m. Tuesday morning, February 10. I should be most appreciative if you would have someone meet me. It will be convenient for me to remain with you after luncheon for the seminar you described in your letter. My flight reservation home will be on the 6:00pm. direct flight to Boston.

If you care to make some suggestions about my lecture, I shall look forward to receiving them. Otherwise, I will be with you a week hence.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

[ans 2/17/53]

February 2, 1953

Dr. G. Ramaswamy
Komala Vilas
73, Rashbehari Avenue
Calcutta 26, India

Dear Dr. Ramaswamy:

Professor Wiener has asked me to send the enclosed revision to you. The manuscript sent to you on Jan. 26 included an error on the last page, which he has now corrected. The enclosed page 4 is correct, and you can substitute it for the earlier page 4 which contains the error.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. George Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

h

COPY

February 2, 1953

Mr. Sloan Wilson
8 Harrison Ave.
New Canaan, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I thoroughly approve of the course of conduct you have taken, and with you all luck in placing the article. I enjoyed very much your visit here, and I hope that we shall meet again.

I understand the motives which make you wish that there be no break with the Time people. But I am afraid that if they come to me again, I shall be forced to deny their representative an interview. This is not only because of the outcome of your assignment. There has been a very considerable discontent here at M.I.T. in our public relations department and elsewhere, with the policy of these people in securing a great deal of cooperation by individuals and groups, and then throwing the results of this cooperation into a copious wastebasket. Naturally, neither the Institute nor I wishes to be in the position of dictating their editorial policy to them. But neither can we be in the position of giving them richly of our somewhat valuable time to no effect whatever. In short, Life has already used up the amount of time which I am willing to give them for interviews. And I am simply too busy to give them any more.

As a matter of fact, I feel that the whole interviewing game has been overdone in my case. This does not apply to your article, which represents work already accomplished and which I like. However, you will see for yourself that this sort of opening up of my personality is not something which can be done very often, and that I have as much to lose as to gain by wide publicity. The three men who have done articles about me recently--Fliegers, Whiteside, and yourself--have been sensitive, intelligent men and very friendly to me. But enough is enough, and what I can

COPY

2.

do for a couple of weeks I certainly cannot do for more.

Thank you for your letter. With best regards from all of us here,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
77 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

TGM, Feb. 2

Unfavorable flying conditions have changed plans. I will arrive Topeka via Santa Fe Railroad 10:55 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3. Please have someone meet me and take me to my hotel.

N.W.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
77 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

*William Willard
220
Sander*

Arrangements for Topeka trip:

Tuesday, Feb. 3.

Lv. Boston 12:00 noon, arr. N.Y. 12:05
Amer. F. 303.

Lv. N.Y. 1:30 p.m., arr. Kansas City 6:30 p.m.
TWA Fl. 59.
(Stops St. Louis)

Lv. Kansas City 7:50 p.m., arr. Topeka 8:30.
TWA 469.

Wednesday, Feb. 4.

Lecture, p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5.

Lv. Topeka 8⁴³ am., arr. K.C. 9⁰⁹

TWA 382 11³⁰ am.

Lv. K.C. 9⁴⁰ am., arr. ~~Chicago~~

TWA 472 - Chicago

Boston, No. p.m.

Lv. by 5¹⁵ am., arr. B. 6¹⁸

Air. No. 352

Friday

12³⁰ Green

Possible train connections:

~~Lv. N.Y. 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 2.~~

Lv. Boston via New England States, 2:30 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 2.

Arr. Chicago 8:20 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 3.

Lv. Chicago 12:00 p.m., arr. Topeka 10:55 p.m.,
Tuesda, Feb. 3.

Lv. Kansas City 7:50 p.m., arr. Topeka 8:30.

Wednesday, Feb. 4.

Lecture, p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5.

Lv. Topeka

[Faint handwritten notes and scribbles, including "L.A. 4:15", "Chicago", and "Kansas City"]

Monday, Feb. 2.

Lv. Boston via The New England States, 2:30 p.m.
Car Roomette No.

Tuesday, Feb. 3.

Arr. Chicago 8:20 a.m.

Lv. Chicago, 12:01 p.m., Arr. Topeka 10:55 p.m.
via Santa Fe.

Hotel in Topeka is

Wednesday, Feb. 4.

B.E. Booth, Director of Professional Education
Winter Veterans Hospital

Lecture in the evening.

Thursday, Feb. 5.

Lv. Topeka 8:43 a.m., arr. Kansas City 9:09 a.m.
via TWA Flight No. 382.

Lv. Kansas City 9:40 a.m., arr. Chicago 11:30 a.m.
via TWA Flight No. 472.

Lv. Chicago 3:30 p.m. via Commodore Vanderbilt
(advance section) N.Y. Central

Friday, Feb. 6.

Arr. New York 9:00 a.m.,

12:30, luncheon with Mr. Simon

Lv. N.Y. 5:00 p.m. via Merchants Ltd., arr.
Boston 9:00 p.m.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
77 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

Monday, Feb. 9, 1953:

Lv. Boston, 11:00 p.m. via The Federal
Car No. 1733 Roomette No. 16

Tuesday, Feb. 10:

Arr. Washington 8:20 a.m. You will be met at
the station.

Industrial College of the Armed Forces,

10:30, lecture.

12:30, luncheon at Officers' Club.

1:30-3:00, seminar on Cybernetics.

Lv. Washington 6:00 p.m. via American Fl. No. 364,
arr. Boston 8:02. Dinner served aboard.

(If the weather cancels your flight, The Federal,
leaving Union Station at 10:45, will arrive in
Boston at about 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11.)

Rear Adm. W.M. Hague, USN, Commandant of the Ind.
College of the Armed Forces.

Colonel D.B. Diehl, Chief of Production Branch,
Ind. Coll. of the Armed Forces.

Monday, Feb. 9, 1953:

Lv. Boston, 11:00 p.m. via The Federal
Car No. Roomette No.

Tuesday, Feb. 10:

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leaving Union Station at 10:45, will arrive in
Boston at about 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11.)

Rear Adm. W.M. Hague, USN, Commandant of the Ind.
College of the Armed Forces.

Colonel D.B. Diehl, Chief of Production Branch,
Ind. Coll. of the Armed Forces.

8, Wood Lane,
Iver Heath, Bucks.
England
3rd February, 1953.

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

Dear Sir,

Guided Weapons
Self-aligning Daybooks

In my view the problem of aligning into ledger sequence the items of any commercial daybook is analogous to the problem of feeding information into a weapon seeking its target. In the daybook we can code or reference the items with three numerals and "N" (say 3x4 or 12) digits; with the guided weapon we have "N" positions in three dimensions. The space pattern of the daybook can be converted into a voltage-time distribution and the flow of information can be automatically switched by advance information - which also switches the motor feeding the copy record at the effector end of the communication channel. Further details are given in my Patent Specification (British) 4397/51.

I have been unable to elicit any interest in this conservative country and remembering our discussion after a R.S.S. meeting in London it occurred to me that you might know of somebody in the States willing to sponsor a prototype facsimile apparatus with automatic switching. I sent my patent specification last May to Remington Rand in the States and they wrote recently that they are still considering the matter.

Yours sincerely,

D. S. Blacklock

[and 3/53]

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

The State University of New Jersey

NEW BRUNSWICK NEW JERSEY

February 3, 1953

*Will you p.m. Tr?
H. Del. space? - jey 12-*

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

We are very pleased to learn that the evening of Monday, March 9th is convenient for you to speak before the student body of Rutgers University and we are looking forward to meeting you at that time.

We would like to have you as our guest at dinner prior to your talk which is scheduled for 8:30 p.m. This dinner will be held in the faculty dining room of the University Commons at 6:15 p.m.

May we inquire as to your arrangements for traveling to New Brunswick, and if by train whether you would like us to meet you at the station?

In order that we may publicize your talk sufficiently, we hope that you will be able to send us your topic title at least two weeks prior to the scheduled date of your appearance.

Very sincerely yours,

William E. Jeney

William E. Jeney Jr
Lecture Series Committee

WEJ:IR

[and 2/9/53]



electronics

DESIGN • PRODUCTION • USE

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February 3, 1953

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

I am delighted that you will do us the review of Dr. Ashby's book. It is already on its way to you.

In light of the interest and value in this subject, I suggest that you do not limit yourself in any way in writing the review.

Sincerely,

Keith Henney
Editorial Director

kh/mj

{ans 2/3/53}

Feb 10

ROBERT E. LENZ
1700 SOUTH SECOND STREET
SAINT LOUIS

February 3, 1953

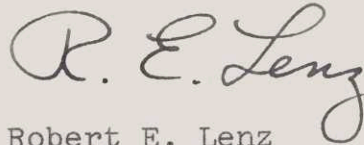
Dr. Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Your article entitled "The Future of Automatic Machinery," which appeared in the February issue of Mechanical Engineering, was one of the clearest discussions I have ever read on the place of man in industry.

I wonder if you have an extra copy which you could send me?

Yours very truly



Robert E. Lenz

/ls1

THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

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

TELEPHONE TRAFALGAR 6-8200

February 4th 1953

Dear Norbert:

I now have had a chance to read your paper "Problems of Organization." I like it thoroughly. I liked in particular your comment on page 7 on the psychological complications of paresis. Your illustrations on page 9 of my manuscript are excellent. Incidentally, have you caught the error on line 5, where I think you intended "pooled" where it is "pulled"?

but

written

copy of yours

You are very generous to credit me with some portion of the inspiration which illumines this paper. I wish I could have been there to hear you deliver it. In a few days I shall send you my manuscript "Sophocles contra Freud." As a classics scholar, I think you will enjoy it.

My very best to you.

Jago

Iago Galoston, M.D.

IG/ewp

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

Tokyo Institute of Technology
Oh-okayama, Meguroku
Tokyo, Japan

February 4, 1953

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Mass.
U. S. A.

Dear Professor Wiener:

It is indeed generous of you to plead my case and the case of Misuzu Shobo so that we may secure the translation rights of Cybernetics. We are very happy in the hands of the highest authorities. Every one here is very anxious to find out what will be revealed in your autobiography.

With best wishes and deep appreciation,

Sincerely yours,



Shikao Ikehara

P.S. Please convey my thanks to Dean Fessett.

Dr. Weir
Mass Inst. of Tech.
Boston Mass.

Feb. 4 '53

Dear Sir

By a photographic process the print of a book to be pronounced & read aloud to be transformed into a plate the ink to be changed negatively to attract a positive tracing instrument as in a telegraph autograph. This is to be transformed to a sound type tape as in automatic dictation instruments. The tape to be played to read aloud. This sounds to me simple. May I urge you whether you have been interested in this form of expression?

Samuel H. H. H.
341 Lexington
N.Y.C.

SCHEDULE FOR DR. NORBERT WIENER

February 4, 1953

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. Appointment with Dr. B. E. Boothe, Director of Professional Education, WVAH, T-10.

9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Appointment with Dr. Gardner Murphy, Director of Research, Menninger Foundation.

10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Appointment with Dr. George Devereux, Director of Research, WVAH, T-10.

10:45 - 11:30 a.m. Conference with WVAH Psychology Staff Members, Dr. William C. Hallow, Chief Psychologist, WVAH, A-4.

11:30 - 12:45 p.m. Lunch with Dr. Alfred Plaut, Chief of Pathological Service, A-4.

1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Administrative Staff Conference, Acute NP Section, Dr. Herbert Klemmer, Section Chief, WVAH, T-147.

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Conference, Continued Treatment C Section, Dr. Frank Merker, Section Chief, C-2.

6:30 p.m. Dinner with Dr. Hallow, Dr. Klemmer, and Dr. John Chotlos.

8:00 p.m. Forum, "Problems of Organization," Hawley Auditorium, WVAH.

SLOAN WILSON
8 HARRISON AVENUE
NEW CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

Feb. 5, 1953

Dear Dr. Wiener;

I can't tell you how much your fine letters have meant to me. I've been fighting quite a battle here, but I don't feel as though I'm fighting your battle -- I feel as though I'm fighting my own. Meeting you has done me a lot of good. I see a lot of things more clearly than ever before.

The New Yorker returned my biographical sketch of you with a rather embarrassed note which said it is, in their opinion, "a good piece of work", but they'd rather write you up themselves. This amuses me. I've turned the piece over to Norman Cousins, editor of The Saturday Review. Norm is a friend of mine, and can be counted on to do the piece justice if he publishes it at all. I told him about it over the telephone, and he was enthusiastic, so I have hopes, although I of course can't be sure.

There is one benefit to all this, although a minor one. The various magazines concerned certainly will know your autobiography exists, and in my opinion, it will be impossible for them to take any bad cracks at it -- it's simply too honest a book.

I am terribly embarrassed about having taken up so much of your time, and for this reason am going to try my best to get the piece published in just the form you prefer. Regardless of what happens, I frankly feel that meeting you was a great privilege -- one that I will always remember with pleasure.

Please give my best regards to Mann and that psychiatrist with whom we had dinner. They were more right about a lot of things than I. I can't understand why LIFE published the first piece I did for them, a couple of years ago. Come to think of it, however, it was a piece which severely criticized colleges -- teacher colleges, but colleges, just the same. It would be absurd to say that the magazine is against colleges, but I can't help feeling they just love criticism and balk at praise of anything, except things they feel to be an image of themselves.

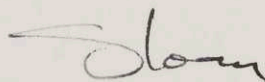
Frankly, I agree with your sentiments on interviews. You stand to gain so little, and you risk so much -- and give so much. It just isn't fair. In saying this I am embarrassed by the thought that the fewer interviews you give, the more valuable my piece is -- it was because of this fact, and the wish not to capitalize on it, that I tried not to stand in the

SLOAN WILSON
8 HARRISON AVENUE
NEW CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

way of more interviews. But having acknowledged my self-interest, I'll still add that I agree with you -- with the interviewers, you have to gamble on an honest reporter and a whole set of honest editors. I don't say such things don't exist, but it's quite a gamble, and with very little in it for you.

What do you bet LIFE runs the piece on automatic factories to make up for their sins? I hope they do, and I hope they do a good job of it.

Best regards,



Sloan Wilson

[ans 2/9/53]



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
HOSPITAL
TOPEKA, KANSAS

February 6, 1953

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Your visit is discussed with much pleasure by the staff.

Enclosed is a reprint of an article by Dr. Menninger, who thinks you may be interested in his reflections on disease and homeostasis. He regrets that he did not meet you.

Enclosed, too, is a print of your photograph, taken in the Medical Illustration Laboratory.

Sincerely yours,

B. E. Boothe

B. E. BOOTHE
Director of Professional
Education

BEB:nb

THE HARVARD EDUCATIONAL REVIEW

LAWRENCE HALL, KIRKLAND STREET
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

JOHN J. O'NEILL, *Chairman*
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DOROTHY A. JOHNSON, *Sec'y*

February 6, 1953

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

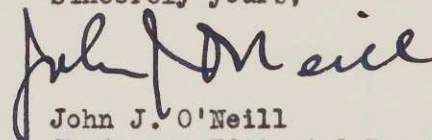
Dear Professor Wiener:

I have been told by our book review editor Mr. Templeton that you have consented to review Dr. Conant's recent publication, Modern Science and Modern Man. In checking over the manuscripts for the Winter issue before sending them to the printer, I note that your paper has not yet been received.

The Editorial Board of the REVIEW is quite interested in having your opinion on this publication. We hope that you will find it convenient to send your manuscript before the February 14th deadline for the Winter issue.

Thank you for any consideration you may have given this matter so far.

Sincerely yours,



John J. O'Neill
Chairman, Editorial Board

JJO:j

[ans 2/13/53]

Prof. Nobert Wiener,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Febr. 7, 1953.

Dear Prof. Nobert Wiener

Excuse me, sir, for writing to you in an abrupt way like this, but I am very glad to have the honour to do so.

When a book of the "Cybernetics" one of your excellent works, got to my hand, it deeply impressed me as simply wonderful, and urged me to continue to read. This work of yours also convinced me of its being the only way to quality in this science to rank the same with those modern sciences which require almost superhuman precision. A belief took root in my mind that those theories such as "Information Theory", "Prediction Theory", and "Feed-back Theory" are exactly the ones meeting the requirements of today. I introduced your work to the members of Tokyo University Mathematicians' conversazione in December, 1951, for they had not been paying much attention to this work of yours.

It has been reported since then that the Information Theory found its application in the field of statistics, and I have read in the Annals of Mathematical Statistics Mr. S. S. Kullback's thesis on its application. I have learnt that Blanc-Lapière had expanded the "Prediction Theory", which I conceive to concern itself with the problem of time-series, As to the "Feed-back Theory", you explain it with many helpful illustrations, but I would like to know if there is any recent development of mathematical theory on the Feed-back Operator. Please be kind enough to let me know. I contemplated the matter from various viewpoints, but it seems to me that the relation of this Operator to the known operators is non-linear, and difficult to lay down as a formula. I hope you have already got the solution of this problem. As it is indispensable with the study of an automatic mechanism to study it mathematically. By the way, hearing of "La Cybernetiques" being published in France, I ordered for them. I would like to know what is going on in Germany.

"The Human Use of Human Beings", one of your books for enlightening the mass is, I presumed a truly enlightening to those people in general who are not acquainted with mathematics or physics.

I should esteem it a great favour if you permit me to have the honour of translating this book into Japanese, for I deem the translation worth trying for raising the cultural standard of my contemporaries, as well as for widening and deepening their Weltanschauung.

I am going to make a synthetic introduction of the Cybernetics in the Sugaku (or Mathematics), the organ of Japanese Mathematical Society, at the suggestion of Dr. Iyanaga, S., professor of Tokyo University, to whom I am greatly indebted. But to my great regret and embarrassment, I have few reference books which I can avail myself of, to prepare for the introduction. Even C. I. E. Library does not provide me. Would you mind suggesting some? I should be greatly favoured if you were to show me something useful to my work.

Yours sincerely,

T. Hatori

[ans 2/13/53]
T. Hatori

T. Hatori
Mathematical Institute
Liberal arts University of Tokyo
8, Takehaya-cho, Bunkyo-ku
Tokyo, Japan.



AIR LETTER

Professor N. Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge 39, Mass.

PAR AVION

航空

この郵便物には何物も封入又は添附できません

折込線

折込線

Handwritten signature



AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS

57 East 55 Street, New York 22, N. Y. • ELdorado 5-5850

February 9, 1953

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

We have your article entitled "Optics and Theory of Stochastic Processes" for publication in the JOURNAL OF THE OPTICAL SOCIETY. We have not yet received an abstract which the editor requested you to send.

I notice that in the article you have used A and A. ^{stayed} The printer has the former but not the latter. ^{Can} you suggest some substitution?

Yours sincerely,

Ruth F. Bryans

Ruth F. Bryans
Publications Manager

RFB:s
cc: Dr. Wallace R. Brode

brod face letter
where

B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATION

5 BRYANT STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

SIMMONS COLLEGE



TUFTS COLLEGE

JACKSON COLLEGE

TRowbridge 6-5894

RABBI HERMAN POLLACK

Director

JUDITH ALPER

Assistant

February 9, 1953

53 Cedar Road
Belmont, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener,

This is to confirm your speaking engagement with the MIT Hillel Foundation on Friday evening, March 13, 1953, at 8:30. The program will be held in the Faculty Lounge of Hayden Library.

As you may know, your talk will be the major part of an Oneg Shabbat. We understand that your topic is "The Education of a Scholar."

We are looking forward very eagerly to having you with us.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara E. Klein

Secretary, MIT Hillel

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

.....19.....

Memo to.....

Room.....

Melvin Weiner - 54 Harvard Ave.

Brookline MS 7-4950

About Hilled Soapstone meeting March.

March 13: library house

from.....

Room.....

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
77 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

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Try to talk on March 13th

The Editor of a Libl

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Rochester 5, New York

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute Of Technology
Cambridge Massachusetts

February 9 1953

Dear Sir,

One of my most vivid memories of M. I. T. is the talks on a wide range of subjects you often gave in your classes when you illustrated the role of mathematics. (about 1920)

As a member of the A. S. M. E. I was delighted to see your "The Future Of Automatic Machinery". Your reference to Adam was a good measure of the depth of your understanding. Perhaps you are also thinking of Ezekiel 16 49, "Behold this was the iniquity of thy sister Sôdom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy." These iniquities have again evolved so suddenly in recent years that I find 'Adam's curse' a most compelling subject. Have you considered also mathematically that these sudden feverish accelerations imply an assymptote rather than a cycle?

Cordially,



Jasper Willsea XV2 '23

Madeup Case Printers

Flat Case Printers

Multicolor Wood Printers

Automatic Chucking Lathes

Slug Cutoff Machines

Centrifugal Extractors

Paper Conditioning Machines

Drying Ovens

Heating Ovens

Machinery Designed And Built To Order

February 9, 1953

Dr. B.E. Boothe
Director of Professional Education
Veterans Administration Hospital
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Dr. Boothe:

I enjoyed my trip to Topeka very much, and I liked the group of people I met. But I must make one or two protests concerning the way the matter was handled.

First, the sum of money you have paid me allows me only \$50 above the actual expenses of the trip. It is perfectly true that I came by train rather than by airplane, but my chief purpose in doing so was to assure that in this winter period I should be present to meet my engagements. I understand that the government is willing to pay only upper berth expenses. But I wish you to realize that I am not a young man and must conserve my health by travelling in comfort. Under the circumstances, I shall have to avoid in the future engagements which come under government regulations in the matter of vouchers, and hence I will not be able at a later time to renew my contact with you in Topeka.

Second, the number of engagements which were made for me in Topeka on Wednesday, February 4, constituted a grueling and exhausting program. It is not something which I can repeat. I am afraid that any further contacts you may wish to make with me must be made here in Cambridge at M.I.T. and on my own terms.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

February 9, 1953

Mr. Bernard Corrigan
Variety Store Merchandiser
192 Lexington Avenue
New York 16, New York

Dear Mr. Corrigan:

You are right that the questions you raise in your letter of February 2 amount to a request for professional advice. And I regret that the pressure of my scientific work is so heavy that I am forced to turn down all such requests.

Please understand that my refusal reflects neither a favorable nor an unfavorable appraisal of your particular problem. It is simply one of the devices to which I have had to resort to conserve my energy for my own work.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

COPY

February 9, 1953

Mr. William Jay Gold
Articles Editor, Life
Time and Life Building
Rockefeller Center
New York 20, New York

Dear Mr. Gold:

I understand from your letter that you do not find the article about me by Mr. Sloan Wilson suitable for publication in Life. The problem of an intensely personal interview like this is always difficult, and the article which Mr. Wilson produced was understanding and--from my point of view--suitable for publication. I do not presume to suggest to you standards for your periodical. But when you request that I again submit myself to interviewing by a representative of Life, I must tell you very frankly that I have devoted to your periodical all the time which I can devote to it for a considerable period.

Mr. Wilson did a very hard week's work, but what you may not be aware of is that I did a very hard week's work, too. The problem of giving an honest interview to a journalist is not merely the negative one of not telling him lies, but the very positive one of trying to come into active rapport with him. This took a week of my time at a period at which I am hard pressed to do my own work and to carry out a program of lecturing.

This is the third time that I have spent a considerable amount of effort on an interview solicited by Life, not one word of which has appeared in print. I am far from being alone in my annoyance at the amount of futile work that scientists and other people are expected to do at the faintest beckoning of your periodical. Your own editorial policy is, of course, your own business; but the amount of time I am willing to devote to you is emphatically my business.

There is no personal resentment in this letter. Your letter to me was completely courteous, and the reports I have concerning your own work are such as to put me in a friendly

COPY

-2-

state of mind. But I am a tired man, and a very heavily worked man. Furthermore I am surfeited with publicity, and if the technique of getting publicity interferes with my real function in life or with my health, it is surely the publicity that must go by the board. Just put yourself in my place.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

February 9, 1953

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Articles Editor, Life
Time and Life Building
Rockefeller Center
New York 20, New York

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-2-

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Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

February 9, 1953

Mr. William E. Jeney, Jr.
Lecture Series Committee
Rutgers University
New Brunswick, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Jeney:

I am looking forward very much to my evening with you at Rutgers.

Your plans for dinner are satisfactory with me. I shall probably drive to New Brunswick with my wife, and hence it will not be necessary for you to plan to meet me. The title of my talk will be sent within the next week or so.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

February 9, 1953

Mr. David Lasser
International Union of Electrical, Radio
and Machine Workers
734 Fifteenth St., N.W.
Washington 5, D.C.

Dear Mr. Lasser:

I shall be delighted to see you any time you are in New England, and I hope your travels will bring you here soon.

As you are discovering, there is an increasing amount of material being printed about the social implications of the automatic factory. My book, The Human Use of Human Beings (Houghton Mifflin and Co., 1950), deals with the subject in the broad framework of the "second industrial revolution." I gave a paper at the December meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers which has been printed in the February issue of Mechanical Engineering under the title, "The Future of Automatic Machinery." In the past two months, two articles have appeared in the press about my work. One, by Mr. Serge Fliegers, was published by The American Mercury in its January issue. The other, by Mr. Thomas Whiteside, was carried by This Week on January 7, 1953.

I hope these references will be helpful. But more helpful would be the conversation in my office when you are next in the Cambridge vicinity.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

February 9, 1953

M. Georges A. Mathieu
United States Lines
10, Rue Auber
Paris IX, France

Dear Sir:

I shall be glad to contribute a short paper on Cybernetics for your review, but I must ask that you will not expect to receive my paper for two or three more weeks. I am at present so busy that I could not possibly squeeze in another project. But my work will be lighter three weeks hence, and I shall get to your request then. I hope you can permit me this delay--if not, you had best count me out.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

[ans 2/12/53]

Portugal

February 9, 1953

Dr. Artur Moreira de Sa
Faculty of Letters
University of Lisbon
Lisbon, Portugal

Dear Sir:

I have asked my secretary to prepare a partial list of material on Cybernetics. I shall have her include a notation about the French edition of my book, The Human Use of Human Beings, which is a more popular treatment of Cybernetics.

Unfortunately, few reprints of my articles are available. Those which I wrote in collaboration with Dr. Rosenblueth are available from Dr. Rosenblueth, at the Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia, Calzada de la Piedad, 300, Mexico D.F., Mexico.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

Selected articles by Norbert Wiener on Cybernetics.

Prepared for Dr. Artur Moreira, Fac. of Letters, University of Lisbon, Portugal.

February 9, 1953.

With A. Rosenblueth and J. Bigelow. "Behavior, Purpose and Teleology," Philosophy of Science. Vol. 10, No. 1, Jan. 1943.

With A. Rosenblueth. "The Role of Models in Science," Philosophy of Science, Vol. 12, No. 10, Oct. 1945.

"Time, Communication and the Nervous System," Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences. Vol. 50, Art. 4, Oct. 1948.

"Cybernetics," Scientific American. Vol. 179, No. 5, 1948.

"Sound Communication with the Deaf," Philosophy of Science, Vol. 16, No. 3, July 1949.

"Cybernetics," Bulletin of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Vol. 3, No. 7, April 1950.

With A. Rosenblueth. "Purposeful and Non-Purposeful Behavior," Philosophy of Science. Oct. 1950.

The Human Use of Human Beings. Boston, Houghton Mifflin and Company, 1950.

(Published in France under the title, Cybernetique et Societe, by Editions des Deux-Rives, 13 Rue des Saints-Peres, Paris 6.)

February 9, 1953

Mr. Herman Singer
The Call Association, Inc.
303 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Singer:

I am very appreciative of the compliment of your invitation to share in the discussion you are carrying in the pages of The Call. I fear, however, that I must turn you down. I am loaded up with more than a sensible amount of lecturing and writing for the coming term, and my teaching and scientific work keep me inordinately busy anyway.

I am sorry to turn you down, for your subject is of very great interest to me. Perhaps later on I shall have more time.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

{ans 2/19/53}

COPY

February 9, 1953

Lt. Blake M. Walker
8114 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland

Dear Lt. Walker:

Thank you for your recent letter, and your expression of interest in my books and work.

You are right that the increasing automatization of industry must receive the attention of thoughtful men in industry. Many people are thinking about it. I participated in a meeting held by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in December where the problems were discussed. My paper has been printed in the February issue of Mechanical Engineering, to which you may have access.

I should like to be able to offer my direct help to you in bringing these problems to the attention of your associates in Detroit. But unfortunately my time is very full and my correspondence very heavy, and the best I can do is to encourage you in your own awareness of the problems of automatization.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

February 9, 1953

Mr. Sloan Wilson
8 Harrison Avenue
New Canaan, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I have received a very courteous letter from Gold of Life, but I cannot play ball with the policy of unlimited demands on my time which seems to be that of the Luce publications. My refusal to have anything more to do with Life for the time being is not a matter of pique, but simply the fact that there isn't enough of me to go round for both work and publicity. I am still pleased with your job, and I hope you can sell it. Please don't feel that you personally have taken excessively of my time. I am glad enough to do this for you or for a limited number of sincere writers. But what I cannot do is to have this limited willingness played up by the publishers in such a way that I can neither rest nor work.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb



SIMON AND SCHUSTER, INC.
publishers

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February 10, 1953

Mrs. George Baldwin
Secretary to Prof. Wiener
Department of Mathematics
MIT
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Baldwin:

Mr. Simon asked me to write to you for a
schedule of Professor Wiener's future lecture
dates. This will be used with a view to alerting
local booksellers.

Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Lois Friedlander

[ans 2/16/53]

The City College
CONVENT AVENUE AND 139TH STREET
NEW YORK 31, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

February 10, 1953

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

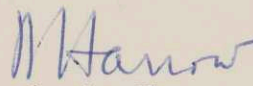
I wrote to you on October 23, 1952, stating how happy we were to have you as our fifth lecturer in the Bicentennial Science Series of the City College Chemistry Alumni Association.

10 pgs. = I also asked you to be good enough to let us have a summary of your address for our Baskerville Chemical Journal - some 2,000 words. Please.

What is your reaction to the title of your address: "Some Problems in Cybernetics", expanded in general, semi-philosophical terms?

As soon as we hear from you, I'll send you particulars regarding arrival, hotel, etc.

Sincerely yours


Benjamin Harrow

Title = ~~"Cybernetics - Organization"~~
"From The Conceptual Machine To The Automated
Factory"

[ans 2/25/53]

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
CONTROL SYSTEMS LABORATORY
URBANA, ILLINOIS

February 10, 1953

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I have been active, for some time, in the field of cybernetics, especially as applied to elementary biological functions. I am trying to arrange, for the coming summer, a seminar dealing with some aspects of cybernetics; I would be very happy if you would be willing to give us a lecture, or some lectures. I will be in Cambridge on Thursday, February 19; will it be possible to see you then?

Yours sincerely,



Henry Quastler

HQ/mk

[ans 2/13/53]

575

yes - us?

AIR FORCE CAMBRIDGE RESEARCH CENTER

In reply, address:
Commanding General
Attn:

230 Albany Street
Cambridge 39, Mass.

10 February 1953

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

Dear Prof. Wiener:

This letter is to supplement my phone call of last evening, inviting you to talk at the Symposium on Microwave Optics to be held at the Eaton Electronic Research Laboratories, McGill University, Montreal, Canada on June 22, 23, 24 - 1953.

I can recall that back in the summer of 1941, when you were discussing with me the problems of Filtering and Prediction, you also pointed out the suitability of the Fourier Transform technique for solving the optical aperture problem. In fact, you indicated then that it was very desirable for someone to go through existing optical theory with this fresh approach.

Subsequently, while at the Radiation Laboratory, 1941-1946, I made some progress in this direction, using Fourier Transforms to analyze the patterns of directive microwave antennas. My present position, however, has allowed little time to extend this work, but I have always felt that such methods are of fundamental importance. In particular, I have encouraged the idea that Microwave Optics is an ideal medium in which to combine the many contributions from the other fields of physics and mathematics.

The Symposium sponsored by the Optical Society of America, in October of 1952, at which you and Dr. Elias spoke, was an important step in focusing attention on these relationships. This point of view was also stressed in my paper before the Union Radio Scientific International, General Assembly in Sydney, Australia in August 1952. (A copy of the abstract is inclosed for your information.)

At the URSI meeting, Dr. van der Pol, Chairman of Commission VI, appointed a Sub-Group to study Microwave Optics with particular reference to the contributions from the neighboring fields of Fourier Transforms and Information Theory. As chairman of the Sub-Group, I have written a letter to the members describing the status of the study, a copy of which I am also inclosing.

[ans 2/13/53]

I hope to talk with you further on this subject, and in particular on the desirability of your talking at the McGill Symposium.

Sincerely yours,

Roy C. Spencer

ROY C. SPENCER, Chief
Antenna Laboratory

2 Incl.

- 1 - Australian Abstract
- 2 - Ltr. to Sub-Group with
proposed Symp. Program

(last page L 7)

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No 1

POSTULATES PERTINENT TO THE DESIGN
OF PROCESS CONTROLS IN THE FIELD OF
DYNAMIC MANAGEMENT.

By Lawrence W. Conant - 10 Feb. '53.
3063 Ordway St., N.W. D.C.-8

1. Every process is made up of a series of events in time-space.
2. To control a process effectively -- that is, to keep it going as desired -- feedback must take place. That is, some information about the series of events taking place must be fed back to the person* who wants the process to be controlled in a certain manner. (Differentiation and transmission)
3. This person then must put the information fed back to him together with other information he has within himself or available to him (integration) (differentiation) and determine what information/to transmit to the process, to keep it going as he wants it to go.
4. He must then transmit this "improving" information to the process.
5. To keep the process going as desired, the above-described series of controlling events (the control process as distinguished from the original process being controlled) must be repeated at intervals such that the process being controlled will keep on going substantially as desired.
6. Every control process operates within certain limits of "information improbability" (the equivalent of "temperature" in the field of heat).
7. Every control process also operates within certain limits of negative entropy, or degree of organization (corresponding to the degree of disorganization, or entropy, in the field of heat) of the information transmitted to control the process in question.
8. If we could measure -- or even roughly estimate -- items 6. and 7. for some of our control devices, we could diagram them (as we diagram the temperature-entropy characteristics of engines) and we would then see why they work, or fail to work, in practice.

* May also be a machine, if the machine is automatically controlled.

February 10, 1953

Mr. H.C. Sweeny
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Blacksburg, Virginia

Dear Mr. Sweeny:

Professor Wiener has asked me to reply to your recent letter and your request for a copy of his talk at the Annual Meeting of the ASME. The program of that meeting was a bit misleading, in that Professor Wiener did not give a paper bearing the title you mention. He did speak on the subject of the formal concepts of automatic production, but his talk was informal and not in manuscript form.

The paper which he did read is entitled "The Future of Automatic Machinery," and I shall enclose a copy in the hope that it may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. George Baldwin
Sec. to Prof. Wiener

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