

167

CORRESPONDENCE *March 23-31, 1953*

N. WIENER · MC 22

# The City College

CONVENT AVENUE AND 139TH STREET

NEW YORK 31, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

March 23, 1953

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

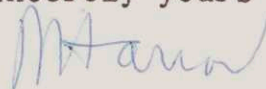
Dear Professor Wiener:

As I told you in my previous letters, your lecture here on Thursday, April 9th, will be preceded by a reception in the President's office and a dinner in the Faculty Dining Room. It would be best, therefore, if you planned to arrive in New York at about four-thirty p.m.

Please let me know when you will arrive in New York. Dr. Marks Neidle, one of the officers of our Association, will meet you and bring you to the College. Do you want him to meet you at the hotel, or any other place? Please let me know as soon as possible.

We all look forward to your visit here.

Sincerely yours



Benjamin Harrow

[ans 3/24/53]

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

March 23, 1953

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

I wish to join the students of Hillel to thank you for arranging your schedule to speak at the recent Friday night service and program. I am sure that it is not necessary for me to reiterate how much your lecture meant to the students. It was a very unusual experience for them, as they indicated during the discussion. It is very rare that an adult, who has achieved academic distinction, is willing to reveal on an autobiographical level intimate aspects of his own life development as having value for each individual in meeting his own personal problems and challenges.

As I told you personally, your discussion was very meaningful for all of us.

Thank you again for being with us and for making the spiritual and cultural contribution to the Hillel program.

With our kindest regards and best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Herman Pollack*

THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

66TH STREET AND YORK AVENUE  
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

March 23, 1953

Dear Norbert,

I have just completed a second enthusiastic reading of your autobiography which your publisher was kind enough to send me at your request. Thanks.

The first reading was rapid and I must say prejudiced in favor of the author because of our friendship. The second reading was deliberately slow and critical, again because of our friendship; and without wishing to flatter your ego too much I feel compelled to tell you that I consider this book a valuable contribution to the psychology of childhood, youth and of the creative mind. It is a job of which you deserve to be justly proud. In particular, I was impressed with your courage and insight, with the brilliance of numerous passages, and with your honesty in facing highly personal as well as social relationships. The negative side of the ledger contains very few entries, all of them trivial, all of them apparently due to occasional haste, and none of them deserving specific mention.

I want to recommend Ex-Prodigy to you as I am doing to all my friends.

Yours,

Ted.

# COPY

Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research  
66th Street and York Avenue  
New York 21, New York  
March 23, 1953

Dear Norbert,

I have just completed a second enthusiastic reading of your autobiography which your publisher was kind enough to send me at your request. Thanks.

The first reading was rapid and I must say prejudiced in favor of the author because of our friendship. The second reading was deliberately slow and critical, again because of our friendship; and without wishing to flatter your ego too much I feel compelled to tell you that I consider this book a valuable contribution to the psychology of childhood, youth and of the creative mind. It is a job of which you deserve to be justly proud. In particular, I was impressed with your courage and insight, with the brilliance of numerous passages, and with your honesty in facing highly personal as well as social relationships. The negative side of the ledger contains very few entries, all of them trivial, all of them apparently due to occasional haste, and none of them deserving specific mention.

I want to recommend Ex-Prodigy to you as I am doing to all my friends.

Yours,

(signed) Ted

Dr. Ted Shedlovsky

c:hb - 585, 44.31



SIMON AND SCHUSTER, INC.  
*publishers*

ROCKEFELLER CENTER, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York 20 • TELEPHONE Circle 5-6400

March 23, 1953

Dear Dr. Wiener:

We thought you might care to see this proof of an ad to appear in the April 4 issue of the Saturday Review - the week after you will be on the cover.

I look forward to seeing you later this week.

Sincerely,


Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Dept. of Math.  
Cambridge, Mass.


hws:lf

from THE INNER SANCTUM of  
**SIMON and SCHUSTER**  
Publishers • Rockefeller Center • New York



... NORBERT WIENER, "ex-prodigy,"  
whose important new book has  
just been published


 The electric sparks currently shooting from ESSANDESS'S spring list emanate from the name of NORBERT WIENER who (1) originated Cybernetics\*, (2) wrote *The Human Use of Human Beings* and (3) by his dazzling current achievements, has given the lie to the popular myth that child-prodigies become adult failures.


 His new book, *Ex-Prodigy; My Childhood and Youth*, has been awaited with considerable anticipation not only by informed readers but,



EX-PRODIGY was the cover book in last week's *Saturday Review*.


we should imagine, by some of America's most distinguished thinking - machines and robots—since it is by and about the man whose pioneering studies are responsible for their existence.

 Today NORBERT WIENER of M.I.T. is a world renowned scientist. Forty-five years ago he was nationally famous as a child-prodigy.

 In *Ex-Prodigy* he tells what it felt like to be a *Wunderkind* in New England, an 11-year-old freshman at Tufts, a Harvard graduate student at

\*Dr. Wiener was asked to give a Poor Man's Definition of Cybernetics, with a forinstance. Here it is, as filtered through the non-electronic brains of Your Correspondents: Cybernetics is the study of organizing and controlling the sending of messages in both the human brain and the machine. (Note: a message-sending machine, such as the telephone system of a large city, can be overtaxed with extra responsibilities it is unused to, and thus develop a "nervous breakdown" similar to an overtaxed publisher's. Data on machines can help human brains and vice versa.) Incidentally, the correct pronunciation is Cybernetics.

14; how his brilliant father (Harvard's first professor of Slavonic languages) deliberately set out to train the infant mind; what it was like to attend courses at Cambridge and Göttingen, to be a young lecturer at Harvard; how he fared with his schoolfellows and teachers; how he chose his career.

 As a special service to *Saturday Review* readers who have child prodigies at home (or are themselves child prodigies) we have compiled a partial list of books that NORBERT WIENER read at various ages:



Age 3½: Mother read him Kipling's *Jungle Book*. He read Wood's *Natural History* himself.


Age 4½: *Arabian Nights*, *Alice in Wonderland*.

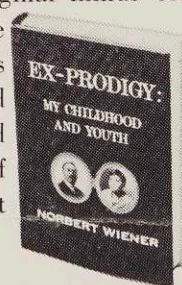
Age 7 (see picture in locket): *Treasure Island*, scientific works by Thomas Henry Huxley. Started algebra and learned the truth about Santa Claus.


Age 9: *Black Beauty*, Cicero in Latin, Janet (Freud's predecessor) on psychiatry. A year later he wrote and delivered an oration on *The Theory of Ignorance*.

Age 11: *Iliad* in Greek, Heine in German, Horatio Alger in English.

Age 58: Favorite current reading includes Simenon, Dorothy Sayers, J. B. S. Haldane, C. J. Darwin, Max Beerbohm, Edmund Gosse's *Father and Son*.

 *Ex-Prodigy* is a fascinating personal revelation. It is particularly exciting reading for those who are interested in (1) the development of one of the truly original minds of our time, (2) little known human aspects of the scholarly world here and abroad and (3) the problem of preparing a brilliant child for adult life.



 **EX-PRODIGY: My Childhood and Youth by Norbert Wiener** is on sale at all bookstores. Price \$3.95

—ESSANDESS

23 March, 1953

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

Dear Dr, Wiener,

I would much appreciate your sending me reprints  
of the following articles of yours:

*Ca 15*  
Behavior, Purpose and Teleology (A. Rosenblueth,  
N. Wiener, J. Bigelow, in Philosophy of Science,  
1943, Vol. 10, pp. 18-24).

*Artur*  
Purposeful and non-purposeful behavior (A. Rosenblueth,  
N. Wiener, in Philosophy of Science, 1950,  
Vol. 17, pp. 318-326).

*No -*  
Teleological Mechanisms (Frank, L.K., Hutchinson, G.E.,  
Livingston, W.K., McCulloch, W.S. and Wiener, N.,  
in Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci., 1948, 50: 187-278).

Thanking you I remain

Very truly yours,

*Erwin Streisinger*  
Erwin Streisinger

782 West End Ave.,  
New York 25, N.Y.

[ans 3/25/53]



109 Laurel street  
Fairhaven, Mass.  
March 23, 1953.

Professor Norbert Wiener  
Mass. Inst. of Technology

Dear Professor Wiener,

May I ask you where you place the origin of the fallacy, as now widely and variously held, that there is error in the Euclid axioms, for the sake of simplicity specifically, in the straight line axiom.

I assume that we are agreed upon the error in the fallacy. Of course Euclid is no more a complete all purpose tool than is arithmetic or calculus. But to impunge the accuracy of the straight line axiom, or the idea of parallelity, in its own frame of reference which is that of pure thought and ideal math and where alone it deserves consideration, that strikes me as a curiosity of the times.

Of course as presently held, the fallacy became prominent with the advent of Einstein, and I have some good evidence of its support by Einstein. But the evidence is not perfectly good, so I don't know whether to blame him or his interpreters and publicists for a fouling up of the frames of reference of ideal math with those of physics and astronomy.

Very sincerely

Warren L. Swett

W. L. Swett

[ans 4/7/53]

H.A. Tas,  
Dolderse Weg 164,  
Den Dolder,  
THE NETHERLANDS.

*Handwritten signature*

S/207

Den Dolder, 23 March 1953

Prof. Dr. Norbert Wiener,  
c/o M.I.T.,  
Cambridge, Mass.,  
U.S.A.

Dear Prof. Wiener,

It is with some reluctance that I come to you for help, for I understand very well your time must be very occupied and rather precious. As I do not know where to go for advice I sincerely hope you are able and willing to help me.

In your work "Cybernetics", which I am studying at the moment you write somewhere that a system to study this new branch of science was under development in the States together with a list of basic literature. Could you help me with these? I am recovering at the moment from the results of the war and having a lot of "time on my hands". I am still a student at Leiden university (psychology and medicine) but I have a rather sound mathematical background (I studied electronics in Delft and mathematics in Leiden at the beginning of the war), and I feel, that this

can be of help in studying cybernetics.

As I speak Dutch, French, German, English, Russian and Spanish the languages of the works are not important, so you need not trouble about that. And my medical background covers over 6 years, so the medical parts can also be technical.

I sincerely hope you can help me and I remain,

Very truly yours,

*H.A. Tas*  
H.A. Tas

[ans 4/7/53]

# COPY

H.A. Tas,  
Dolderse Weg 164  
Den Dolder  
The Netherlands

23 March 1953

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

Dear Prof. Wiener:

It is with some reluctance that I come to you for help, for I understand very well your time must be very occupied and rather precious. As I do not know where to go for advise I sincerely hope you are able and willing to help me.

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I sincerely hope you can help me and I remain,

Very truly yours,

H.A. Tas

c:hb:7 Apr 53

March 23, 1953

Mr. Henry N. Baldwin  
125 Lexington Avenue  
New York 16, New York

Dear Mr. Baldwin:

Professor Wiener has asked me to thank you for your recent letter, and to explain to you that the pressure of his work is so great at the moment that he does not have time to answer it himself. It may be that later in the spring, when the pressure has let up a bit, he will be able to get in touch with you.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

March 23, 1953

Professor H. Donaldson Jordan  
History and International Relations  
Clark University  
Worcester 10, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Jordan:

Thank you for your kind letter, and for the compliment  
you extend in inviting me to speak to your A.A.U.P.  
Chapter in April.

Unfortunately, my lecture schedule for the spring is  
bulgigg, and April is the busiast of the coming months.  
Consequently, I must turn you down.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

# HARPER & BROTHERS

PUBLISHERS SINCE 1817



49 East 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, New York 16, N. Y.

March 24, 1953

Professor Norbert Weiner  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Professor Weiner:

Please give the matter that follows your close attention.

On March 16 we sent you a copy of a book propoertedly THE HIERARCHY OF HEAVEN AND EA TH by D. E. Harding.

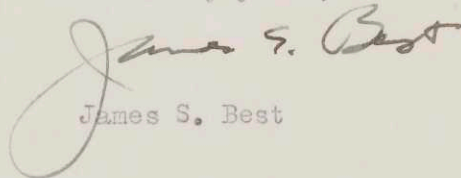
Just now however we have received the embarrassing information that not this book but another title HEAVEN ON EARTH by Janet Mable was sent you in error.

A review copy of the correct book THE HIERARCHY OF HEAVEN AND EARTH is being sent you today under separate cover. Its publication date is April 1 and its price is \$3.50.

We are enclosing an address label for your use in returning the first book. Also enclosed is postage to pay for sending the book via book post.

Again let us state how sorry we are this happened.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James S. Best". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial 'J'.

James S. Best

JSE:cmn  
Enc.

12 Bellrose Ave.  
Cortland, New York  
March 24, 1953.

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

Dear Sir:

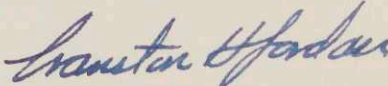
I wonder if any member of your cybernetics group would be sufficiently interested in the ideas suggested in my enclosure to make a criticism of specific weaknesses or errors in my analysis.

About my only qualification for attempting a study along this line is that I am interested. I am 49 years old, my mathematics only goes through ordinary differential equations, and I have no graduate level physics, although I am now teaching elementary physics at the State Teachers College here.

I am planning one or two years of residence study somewhere, beginning next year, and the program I have indicated here is the one that seems to interest me most, provided I can find an institution that will accept it.

Perhaps it would be better to reserve it until I have gained some competence and temerity through a more orthodox degree program.

Yours truly,

  
Cranston H. Jordan

[ans 4/7/53]



In any "thinking" process, the first step seems to be a transformation into a verbal analogy of a selected group of the perceptions stimulated by an experiential situation. ( Direct visual and auditory symbols may be used occasionally and mathematical symbols are used as an acquired skill. )

This operation apparently involves a relatively rudimentary neural process. It represents "recognition" or "understanding" and is the stage at which many of the semantic difficulties occur.

A second step, involved in "reasoning", evokes from the neural apparatus an anatomical and physiological analogy to the verbal pattern. By some quasi-electrical, all-or-none, process within the neural network a resolution is achieved. This resolution is carried back by a reverse process of analogy-correspondence to its application to the experiential situation.

The work of the cybernetics group along this line seems to give assurance that something like the described process does take place. It strikes me that there is an application which has not been exploited to any considerable extent. The electrical network required to resolve a specific symbolic pattern might be profitably studied in order to discover something of the nature and difficulty of the psychological process involved. If so, such a method of attack would be an independent approach to a good many psychological and educational problems.

C. H. Jordan

March 24, 1953

Dr. Trygve Braatoy  
Karl Johansgt. 16 IV  
Oslo, Norway

Dear Dr. Braatoy:

You are entirely welcome to make the use you have made of the quotation from my letter. It certainly will raise no copyright difficulty whatever, and it is material which I have never copyrighted.

I am returning your paper to you, and appreciate your kindness in sending it to me.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 24, 1953

Professor Benjamin Harrow  
Department of Chemistry  
The City College  
Convent Avenue and 139th Street  
New York 31, New York

Dear Professor Harrow:

I shall come down to New York by train on Thursday, April 9, and I shall plan to stay at the Hotel Chatham.

I'm unsure from your letter whether you want me to be ready to accompany Dr. Neidle to the College at 4:30 p.m., or whether he will pick me up later. At any rate, I should like him to stop by the Chatham for me, and I shall be there at whatever time you nominate.

Looking forward to seeing you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

[ans 3/25/53]

March 24, 1953

Mr. Keith Henney  
Electronics  
McGraw-Hill Building  
330 West 42nd Street  
New York 36, New York

Dear Mr. Henney:

While I do not consider the material I am sending you as a complete and adequate review of Ashby's book, it does represent my reactions to some of the important ideas contained in it. I therefore feel that it is worth submitting to you as an essay-review. I am enthusiastic about Ashby's originality and insight, and hope that my review has conveyed this sense of enthusiasm.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 24, 1953

Dr. Jay Jacoby  
The Medical Center  
Ohio State University  
Columbus 10, Ohio

Dear Dr. Jacoby:

I regret that the pressure of my work has kept me from my correspondence for such a long time. In reply to your question about my work in anesthesia, this is a problem which interests me very much, but at present I do not have time or laboratory facilities to do any work in the field.

Dr. Reginald Bickford at the Mayo Clinic has done very interesting things in this field, I have been told, and I suggest that you get in touch with him.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 24, 1953

Professor Duncan E. McDonald  
Physics Department, Boston University  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Professor McDonald:

This is a report on the work done in collaboration by Dr. Armand Siegel and myself. We have gone through a thorough study of stochastic processes and quantum theory and have come out with a new form of quantum theory closely allied to the earlier work which I had done on differential space. This theory seems to us to represent a definite progress in the philosophy of quantum theory and we are hopeful that it may lead to an equal progress in the technique of quantum theory.

Dr. Siegel, in addition to furnishing the physicist's understanding of quantum theory which was necessary for my work, has contributed several new ideas of his own and has been of invaluable help to me, both in the conceptual work of our research and in writing it up. I am writing this as a "to-whom-it-may-concern" letter to indicate that Dr. Siegel has my full and enthusiastic support for any position for which he may apply.

I am appending a mimeographed copy of our preliminary report.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 24, 1953

Dr. Janet McK. Riach  
17 West 54th Street  
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Riach:

Thank you very much for your friendly letter. I am coming to New York for the end of this week to do some work Simon and Schuster want me to do. I'll be tied up until Saturday morning, but I would like to have an appointment with you on Saturday morning if one can be arranged.

Again I shall be staying at the Hotel Chatham where any message can reach me.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 24, 1953

Professor A.J.F. Siegert  
Department of Physics  
Northwestern University  
Evanston, Illinois

Dear Siegert:

The enclosed mimeographed sheets represent a perfected and purified form of the notions we discussed with you, and we believe that we have eliminated the confusion that bothered all of us when we talked it over last time.

First, I should like to know whether it meets with your approval. Second, always assuming that it does, how should we publish it? Siegel is in favor of first sending it as a letter to some scientific publication and then working up a larger and more complete paper, perhaps for Reviews of Modern Physics. Please let us know as soon as you can, for the stuff is red hot.

Siegel's job with me was temporary, and we need to look for something new for next year. So we are on the prowl for foundations or other institutions which we can soak. We are thinking, among other places, of the Office of Naval Research. Have you any suggestions?

I enjoyed very much our talk together, and hope that we may see more of each other in the future. Meanwhile, thanking you both for past good offices and those to come, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

[ans 4/7/53]



March 24, 1953

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

Dear Mr. Simon:

This is just to let you and Mr. Morris know that I shall be at your disposal from Thursday morning on. I arrive from New Haven Wednesday evening, and will be on your doorstep Thursday.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 24, 1953

Dr. Pendleton Tompkins  
450 Sutter Street  
San Francisco 8, California

Dear Dr. Tompkins:

I fear there is no single place where the art of interpreting graphs from the standpoint of their dynamics is developed. If you care to wait for what I am afraid must be a rather long time, I shall be glad to discuss the matter with you. But the pressure of my work at the moment is such that I cannot undertake anything more. It would be very nice if sometime in the future when you may happen to be in Cambridge or I on the west coast, we could get together for a talk.

I know this is a very unsatisfactory reply to your kind letter, but I can do no more now.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

[ans 3/31/53]

March 24, 1953

Mr. Robert J. Wagner, Jr.  
R.C.A. Laboratories  
140 Moriches Road  
Riverhead, New York

Dear Mr. Wagner:

For the definitions you inquire about, I suggest you consult my paper, "Generalized Harmonic Analysis," published in Acta Mathematica, Vol. 55, pp. 117-258, in September, 1930. This will be available for you at any good scientific library--unfortunately, I have no copies of the paper to send to you.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

WALDO FRANK

Truro, Massachusetts,  
25 March 53

Dear Norbert Wiener,

I should have thanked you earlier for sending me your new book, but I wanted first to read it. I found it fascinating and moving. The objectivity is remarkable, because it is warm - humanly warm, and controlled, as it must be, by a person -- a truly wise one. I was interested by the successful way in which you gave simply facts while permitting the reader to come to his own conclusions, frequently in despite of your own. Your experience therefore became the reader's; and this is a rare creative process in writing.

By the way, you might have mentioned among your infant-prodigious predecessors who did not fall by the way Leibnitz -- who matriculated at Leipsic University when he was 14 (I imagine that was the equivalent of our own graduate schools) and at 21 was a professor.

I hope all goes well with you and your family. We have had much illness since November; but I am working.

With warmest regards and again my appreciation,

sincerely yours,

W. V. Frank

[ans. 3/31/53] 1/10

Copy-525 - Mar 31

# COPY

Truro, Massachusetts

Dear Norbert Wiener,

I should have thanked you earlier for sending me your new book, but I wanted first to read it. I found it fascinating and moving. The objectivity is remarkable, because it is warm--humanly warm, and controlled, as it must be, by a person--a truly wise one. I was interested by the successful way in which you gave simply facts while permitting the reader to come to his own conclusions, frequently in spite of your own. Your experience therefore became the reader's; and this is a rare creative process in writing.

By the way, you might have mentioned among your infant-prodigious predecessors who did not fall by the way Leibnitz--who matriculated at Leipsic University when he was 14 (I imagine that was the equivalent of our own graduate schools) and at 21 was a professor.

With warmest regards and again my appreciation,

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Waldo Frank

c:hb - to 575, Mar 31

# Newsweek

NEWSWEEK BUILDING • BROADWAY AND 42ND STREET  
NEW YORK 36

no -  
March 25, 1953

Professor Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Memorial Drive  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

Newsweek's March 30th issue includes a review of your book "Ex-Prodigy: My Childhood and Youth." We thought you might be interested to see the review, which is marked for you in the Science section of the enclosed copy.

With the magazine, please accept our best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

*George Griswold, Jr.*  
George Griswold, Jr.  
Public Relations

bc  
enc.

The City College

CONVENT AVENUE AND 139TH STREET

NEW YORK 31, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

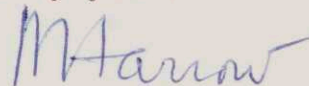
March 25, 1953

Professor Norbert Wiener  
Department of Mathematics  
Massachusetts Inst. of Tech.  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Professor Wiener:

Dr. Neidle will call for you at the Hotel Chatham  
on Thursday, April 9th, at four-thirty p.m.

Sincerely yours



Benjamin Harrow

Wednesday, March 25, 1953:

12:00 p.m., lv. Boston. Seat 22, Car 131.  
Arr. New Haven at 3:03 p.m.

3:30, meet Mr. Jerry Kagan at Information Desk  
in lobby of  
Institute of Human Relations  
333 Cedar St., New Haven.

4:00, Lecture to Yale Psychology Colloquium.  
"Can a Machine Be Wiser than Its  
Maker?"

7:41 p.m., Lv. New Haven. Seat 4, Car 272.  
The Merchants' Ltd.

9 p.m., Arr. New York.  
The Hotel Chatham  
Vanderbilt Ave. at 48th St.

Thursday, March 26 and Friday, March 27: See  
Simon and Schuster letter.  
Mr. Allan Morris - Publicity Dir.

Saturday, March 28:

12:15 p.m., lv. New York, American Flight No. 330.  
(no lunch served.)

1:25, arrive Boston.



Excerpts from letter from Mr. Allan Morris, Publicity Director of Simon and Schuster, about Dr. Wiener's interviews in New York.

"March 26 -- 11:30: a pre-telecast interview with Dave Garroway, master of ceremonies of the television program "Today," the most important early morning television show. The actual details of the program (to be broadcast March 27) are given below.

"March 26 -- 12:45 p.m.-2 p.m.: The Mary Margaret McBridge Show. No need to tell you about this program on which you have appeared before. It is, by far, the most popular women's interest program on radio.

"March 26 -- 4 p.m.: Interview with John Hutchens for the Herald Tribune's Sunday Book Review.

"March 26 -- 5:30 p.m.: Interview with Miss Rochelle Gerson for The Saturday Review Syndicate, a book feature which is carried by over 45 major and semi-major daily newspapers all over the country.

"March 27 -- 7-10 a.m.: "Today," telecast on more than 40 stations throughout the country, has an enormous pulling power and sells books more effectively than any other t.v. program. It requires your rising in the wee small hours and being at the studio for three separate interviews (one each between 7 and 8, 8 and 9, and 9 and 10), but it is well worth the inconvenience.

"March 27 -- 4 p.m.: Interview with Lewis Nichols for the New York Times Sunday Book Review.

"March 27 -- 12 midnight to 2 a.m.: The Barry Gray Radio Show. I've arranged for you to be interviewed as soon after midnight as possible. The time factor here may inconvenience you and you may have some objections to the fact that the show is broadcast from a kind of cocktail lounge. But Gray, a controversial figure in New York, has a large, loyal -- and primarily Jewish -- following in this area. If your objections are sufficiently strong, let me know and I'll cancel the appearance, but I'm convinced that it is well worth our while."

March 25, 1953

Dr. George R. Andrews  
725 Asylum Avenue  
Hartford 5, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Andrews:

Thank you for your recent letter, and for the kind words it contains about my Human Use of Human Beings.

So far as your inquiry about work with me at M.I.T. is concerned, I have nothing to offer. The best I can do is to suggest that you get in touch with Dr. Dana Farnsworth of M.I.T.'s Medical Department if you should be interested in work on our psychiatric staff.

I regret that I cannot help you more.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 25, 1953

Mr. Geoffrey Ashe  
1038 London Street East  
Windsor, Ontario  
Canada

Dear Mr. Ashe:

I thank you for your recent letter, and want you to know how interesting I found your ideas.

The best I can do for you is to refer you to Dr. Alex Rathe of the Department of Industrial and Management Engineering at New York University, New York 53. He is in close touch with matters which are of interest to you, and I have taken the liberty of forwarding your letter to him.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

cc: Dr. Rathe

March 25, 1953

Mr. Bruce B. Barrow  
Waalsdorperweg 261  
Den Haag  
Nederland

Dear Barrow:

I don't know about Singleton's report, but I gather that it's possibly about the same thing that I talked over with you. Meanwhile, I have no idea at all as to how to get hold of the report, and suggest that you approach Singleton directly.

As to the question of approximating to non-linear networks by linear networks. I am not too hopeful that it will be useful on a very broad basis, but there is certainly a basis on which much can be done in that direction. I think your program of work looks interesting, and hope you will keep in touch with me with your further progress.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 25, 1953

Dr. D.S. Blacklock  
8, Wood Lane  
Iver Heath, Bucks.  
England

Dear Dr. Blacklock:

Remington Rand is only one of the possible markets for your interesting work in the United States. International Business Machines, Inc. (I.B.M.) is certainly at least equally important, and the National Cash Register Company of Dayton, Ohio, is of scarcely less importance. I would keep after them and not be discouraged by one failure to make contact.

I think your idea has merit, but I am not sufficiently acquainted with the field to be able to give any more specific evaluation or recommendation.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 25, 1953

Dr. George Devereux  
Director of Research  
Winter VA Hospital  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Dr. Devereux:

I regret that the pressure of my work has prevented me from answering your letter until now.

I have taken the first step by passing on your letter to Dr. Farnsworth here. I will not be around M.I.T. for the next ten days or so, but when I get back I will see what Farnsworth has to say and take the matter further.

With many thanks for your courteous hospitality at Topeka, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb  
cc: Dr. Dana Farnsworth

COPY

March 25, 1953

Dr. George Devereux  
Director of Research  
Winter VA Hospital  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Dr. Devereux:

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Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb  
cc: Dr. Dana Farnsworth

[ans 4/2/53]

March 25, 1953

Mr. William B. Elderbrock  
325 North Prospect Street  
Bowling Green, Ohio

Dear Mr. Elderbrock:

Dr. Wiener has asked me to send you as much information as I can to answer the questions you asked in your recent letter. He cannot supply you with a list of the basic mathematical formulas he has used in his work, however, since he cannot reduce them to "a few."

For the effect of Cybernetics on society, and industry in particular, I am enclosing two talks Professor Wiener has given. Perhaps the second talk will give you some idea of the contemporary developments in Cybernetics. However, this is a book in itself; and if you want to see how Cybernetics has proliferated, you might secure a copy of a bibliography prepared by Professor H.A. Shepard of M.I.T.'s Economics Department which runs to many pages, and deals with Cybernetics as it affects the social sciences. The most dramatic development to the public is the growth of interest in the automatic factory; but theoretical physicists, mathematicians, biologists, and others find Cybernetics significant in their work in their fields.

I hope this information will be of use to you in introducing your fellow-students to Cybernetics.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. George Baldwin  
Secretary to Dr. Wiener

h  
Enc.

COPY



March 25, 1953

Dr. Dana L. Farnsworth  
Medical Department

Dear Farnsworth:

I am passing the enclosed material on to you from Devereux whom I met when I was in Topeka. He strikes me as a really good man. If you think that he looks interesting, you might take up with me the question of where to forward recommendations about him in the Boston area.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb  
Enc.

[ans 4/6/53]

March 25, 1953

Mr. F. Burton Fisher  
The Chatham  
Vanderbilt Avenue at 48th Street  
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Dr. Wiener has asked me to write to you to inquire about making a reservation for Thursday night, April 9th. He will arrive in New York by train in the mid-afternoon, and will probably leave again on Friday morning, April 10.

Do you have a room which will be available for his use for this period? I hope you will let me know soon.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. George Baldwin  
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

March 25, 1953

Dr. Frank Fremont-Smith  
Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation  
16 West 46th Street  
New York 36, New York

Dear Dr. Fremont-Smith:

I am deeply grateful to you for your letter inviting me to participate in the Cybernetics conference in Princeton in April, and I have given the matter very great thought.

I fear that I must decline, and the reason is the protection of my health. I have a very heavy speaking schedule for the spring term, and April is a particularly trying month in this respect. An engagement would keep me in Boston until after the evening of April 23rd, anyway. And in view of this, I do not think that I can add the Princeton meeting to my schedule.

It was kind of you to write, and I regret that my answer must be in the negative.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 25, 1953

Miss Lois Friedlander  
Simon and Schuster, Inc.  
630 Fifth Avenue  
New York 20, New York

Dear Miss Friedlander:

Mrs. Wiener has asked me to inquire about one of the photographs which she has not been able to find. It is the picture on the titlepage of Dr. Wiener as a child--his nude head and shoulders.

We have combed through the photographs you returned to Mrs. Wiener, and this one hasn't been found. Is there some corner of your office where it might still be?

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. George Baldwin  
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

hb

COPY

March 25, 1953

Dr. Charles Goodman  
11 West 42nd Street  
New York 18, New York

Dear Dr. Goodman:

As the father of a book to be delivered tomorrow, and as a man engaged in more branches of research than are good for me or the world, not even my enthusiastic Sherlockianism can force out of me more material at the present time.

I shall keep your project in mind, however. With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

[ans 3/30/53]

March 25, 1953

Dr. James T.C. Liu  
Department of History  
The University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh 13, Pennsylvania

Dear Dr. Liu:

I am afraid that except for knowing that such a thing as Yogi exists, I am as totally ignorant of its technique and its validity as any human being can be. I suggest that a man who is both up in information theory and in the various cultures of the Orient who might give you an interesting opinion about it is Dr. Y.R. Chao of the University of California at Berkeley. I suggest you write to him.

I have sent a copy of your letter to Dr. Walter as you suggested.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb  
cc: Dr. Walter

March 25, 1953

Mr. Jacob R. Marcus  
American Jewish Archives  
Clifton Avenue  
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Mr. Marcus:

With reference to your letter of February 24, I think the best thing for you to do is to get in touch with Simon and Schuster concerning my autobiography, Ex-Prodigy. The parts dealing with family tradition have received a careful and critical reading from Dr. Harry Wolfson. If you wish to show this letter to Simon and Schuster as a sign that I have no objections to their approval, you are at liberty to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

[ans 4/3/53]

March 25, 1953

Mr. S.R. Ovshinsky  
19935 Forrer Ave.  
Detroit 35, Michigan

My dear Mr. Ovshinsky:

I am not very good about organizational things, but I am forwarding your letter to Dr. Alex Rathe of the Department of Industrial and Management Engineering at New York University. Dr. Rathe is interested in your field, and is in better touch with organizations than I am.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb  
cc: Dr. Rathe



March 25, 1953

Dr. Alex W. Rathe  
Department of Industrial and Management Engineering  
College of Engineering  
New York University  
2University Heights, New York 53.

Dear Dr. Rathe:

I am passing the buck to you in sending the enclosures your way. I think you can answer these questions better than I can, but I promise not to make a habit of passing such questions on to you.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

March 25, 1953

Dr. Nathan Rosen  
Department of Physics  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

My dear Rosen:

I am indeed sorry that the pressure of my work has prevented my answering your letter sooner, and I regret the inconvenience this delay may have caused you.

You wrote of Professor Franz Ollendorf of the Electrical Engineering Department at Haifa. I think the best thing I can do is to refer your letter to the head of our Electrical Engineering Department, Dr. Gordon Brown.

With good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb  
cc: Dr. Brown

[ans 4/17/53]

March 25, 1953

Dr. Emilio Rosenblueth  
Edificio Condesa R-4  
Mexico 11, D.F.

Caro Emilio:

Hay en la letteratura matematica mucho trabajo sobre el probleme del paseo del borracho, que parece ser el mismo probleme en que usted trabaja. Mi parece que el libro de Cramer contenga una cuenta de esta teoria, tambien que el libro nuevo de Doob.

Aun sin emplear estos libros el probleme purde resolverse por el empleo de las convoluciones de las transformidas de Fourier de la distribucion de un segmento aislado del paseo.

Todo va muy bien con nosotros. Barbara tiene un nino de tres anos y medio, y une nina de un ano y medio. Ambos son muy inteligentes, hermosos, y en un estado do salubridad perfecta. Peggy trabaja en bioquimica, en que va a obtener sugrado de "Master" este verano. Tempo una invitacion para ir a India pour nueve meses, llegandos casi la proxima navidad. Mi libro autobiografical vienne de parecer y recibe criticos excelentes.

Enviamos nuestra amistad a toda la familia, mas especialmente a Arturo y Virginia. Que digas a Arturo que despues de un ano no temgo ninguna huella de nuestro manuscrito.

Su amigo,

Norbert Wiener

March 25, 1953

Professor J.M. Smith  
College of Engineering  
Division of Electrical Engineering  
University of California  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Professor Smith:

I have at hand your letter of November 12, and I regret that I have not answered it yet. While I am interested in non-linear filtering problems, my recent work has been more along linear lines. However, it is quite possible that the work I am now doing with Dr. Y.R. Lee on multiple filtering problems may prove to be of non-linear application. At any rate, I shall send you any material that we work out as soon as it becomes available.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

COPY

March 25, 1953

Mr. Erwin Streisinger  
782 West End Avenue  
New York 25, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Streisinger:

I am enclosing a copy of "Behavior, Purpose and Teleology" which you requested in your recent letter.

Reprints of "Purposeful and Non-Purposeful Behavior" may be secured from Dr. Rosenbluth, at the Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia, Calzada de la Piedad, 300, Mexico D.F., Mexico. It may be that Dr. Rosenbluth has copies, too, of "Teleological Mechanisms." However, Dr. Wiener has none of these latter.

I am sorry to be able to supply you with only one reprint.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. George Baldwin  
Secretary to Dr. Wiener

h

BENJAMIN ALFRED DUMM, Ph.D.

Congregational Minister, ret.

Associate Secretary 1926-27 World Conference  
on Faith and Order

North Weare, N. H.

26 March 1953

Professor Norbert Wiener, Ph.D.  
Massachusetts Inst. of Technology  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Dr Wiener:

It has been over two years since I wrote to you - just before you started off on your lecture tour to European Universities - your secretary wrote me very considerably. I had expected to recall myself to your attention a year later when you were due to be back similarly from Mexico.

The occasion of my writing was my chancing on your "Cybernetics" in the Scientific American - that started up various ideas in my mind.

I have now completed the first lap of my undertaking to bring out the obverse as I understand it of the agreed results of the various Atom Scientists - the obverse only I say for I do not know science at all. My ~~common~~ ~~man~~ can only be what the books put out challenge from any reader.

Naturally, I am now desirous to get opinions on my contentions from authoritative men of eminence. I am enclosing herewith my latest folder, "A Philosophy of Immediacy" - the outcome of the many years reflection seen in the smaller folder.

I do not recall when we first met in the Harvard Phil. Club, but chiefly when you happened along the line as we were both taking the A.M. I should like to have you, Norbert, as my 'father confessor' just now, for I have detected in allusions I have seen a certain elastic humor capable of considering erring intellects without losing sleep.

You may rule out my undertaking altogether - though it is possible no man could make me feel that way.

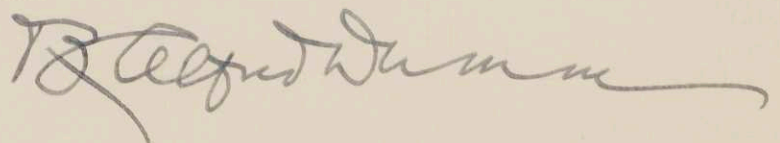
Or, you may show me points of correction that my vision doesn't.

Or, finally, you might say, go ahead - which History doesn't encourage me to expect from an expert.

Further, there are no doubt some recent books that would put me up on points - Bridgeman's "Logic of Modern Physics" is the latest I have - except William Lawrence on Zero, and the Hell Bomb. - It may surprise you, in a man interested in the domain of speed, but at 85 i am not agile to slip around to libraries, and always come out of the ten-cent store like a wet dishrag. Was it Benjamin Franklin who said, "Steep as you go under Dumm's furnace pipes, and you will avoid many a hard knock." I tried for years a cybernetic umbrella, but never guaged these pipes right, and finally had to duck by rule as I left the cellar steps - head no longer bloody, but no longer "unbowed."

You are not of course the only eminent scientist I shall address, but you are the first and the one I choose for reasons genial as well as rigid. Please do not spare the lash and spoil the child.

Faithfully yours



1928. "Lausanne Conf. and Lord's Supper" - to Prof. Wilfred Monod of Paris on receiving his "Evangile et Liberté." On being asked how the electrons came into being, Dr Pupin replied, "I do not know, but I believe

The Quest  
and Achievement of

## The Holy Grail

in  
Three Lectures

These lectures deal with the ancient story of King Arthur and his knights, and with related legends of other peoples. In our own time this mystical Legend of the Holy Grail has been told in a new way by Mr. Edwin Abbey, R.A., in his celebrated frieze paintings in the Boston Public Library. To show the meaning of these paintings by going back to the stories that were blended in their making, and describing the pictures in their light, is the task that grew upon the lecturer when he first went to the paintings for some simple lessons of life. His lectures, seven when first delivered, were condensed into three for wider use.

The First Lecture includes panels

- 1 The Vision, or The Child and the Holy Grail
- 2 The Oath of Knighthood
- 3 The Round Table of King Arthur and the Seat Perilous
- 4 The Departure
- 5 The Castle of the Grail and the Suffering King

The Second Lecture

- 6 The Loathly Damsel, or The Wanderers
- 7 The Seven Deadly Sins
- 8 The Key to the Castle of the Maidens
- 9 The Delivered Maidens

The Third Lecture

- 10 Blanchefleur and the Quest
- 11 The Death of Amfortas
- 12 Galahad the Deliverer
- 13 Solomon's Ship
- 14 The City of Sarras
- 15 The Golden Tree and the Vision of the King

Of course Tennyson's "Idylls of the King" have brought the charm of this marvelous story into every home, while Wagner's Parsifal and Lohengrin are known to lovers of music. Few boys have not read stories from Malory.

"So that, thorygh his holy leveng,  
Alle the Aventures to an Ende schal he bryng  
Wheche Alle Others faillede Of Echon,  
alle Browhte he to An Ende Alon."

*Lonelich—de Borron*

they were created by God." Let us turn this around and say, That Which Created them is THE ONLY GOD THERE IS. I believe this is the way we find God, so far as science is concerned. Otherwise - he is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

comes back, and we know that here also walked St Joseph of Arimathea, King Arthur and his queen, and that beneath the vanished vaults once rested the Holy Grail." (Glastonbury)

1909. Harvard University Gazette: "April 9, Harvard Philosophical Club. 'Recent Natural Science and the So-Called Supernatural.' Dr B. A. Dumm." Speculative physics faces toward breakup of "a-ton" - arises from, subsides into, converted from - the ultra-ponderable unity of non-scrutinizable force - the hitherward aspect of that which is ultimate in

## The Philosophy of Bergson

and other

## Lectures on Philosophy

By

B. ALFRED DUMM, Ph.D.

I THE PHILOSOPHY OF HENRI BERGSON

II THE PHILOSOPHY OF RUDOLF EUCKEN

- (to or through) the Universe

III PRAGMATISM of Nature - not as being within Nature - but as determining

IV THE NEW REALISM Nature - be it Thought, Will, or X - - the true

V IDEALISM Supernatural.

VI THE FREEDOM OF THE WILL

1 THE PSYCHOLOGY OF FREEDOM

2 THE ETHICS OF FREEDOM

VII THE PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

1926. Christian Union Quarterly: A Symposium - from various countries sent worldwide before Lausanne Conf. Theological Aspect "by B. Alfred Dumm, Ph.D., Assoc. Secy, World Conf. on Faith and Order." The world of dead matter is a world of dead science - an outgrown world that has no present being. All Christology has been thought and argued in a world as alien to

"One cannot visit the ruined abbeys of Britain without yielding to the spell they weave. The instant one steps within the shrunken precinct, all the inheritance of a thousand years

the world we are in as it is to God. All questions of miracle, the definition of the supernatural, or the doing away with it, all, pre and con, all have had their shaping in a world that does not exist -

The Philosophy of  
**Henri Bergson**  
Professor at Paris  
And Other Lectures

B. ALFRED DUMM, Ph.D., desires to make further announcement of his address on the "Philosophy of Bergson," and other lectures in philosophy which the favorable reception of that address has suggested as of possible utility in this time of widespread philosophical awakening. The address on Bergson has been delivered before the Salem Union of Congregational Ministers, the Pilgrim Club of Boston, and the Suffolk West, Essex North, Woburn, Andover, and (soon) Suffolk South Associations. It would seem that in other directions, too, the acuter philosophical interests may agreeably be summarized for thoughtful audiences by one interested in doing this. This interest, for the speaker, has been quickened by recent work done under Palmer and Royce at Harvard in ethics and metaphysics, aggregating a year in all (unified in the master's degree), and as president of the Harvard Philosophical Club in 1910.

I. **The Philosophy of Bergson.** An exposition of his working principles, — Intuition, *Durée*, Memory, *Imprévisibilité*, Perception, Materiality, Space, Intelligence, Freedom, Immortality, — and of his Cosmology, with the *Élan vital*, the Question of Design, Criticism of Darwin, de Vries, Eimer, Lamarck and others, Method and Development, Torpor, Intelligence, Instinct, Intuition, and the relationship and possible destiny of man. Criticism of Bergson in respect of his doctrines of the Concept, Self, Time, Freedom, character of God, the possibility of Philosophy, etc. Appreciation.

The address occupies one hour, with another hour for questions.

II. **The Philosophy of Eucken.** If Bergson's brilliancy, profundity, and daring seem to give him the revolute power of a Kant, so Eucken has the sweep and the interpretative gift of a Hegel — he is, let us claim, a *successful* Hegel. At any rate, these men supplement one another. Bergson is a preparation for Eucken. If our age needs to hear Bergson, it dare not neglect to heed the voice from Jena. Eucken's philosophy, a Philosophy of the Spirit, does not so readily lend itself to headlines; it is none the less capable of clear definition in its main features.

and intricate and astonishing ways than the starry heavens of Kant. The Mind that expresses itself in the ultimate recesses of Nature appears as all-inclusive and is THE ONLY GOD THERE IS. Incarnation then, is no more a question than Creation. The PERSONAL is the FINAL.

except in nineteenth century physics (inherited from Democritus, 420 B.C.). Inertness has given way to action, to immanent direction. The intra-atomic structure is a-quiver with intelligence in more subtle

III. Pragmatism.

These three lectures appeal by their titles, or else they do not so appeal. They represent three directions of striving of the human spirit to-day. Pragmatism has had much vogue, both by way of expounders and by way also of those to whom it has meant a short and easy method with thinking. The New Realism is a recent and vigorous insurgence against Idealism, which, finally, is, in one form or another, "an anvil that has worn out many a hammer."

IV. The New Realism.

V. Idealism.

VI. **Freedom of the Will.** First delivered at Harvard University in 1911, announced (officially) in the *University Gazette* as follows: "Under the auspices of the Harvard Philosophical Club, Dr. B. Alfred Dumm will deliver two lectures on 'Freedom of the Will.' The lectures will be given on Tuesday afternoons, at 4:30 o'clock, in Emerson F, and will be open to the public. The dates and titles are as follows: April 4, Psychological Aspects. April 11, Ethical Aspects."

1. **The Psychology of Freedom.** Narrowing of the Problem. The Question of Causation. Is the Physical Series Unisequential? Is the Psychical Series Unisequential? Delimitation of Caprice. Implications of the Free Act. The Haunting-place of Freedom. Ideals and Freedom: fortuitous quality of Ideals, necessary quality of Ideals, detaching power of the Ideal, alluring and enabling effect of the Ideal, the "futurity of Ideals." How do I "know" my act is Free?

2. **The Ethics of Freedom.** Claims of two most brilliant determinists, Höfding (in his "*Ethik*") and Lipps (in "*Die ethischen Grundfragen*"), as to Freedom, Responsibility, Choice, Causation. The Ethics of Determinism and of Indeterminism compared: I. The Doctrine of Accountability and Responsibility. II. The Charge of Chance. III. The Mystery of Freedom. Order versus Initiative.

These lectures are one hour each. Some of the contentions are entirely new.

VII. **The Philosophy of Religion** — with a view to an adequate Christology. [Ready some time in the fall.]

Engagements will be made some time ahead, and at such intervals as not to interfere with other duties. Besides expenses, a moderate fee will be asked, to be learned upon inquiry. But "philosophy butters no bread," and this work is done for the pleasure in it.

TOPSFIELD, MASS., February, 1913.

"We were not surprised at Hiroshima - you had taught us for years about the electrons" - visiting parisonier - root on running board. I was preaching God, man, and the world that is - not the Atom bomb but the BOMB ATOM - immediate to all.

"PHILOSOPHY AND HUMAN PROBLEMS," the folder from which these excerpts were taken, was primarily a Syllabus of a Lecture to Ministers on "The Concept of Creation" based on the final thesis handed Royce

in Metaphysics. For this he granted me an extra year to write it, but reported the course completed. The argument is based in Experimental Psychology, and is important propaedeutic for the argument here suggested, which aims at "A PHILOSOPHY OF IMMEDIACY," which may never be completed (I am 62), nor find a publisher, but is undergirded by the works of Jeans, Eddington, Millikan, Whitehead, Max Planck and Einstein,

no one of whom crosses, any more than suspects, the principle I proceed on from their deliverances. But anyone may hit upon that principle by saying within himself "2 and 2 make 5" - and see what happens.



SEMINAR - Merrimack Union of Congregational Ministers.  
The thing that Troubles me most about Prayer. Conclusions:  
God can answer prayer in any realm without violating law.

Books underlying, or contradictory to, the views set forth:

Henri Bergson	Time and Free Will 1889 (1913)
	Matter and Memory 1896 (1911)
	Introduction to Metaphysics 1903, 1922
	Evolution Créatrice 1907 (1911)
William James	Some Problems of Philosophy
	A Pluralistic Universe 1909
R. B. Perry	Present Philosophical Tendencies 1911
James Ward	The Realm of Ends, or Pluralism and Theism 1914
W. R. Sorley	Moral Values and the Idea of God 1920
S. Alexander	Space, Time, and Deity 2 vols. 1925
Arthur Titius (Prof., Berlin)	Natur und Gott 1926
A. N. Whitehead	Science and the Modern World 1926
	Religion in the Making 1926
Sir Arthur Eddington	The Nature of the Physical World 1938
Sir James Jeans	The Mysterious Universe 1938
Robert A. Millikan	Evolution of Science and Religion 1933
David Dietz	The Story of Science 1931
	Where is Science Going? 1938
Arthur Lynch	The Case Against Einstein 1933

Josiah Royce - The World and the Individual  
- why did I omit this?  
I suppose because that was that anyway!

Later - Eddington - New Pathways in Science 1933  
Jeans - Physics and Philosophy 1943

I can never prove in any one instance that he has done it - "For we walk by faith, and not by sight."

# Philosophy and Human Values

ATOM BOMB  
rather - BOMB ATOM SEMINAR SEE first WITHIN

Auspices Concord, N. H., Ministers' Conference  
Meeting of April 30, 1934—Paper by B. Alfred Dumm, Ph.D.  
Subject: "The Concept of Creation"

## Syllabus:

All observation starts with the flow of experience, which offers appearances or 'images', in knowing which I seem to participate in them—yet place them outside myself.  
Perspective is gained by testing possibilities of action, and bodies are ranged in order of distance by estimating effort due to get at them.  
Perception, not accompanying sensation in sleep, follows hesitation between possible actions when awake—is due to interruption—no consciousness of action perfectly mechanized.  
Child learns image always central is his body—change of associations shows other images could get along without it—"world."  
Nervous system the essential of my body—affords "zones of indeterminateness" (Bergson) as possible choices of action.  
Memory essential to perception—image blends with sensory image and interprets it. Experiment A: Illusions of Length, Direction, Form and Size.  
We do not perceive quantitative infinite—only a psychological space—an anthropomorphic world—as we cut out bodies due to specific actions interrupted. Moon can only look flat—why?  
Materiality rests then on what? According to Bergson, sensation without interpretive memory—it is a "what," not a "that." We upon perception give it space form and perspective and logically endow it with infinity. Observe limits in a horse studying a distant scrap of paper. To a worm—experience is exclusively material. Experiment B: Illusions of Indirection and Stereoscopic Vision and Perspective.  
Inert materiality made into a world by our sensory system interpreting, with aid of memory, scale of vibrations. Without perceiving, only a waste of cosmical rhythm. Such our 'world' because our actual sense organs take only a few scattered octaves of this rhythm.  
Chart of Electromagnetic Radiations showing 60 octaves in seven categories—counting our 'light' as 37th octave, waves of .000,078—000,038 centimeters—seven octaves of X-rays ranging to .000,000,013,7; and so on. Dietz 242  
Memory enables to grasp wider rhythms—our own rhythm becomes different from the cosmic—in this Bergson finds our freedom—no longer a mere epiphenomenon.  
The World—is it free? Not as, in Bergson's phrase, mere spontaneous duration. Creation cannot rest on itself—this takes not account of plurality of consciousnesses. (Here we must qualify Bergson's "La chose résulte d'une solidification opérée par notre entêtement." E. C. 270.)  
"Vibrational retardation"—as eddies show there is water. A phrase suggestive as to creation of matter in the cosmic rhythm.  
Any distinct conception has a limiting character—so the Absolute not without limit, if only ourselves. Does the Absolute intend this complex vibratory interaction? Why do I cut out exactly this table? this chair? Why do I am I? Spontaneity no answer—to rest in Spontaneity is to relinquish the quest spontaneity always attempts.  
Totality no more amazing than particularity. Existence is itself particular—has Mind-form—is therefore Conscious Purpose, and in visible particularity distinct design. This does not dissolve evil but irradiates it with hope. This the rhythm of Evolution proclaims, emblazoning moral freedom, and Destiny.

(cont. from reverse) - And Russell has already told us that the translated electron is not identifiable as the same one that leaped. Did it leap?

- that the world we experience as our environment is an extent of radiation complexes, or thinkable movement, or mathematical objectivity—never-in-repose: if my words are awkward or wrong they at least serve as indexes, and that confessedly is all any words can do in this realm. But this altogether wondrous world is yet, therefore, as Millikan says, a world of astonishing simplicity, of fundamental one-ness, of a single power, and what is it but the hitherward aspect of Divine Will? In approaching it therefore we do well to take off the shoes from off our feet, for we have come upon the ultimate fact of human investigation, and the obverse is - what Otto has called "Numinous" - the Holy!

There is not space for further quotation. I may say, that of eight subheads to this lengthy paper, one is "Sacerdotal Inadvertence." May guess application! But all quotations here must converge only within the area of the ATOM BOMB. - I have to refer the Syllabus here on "The Concept of Creation" to its place in the series, and to say that there were touches in my Lenten Sermons of 1923, printed by Col. Frank Knox in the Manchester Union, and here—and there in scores of sermons since. Truth? As Professor Palmer used to say, "It's all one, it's all one." But it takes an Atom Bomb there to make plain the BOMB ATOM here!

I find attached to my Harvard-propositions talked from, excerpts from N.S. Shaler, The Individual and Sir Oliver Lodge, Life and Matter. No traces appear in this

just turned up; a long forgotten paper "Written at the suggestion of a competent acquaintance in December 1907" - "On the Actuality(yes) and the Reality(no) of Motion." My first - and its ultimate identical with Jeans, P and P

"You have a cosmology - now X has no cosmology. The more you study, the more you realize." - I found my mind, it was Professor Lodge.

JEANS, P and P 154. Now the electron can never be seen directly. Sure knowledge - can only be numerical, so that Heisenberg's results were inevitably mathematical in form and could not disclose anything about the true nature of physical processes or entities. 156, The electron dropped out: it had to, because it exists only as a matter of inference and not of direct observation. -the new theory

contains no mention of atoms, nuclei, protons, or of electricity in any shape or form. The existences of all these are matters of inference. 171, Energy may be transferred from place to place, but the waves and the electric and magnetic forces are not part of the mechanism of transfer, they are part simply of our efforts to understand the mechanism and picture it to ourselves.

the old sailor books used to have the sailors landing on wild shores "to put the fear of God before their eyes." In an extended sense this has happened to the whole of the world - in the ATOM BOMB. It illustrates what I have long believed - and developed in this series of occasions.

1909. Harvard University Gazette: "Friday, April 9. Harvard Philosophical Club. "Recent Natural Science and the So-called Supernatural." Dr. B. A. Dumm." Speculative physics faces toward breakup of "a-tom," degeneration of elements - convertibility (emanation of radium -conversion into helium -lithium from copper - Sir William Ramsay). Thus, so-called atoms arise from, subside into, converted through "ether" or "to nth power" - allowing for remote advances (now "electronics"). This "!" the ultra-ponderable unity of non-scrutinizable force. So, the hitherward aspect of that which is ultimate in (to or through) the Universe of Nature - not as being within nature - but as determining nature - be it Thought, Will, or X - the true Supernatural. What now would be our concept of the so-called supernatural, as a particular event, unaccountable by nature sequentially? -and if this change from copper to lithium were not sequentially involved with past events, but stood in sequential relation (logically not chronologically) only to the Ultimate Will determining it, this would be a supernatural event, as grounded in that which is above nature and producing nature. A miracle, if any, neither the creating or the destroying of solid atoms, and not susceptible to inspection.

926. Christian Union Quarterly: "Issues Relating to Faith, by B. Alfred Dumm, Ph.D., Associate Secretary, World Conference on Faith and Order" (a symposium by writers from various countries sent to officials of worldwide Churches and delegates to the Lausanne Conference). This Theological Aspect had been assigned to an English theologian whose illness dropped it on me.

The world of dead matter is a world of dead science - an outgrown world that has no present being. All Christology has been thought and argued in a world as alien to the world we are in as it is to God. All questions of miracle, the definition of the supernatural, or the doing away with it, all, pro and con, all have had their shaping in a world that does not exist - except in nineteenth century physics (inherited from Democritus, 420 B. C.)

Inertness has given way to action, to immanent direction. The intra-atomic structure is a-quiver with intelligence in more subtle and intricate and astonishing ways than the starry heavens of Kant. The Mind that expresses itself in the ultimate recesses of Nature appears as all-inclusive and is The Only God There Is. Incarnation, then, is no more a question than Creation. The PERSONAL is the FINAL.

1928. "Some Reflections concerning the Lord's Supper occas. by Lausanne Conf." Paper to Prof. Wilfred Monod, Paris, on receiving his Évangile et Liberté. On being asked how the electrons came into being, Dr Pupin replied, "I do not know, but I believe they were created by God." Let us turn this around and say, That Which Created them is The Only God there Is. I believe this is the way we find God, so far as science is concerned. . . To argue then for God's 'omnipresence' and 'omnipotence' is to paint the lily and gild the sun. The only question is, what is his character, in a personal point of view, and of this we learn through history and experience that He is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. That is enough - the fullness of him that filleth all things in all.

However, I do not believe I am satisfied with Prof. Pupin's answer. I think it admirable for a physicist. But where he leaves off is where we must begin. . . On the above evidence it is not exactly certain whether the electrons are altogether and finally "created." Or, we must revise our concept of "creation." These "radiations" come into being and change. One of the things that has puzzled the physicists, weirdly, is the change of an electron from an outer circle of revolution to an inner, or vice versa, without lapse of time! It is relatively as though Neptune should swallow Venus.

Before man appeared on the scene, there were neither waves nor electric nor magnetic forces; these were not made by God, but by Huyghens, Fresnel, Faraday and Maxwell.

**AJAX**

**MOUNT WEBSTER**

MYSELF—This stir is trivial  
—police it off the map. Make  
no to do—nor 'minish our vast  
confidence.

MC'ARTHUR—Orders are orders,  
but these eat reserves. Soft  
countering the dread spirit  
of these times.

COURIER—The clouds give  
out low rumbles, and the sun  
Hath hid his face from all  
particulars.

MYSELF—What mean these  
drab resentments that would  
draw a scum of fishy scales  
o'er my fair course?

CORK—Your disillusion calls  
the stars from heaven. Not so  
the greatness of our past to  
give neighbors and friends to  
ghoulish butchery of race.

SENATOR—Fret not the just  
—all have been cleared at law.  
Nor seek thyself to star before  
the world.

CORK—"There's something  
rotten in the state of Denmark.  
It smells to heav'n tho'  
eyes and ears be quefched.

COURIER—Now sound alarms,  
for the rabid flood have  
burst their sanctuary and do  
roll them down, o'erwhelming  
instruments with arr'gant  
blood.

PATRIOTS — Loosen the  
thongs that hold Formosa  
back, and let these humans  
gain their human right.

MYSELF—My trusted coun-  
selor would not to this consent,  
And I to him above all else am  
bound.

JACKSON—By the Eternal!  
(I am at one with God in this.)

TEDDY—Hand me the big  
stick! but what boots it now,  
Though groan we here till  
heaven's bottom burst?

MYSELF — Why should a  
third—or fourth-rate man up-  
hold the tumbling world?  
United Nations takes the load  
Off my response—its orders I  
obey.

UN—Appease we no appease-  
ment, but the sum of all de-  
mands we have observed That  
call for moderation and the  
Yaul line of fair containment  
lest we umbrage give and sef  
the stage at once for ungirt  
war.

U S—Unhand us then, for we  
are better spent as balanced  
power maintained the peace of  
old and we had master'd wrong  
had we but struck in time.

UN—A democratic world is  
born in us which flaunting sol-  
diership hath broken down and  
cast the helpless into molten  
fate.

TEDDY—"None of these  
rogues and cowards but Ajax  
is their fool."

KAKOS  
(BAD)

Beset by craggy amplitudes of space,  
I stand to look up on great Webster's face -  
His beetling brows with awe-full grandeur clad,  
His storm-swept front most eloquent when mad  
With crashing thunder roll'd to Willey's gorge  
Or blinded snows hurl'd back with billowing urge.

"Mouth accurately closed" the Scotch seer spake of him  
Immortal yet whose riven speech time does not dim.

So these two unbudged granite blocks to heav'n upborne  
Hold north and south in teeth that give man lasting scorn.  
The naked terror of unsparing height o'erhangs the gulf  
And harks the hurrying flood whose vigilant eye gives back iteeff.

So have I seen the Needles of Mont Blanc above the  
bulging floods congeal'd o'er Chamounix  
While Arve and Arveiron tore the rigors from their base  
and - stormed toward Italy.

\* \* \*

**MOUNT MOOSILAUKE IN PASSING**

(Done on an envelope  
on train going to  
Woodsville)

May 30, 1930

On thy bleak summit, Moosilauke, lies thy white farewell to May,  
Thou crownest thee with winter to retain Memorial Day.  
The seasons pass below thee but thy fellowship on high  
Is with the peaks of peril and the star gleams in the sky.

Yet have I seen thee most suave when morning came aglow  
Across the eastern skyline from my teepee on Mount Blue.  
And I had thrill that night so still when Jobildunk ravine  
Sent back to me a mile away the splash of silver sheen;  
When cascades fell and cast a spell that one drop made to seem  
Concentrate in that tinkle isolate both sound and gleam.

And I got up and hied me forth from teepee built of boughs  
To greet the sun on thy bald crown when he was due to rouse.  
And lo he sharp o'ermatch'd me as he flaming thrust his face -  
- or ever I could foot thy crest or win the eager race -  
From serrate peaks far down the East and

\* \* \* \*

- capp'd thy might with grace!

**THE GOAL OF  
ELECTRONICS**

Can man survive this evil  
sphere of time  
Unleashing blasts of moral  
hydrogen  
Renouncing centuries of la-  
bored gain  
Revoking freedoms by heav'n  
so far confirm'd?  
E'en better had this globe  
ne'er wheel'd in space  
Nor set itself to breed a  
planetary race  
Than gain so near to heav'n  
and then collapse  
Entropic fate embodied in its  
panting breast

Courage yet still the noblest  
spirits call  
Announce the power of the  
Creative Will  
Let Freedom lift her chastened  
banner high  
And God be recognized again  
by penitent man  
More regnant truth refined in  
purging fires  
On mar its benediction who  
aspres.

B. ALFRED DUMM

To write " a sonnet in  
Petrarch's pattern -  
Shakespearean lines lik  
nothing of Poetics, detest acrostics, forgot his  
introverted quatrains - would have killed me.  
Editor seeing letter asked to print.

**S A G O**

Birches white  
In the night  
Listening still  
Hear the river  
All a-quiver  
Dawn until

**O C T O B E R**

Brown, gold, red, green,  
But of all I've seen,  
In the west  
Is the best,  
Peaks of blue,  
Ever new,  
Betokening rest!

those of Ajax rhyming with abba abba cde cde -  
CURRENTE CALAMO (with a nimble pen). " I know  
nothing of Poetics, detest acrostics, forgot his  
introverted quatrains - would have killed me.  
Editor seeing letter asked to print.

In solemn reflection

A PAGE of TRAGIC  
CONTRADICTIONS  
- wherein is OUR FATE

▼  
**Quest or Inquest**

**EGO**—I am the indispensable man—the gaping crowd  
See but the tilted ikon of the fragrant weed.  
And shudder when I threaten purge. Let me but win  
The next election and the world will have its chance  
To hail its liberator and renounce its wars.

**HASSEN**—Vodka diplomacy hath paid you well.  
No man  
So far hath had the homage of the great,  
Once more give Yalta into Stalin's hands,  
And bury troubles that you ill have strength to face.

**DRIBLET**—My spirit melts in prayer, help me before my God,  
Your servant I, on humble duty bent  
But to uphold this charge that broods my trembling soul.

**COUTURE**—You have so far made issues over to the men  
Of special tasks—trust me yet more  
To make decisions. Give the "Agrarians" rule  
In Cathay, as of old hath freedom here.

**STATE DEPT.**—Prodigious man hath spoke—  
why bring him home  
To send his word well-pinioned o'er the earth  
Whose majesty intoned gives ours the lie  
And turns our pleading back upon itself?

**GENERALS**—We claim strategic kin with Inchon's victor bent  
On the sole aim of war—to win,  
Though doubt we (some) that now it safe would risk  
All moves that would have won when first he spake.

**CHORUS**—"We are the dead, short days ago  
We lived, were loved, but now we lie"  
Strewed on Korea's stones. No heart so stout  
As ours, no doom so dared, but yet we ask  
Why die we here and you are speechless there  
While playboys bank your dollars with unholy dice?

**SPIRIT**—Awake ye men! outdo envenomed hate  
Disgorg'd from Mongol breed of Tamerlane,  
And strike for freedom, mercy for your youth  
Whose golden years lie bathed in blood and gashed flesh  
While men unfeeling strive for reelection  
And pit the figure of the dead against a traffic count.

**SINNERS**—O where is God? We have forgotten how  
To ask the first, great question, why the world  
Is turning back upon its axis so that East is West  
And West is East, and Nature grovels in her aim  
To make a home for man, but fires of hell  
Blows with her frantic bellows and doth light eternity  
With all created structures roaring cinder red.

**PENITENTS**—God help us! — turn back again to thee!  
we  
Make purge of our great crime, enflame our dregs within,  
Open our eyes to what we hideous held  
As venom'd serpent in our breast of sin,  
And if thou canst, redeem us to the race of men  
Call'd to endure, but conquer, this mad earth.

**DEITY**—Give me the roll-back of your souls to where  
Your fathers "rais'd the wintry psalm to heav'n"  
And wrought in solemn sense of God whose word  
They list'ning heard in heart and quivering leaf  
Of their vast forest, that they might Redeem a wilderness for homes of men  
To freedom pledged for all the coming time  
In loyal service of their great Creator God.

**FAITH**—No height on earth so great, nor thrill so deep,  
As that of man returning to his God.  
We sorrow for our shame, renounce our sin,  
And cleave to standards chos'n of God  
For this Republic, that we bear aloft  
The stars of truth to meet the fateful gaze  
Of heav'n's own bannered brilliants  
That pledge the truth of God to save the souls  
Of all men penitent on duty bound  
In His vast realm.

North Weare.

B. ALFRED DUMM

Complete copy of this  
TRANSLATION  
may be had on request  
to B. Alfred Dumm, Ph.D.  
North Weare, N.H.  
- enclosing stamp.

O how smitten, brokenhearted,  
From her treasured Hope now parted,  
Mother of the First-born One.  
How the tides of grief and sorrow  
Flood her world and measure borrow  
From His fame who helpless hangs  
in blood.

O quam tristis et afflicta  
Fuit illa benedicta  
Mater Unigeniti;  
Quae moerebat et dolebat  
Et tremebat, cum videbat  
Nati poenas inclivi.

By the cross stood Mary weeping,  
There her mother's vigil keeping,  
While her Son hung suffering.  
Hers the soul with apprehension,  
And at length in pain and anguish,  
By the sword transfixed.

Stabat mater dolorosa  
Juxta crucem lacrymosa,  
Dum pendebat Filius.  
Cujus animam gementem  
Contristantem et dolentem  
Pertransiit gladius.

## A PHILOSOPHY of IMMEDIACY

By BENJAMIN ALFRED DUMM, Ph.D.

"God and Man at Yale" - a most startling book! By William F. Buckley, Jr., of whom a Life Magazine editor after a week at Yale wrote: "Both undergraduates and professors seemed fascinated by Mr Buckley." "His editorials in the Yale Daily News (of which he was chairman) were debated, reviled, and praised." Out of this turmoil came this book.

It is not my purpose to review the book. In his first chapter he quotes various professors as to their belief in God and religion. All I have to say about these men is, that as I remember the skepticism and agnosticism of seventy years ago, they have learned nothing and forgot nothing. It is incredible that such stupidity can persist in a modern academic atmosphere, in a scientific age.

A teacher of Types of Religious Experience classifies himself before his students as 80% atheist and 20 per cent agnostic." This is not to be taken as a yardstick, and it may be assigned to a hilarious mood, but it happened. It was the kind of a thing that ought never to happen in a College founded by Christian men to train their children in a Christian civilization. This in particular is the contention and purpose of Mr Buckley's book, and I do not go into it.

What I note is, that the dead level intellectual attitude of the various men quoted and described in the departments of Religion, History, Sociology, Philosophy and Psychology, as they assess God and Religion, is still the dead level of the mid-nineteenth century, with the frozen physics of Democritus, 420 BC. They talk about whether there is a God, somewhere in the miscellaneous fixtures of this starry universe, and whether religion is a dream of burrowing moles.

Let me beg these gentlemen to stop, look, listen. The sky's busted. Out yonder billions of light-years beyond our unthinkably vast milky way are a bubbling billion of galaxies as big as ours - yea, many billions, stretching into unending space, which in order to avoid stepping off it into inconceivable nothing Einstein has bent around into a sphere with no outside to it, the inside 'finite but' unbounded. Imagine a fly walking on the inside surface of a sphere that has no outside surface. (I am not presuming to endorse Einstein, nor to differ with him on some of his fundamental assumptions.) - Now who's running this show?

Whatever-It-Is that is a doing all this, playing on all the stops and keys of this vast organ at once in mighty harmony, so that all parts work in collusion, and even eclipses can be predicted to a fragment of a second against a hurricane of years, must be doing it all intentionally or else he would get his feet crossed in the spaces and fall apart. He must be intellectually capable of such sustained intention and idealization. No doubt we might find an astronomer of pinkish religion, but to such men as Eddington and Jeans, of Cambridge, the "world begins to look more like a great thought than like a great machine." So far has the 20th century got ahead of academic skepticism everywhere.

Greater yet must be our wonder when we turn our gaze within the A-tem - te book physics in swaddling clothes indivisible, but to diviners following the finger of Whatever-It-Is that is a doing it all another world of infinity of manyness and greatness. Indeed, what after all is cosmic greatness? Without a hitching post you can't tell where your horse is hitched. Einstein based Relativity on the fact that since there is nothing outside to compare with, it is not possible to say whether the universe is large or small - so the question raises whether the star world is big or little, and whether the electron world is big or little - and whether either is big or little to Whatever-It-Is that is a doing of it all - in other words whether there is space at all. In Gamow's "Mr Thompson Explores the Atom" he finds himself in talk with another whirling electron who remarks that he would better look out for a positron, for a collision would annihilate him. (No room here for the denouement!) But with just as much infinity in the little as in the big, here is double duty for Deity. Everything is not only in myriadic dance but is dissolving into something else in a fraction of time - not a particle of you the same as when you sat down in that chair beside me.

My case is won, for if you run these men out of their woodchuck physics they haven't a thing to stand on - there's nothing left to them but God. And yet we have history to think about, with its long train of human experiments aiming at unrolling of ideals of life and character and truth and humanity which if attained would end in a world of character and safety for pilgrims of aeons yet stretching on into illimitable time, if not on this transitory earth yet -

Apologetics. This paper was written in December 1951, while the "God and Man at Yale" was in fresh explosion, and was sent promptly to my Church Paper (or 'magazine'). Later, "assuming you will print", a spelling was corrected and note added. No response from the editor in these 15 months, though reminded several times with direct request. Meantime the action has expanded to "God and Man in Christian Colleges" and it is time for tepid believers, especially on watch towers, to get over on God's side.

perhaps in a higher 'mansion' fashioned in a higher 'frequency' of wavelengths beyond the cosmic rays, outside apprehension by our organs though we may be known to their faculties. Who can say? And are there 'ministering angels'? These are surely needed today.

We call things (dead) objects, but the Jeans-Eddington word is "events" a granite block is a passing event; it may take some millions years but it will all go sometime, with its uneasy preton-electron-positron elusives. Whitehead uses the word "occasion" - "That community of occasions considered in physical science is the set of happenings which fit on to each other - as we say - in a common space-time, so that we can trace the transitions from one to the other." (Science and the Modern World, 63) An apple falls to the ground. - But neither apple nor ground has the kind of reality we think it has.

What then is real? That-Only-Which-Produces these 'occasions' - these appearances as of a real world? Whatever-It-Is that is a doing it all. GOD. For the Atom we have substituted electronics, but, "Before man appeared on the scene, there were neither waves nor electronic nor magnetic forces; these were not made by God, but by Huyghens, Fresnel, Faraday and Maxwell." (Jeans - Physics and Philosophy, 171) Back of all that appears to us there is only - God. We deal with None-Else. We are in Immediate Experience of God, to be and to know at all. We do not 'find' God somewhere - we live Him to live at all.

Test it out. Say 2 and 2 make 4, and see what happens. You have a kick-back in your mind, especially if you are a bit sleepy or excited, asking "Isn't that so?" Whatever-It-Is that tells you it is so would tell you the same if you were in the farthest star, and will tell every rational being the same anywhere. But you just try to say "2 and 2 make 5" and see what you get - "You belong in Washington." You can't fool God - He always tells you truth, and you always get it by existing at all - "for in Him we live, and move, and have our being".

Ultimately, however hilly the world, there is nothing but God - these electrons and the whole world made of them can have no abiding existence outside the Divine Will, which is creating and recreating them at every moment. What then of the evil in the world? We can't answer that, except to look to Jesus Christ, who is the Creator's pledge to meet and in the end purge it out, "in a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness." Whether God could have avoided evil, and why he didn't, or whether it may be a transitory problem in his own being and the imperative of duty, we do not and cannot know, but only the fact of a Savior, and our own imperative, for "clouds and darkness are round about him, but righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne."

Here stand Nineteen Centuries of such revelation of indigenous truth in and to human nature, that the rudest and most ill-begotten and diabolical dregs of human breed can pick up and quote the precepts and passwords of Christian piety to hurl in the faces of Christian contenders for peace and justice as though they were hounds of hell. No soul so vile but he can identify the voice of God - the Creative Immediacy cannot be destroyed. This tells us that God will forever keep on.

Jesus Christ "spoke as never man spake." In a certain sense he did nothing about it, but walked and talked and healed. And chose crucifixion. But in his words and inexhaustible meanings all the changing centuries have found and will find their changing norms. He is the only Personal man that ever lived. No personal being but can find him master. You may dispute his syllables, but you know what to do about it. He is the Universal. But there is only one way to know Christ. That is, to come to God. In this Immediacy all tensions are soothed, and millions in all races have found them smoothed out. The pitiful have taken up their beds and walked, and dead souls have been born again to the living God. It is impossible not to believe that there will be a dramatic victory in a world beyond the cosmic rays, with a teeming multitude that no man can number of "the spirits of just men made perfect," and when I rise to the Hallelujah Chorus I am not ashamed to say that I "see the rainbow in the cloud" as though the skies were about to burst with the heaven of God, and stand in tears.

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\* \* \* \* \*  
As in the great days of Samuel Harris and George B. Stevens, we in Yale Divinity School felt, so now we must believe this citadel of Christian Truth will in all time continue to unveil the glory of Creator God in the Face of Jesus Christ.

A PHILOSOPHY of IMMEDIACY - II. COSMOLOGY as AFFECTED by NUCLEONICS  
Written 8 March 1952 and read 18 April before the New Hampshire Academy of  
Science, at Dartmouth College, by Benjamin Alfred Dumm, Ph.D.

- I know nothing of Nucleonics, though I have been looking at Cosmology a long time to see anything get under its tentflaps. And when scientific men send forth books to make known their accomplishments to us who know not science, nor disport in what Eddington calls "super-mathematics," and treats as a privileged sanctuary when words fail, I yet claim a certain fitness in offering the opinion called for.

Modern science moved off the Democritean rock pile about fifty years ago. The cosmos had been made of solid atoms, unaltered and unalterable, proceeding, in the words of Herbert Spencer, "from an indefinite, incoherent homogeneity, to a definite, coherent heterogeneity, according to fixed laws and by means of resident forces." One of the most thrilling descriptions I ever listened to was by Prof. Ladd of Yale following an atom from the dawn of creation as it danced with innumerable partners down the corridors of time, unchanged by the millenniums. That atom no longer exists. It has dissolved into protons, electrons, neutrons, positrons and the like, whose character is not of durability, but of incessant change, who alternate even their personalities, and 'never continue in one stay.' In "Mr Thompson Explores the Atom" by George Gamow of George Washington University, Mr Thompson meets various interesting figures who give him impressive facts, and when spinning an orbit in talk with another electron, the latter tells him to avoid collision with a positron which would annihilate him - when whoosh! - BANG! - a deadly silence and then - "Excuse me, Mr Thompson, but you went to sleep while the old Professor was reading his lecture on the Atom, and I must lock up the hall."

The centuries were involved in debate on problems of the old Cosmology that could never be settled. Did the world have a beginning? If so, what started it? Whence came Spencer's "laws" and "forces"? - his coherence and incoherence? How is it conceivable that a beginning de novo could occur? Then what external force, what vis a-terge, could so operate? and why at a particular point of time, many centuries wasted? Is there a God, and where can we find him? - As the oldest, aged thirteen, of five boys holding me up on a March-swept road asked, "How did God make the world?" and a ten-year kept butting in with, "But who made God?" I finally said, "If we suppose there is no world and no God, you'd have to imagine yourself knowing it, wouldn't you?" His mother reported he had stopped bothering people on that one. I sat down by a man on a train who at once began a tirade against God - - the world was running down - (even before the days of entropy) - and would end - there would be nothing at all. "Then," said I, "when that time comes, nothing ever was." He dropped his head, sat silent ten minutes, said, "You have given me an idea," got up and left the train. - "Hast thou by searching found out God?" - it can't be done. He is neither here nor there - nor yonder. But - "the word is nigh thee, even in thy heart." It is to 'know thyself.'

The cosmos of electrons is one vast billowing stretch of interlocking radiations dissolving without substance into fresh radiations or effecting relationships, described by us as in space yet without occupying space - "such unsubstantial stuff as dreams are made of." We may exhaust all the possibilities of Newtonian space in our human experience and never can we find a context in which to interpret this apparently mathematical universality of change in unity and unity in change. As says Eddington, "The world begins to look more like a great thought than like a great machine." If you go back to the (νέπας ἄπειρον) form and the formless of the Greek thinkers, there is left of this alternative no substance but only form - suggesting the 'field' concept, in electronics. And this form can only be conceived as of the intellectual. That is, in short, that - Whatever-It-Is that is a producing of the world of electrons, is intellectually capable of doing it, and does it clean of all but thought.

After the reading of this paper, alluding to the first sketching of its contentions before the Harvard Phil. Club on April 1909, shortly before presidency, I said: "I have no knowledge of any human being ever having thought of anything like what I have set forth,

which is the significance of the 20th century Atom, which, in my view, following three millenniums of human thinking, points now to the solution, so far forth, of the RIDDLE of the UNIVERSE."

Says Jeans in his Physics and Philosophy - 154, Now the electron can never be seen directly. , , Sure knowledge can only be numerical, so that Heisenberg's results were inevitably mathematical in form and could not disclose anything about the true nature of physical processes or entities. ("But grandpa, I have seen electrons." , "No, you have seen the paths of electrons left in the Wilson cloud chamber - no man has seen an electron." Besides, the occupancy of an electron - if it had any occupancy, is less than the wavelength of light and you might as well try to make a garden hose undulate in two-foot waves across the lawn.)) -156, The electron dropped out; it had to, because it exists only as a matter of inference and not of direct observation, -the new theory contains no mention of atoms, nuclei, protons, or of electricity in any shape or form. The existences of all these are matters of inference. 171, Energy may be transferred from place to place((but don't try to imagine the 'current')), but the waves and the electric and magnetic forces are not part of the mechanics of transfer, they are part simply of our efforts to understand this mechanics and picture it to ourselves. Before man appeared on the scene, there were neither waves nor electric nor magnetic forces; these were not made by God, but by Huyghens, Fresnel, Faraday and Maxwell."

- - - - With a granite block before our eyes not a solid mass but a mere 'event' in process to dissolution, we are prepared for Whitehead saying in "Science and the Modern World," 65, "That continuity of occasions considered in physical science is the set of happenings which fit on to each other, as we say, in a common space-time, so that we can trace the transitions from one to the other." Here there is no sediment and no leftover - for Kantians and anti-Kantians no "Thing-in-itself." Whether or not there is what people call a God, there is in the end nothing but the projected thinking of THAT-WHICH-IS.

And this Thinker is not to be found, because he is not and can never be lost. Say 2 and 2 make 4, and you are conscious of a kickback in your being that says, "Isn't that so?" Especially if you are excited or have just waked up. And you get the answer as from your O t h e r within. Then say, 2 and 2 make 5, and see what you get - "You belong in Washington." No one believes but that the answers on true or false, right or wrong, will be the same for every thinking being and in every galaxy and nebula of the universe. The same WHATEVER-IT-IS that is a doing all the cosmos is the same that is a thinking in all the thinkers in the cosmos, "for in him we live, and move, and have our being." - "Speak to Him thou, for he hears, and spirit with Spirit can meet; closer is he than breathing, and nearer than hands and feet."

- - - Now there's a lot of questions that I do not go into, in merely indicating a transfer of all questions from a cosmos of sediment to a cosmos of thought. There is the question for example of space at all. In order to avoid stepping off into an infinite space which isn't there, Einstein has bent space around into itself as "finite but unbounded." - Imagine a fly walking straight ahead on the inner surface of a sphere that has no outer surface, nor anything outside it. But do you get rid of the outside in that way? You get back to where you started, still asking why Einstein couldn't let you follow a right line. - - - "The mightier transports move and thrill."

You may do away with psychological space by experiments in stereoscopic vision perhaps, or hiring a magician, you may get rid of absolute space by curving it back upon itself, but you are not done thinking because the Thinker who shares your thinking has developed the cosmos by thinking the kind of thinking that you are in your own way and measure qualified to do. Whether there is to Him any such thing as Space, or if he needs it for any other than the starry worlds, we do not know and have not been told. We are left with A PHILOSOPHY OF IMMEDIACY, and our immediacy is with GOD. - - "to rise to the height of this great argument - to justify the ways of God to man."

- - - - -  
Copyright 1952 by B. Alfred Dumm, as noted on page 2 of this Folder. This paper will be printed in the "proceedings" of the New Hampshire Academy of Science - but not until after the annual spring meeting of 1953, to include bi-ennial reporting for 1952-53.

*B. Alfred Dumm*





# The Chatham

VANDERBILT AVENUE AT 48TH STREET

NEW YORK CITY 17

ELDORADO 5-5400

F. BURTON FISHER  
VICE PRESIDENT AND  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

March 26, 1953

Mrs. G. Baldwin  
Secretary to Prof. Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Baldwin:

Thank you kindly for your nice letter of March 25th, and it will be a pleasure to have Dr. Wiener stay with us.

A nice single room with bath will be reserved for his arrival in New York, on Thursday night, April 9th.

Assuring him of a warm welcome to The Chatham, with every attention to his comfort, we are

Sincerely yours,

THE CHATHAM

F. Burton Fisher  
Vice President & Managing Director

FBF:ac

[ans 4/2/53]

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ERSKINE ACADEMY

So. China, Maine  
P. O. Address R. F. D. 6  
AUGUSTA, MAINE

March 26, 1953

Dear Mr. Wiener,

Recently I read a forward for your new book, and was reminded of the brief but very warm associations I had with your mother and father.

Perhaps you will remember that I stayed with them for awhile before your father's illness.

The last time that I saw your dear mother was on her 30<sup>th</sup> (I believe) birthday when we had lunch together in Boston. I have not heard from her since, even at Christmas, but I know, I am ashamed to say, forgotten her daughter's married name and address.

I'm sorry to intrude on your very busy life

but would like very much to know if Mrs. Wiener  
is still living and to hear from her, if possible.

We are still in Augusta. The last two years I  
worked in a music and book shop, but returned  
to teaching this year. Our son, Bikki, whom  
your mother enchanted with the House that Jack Built,  
is now ready for college next year and, of course,  
we are very pleased with him.

I have ordered a copy of your book and  
look forward to reading it.

Sincerely yours,

Wally Blasius Hayman

(Mrs. William F. Jr.)

75 Chapel St.

Augusta, Me.)

Philip  
Zankler -  
c/o Post - Pleasant St  
312  
Belmont

[ans 9/8/53]

March 27th 1953

Dear Doctor:

Acting on your advice that it is not harder "to get the best advice rather than second best," I am sending you this letter care of Dave Garraway's "TODAY", probably the best of its kind on T.V. at this time.

As "brother-author" you will understand my plight. No, I am wrong when I say "author", what I mean is ... well, let me tell you all about it.

Though not anywhere near a genius, I am considered "odd" by such persons who claim to know me... needless to say I lead a very lonely life. But that is not the reason for this communication, but merely to give you an insight of your correspondent.

For months, I have worked long and hard in the evenings compiling a combination historical-tourist guide, one pocket-book size of each state, all identical in size, color, etc. and each containing the following information in the same order:

1. State emblems, with photographs or drawings of the same, and a short commentary on each;
2. Short comment on state's government;
3. Equally short comment on the general history of the state under coverage.
4. In Alabama, I have over one hundred cities represented, and each city, whenever possible, has been divided in the following sections:
  - a) Origin of name of city;
  - b) History of city, from pioneering to date;
  - c) Tourist Guide, enumerating and commenting on the various touristic attractions in each city;
  - d) Sports prevalent in this section, such as fishing, hunting, boating, hiking, etc.etc.etc., also with the information as to camping sites or tourist camps in the smaller localities.

Most of the information has been furnished by individuals who have been so generous with their time and efforts, and all were unanimous in stating how very vital such a work is, not only to the state under coverage, but to others also... Of course, the larger cities have the Chamber of Commerce and other organizations which were equally obliging with their numerous pamphlets. - Such a volume, printed in a good, readable print, would comprise approximately 100 pages. With a few photographs scattered about, it still would be a rather small volume. Forty-eight of these would make a shelf-ful of delight to any one interested in either traveling by car or by "rockingchair" by the fireside...

Dozens of persons, giving the information, have already given their "order" for from the one volume of their own state to surrounding states, and several, for the forty-eight...

In our own library, which is considered quite up to date, the only information I was able to gather, <sup>on Alabama,</sup> other than an old 1895 history of the United States, yellow with age and having approximately ten pages dedicated to each one of the states, was one chapter in the Geographical on its flowers, (fauna and flora) and a short article in another magazine...

Yes, I realize you will say there are many such traveling magazines, every one filled with good information to tourists...but in order to get this information in a good, handy form, one would need, not only time, but a regular filing cabinet and method whereby each bit of information pertaining to such state would be placed. Then, such scrap book would be rather unhandy and unwieldy specially on trips covering several states.

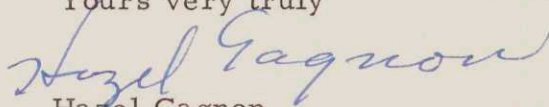
The point in my writing you is to ask you, as a special favor, whether I could <sup>send</sup> you the first volume, on Alabama, first, for your own examination, and, second, should you think it worthwhile, for you to present it to your own publishers. Being the lucky author of a best seller, I am sure they would be more apt to consider this work were it "sponsored" by one of their good clients. - I have sent it to many publishers. Though all were unanimous in saying it was a worthwhile ambition, all were equally unanimous in saying "they were sorry." Though many times disappointed, I always come back with more faith than ever in my project. - In order to raise the money (\$5,000.00) in order to have the printing of the first volume done myself, I have written a short story "IN MEMORIAM" which consists merely of 30 double-spaced typewritten letter-size sheets, which would take about thirty minutes of one's time to read. This story would be rather for a movie than a magazine, for I am sure no magazine would give sufficiently to permit my project from materializing... This story is partly a real, a true story. It is about a 19-year old boy, whose death affected three lives (including my own). It is in memory of this little boy, BOB, I have written it... but, once more, no three cents stamps will take it before a movie producer, it will rather either be returned - intact and unopened - or read by some secretary, and then returned. But I will not presume to ask your help in this second venture...

My idea in trying to raise the sufficient money to print the first volume is that I am so firmly convinced this would be a successful venture, that I would be ready and willing to quit my very good position here to give all my energy and attention to this work. I am sure the sale of the first three states: ALABAMA, ARIZONA, ARKANSAS, would put one on top and they would finance the balance of the states. CALIFORNIA would be the one to turn the table, and from then on, it would be as a great ball of snow, its very momentum would gather more and more "moss" in the shape of greenbacks. . . .

So, will you give me permission to send you a copy??? You need not read it, only a very cursory examination will permit you to see whether it is reasonable to suppose it would sell. Though I would like for the libraries to have a copy (I have spoken to the librarian here and I was told this would be an invaluable asset for any public library as well as school libraries...I would like to see this booklet on each magazine stand in each states where tourists would be "tempted" by it. I would also want it bought for a rather small amount of money, such as 50¢, which would cover the cost of publishing and have a little left over...

Even though you do not want me to send you such a copy, I would appreciate it if you would let me know, for I will keep my fingers crossed until Hear from you.

Yours very truly



Hazel Gagnon  
525 West 5th Street  
Ada, Oklahoma

PS I enjoyed your comments this morning . . .

[ans 4/7/53]

7-35



DAY & ZIMMERMANN, INC.

ENGINEERS

NEW YORK PHILADELPHIA CHICAGO

500 FIFTH AVENUE  
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SUBJECT  
FILE NO

LONGACRE 3-6808

March 27, 1953

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

You will be interested to know that the New York Society for Advancement of Management had an extremely successful meeting the other night, at which a friend of yours was the featured speaker - Prof. Oskar Morgenstern of Princeton. He spoke on "The Theory of Games," and the whole evening (we had two discussers, as we did with your meeting) was devoted to "The Theory of Games as Applied to Business Strategy."

I have a favor to ask of you now: it would give me great pleasure if you would be so kind as to autograph the enclosed picture and return it to me. I am fixing up envelopes, etc., to make it as convenient as possible for you.

Dr. Morgenstern told me about your new book, and in the latest issue of Time, which came to my house yesterday, I saw the review of it, together with your picture. You may rest assured that I have hastened to put in an order for it.

I remember with pleasure the evening you spent with us, and look forward to running into you again sometime. If you should be addressing a gathering in the metropolitan area here, I should appreciate receiving a notice of it.

Very truly yours,

*Carl Heyel*  
Carl Heyel

CH:as  
Encls.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

JEFFERSON PHYSICAL LABORATORY  
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

3/27/53

Dear Professor Wiener -

Just to tell you that Nina  
and I ~~have~~ read your book as  
soon as we could find a copy in the  
bookstore, and that we found it  
a wise and moving document. Viel Glück!

Yours always,  
Gerald Holton

c: SFS, Mar. 31

{ms 7/1/53}



# COPY

Department of Physics  
Harvard University  
Cambridge 38, Mass.  
March 27, 1953

Dear Professor Wiener:

Just to tell you that Nina and I read your book as soon as we could find a copy in the bookstore, and that we found it a wise and moving document. Viel Glück!

Yours always,

(signed) Gerald Holton

c:hb

Jes R. Johnston, Jr.

ARCHITECT

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Providence Road  
Manetta, Isa. Rt 2  
March 27 - 1953

Dr. Herbert Weiner,  
M. D.  
Cambridge, Mass.  
Dear Sir:

As a girl of 14 in 1887,  
I attended H. S. in L. C., Mo., where  
your father taught Latin and  
Greek. I met him casually 2 or  
3 times in a book store owned  
by my father. At that time he  
might have been 25. He looked  
very young, but was known as  
a "tough" professor, and I was  
glad he was not my Latin  
teacher. I also, remember in  
an argument in his class, one

of his students, a girl about 15  
threw a book 'at him' and the  
consternation it caused through  
out the school.

When you entered Harvard, I  
lived in Brooklyn, N.Y., and  
read an article about you  
in N.Y. paper.

Last summer I was in Boston  
with a 6 year old grand  
daughter, visiting Marlborough  
Sudbury, and other places where  
my Maynard forebears settled  
in 1638. I thought of you then,  
and wished I could see you.

My grand daughter has a better  
mind than most children her age,  
has already traveled with me in  
36 states, as well as Alaska and  
British Columbia. She is beautiful as  
well as bright, at home in the quiet  
hotels. We stayed at Sheraton Plaza in  
Boston.

Thought you might be interested  
to know some one who knew your father  
is still living. Very truly,  
Blanche M. Johnston  
Line 80.  
[MS 7/1/53]

René LARQUIER  
105, rue Perronet  
NEUILLY s/Seine (Seine)

Paris, le 27 Mars 1953

Professeur N. WIENER  
M. I. T.  
CAMBRIDGE 39  
Massachusetts.

Cher Professeur,

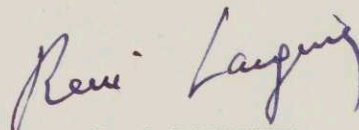
Vous ne devez plus vous souvenir de moi étant donné que je ne vous ai rencontré qu'une seule fois en 1946. J'étais venu vous voir à cette date de la part du Professeur LEVY tandis que je faisais un Master en Electronique à HARVARD.

Je me permets néanmoins de vous écrire pour vous recommander un jeune Ingénieur français, Monsieur LIENARD, qui a la particularité très intéressante de faire sa carrière dans l'industrie textile et en même temps de se spécialiser de manière très approfondie en statistiques.

Je sais combien vous vous intéressez à la pénétration des moyens et méthodes mathématiques à toutes les branches des mathématiques, et j'espère donc qu'il vous sera possible de consacrer quelques instants à Monsieur LIENARD pour le mettre en contact avec les personnes les plus susceptibles d'avoir avec lui des échanges de vues instructifs.

Je m'excuse de vous déranger ainsi,

Et vous présente, cher Professeur, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus respectueux.

  
René LARGUIER.

[ans 4/19/1953]

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, NEW YORK 53, N.Y.

DEPARTMENT OF  
INDUSTRIAL AND MANAGEMENT ENGINEERING

March 27, 1953

TELEPHONE: LUDLOW 4-0700

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

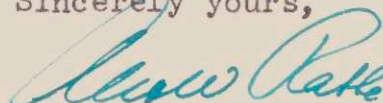
Dear Dr. Wiener:

I feel very flattered that you are passing  
on those two letters to me, which I shall be very  
glad to take care of.

Both Mrs. Rathe and I are looking forward  
to the TV presentation tonight of "Ex-Prodigy" and  
we hope that the presentation may include you in  
person.

With kind regards, also to Miss Wiener,

Sincerely yours,



Alex W. Rathe

AWR/DA

First Presbyterian Church

NEVADA AND CEDAR  
SEYMOUR, TEXAS

REV. CLARENCE LEVI SHELBY, M.A., D.D., PASTOR  
THE MANSE 409 NORTH CEDAR -- TELEPHONE 112-W

March 27, 1933

Dr. Robert Wilner,  
New York

Dear Doctor:-

I am exceedingly interested  
in obtaining a copy of your  
new book "Ex-Prodigy: my  
Childhood and youth"

On account of sickness, and  
other misfortunes, I am  
serving here on an  
income too small to  
provide anything for  
the purchase of books —  
(Over)



YALE UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY  
333 CEDAR STREET  
NEW HAVEN · CONNECTICUT

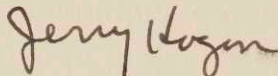
March 28, 1953

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

Dear Dr. Wiener;

I should like to thank you very much for speaking to our colloquium. We feel quite honored that you found time in your schedule to visit us and we wish you much success with your autobiography.

Sincerely yours,



Jerry Kagan



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS — MEDICAL BRANCH  
GALVESTON

THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
THE SCHOOL OF NURSING  
THE TECHNICAL CURRICULA  
THE POST-GRADUATE PROGRAM

THE JOHN SEALY HOSPITAL  
THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
THE PSYCHOPATHIC HOSPITAL  
THE STEWART CONVALESCENT HOME

March 28, 1953

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Doctor Wiener:

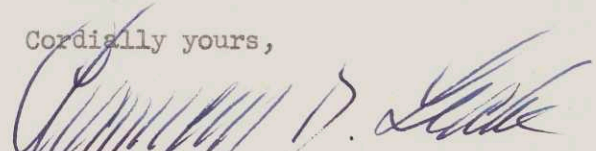
What a joy it must be to you to have the thrill of the first volume of your autobiography before the public! It is certainly getting some top reviews! We are particularly interested in the fine review in the Saturday Review. This is a most sympathetic appreciation of all that you have done and of all that you stand for.

We remember with great interest our pleasant visit with you in Mexico City a year or so ago. You were then working on the proof of your autobiography, and you gave me the opportunity to read some of it with you. You remember how impressed I was with your objectivity.

Your friends everywhere rejoice at the great example that you have given of vigorous enthusiastic intellectual living. You certainly have added enormously to our understanding and control of our environment. And in that connection of ourselves also.

We hope that your interest and curiosity about the way in which the human body and brain operates will continue. We all join in wishing you every increased happiness and satisfaction, and for your family also.

Cordially yours,



Chauncey D. Leake  
Director

CDL/mjs

cc: Dr. I. Costero  
Dr. Arturo Rosenblueth

[ans 7/1/52]

46 Pleasant St.  
Ayer, Mass -

March 29, 1953 -

Dear Norbert -

I have been reading  
the reviews of your book with  
much interest. I also saw  
you on Television, when  
summoned by my neighbor.  
I congratulate you. We are  
all proud to think we knew  
you so well when you were a  
child in years. I look  
forward to seeing you

complete book. I suppose it  
can be obtained at any  
book store.

I trust you and yours are  
well - Barbara I know is married -  
what about the other daughter?  
I had a card from your mother  
at Christmas, I am sure.

I miss my school teaching  
but manage to find other  
things to interest me.

Please drop me a card  
to let us know you still  
remember us.

With best wishes -

Laura S. Leavitt.

[ano 7/1/53]

TENSION ENVELOPE CORPORATION

19<sup>TH</sup> & CAMPBELL STS.

KANSAS CITY 8, MO.

WALTER J. BERKOWITZ  
TREASURER

March 30, 1953

Professor Norbert Wiener  
53 Cedar Road  
Belmont, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

I listened to you with a great deal of interest when you appeared on television, on the Dave Garroway program "Today", telling about your new book.

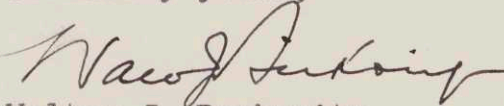
I have known of you for many years because I was in Harvard at the time you were in Tufts and also taking your Ph.D. at Harvard which you received in 1913. In my class was another prodigy named Sidis, who died some years ago. Also in the Class of 1913 was another prodigy, Adolphus A. Berle Jr., whom I knew in college.

My parents knew your parents when you lived in Kansas City, and I knew the famous story of your father selling peanuts on the streets before Professor E. C. White, Principal of Central High School, discovered him and hired him as a language professor.

This was all brought back forcibly to me when in the Kansas City Star's Forty Years Ago Column for the files of March 7 and 8, 1913, there appeared this enclosed article about your receiving your Ph.D. at the age of eighteen.

I thought you would like to have this clipping so I am sending it to you.

Cordially yours,



Walter J. Berkowitz

*Factories*

NEW YORK  
◦  
ST. LOUIS  
◦  
MINNEAPOLIS  
◦  
DES MOINES  
◦  
KANSAS CITY  
◦

WJB/mr

[ans 7/1/53]

230 Central Park South

New York 19, N. Y.

Dear Norbert Wiener, -

You are just about my  
favorite guest, with a cold or  
without. Thank you for being so  
delightful and do take care of  
yourself.

Sincerely  
Mam Margaret McBride

NEW YORK N.Y.  
MAR 28  
2-AM  
1953



Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Boston, Massachusetts

## FORTY YEARS AGO IN KANSAS CITY

From the Files of March 7 and 8, 1913.

Judge Thomas of the circuit court yesterday cited twelve men for contempt in failure to appear on jury summonses.

Fifteen restaurant keepers were in the northside municipal court for serving "thin" milk. Their excuse was that the milk came to them in large cans, the fat rose to the top and after the first few servings the milk lost most of the fat. They were released on promise to serve milk in bottles.

Charges were made yesterday in the Hyde murder case that a juror in one of the former Hyde trials had offered a deputy marshal a bribe to fix the jury. He offered \$1,500 for acquittal and \$1,000 for a hung jury. A second appointment was made with the

briber and Floyd Jacobs and stenographer waited hours on two nights to trap him but he did not return. The matter was reported to Judge E. E. Porterfield. No arrests have been made.

Judge Ralph S. Latshaw had his regular parole day today in criminal court. One man who had been on parole was offered full freedom but he asked that he be required to continue under the influence of the court. Since Judge Latshaw has been on the criminal court bench since December 12, 1908, he has paroled more than one thousand men and of that number only about a dozen paroles have been revoked.

Norbert Wiener, a former Kansas City boy, now 18 years old, has received his Ph. D. degree at Harvard university. His father is instructor of Slavic languages in Harvard. Once while stranded in Kansas City the father sold peanuts on the streets and was discovered by the late Prof. E. C. White, principal of Central high school. He was hired as language professor at Central.

A 5-story brick warehouse owned by the J. I. Case Threshing Machine company, has been sold to the Gustin-Bacon company for \$40,000. It is at the northeast corner of Eleventh and Liberty streets.

Bank clearings for the week were \$57,494,000.

Next week at the theaters: Shubert, "Everywoman" with Adele Blood, Katherine Keringan and Eugene Ormonde; Grand, "Kindling" with Sarah Padden; Orpheum, "The Road Show"; Garden, vaudeville; Century, burlesque; Gillis, "The Black Patti" company; Gayety, burlesque; Empress, vaudeville; Globe, vaudeville.

... 173 bays, carpeting, beautiful condition throughout. Whitton (VA. 555 evenings). Brisbois, Realtors. DE. 7777.

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Prof. Dr. Norbert Wiener,  
c/o Massachusetts Institute  
of Technology, Mathematics Dept.,  
77 Massachusetts Avenue,  
CAMBRIDGE, Mass. U.S.A.

Dear Professor and dear Mrs. Wiener,

With great interest I saw from the latest TIME Magazine issue that the book of which I read the manuscript in TAXCO has now been published and indeed, according to the critics, should be a great and satisfying success to you, entirely apart from the financial return which of course are also extremely welcome.

I cannot tell you how pleased and happy I am that all this went well and that the pains of labour through which you as well as some of your friends went connected with the birth of this book have all been topped off with the successful publication and, of which I am also sure, with successful sales.

I have immediately ordered a book through our local book store here, for several reasons. Once I would like to have it, and secondly on your next visit I want you to write me a very nice and friendly dedication in my own copy, which I am sure you will ~~gladly~~ do as soon as you come to MEXICO again.

From us there is very little to say; PETER, our oldest, got married and has a nice job with the American Smelting & Refining up in MONTERREY. TOMMY, the second one, is still working with us here in our little business but is almost at the point of going to EUROPE, that is to say we have reserved space for him on the 7th May and he will remain in GERMANY, AUSTRIA and SWITZERLAND for approximately one year, in order to learn a great deal about Steels, and learn the language as well.

The rest of the smaller kids are well and so is Cecile, and everybody sends his very best regards to all of the Wieners, and with very special thanks for the friendly and nice Christmas Card which we received from you, we all hope to see you soon again here in MEXICO and, as we hope, with sufficient leisure on your hand so that we can again make a short ~~sight~~ *side*-trip, if not to TAXCO then possibly to some other place. CECILE always wants to go to OAXACA where we have never been together, and maybe that could be combined with one of your trips. With kindest and sincere regards from all of us to the whole Wiener family,

sincerely yours

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march 30, 1953

Lieber Professor! -

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würden. - y muy agradecida  
por todos sus molestias, con  
valudos afectuosos

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March 30, 1953

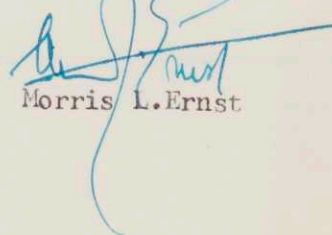
Prof. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Prof. Wiener:

As you know, I enjoyed your talk on the Barry Gray program. In fact, I enjoyed it so much that I immediately bought a copy of your book which I have read with great interest. Incidentally, our office represented the New Yorker, and if you are interested you may find comment on the case in a book which I wrote called SO FAR SO GOOD.

Also you might be interested in getting a look at REPORT ON THE AMERICAN COMMUNIST, a book I wrote with David Loth, which may give you some new approaches to the problem which you previously discussed with me.

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris L. Ernst

[enc 4/2/53]

CHARLES GOODMAN, D. D. S.

11 WEST 42<sup>ND</sup> STREET  
NEW YORK 18

PENNSYLVANIA 6-2526

March 30, 1953

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
7/2 Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener,

My congratulations to you on the birth of the new "baby" book. I now know what suffering it is until the labor pains finally arrive. I am sure that the world is, and will be a better place, as a result of your many valuable scientific researches.

Most of the Sherlockians, like Edgar Smith of General Motors, Elmer Davis, and others find it very relaxing to delve into the Canon, to return greatly refreshed. Thank God for Christs Irregular Guide--no more oil burning research.

I would like to read your latest literary brain child, but I neither know its name or the publisher. After reading it I may never again have the courage to trouble you for a Sherlockean essay as I may feel that the time lost in doing such a piece may deprive the world of getting more of your other literary products.

Sincerely yours,

  
Charles Goodman



# electronics

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March 30, 1953

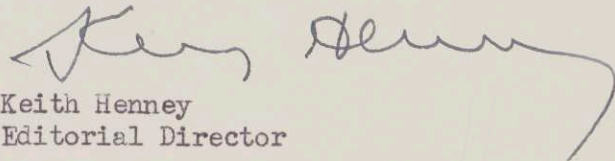
Professor Norbert Wiener  
Department of Mathematics  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

I want to thank you for your essay and review of Ashby's book. Surely it is not a conventional book review; and for that very reason doubly enjoyable.

I also note your mentioning the rock construction of Utah. Since I have just returned from Las Vegas and Yucca Flats after a few days in the red rock country of Arizona, I have some idea of what you mean. If you like this kind of natural wonders, and get to Arizona, I strongly urge you to see the Oak Creek canyon region around Sedona. The difference between it and the Grand Canyon is that you can touch Oak Creek canyon, it is nearby and you are on the same level with it. It is extraordinary country.

Sincerely,



Keith Henney  
Editorial Director

kh/mj

YALE UNIVERSITY · SCHOOL OF THE FINE ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE  
NEW HAVEN · CONNECTICUT

March 30, 1953

Professor Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

The students of the Department of Architecture have expressed the hope that they might have the privilege of hearing a lecture from you on Cybernetics. This could be during the afternoon or evening of Tuesday, May 12. We can offer an honorarium of one hundred dollars (\$100), inclusive of expenses.

Hoping that we will have the pleasure of this lecture.

Yours sincerely,

*Carroll L. V. Meeks*  
Carroll L. V. Meeks *J.P.S.*  
Associate Chairman

CLVM/jpb

*2 and 4/2/53]*

ALEX W. RATHE

March 30, 1953

Mrs. George Baldwin  
Secretary to Professor Wiener  
Department of Mathematics  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Baldwin:

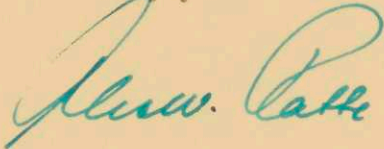
On March 25, Professor Wiener asked me by letter to answer two inquiries he had received - one from Mr. Geoffrey Ashe in Windsor, Ontario, and a second one from Mr. S. R. Ovshinsky, 19935 Forrer Avenue, Detroit 35, Michigan. While his letter included the pertinent correspondence with Mr. Ashe, it did not have anything attached concerning Mr. Ovshinsky except a copy of his reply in which he referred him to me.

I wonder whether I might trouble you with the request for Mr. Ovshinsky's <sup>more</sup> original letter (or a copy of it) so that I can answer him <sup>more</sup> intelligently.

Thanks so much for your help.

Kind regards.

Sincerely yours



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{ans 4/2/53}

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March 30, 1953

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

Dear Norbert:

I have not heard from you for a long time. I trust that everything has been going well with you. I have not written myself because I felt ashamed not to have done anything about our pending paper. I got thoroughly tied up with the problem of saltatory propagation of nerve impulses in myelinated fibers and it turned out to be a very complex job. I am through with that, however, and am planning to get started on the paper immediately.

I received your book, which was sent to me by the publishers. Both Virginia and I enjoyed thoroughly and were very glad to see it come out.

I sent you today a few publications that arrived here for you. I hope that you will receive them duly.

It is likely that I shall go to the International Congress of Physiology in Montreal in August. If I do, I will try to look you up. What are your plans for the summer?

With my bests regards to all your family I remain, as ever,

Cordially,

Dr. Arturo Rosenblueth

AR/gh





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March 30, 1953

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I enclose the Herald Tribune review that appeared this morning. It is exceptionally good and should help sell more books.

If your appearance on Barry Gray's show does not ring the bell with quite a few sales to his devoted followers, I'll be very much surprised and disappointed. Schuster has just told me he stayed up way beyond his usual hour to hear you, and his reaction was precisely the same as Roz's and mine - magnificent!

We are all proud of the real trouper we have uncovered on our list of authors and want to thank you once more for the perfect cooperation you have given us.

With cordial greetings,

*Henry Simon*

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
MIT  
Cambridge, Mass.

hws:lf  
enc.

[ans 4/2/53]

# BOOKS AND THINGS

By JOHN K. HUTCHENS

*EX-PRODIGY.* By Norbert Wiener. Simon & Schuster. 309 pages. \$3.95.

EVER since he was graduated from Tufts College at the age of fourteen, a few years after he stopped believing in Santa Claus, people have been asking Norbert Wiener what it was like to be an infant prodigy, and now he has decided to tell them and get rid of those questions for good and all. It was pretty rough, he says in this brisk and candid account.

## Two People

The sometime *Wunderkind*, about whom there used to be full-page Sunday supplement stories

billing him as "The Most Wonderful Boy in the World," is now fifty-eight, professor of mathematics these thirty-three years at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, developer of the science he calls "cybernetics," a stocky, forthright man who looks back with astonishing objectivity at the boy he was. It is as if that boy were another person, and, in a sense, he was. As a matter of fact, the youngest member of the class of 1909 at Tufts was two persons, an adult (intellectually) but a child (socially), and in the conflict there was pain.

Where other prodigies have been destroyed by that dichotomy, Dr. Wiener survived, but clearly it took some doing. It took, chiefly, a rugged constitution, the will to accept discipline, the courage to endure some bitter failures, not a few of them related to a general tendency to look askance at any prodigy once the glamour and publicity wear off. There is, after all, something slightly terrifying about a boy who gets his Ph. D. at eighteen, at Harvard or anywhere else. Sensing his isolation, the prodigy in turn distrusts the world around him, and there you have the makings of a nasty situation.

He was well along in high school in Ayer, Mass., says Dr. Wiener, before he suspected anything unusual about himself, but his father was aware of it early. The elder Wiener, an internationally known philologist, professor of Russian at Harvard, drilled him unmercifully in languages and mathematics, salting this instruction with relentless invective and sarcasm, all of which left the



Norbert Wiener

son with a still lingering bitterness over his father's intellectual tyranny and gratitude for the discipline he instilled.

## But Only One Head

Unlike the public concept of the infant prodigy as a double-domed little monster, this one was a sturdy lad who got along with his playmates, swam and sailed, fell in love, and even had an unpromising trait or two: he was still counting on his fingers long after his classmates had ceased to. If he was reading Cicero at nine, little Norbert (a name foisted on him by his father out of Browning's "On a Balcony") was also devouring "Black Beauty." He was brilliant, all right, but reasonably happy.

He read so much, indeed, that by eight he had overstrained his eyes and had to stop for six months, during which interlude he got his training by ear—a fortunate circumstance, as it proved, since it taught him to do his mathematics in his head and to think of languages as they are spoken, very helpful when it came to learning Chinese. Not that everything went imperturbably. In "Ex-Prodigy" are scars of old wounds picked up along the way.

At Tufts, though he was graduated cum laude in three years, he missed Phi Beta Kappa (again, that suspicion of the unpredictable prodigy); he has disliked honorary societies ever since. Almost incredibly, he knew for the first time, at about sixteen, that he was Jewish, and while he now understands that his parents were trying to protect him while young from the consciousness of belonging to an oppressed group in that more anti-Semitic day, the shock added fearfully to a prodigy's insecurity. And when the prodigy came home after a rewarding year of study abroad under Bertrand Russell and others, it was to find only minor jobs until he arrived at M. I. T. to stay.

## The Score Is Even

Was it all worth while? Toting up the score, Dr. Wiener thinks things have come out pretty evenly. He seems still to feel the social pains of his youth, but doesn't see that his early start cut down the productivity of his later years. On the contrary, the early start let him dip into many fields before settling down in one or two of them. And even his failures taught him something he could not have learned from steady success.

Anyhow, here was one prodigy who didn't burn out. Another was his fourteen-year-old fellow student, A. A. Berle, who formally called on him at Harvard, with visiting card and kid gloves, even then headed for the diplomatic life. Their acquaintanceship was brief. Prodigies definitely are not of a type, Dr. Wiener demonstrates in this interesting memoir. But however they may differ, they had better be able to take it.

## City Center Opera

### 'La Boheme' and 'Aida' Given; Three Make N. Y. Debuts

Puccini's "La Bohème" and Verdi's "Aida" had their first performances of the New York City Opera Company's spring season Saturday night and yesterday afternoon in the City Center.

The Puccini opera, with Frances Yeend as Mimi and Rudolf Petrak as Rodolfo, brought the local debuts of two young American artists, Jean Fenn as Musetta and Norman Treigle as Colline. Miss Fenn, who has been singing in light opera in California, gave an interpretation marked by spirit and positive personality; her voice, while not avoiding the hardness of timbre which seems customary for Musetta in her second act aria, had volume and color. Mr. Treigle, from New Orleans, gave an auspicious performance.

Miss Yeend, Mr. Petrak and Richard Torigi, the Marcello of the evening, sang expressively. Arthur Newman as Schaunard, Richard Wentworth, Emile Renan and Michael Pollock completed the cast with Thomas Martin conducting.

Giuseppe Vertechi, Italian tenor, made his debut here as Radames in the Verdi matinee. An experienced singer, he displayed a voice of considerable power and expressive capacity along with some hardness of tone; his acting was effective along traditional lines. Leone Scheunemann, with a voice which gained in clearness as the opera progressed, was a sympathetic Aida; Frances Bible's Amneris was well characterized, and Lawrence Winters sang with vigor as Amonasro. Robert Anderson as Ramfis, Gean Greenwell as the King and Edith Evans and Michael Pollock in other roles completed the cast under Joseph Rosenstock's conductorship.

F. D. P.

### Don Giovanni

The New York City Opera Company gave Mozart's "Don Giovanni" at City Center last night. Leslie Chabay made his debut singing Don Octavio and Anne McKnight, a regular member, gave her first Donna Elvira.

Mr. Chabay's musicianship is, of course, impeccable. Each tone, last night, was colored and placed exactly where it belonged. Don Octavio, as a role, does not give the lively stageman-

## Going On in New York

### Women's City Club to Hear 4 Assemblymen Tomorrow

Assemblymen Leonard Farbstein, Herman Katz, Irving Kirschbaum and Samuel Roman will be speakers on an "Albany Accounting—1953" program at a luncheon meeting of the Women's City Club of New York at its headquarters, 646 Park Ave., at 12:30 tomorrow.

### Wheel-Chair Basketball Tourney To Be Mapped

The 52 Association of New York and the Eastern Wheelchair Basketball Association will hold an executive luncheon meeting at the Hotel Capitol Wednesday to complete plans for the fifth national wheel-chair basketball tournament to be held at the Armory, Columbus Ave. and 62d St., April 17, 18, and 19.

### India League Will Honor George V. Allen Wednesday

The India League of America will honor George V. Allen, American Ambassador-designate to India, at a luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria at 1 p. m. Wednesday. Speakers will include G. L. Mehta, Indian Ambassador to the United States, and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

### Szell to Stay at Cleveland

CLEVELAND, March 29.—George Szell will continue as music director and conductor of the Cleveland Orchestra next season, its thirty-sixth, which will run from Oct. 8, 1953, into April 1954. Ernest Ansermet, Eleazar de Carvalho and Leopold Stokowski will be guest conductors. Mr. Szell, in his eighth consecutive season as head of this orchestra, will conduct in eighteen of the twenty-four pairs of regular symphony concerts in Cleveland, and also on tour.

### P.-T. A. of P. S. 68 Will Meet Wednesday

The Parent-Teachers Association of Public School 68 will hold a meeting at the school, Strang and Monticello Aves., the Bronx, Wednesday night. The program will include nomination of officers.

### Free Sons of Israel To Hold Initiation

The Mount Horeb Lodge 61, Free Sons of Israel, will hold a ritual initiation at the Free Sons Building, 257 W. 93rd St., at 8:30 p. m. Wednesday.

### Ad Men's Legion Post To Hear Insurance Leader

Benjamin N. Woodson, managing director, National Associa-



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March 30, 1953

Dear Doctor Wiener:

In reading a report, (one could hardly call it a review), of your book, "Ex-Prodigy, My Childhood And Youth", in the current issue of Time Magazine, I was suddenly struck with the thought that we might possibly be long lost relatives. I don't know if this is of any interest to you, as a matter of fact it sounds suspiciously like a "crank letter" to me, but inasmuch as it is interesting to me I will continue to relate the incidents which lead to my hunch.

My mothers' maiden name was Wiener, and she was born in Bialystok, as was your father Leo.

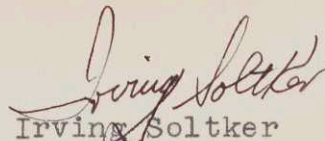
From a rather vague memory of the stories Mother tells, it seems as if her father Leib Zelleck Wiener migrated to America early this century with the intention of establishing a home here for his family. He lived on the East Coast with a brother, or other relative, who was in education, or some related field, for approximately one year. However, it seems as if he could not adjust to the pagan customs practised in this country, working on the Sabbath, etc., and he moved back to Bialystok, where he died during the Pogroms.

From cousins in Mexico there come other stories of another member of the Wiener family who is alleged to be a rather renowned physicist in Mexico.

I also believe that there is a story that my Mothers' grandfather, paternal, was a talented Wood Carver, and that at one time this simple man was commissioned by the Czar to carve items for one of the palaces. This commission so unnerved this simple man, that shortly after completing the commission he suffered a bad mental breakdown, and died as a result of it.

In reading this back it all seems, and sounds, rather silly, and foolish. However, if any of it strikes a responsive chord, and you are interested, I am sure that I can gather more background material from my Mother, and Aunt, both of whom live in Chicago.

With my kindest regards,

  
Irving Soltker

[and 4/7/53]

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NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

March 31st, 1953.

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Address your reply to  
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600 West 144th Street,  
New Yprk City, 31, N.Y.

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Because of its highly confidential character, I am writing this communication myself. I do NOT know how to operate a typewriter very well so will you please excuse mistakes.

The writer has been in scientific work for over sixty years. My mind is entirely FACTUAL in every respect. I have been working on explosives many years, and have after a long experience finally worked out a BOMB that has great promise. This bomb is a combination of HYDROGEN and OXYGEN by WEIGHT. Nothing new about these gases BUT the way they are associated is another matter entirely.

The mathematics of the LAW of expansion of Gases does NOT apply to the results that I get from the bomb explosion. It takes little oxygen to activate hydrogen, as you already know. So I make a combination of TWO parts hydrogen, and ONE part of Oxygen under GREAT pressure and EXTREME cold. The purpose of low temperature is to SLOW up Atomic and molecular activity, thus preventing premature explosion.

These gases are HYDRATED and kept free from METAL contamination. Hydrogen is highly activated when coming into contact with a metal. I at least have found that out.

I associate these gases under tremendous pressure up to and beyond 150,000 Psi. These bombs are LINED with an inactive resin which does NOT contaminate the hydrogen and oxygen. These gases MUST BE as pure as possible to get the kind of reaction wanted. It is plain that a complete combustion leaves NO residue. I am sure if the Atomic and Hydrogen bomb could be completely consumed it would cause a much better reaction than so far accomplished.

In my bomb I get a COMPLETE EXPLOSION. That is shown by no residue whatever. The heat is intense, and cumulative to a high degree so much so that it cannot be measured by any instruments so far made. The activity of the two gases under great pressure is enormous. It seems that when the explosion takes place the activity of the particles increases rapidly. This activity of course generates heat in a cumulative degree. The heat generated also INCREASES the activity of the particles. This give and take will of course reach such proportions as to stagger the imagination and can easily reach the FOURTH power and further. It follows also that when the explosion takes place

the HURRICAN EFFECT is prodigious. Pardon me for using ajectives BUT in a case like this we are compelled to do so.

The powder chamber of a NAVAL gun is subjected to a pressure of 100,000 lbs psi. This limit is kept to keep the crystallization of the metal. Now the pressure in the bomb BEFORE the explosion takes place and under normal atmosphere pressure and a temperature of about 70 degrees is about or near 800,000 pbs per square inch. This takes a casing of about 10 to 12 inches wall. As far as I know this pressure under explosive effect will hurl pieces of metal about thirty to forty miles. It is easy to see the tremendous effect of the explosion.

The mathematics of this bomb explosion is entirely BEYOND my mental capacity so I am asking you can you help me? In your solving the matter will you please explain the phenomena in VERY plain language so the AVERAGE layman can make head and tail of it. This is necessary because the explanation will be read by politicians and others of NOT advanced mathematics.

The ultimate SPEED of the explosion cannot be less than up to 700,000 feet per second and higher. The hurricane effect as it seems is such as to entirely DESTROY everything in its path. The vacuum caused a secondary hurricane effect because of the BACK WASH that will fill the vacuum, so you have TWO devastating effects.

In making these bombs IN THE RIGHT WAY, there is NO danger of a premature explosion. I have found it so in the many explosions I have made. These gases MUST be brought together SLOWLY to get complete mixture. If the association is hurried then you will get a premature explosion. It seems that the premature explosion that has taken place when these gases have been FORCED together has been caused by the ABRASIVE effect of the particles of the two gases. It is the same old story, of knowing what you are doing.

The set up of the component parts of the machinery necessary to produce the bomb is very simple indeed, and this machinery is already on the market. One thing about the, what I call "EXPLOSITE" bomb is the safety of handling and packaging. If a loaded bomb is exposed to heat, this heat must exceed 115 degrees Centigrade. The bomb has been subjected to all kinds of rough use such as may be used by incompetent labor, with no untoward effects whatever. Throwing the loaded bomb from a truck on concrete or stone surface DOES NOT cause any ill effects. In other words the bomb manufacture, and handling is entirely SAFE. It costs about 1,800 dollars to manufacture the bomb, when as a matter of fact the cost of the atomic and Hydrogen bombs amounts into the several millions for each of them.

Our country Dr. is in dire peril and threatened with destruction by enemies both within and without. As far as I am concerned, I have been made a target for these unholy and subversive interests. Can you help me and your country?

Sincerely yours,

*Dr. William W. Christmas*  
Dr. William W. Christmas.

***Educational Developments, Inc.***

4813 E. SENECA  
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March 31, 1953

Dr. Norbert Wiener

MASS. INST. TECHNOLOGY  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

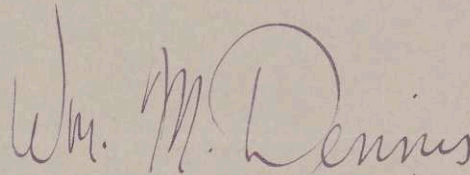
We have run across reference to your work in the stimulation of specific emotions by means of radiation.

Our source of information was not very specific.

Our interest in this lies in the possibility of stimulation of hormonal secretions associated with the variations of emotions.

We would be pleased to be directed to any literature giving description of the methods employed.

Yours truly,



William M. Dennis  
Executive Secretary

WMD:rd

[ans 9/7/53]



ok

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March 31, 1953

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411 Fifth Avenue  
New York 16, New York

Professor Norbert Wiener, Ph. D.  
Massachusetts Inst. of Technology  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I have just had the pleasure of speaking with you by telephone, and am taking advantage of your kind permission to write to you in reference to a time when you will find it convenient to discuss with Mr. Robert B. Wolf and myself the matter of electronic calculations applied to non-financial incentives in industry.

You will recall from our telephone conversation, the Research Division of The Society for Advancement of Management contemplates investigating the possibilities of this area.

It would be most gracious of you, and most advantageous to the Society, if your opinion could be had on this proposed research.

Whatever day and time suits your convenience would be perfectly acceptable. If I might suggest a day which would be most convenient for Mr. Wolf and myself, that day would be Monday, April 6th. Please, however, be guided by your own convenience. 2<sup>nd</sup> juv.

With many thanks, I am

Sincerely,

*Vincent Flynn*

Vincent A. Flynn, Ph. D.  
Research Director

VAF:mh

[ans 4/2/53]



Mr. and Mrs. W. Brooking Gex

419 North 10th St.

St. Joseph, Missouri

May 31, 1953

Mr. Weiner  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Weiner:

Your appearance on  
the Dave Garraway Television  
show was most interesting.  
In a psychology course  
I am taking in graduate  
school, we are studying  
exceptional children and  
I am especially interested  
in the educational  
program for the mentally  
gifted.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Brooking Gex  
419 North 10th St.  
St. Joseph, Missouri

I should like to know  
the price of your book  
"Ex Protege" and where  
I can get it. I should  
also appreciate very  
much any suggestions  
you might have on  
how the mentally gifted  
child can best be helped  
in our public schools.

Thank you,

Dolores Gex  
Edison School  
St. Joseph, Mo.

[ans 4/7/53]



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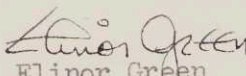
March 31, 1953

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I am told by the American Book Store in Mexico City that a Mr. W. P. Ehrenberg has written to you asking that you autograph a copy of EX-PRODIGY. I gather from their note that Mr. Ehrenberg is known to you. In any event we are sending you separately a copy of your book in two cartons so that when you've signed it you will be able to use the inner carton to mail it out again.

Because we have to bill the American Book Store I'd be grateful for a note from you when all the above has been effected.

Sincerely,

  
Elinor Green

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

eg/rr

[and 4/8/53]

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

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

March 31, 1953

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

I am writing to follow up the letter to you by Professor Philip P. Wiener of our department and your reply of November 3 of last year. At that time you indicated that you would be willing to consider giving weekly lectures at the City College in the Philosophy of Science in the Spring of 1954.

We should like to know whether it is possible for you at this time to give us some more definite indication of your availability. If so, we should like to discuss the matter with you in more detail.

We learned that you will be at the College on April 9 to give a lecture before the City College Chemistry Alumni Association. I shall be in the audience and would appreciate having the opportunity to have a few words with you after your talk, if that is possible.

In any case, the Department of Philosophy has asked me to reaffirm the invitation made by Professor Wiener and to express our hope that you will be able to be with us next year.

Cordially,

*Henry M. Magid*

Henry M. Magid  
Chairman *per HB*

HMM:HB

[*answ 4/2/53*]

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MURRAY HILL 9-7630

March 31, 1953

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Mrs. Matheson and I had the pleasure at breakfast the other morning of seeing and hearing you on Dave Garroway's television program. It was a delightful surprise.

You could not ask for a better way, I am sure, to launch your new book. The rumor around town is that "Ex-Protege" is already in a second large printing. We hope so. We here at Wiley's wish your new book every success

With best wishes and kind personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,

*Martin Matheson*

Martin Matheson

MM:id

[ans 7/1/53]

IL DIRETTORE

Roma, March 31, 1953

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

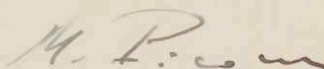
Dear Professor Wiener:

By the same post, I am sending you a package with 21 copies of a paper of mine, containing a speech which I gave last year in Wien and Graz, entitled: "On the mathematical work of the Italian Institute for the Application of Calculus during the first quarter century of its existence".

One of these copies is a present for you, as you will see in the dedication I wrote on it: as to the remaining 20, I would beg you to give them to those workers of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, either mathematicians, physicists or engineers, whom you think will in some way be interested in its contents.

With best thanks and wishes, I am

yours sincerely,



Mauro Picone



c/t

718 North 17th St  
Kansas City, Kansas  
March 31, 1953

My dear Doctor Wiener - I am  
enclosing a clipping from the "Forty  
Years Ago" Column of the Kansas City  
Times which I thought might of  
interest you.

Then, my husband and I were  
quite thrilled when we received our  
last Mrs. Time Magazine and saw  
your picture and a review of your  
book. We recalled our pleasant  
association on the "Biancamano"  
coming home from Italy, although  
we didn't travel much of the ship.

We hope that you and Mrs Wiener  
are enjoying good health. My  
husband sends his best regards.

Most Sordially  
Mrs W H Poland

[ans 7/1/53]

PENDLETON TOMPKINS, M. D.

450 SUTTER STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 8

YUKON 2-3350

San Francisco  
March 31, 1953

36 SOUTH EL CAMINO REAL

SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA

DIAMOND 4-2728

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

My dear Doctor Wiener:

Thank you so much for your letter of March 24th which so gracefully states my own feeling that life is simply too short for all the things one would like to do.

Perhaps you will have the kindness to put my idea in a bottle at the back of your mind and let it ferment. If it should turn into wine, we can have a drink together; I might even be able to fortify it in due time. But it may turn out to be vinegar after all.

I should be delighted to be your host if you come to the West Coast and I promise to call upon you when I am in Cambridge which happens about every 2 years.

Very sincerely yours,

*Pendleton Tompkins*



# COPY

March 31, 1953

Professor E.T. Bell, Department of Mathematics  
California Institute of Technology  
Pasadena, California

Dear Professor Bell:

Many thanks for your kind review in The Nation. I am swallowing all the nice pulp and spitting out the few seeds: that is, I think you take my attitude to my father to be more purely hostile and less ambivalent than it really was, and I think you tend to underrate the positive advantages my training gave me. On the other hand, what you say about my individual mathematical style has made me blush all over--so much that I think that observers on other planets may mistake me for a red dwarf star.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

COPY

March 31, 1953

Mr. James S. Best  
Harper and Brothers  
49 East 33rd Street  
New York 16, New York

Dear Mr. Best:

The Hierarchy of Heaven and Earth by D.E. Harding strikes me not so much as an elucidation of the relation of science to religion but a religious out pouring like a somewhat philosophical "Rime of the Ancient Mariner." Without any doubt, such spiritual exercises have their use in this confused world, but with just as little doubt they serve as exercises rather than as solutions of problems. With due respect to the true function of the book, it does not seem to me the sort of thing that I, as a working scientist with humanistic interests, can either use properly or evaluate properly.

Thank you for sending the book to me for an opinion. With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

COPY

March 31, 1953

Mr. Waldo Frank  
Truro, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Frank:

Many thanks for your kind letter of the 25th. I hope you won't take it amiss if I send it to my publishers, who will naturally be as gratified as I am for your good opinion.

Meanwhile, my wife and I hope to see you sometime when your family health situation is better.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

# COPY

March 31, 1953

Mr. John P. Marquand  
Newburyport  
Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Marquand:

I want to thank you very much for your fair and complimentary account of my autobiography in the publication of the Book-of-the-Month Club. I am not at all depressed by the fact that the book failed to make the Club, but I am heartened by the fact that an authority on New England antiquities, live and dead, should find that my book contains something of interest.

I hope that in the future we may find an opportunity to discuss the book and other matters of interest to us both.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

[ans 5/5/53]

# COPY

March 31, 1953

Mr. F.V. Morley  
Eyre and Spottiswoode  
15 Bedford Street  
Strand  
London, W.C. 2

Dear Mr. Morley:

Many thanks for your successful efforts in behalf of my book, even though they were not successful with your own firm. We have not given up the possibility of doing something with the English market: Perhaps you have nursed a competitor to your bosom.

Thanks also for the puff you gave Cybernetics in your detective story, Death on Swelly Lane. I don't think any murders have yet been committed by a cybernetician, but I wouldn't put it beyond us.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

# COPY

March 31, 1953

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

Dear Mr. Simon:

I had a delightful time on my publicity visit to New York and wish to thank all you people for your consideration and helpfulness. I hope this message gets particularly to the young people who took me in tow to the various broadcasting places.

I am sending you such mail as seems to me to be of real interest and which has not already come to your notice. The Boston Globe has come across, and the prospects that the book will do well seem good. I think you should be sure to ask the permission of the people who wrote these letters before you use them in any way.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

hb

p.s. I have no record of the people to whom you sent complimentary copies of the book. If you have a list available, I should like to have a copy. I mean by this a list of those to whom you sent complimentary copies at my suggestion.