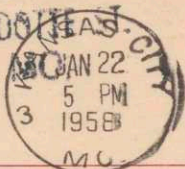


241

CORRESPONDENCE Jan 22-31, 1958

N. WIENER MC 22

F. E. BREDOUW
WE. 7996 — 2931 WYANDOTTE ST.
KANSAS CITY 8, MO.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Professor Herbert Wiener,
Dept. of Mathematics,
Mass. Institute of Technology
Boston - Mass.

More than a year ago I sent you a
log. scale design, with return
postage, for your inspection.

If you still have it, will you
please return, to save me the work
of completing another?

~~Thanking you~~
^{Reply}

Prof. H. was on a trip abroad at the
time you sent the log-scale design.
He has since returned and an attempt
will be made to locate it and send it
back to you.

F. E. BREDOUW

WE. 7996 — 2331 WYANDOTTE ST.
KANSAS CITY 8, MO.

sec 8 D. X



795 BOYLSTON STREET · BOSTON 16, MASSACHUSETTS

January 22, 1958

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Sincere thanks for your fine speech of last evening before the New England Chapter, American Material Handling Society.

Yours was the most thought-provoking talk our Chapter has had in many years. We're honored that you were able to join us.

Kindest personal regards.

Respectfully,

FPD/rk

Frank P. Dean
Assistant Editor
(Public Relations Chairman,
New England Chapter, AMHS)

Henry Kahane
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

1/22/58

Dear Professor Wiener:

We are including an article with a first, and somewhat hesitant, attempt to reduce our verbal system to a succinct formula. This may be of interest to people working with the problem of mechanical translation.

In addition we are including the reprint of an old article of ours in which we had the pleasure of disagreeing with your father. We had often wondered about this original, unorthodox, and instinctive etymologist and were delighted to learn more about him from your memoirs.

With our best regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Henry and Renée Kahane

Henry and Renée Kahane

[ans 1/30/58]

114 N. Fourth Ave.
Highland Park, N.J.
January 22, 1958

Dear Prof. Wiener:

Enclosed is a short paper I have written on inequalities. I have written several others on inequalities which have been accepted for FUTURE publication.

I am planning eventually to write a book on inequalities.

I have applied for a position as instructor at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., (Prof. E.P. Starke, chairman of mathematics).

If my paper shows promise, could you please write him on my behalf.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Respectfully,

A. B. Soble
A.B. Soble.

P.S.

You mention Barnett and Szasz in your two-volume autobiography. I was a student of both.

ad

[ms 1/31/58]

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Airmail

From P. Masani _____

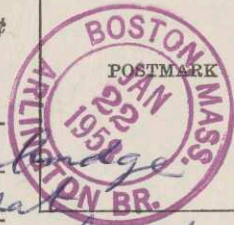
Dept of mat. Mass Inst of Tec. Cambridge _____

Addressed to Mr. B. Ulin _____

Tradgardsgatan 18 Uppkala Sweden. _____

(Address)

(Accepting employee)



GPO c9-16-12666-8

January 22, 1958

Mr. B. Ulin
Department of Mathematics
Tradgardsgaten 18
Uppsala
SWEDEN

Dear Mr. Ulin:

Herewith are revised ¹⁰copies of Part II of our paper on "The Prediction Theory of Multivariate Stochastic Processes". We are sorry for the delay in returning this, and hope it can still appear in your next number.

Would you kindly complete the reference to the forthcoming paper in Acta Mathematica of Helson and Lowdenslager made in a footnote on Page 2. Also kindly note that the references at the end of the paper should be as in the manuscript sent to you earlier, which is already in your possession.

A note from Professor Carleson is attached.

Sincerely yours,

P. Masani
Norbert Wiener

PM:AD
Enc.

[see 3/31/58]



benson-lehner corporation

applied cybernetics

23 January 1958

Professor Norbert Weiner
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Weiner:

Mr. Charles F. Johnson, the Editor of AMERICAN BUSINESS Magazine, has mentioned to me that I would be "literally thrilled" by an address which you gave at Wabash College last fall. Unfortunately, Mr. Johnson gave me no further information on this address, but I would very much like to see it.

If this brief note gives you enough information as to which paper of yours he is referring, I would appreciate your sending me a copy of it.

Sincerely yours,

BENSON-LEHNER CORPORATION

Bernard S. Benson (LB)

Bernard S. Benson
President

BSB/lb

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COTTON CONTENT

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[ma 1/31/58]

" SCIENTIA "

Rivista internazionale di sintesi scientifica
Revue internationale de synthèse scientifique
International Review of scientific synthesis
Internat. Zeitschrift für wissenschaftliche Synthese
Revista internacional de síntesis científica

Via Roncaglia, 4 - ASSO
(Como)

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ATLAS PUBL. & DISTR. Co. Ltd, London

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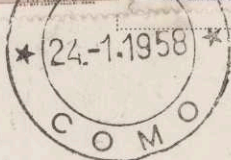
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En cas d'insuffisance d'adresse prière de renvoyer à
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CARTOLINA POST



PROF. NORBERT WIENER

Massachusetts Institute
of Technology

CAMBRIDGE - 39

(Mass., U.S.A.)

"SCIENTIA,,

Asso, 23 Janvier 1958

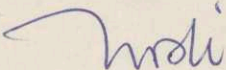
Via Roncaglia, 4 - ASSO (Como)

Monsieur,

nous avons l'honneur de vous accuser réception de l'article que vous nous avez envoyé et que nous avons passé aujourd'hui même à la Direction.

Nous vous prions d'agréer, Monsieur, nos plus vifs remerciements et l'expression de nos sentiments les plus distingués.

"SCIENTIA,,

LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL


(Trosti)

SP.



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

Vanderbilt Hall 240
Boston, Mass.
Jan. 24, 1958

Dear Dr. Wiener:

This is in reference to our telephone conversation of yesterday evening. At that time, I hopefully extended you an invitation in behalf of the Lancet Club of Harvard Medical students to be our dinner-speaker guest on Monday, February 3--- a proposal in which you expressed some interest. We would be deeply honored if you could possibly arrange to come.

Cocktails and dinner begin at approximately 6:00 pm, at Vanderbilt Hall, directly across from the Medical School. I will be happy to call for you by car if you but name the place. You may speak on any subject that strikes your fancy. I was fortunate enough to hear you talk about India at Billy Kidd's party, Christmas eve, and know that whatever choice of topics you make will be enthusiastically received by us all.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you will be able to accept this invitation. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Gene M. Abrams

act 7 6283

20-6-8795

*Mr. Abrams will pick
Prof. Wiener up at the office
about 5:45.*



The New Republic

1244 19TH STREET, NW WASHINGTON 6, D.C.

Helen Fuller, MANAGING EDITOR

January 24, 1958

Prof. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

Your article has brought many favorable comments from the scientists and administrators we see here in Washington. A conversation yesterday with one of these, a physicist who takes an amateur interest in politics, prompts this letter. Anyone who attends many Congressional hearings these days is soon left with the question: who speaks for the scientists? I assume, after asking a number of them this question, that the answer is noone. But this is not clear to the members of Congress. Most of them, I believe, incline to accept the self-appointed spokesmen who seem to pop up at every hearing as official voices. Would this appeal to you as the subject for another essay which you might write for The New Republic at your convenience?

Sincerely,

Helen Fuller
Helen Fuller

HF:cg

1689 Auburn Road
Wantagh, N. Y.
January 24, 1958

Dr. Norman Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge Station
Boston, Massachusetts:

Dear Dr. Wiener:

On occasion when my family and I visit the Austins who live on the other side of Long Island, I made a beeline for Ray's library which contains the most intriguing collection of non-fiction. The last trip netted me the use of your book, *The Human Use of Human Beings*. On Page 2 in the middle of the second paragraph "The proper evaluation of human beings for their own sake and to their employment as human beings" is what struck a responsive cord in me. I don't recall ever reading such a sentence anywhere before.

When I finished the book, I wished that you lived around the corner so I could call on you to talk about it. However, since this is not possible, I hope you will be kind enough to answer some of my questions.

1. What was the public's response to your book? That is, what did those who read it have to say about it.
2. Did you write anything else? If so, what?
3. How come you didn't mention Unions in your book?
4. What do you think a man's chances of being a human being are today?

It probably is amusing to you to receive this letter regarding this book eight years after its publication. The truth is at the time of the book's publication our family moved from the city to the country. Six years of it I call hibernation, and the last two years I have been trying to catch up with the times, so to speak.

As I read your book, I sensed a keen sympathy for

-continued-

Dr. Norman Wiener

Page two

January 24, 1958

human beings. Perhaps this was because my own sympathy for humans due to my fate in my youth to have shared 7 different homes.

Now I am very anxious to know what your ideas are today.

Sincerely yours,

VL/lp

Violet Loughry
Violet Loughry (Mrs. T.)

[enc 1/31/58]

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CHICAGO 37 • ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
1126 EAST 59TH STREET

January 24, 1958

Dear Norbert Wiener:

Periodically since returning from Grinnell I have had it in mind to write you. I wanted to say again how sorry Evey and I were that we couldn't stay to visit with your daughter and her family. We were ourselves quite exhausted by Grinnell and had the "hangover" you spoke of! I hope that if you are out here again for any reason and on any short notice, we could have a chance once more.

I liked ever so much your article in the New Republic. In the current issue of Dissent there is an interesting longer piece on similar themes by a scientist named Speyer. Much the same thing is happening, as you know, in the social sciences which are selling themselves as "useful" to Cold War strategist and others. The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists remains one of the few signs of protest and responsibility.

How comes the novel? Evey and I look forward to reading the manuscript and hope you will send it to us. It was wonderful to have a chance to talk with you at Grinnell and we have often thought about our talks there.

I send along separately some reprints from both of us that may be of interest.

Yours, gratefully,
David Riesman
David Riesman

DR/c

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

[ans 1/30/58]

January 24, 1958

Mrs. Roman Jakobson
20-A Prescott Street
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Jakobson:

Enclosed please find the photograph of
Professor Wiener which you requested by telephone.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to
Professor Norbert Wiener

Un-4-0753

Holyoke 29
Slavic Dept - Harvard

for Prof. Nebekavi
who is doing review of Prof. Wiener's books.

Feb 3
She called
to thank
Prof. for
picture.

S. FRITZ TOBIAS, M.D.

GRASS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

26 January 1958

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Doctor Wiener:

Your article "Science: The Megabuck Era" in the New Republic is a very interesting way to look at happenings here. You clearly describe symptoms, but what is the disease? That question seems implicit in your finishing sentences: "Perhaps (underlined by me) a soul-searching in these matters will come when we have been hurt badly enough by present trends to have developed something like a consciousness of sin. As of the beginning of the year 1958 I believe that we have only been pricked and annoyed, but not really hurt, and that we must wait for worse things to come." My thoughts and feelings seem to run in similar channels. In the January 24 edition of the U.S. News and World Report is an article by Professor Arthur Bestor of the University of Illinois about What Went Wrong With U.S. Schools? In a letter to him I concluded: "Your suggestions and prescriptions go via logic, but can a climate be changed by logos? Or is a catastrophe needed to prove whether we still can respond to a challenge? I sometimes wonder."

Sincerely yours,

S. F. Tobias

[ans 1/31/58]

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Prof. H. H. Wilson, N. J.
Milton Zaslow, N. Y.

January 27, 1958

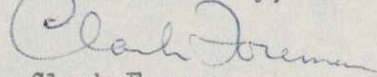
Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

On Friday, March 28th, the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee will hold a round table discussion on "Scientists, Teachers and Security". I. F. Stone will chair the meeting and Dr. Edward U. Condon has agreed to make the principle talk.

We would like very much to have you participate as a discussant at the meeting, and hope you will be our guest at that time.

Yours sincerely,



Clark Foreman
Director

CF:fl

Rudolf Virchow Medical Society in the City of New York

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HENRY LAX, M.D.
160 EAST 72ND STREET

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WOLF ELKAN, M.D.
57 WEST 57TH STREET

TREASURER

ARNOLD T. BENFEY, M.D.
50 PARK TERRACE WEST

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

January 27, 1958

Dear Dr. Wiener:

We have just heard of your illness and brought the fact before the Executive Meeting of the Society.

The Society and I personally want to express our best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery so that you may soon be able to resume your activities.

With kindest regards,

I am sincerely yours

Dr. Henry Lax
President

[ans 1/30/58]

January 27, 1958

Professor Bruno de Finetti
Universita Di Roma
Istituto Di Matematica
Finanziaria E Attuariale
Piazza Borghese, 9
Rome, Italy

Dear Professor de Finetti:

I am highly honored by the invitation to come to Rome to the Istituto Di Matematica and talk on Cybernetics. The situation is, however, a little complicated. Two years ago I had a trip around the world, and I feel that the time has not yet come for me to take another extensive trip. This is for three reasons. First, I feel that it is incumbent on me to proceed further with new research on some ideas that I already have and get them into the form of books. Second, I do not wish to take too much time away from my work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology particularly in view of the fact that I retire officially in July 1960. Third, my health, while it is not poor, does not permit my subjecting myself to too frequent travel and to heavy strains.

I therefore make the following suggestion. Would it be possible for your invitation to be delayed until the summer or the fall term, preferably the fall term, of 1960? Then my wife and I feel that the time will be ripe for travel and further foreign contacts.

While I should of course give some talks on Cybernetics and my other mathematical work, I should not wish to be bound to a heavy schedule of any kind. The time has come when I must think of my health and not subject myself to any excessive strains. On the other hand, I should be glad to keep close contact with my Italian colleagues to advise them on useful research and to collaborate with them as far as my strength allows. I have some very active work under way on random functions and their applications to Cybernetics. By 1960 at least two books on this subject should have appeared.

Let us, then, leave matters pending, and if it should suit your purpose let us gradually work toward plans for a trip in 1960. If I should make such a trip it would be better for my wife and myself to settle down for a considerable time at Rome rather than to travel around much, and to have Italian and other European mathematicians come to me and not attempt to be too mobile. There will be no problem whatever about my getting permission to go over.

January 27, 1958

In the meantime I shall try to put together such material concerning Cybernetics as may be of use to you. Furthermore, I shall be glad to be consulted about your plans for Cybernetics at any time.

Very sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

January 27, 1958

Miss Helen Fuller
The New Republic
1244 19th Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Miss Fuller:

Many thanks for your letter of January 24th. As you suggest, it is clear to me that no one, whatever his official status and whatever his scientific rank, can properly speak in the name of science as such any more than anyone can speak in the name of literature as such, or in the name of art as such. Intellectual and creative activities are where they are to be found, and official recognition by its very nature must lag behind real productivity.

I shall be glad to write you a paper on this theme as soon as I have put my ideas together.

Thank you very much for the check.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
LAWRENCE

WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM
AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

January 28, 1958

Dr. Norbert Wiener,
53 Cedar Road,
Belmont Sta.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Wiener:

For years, the University of Kansas, justly proud of its record in the sciences, has been trying to expand and intensify interest in the humanities. One of our important efforts has been the Humanities Lecture Series; after ten years of development, it has gained recognition as an outstanding program among Midwest universities. The list enclosed with this letter names some of the distinguished speakers who have lectured here and spent several days with our faculty and students.

We would be greatly honored to have you lecture in our 1957-58 series, and we hope that you will accept this cordial invitation to visit us.

The dates we have reserved for our Humanities lectures are all Tuesdays: March 18 (March 25 is possible), April 15 and April 22. Of course, we have some leeway and might shift a date to fit your schedule if we can arrive at an agreement early.

The plan which we have used during the ten years since we began the Series has been for the speaker to spend one full day and at least parts of two others on our campus. This arrangement has proved most rewarding to the speakers and most beneficial to students and faculty members here. The formal Humanities lecture is delivered on Tuesday evening (traditional). On Monday and Wednesday...and on Tuesday during the day...the speaker may meet with classes interested in his field, confer with advanced students, meet faculty members at dinner or luncheon, and perhaps speak informally at a tea or matinee program.

Every speaker so far has really enjoyed the full acquaintance which the three-day visit gives, and we at Kansas take great pleasure in learning to know our distinguished visitors well. We deliberately have avoided the "speak-and-run" kind of engagement; the University already has plenty of such lectures. The three-day visit gives the visiting scholar opportunity to discuss many aspects of the field in which he is a recognized authority, allows him to get to know Kansas faculty members and advanced students who are interested specially, and gives him an understanding of our continuing effort to spread and intensify interest in the humanities. Actually, many of our visitors are genuinely reluctant to leave when the busy schedule is ended!

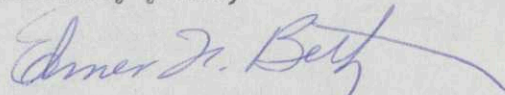
Page 2.....To Dr. Norbert Wiener.....1/28/58

Although our budget doesn't allow us to be prodigal, we are able to pay an honorarium which our previous speakers have found to be reasonable. We can offer a stipend of \$450, but state law prevents our paying travel expenses.

Should you find it possible to accept our invitation, our committee would appreciate your listing the topics you'd like to suggest for the main lecture and the kinds of informal gatherings which you would especially enjoy.

Hoping that we shall have the pleasure of a visit from you, I am

Sincerely yours,



Elmer F. Beth, Chairman,
Humanities Committee.

EFB:rs

Enclosure

[ans 1/31/58]

Some Distinguished Speakers Who Have Appeared On

THE HUMANITIES LECTURE SERIES.....UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
(Series started in 1947)

T. V. Smith.....Syracuse
Alexander Meiklejohn
Walter R. Agard.....Wisconsin
Henry Margenau.....Yale
Charles Morris.....Chicago
Henri Peyre.....Yale
Bayard Q. Morgan.....Stanford
Virgil Thomson.....New York
Hayward Keniston.....Michigan
Allan Nevins.....Columbia
George Kubler.....Yale
Helen C. White.....Wisconsin
Gilbert Highet.....Columbia
Giuseppe Borgese.....Chicago
George Boas.....Johns Hopkins
Paul Lang.....Columbia
Joseph W. Cohen.....Colorado
Morris Bishop.....Cornell
Federico Ghisi.....U. of Florence, Italy
Clarence Ward.....Oberlin
John Dodds.....Stanford
John Schroeder.....Yale
Vladimir Nabokov.....Cornell
Rhys Carpenter.....Bryn Mawr
Nabih Amin Faris.....Beirut, Lebanon
Brand Blanshard.....Yale
Victor Lange.....Cornell
James Johnson Sweeney.....New York City, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum
Leo Gershoy.....New York University
Otto Kinkeldey.....Cornell emeritus
Ernest L. Stahl.....Oxford, England
Howard F. Lowry.....Wooster College
John Randall, Jr.....Columbia
Ronald Syme.....Oxford, England
George Heard Hamilton.....Yale
Roland Bainton.....Yale
Bernard Weinberg.....Chicago
Sterling Dow.....Harvard
Alfred Leslie Rowse.....Oxford, England
Loren C. Eiseley.....Pennsylvania
Bruno E. Werner.....Leipzig, Germany

das vor ab 5. Thier rap
gar nicht. Das vor ab
1800 Briefe

Gertrud Mariani

Fogel

Salz 8/14

Jugoslavien

[ans 8/128]

Zagreb, 28. I.

Sehr verehrter Herr Professor!
Ihren Namen lese ich so oft
in der Zeitung und entschloß
mich endlich, Sie zu fragen,
ob Sie mit den österreichischen
Wiener verwandt sind. Ich
kenne Gertrud Wiener, Stamme
aus Wien bin in Jugoslavien
verheiratet, (mein Mann ist
tribunus in der Chemie und Physik)
und ich wäre sehr stolz wenn ich
sagen könnte, daß ich mit dem
berühmten Professor Wiener verwandt
bin.
Das wäre alles, ich weiß, Ihre Zeit ist kurz.
Und entschuldigen Sie, daß ich deutsch
schreibe, ich kann englisch aber
nicht ganz perfekt!
Vielleicht verstehen Sie meinen Brief

Zagreb, 28. I.

Tilblift vortalen i minen Brev
nigt gans forfekt!
skatte i kenne engsk ab
und entdubigen i, af id bebtok
for. for alle, id vof, for fof. skane
betindten Professor kener vor vank
oggen forvante, baf id mit dem
und id vof, ved ota vone id
nigens iaf de keme ved (af)
verberatet, i min kene id
ans kine kine in fupvokone
kine betindt kener, skanne
skener vorvank id. Id
af de mit den skener id. Id
vikt endel, i de fupvokone
in der forvank ved end ota
af dem kener kene id so oft
Id vorvank for Professor!

gar nicht? das wäre schade.
Beste Grüße

Gertrud Matanić

Zagreb

Zolac 8/IV.

Jugoslavija

[ans 2/4/58]

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR

THE HARRISON M. RANDALL LABORATORY
OF PHYSICS

January 29, 1958

Prof. Norbert Wiener
Mathematics Department
Mass. Inst. of Technology
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Norbert:

As I write this, I am intensely aware of the inadequacy of the printed word as compared with the vehement give-and-take of our conversations---particularly those of the earlier days of our association, so precious to me now, before I became sucked into a network of confusing and distracting obligations that made it impossible for me to benefit as I should have from ~~XXX~~ the possibility of discussing things with you. If there is any one thing about this Guggenheim year that makes it most valuable for me, it is the leisure to reflect on what it is that I really want, and what I don't really care about. In particular, I realize how a combination of lack of confidence in myself as an original scientist with a misplaced softheartedness and ~~XXXXXX~~ unwillingness to turn down jobs that took my time without any return in unique accomplishment, led to a positive-regenerative cycle with progressive diminution in accomplishment reinforcing the tendency to look for distractions, and distractions leading to further diminution of accomplishment. This, of course, is partly to be attributed to my position in a relatively unknown school & department, with its inadequacies and shortage of competent people, and never-ending crises. But ~~X~~ a greater degree of tough-mindedness on my part could, of course, have terminated this draining-away of my energies. Yet there is the rub, of course---this kind of tough-mindedness requires confidence. Everybody has his own characteristic excuse for lacking confidence; in my case, the lateness of my career development tended to make me timorous. I realize this is not a sufficient cause~~XX~~. In any case, the above rather ~~XXXXXX~~ turgid paragraph reveals three basic reasons for my indebtedness and gratitude to you: The confidence you always showed in me, the example of tough-mindedness you set (and the good reasons for which I was not always as cognizant as I should have been), and the Guggenheim for which you so loyally supported me, and which is making it possible for me to overcome the mistakes of judgment I have been making in the last few years.

Not that I want to give the impression that these years were entirely wasted---as I am working here, I am building very consciously on the basis of thinking I have done in the past three years, as well as the three years before when I worked so much more intensively with you. But what I lacked was the extra, marginal time and available energy to drive matters to a substantial conclusion.

Perhaps I should give you a brief account of the matters I am engaged in at present. Most intensively at the moment, a study of the exact problem of ~~the~~ the fluctuating force and frictional resistance of a massive Brownian particle in a dilute gas---your favorite problem which you described with the simile of a push-ball being buffeted about by a random crowd of people. The purpose of this is to answer some questions about the nature of "noise" in non-linear systems, such as the above pushball when it is going much faster than the mean-square speed of the people in the crowd. There has been a certain amount of half-baked speculation lately about the stochastic description of ~~non-linear~~ non-linear systems, and the study of at least one actual concrete case might be a valuable check. This is a rather self-contained study, with clear-cut but limited aims. It was suggested by Uhlenbeck.

Then there is one long-range project, only partly under way, involving an extension of the work of Carleman on the Boltzmann equation. Some of his valuable ideas on how to solve this equation were partly vitiated by his use of ~~rigid~~ rigid-sphere molecules, which make the mathematics more difficult in the long run. This is a problem also of Uhlenbeck's, based on advice from Kac.

Another even longer-range project is the possible extension of the work of Bogolyubov on the reduction of the Liouville equation of a gas to a ~~hierarchy~~ hierarchy of many-particle distribution equations. ~~What Bogolyubov did~~ What Bogolyubov did was to show a way (still somewhat obscure as to justification) of studying the time evolution of these distributions; in particular, to give a derivation of the Boltzmann equation from the Liouville equation. Uhlenbeck has considerably clarified and systematized this theory, and applied it to some basic situations. But he is rather pessimistic about further applications, ~~which~~ which he sees as almost impossibly difficult. If I could first satisfy myself about the correctness of the theory, I would like to look into these.

On my own, I am continuing some speculations about the relations among stochastic differential equations, Fokker-Planck equations and minimum principles of mechanics which I have been indulging in for over a year already. Although probably still far from yielding any new results, I find this line of thought irresistibly fascinating. Although I have some ever-present fear that it may be a snare and a delusion, I have run across some cute connections lately that give me some feeling that there may really be "something there".

A project that will warm your heart if it turns out successful is one that I am carrying on with a theoretician in turbulence theory, named Meeham. It involves going to second order terms in a Taylor's-series functional expansion ~~of a random~~ of a random time function in terms of the Brownian motion function, viz.:

$$y(t, \alpha) = \int \underline{K}_1(t-\tau) d\gamma(\tau, \alpha) + \iint \underline{K}_2(t-\tau, t-\sigma) d\gamma(\tau, \alpha) d\gamma(\sigma, \alpha)$$

I have pretty well succeeded in convincing him that this expansion has a good chance of solving a rather basic problem in this field, and he is already quite enthusiastic about it. I am rather astonished that it has apparently not been tried before; he assures me that this is so. Perhaps you will not be so surprised. It was you, of course, who first showed me this expansion.

And then, of course, there is the book. With respect to pages written, I cannot point to any impressive accomplishment. But I am nonetheless satisfied with my work here, because I have succeeded in finding a complete and consistent (within its own weltanschauung) "symbolic calculus" of your Brownian motion theory. ~~XXXX XXXX XXXX~~ You will be beside yourself when you see it. I out-Dirac Dirac in the use of improper functions and operations. The point is, of course, by abandoning rigor to find, using methods having a certain crazy consistency of their own, a description of the Brownian motion and its basic properties in terms of elementary mathematical operations only. I have in this way succeeded in finding what has hitherto eluded me---a proof of the ergodicity of the Brownian motion within this approach.

So, as you can see, I have been enjoying myself. The Guggenheim is a great institution.

Here is something else that will make you happy if it comes through: I wrote to a Japanese physicist named Imamura asking for a reprint, and received not only the reprint, but a request for a job as research associate in my department next year. (Talk about ~~XXXXXX~~ casting bread upon the waters; this is a happening unique in my experience). He says he is anxious to work on our quantum theory. Since he is an experienced hand in quantum field theory (judging by a brief examination of his published papers), this might be the golden opportunity for us to apply the quantum work to field theory, mesons, etc. The trouble is, B. U. does not have the money available for him. I have written to the Air Force, which sponsors my contract, asking if they can furnish the required additional funds. I suppose this is not a hopeless matter, these days---how I wish I had been around to hear your comments during the ~~XXXX~~ first days of the Sputnik and our ill-fated counterattempt! To get back to the subject---I have written to Imamura asking him to hold tight, and am awaiting a reply from the AFOSR.

We read about your having a heart attack, in the Belmont Herald (which pursues us even here). We are anxious to hear from you, hoping (as the article seemed to imply) it was a slight one.

Affectionately,

Armand

[ans 2/4/58]

January 30, 1958

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kahane
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Kahane:

Many thanks for your letter and your two articles. I am quite incompetent to express an opinion on the merits of my father's work. Your paper on "The System of the Verb in the Western Languages" looks like a real contribution to the reduction of syntax to definite terms.

As to the entire matter of mechanical translation, I am very skeptical not primarily about the possibility of doing something in that direction but more especially about the use that is likely to be made of it. In every language the clear cut rules are only a part of the apparatus of knowledge that a translator must have whether the translator be a human being or a machine. Idioms will always remain a stumbling block, and it will be very difficult, if not practically impossible, to so program the machine as to take care of all these individual peculiarities. The result is that while it is quite possible to make a machine which will be good for mechanical translation when the text is plain and free from an employment of these idioms, such a machine may thus obtain a degree of confidence which is entirely unjustified when a critical difficulty comes up. Therefore to a certain extent the better a machine is the more dangerous it becomes. In the present public mood of gadgeteers who are disposed to exalt the machine and belittle the human intellect, and who will push all machine work to the utmost limit of its credibility, the result of machine translation may easily become disastrous. It is for reasons of this sort that I have kept myself aloof from work in this field.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

January 30, 1958

Dr. Henry Lax
160 East 72nd Street
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Lax:

Many thanks for your kind letter of
January 27th.

My illness was not serious, and has left
no permanent consequences. As you know, I have a
somewhat enlarged heart which requires me to take
diuretics. Partly as a consequence of medical
advice I had neglected this precaution too long,
and the extra strain of a bad evening's driving
made my condition catch up with me. It responded
immediately to treatment, leaving no signs in the
electrocardiogram. At present I am where I was be-
fore the attack, and my doctors assure me that the
situation is well in hand and that there is no fresh
cause for worry.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

January 30, 1958

Mr. David Riesman
The University of Chicago
1126 East 59th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Mr. Riesman:

Many thanks for your letter of the 24th.
I appreciate it very much.

I shall try to send you a manuscript of my novel in the near future and shall be grateful for any opinion you have to give about it. You must bear in mind that it is going to be gone over completely next summer, and that I am quite aware of its rawness and defects. One particular improvement that I have in mind is to tell the story in the first person from the standpoint of the character Gregory James. This will give a more personal tone to the story, and will serve to mitigate my relative lack of familiarity with the problem of writing good dialogue.

My wife joins me in sending both of you our regards.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

[ans 2/3/58]

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January 31, 1958

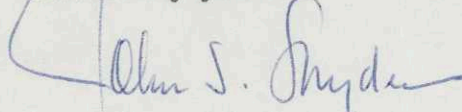
Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

When I saw you in the Faculty Club Lounge a week ago today you called my attention to a new Russian book on a subject which I recall had something to do with Random Series and Automatic Control. It was your impression that this was probably an important book and one that might be translated for use in this country.

Would you be good enough to send me the exact title of this volume, the author's name, and by whom published. Of course, whatever additional information you can supply with respect to the content would be helpful. If the book is, in fact, worthy of translation we can take steps toward that end without delay.

Sincerely yours,



Vice-President.

JSS/ch

150 YEARS



OF PUBLISHING

[over 2/9/58]

Dr. Norbert Weiner
Mass. Institute Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

January 31, 1958

Dear Dr. Weiner;

I heard recently that you were engaged in some projects to help the blind. I have a particular interest in this field from an unusual standpoint. My husband Morton Sobell whose name may be familiar to you as the scientist who was tried together with Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, and despite his plea of innocence was sentenced to thirty years in prisonment, would like very much to help with such a project. Obviously he had time to devote to it, he has had experience and he is a talented electronic engineer. If he could employ his time on a socially useful project it would make life much more meaningful to him and be constructive in every way.

My husband was particularly interested in working on a reading machine if you know of such a project which could be helped along thru any sort of calculations design work or computations which did not require laboratory facilities, I feel sure we could manage to get it done.

I know this is not an easy problem but on the other hand available "brain power" should be a useful commodity.

I would greatly appreciate anything that you can do. The fact that my husband is an innocent man and has already been subjected to eight years of futile suffering does not mean that he must continue in this pattern.

I shall be grateful to you for whatever can be done.

Very sincerely yours,

Helen L. Sobell
(Mrs. Morton Sobell.)

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
Department of Psychiatry

Philip Solomon, M. D.
Asst. Clinical Professor of Psychiatry
Physician-in-Chief, Psychiatry Service

Boston City Hospital
Please reply to
57 Chatham Street
Brookline 46, Mass.

January 31, 1958.

Prof. Norbert Wiener
Mass. Inst. of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Prof. Wiener:

Plans for the Symposium on Sensory Deprivation have now progressed to the point where a "Revised Provisional Program" may be issued. A copy is enclosed for your records. All individuals named are planning to participate.

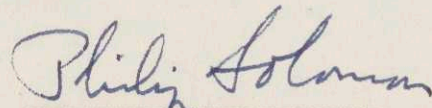
At this time we would appreciate having additional information from you. Will you plan to join the Symposium members from out of town in 1.) Dinner at the Harvard Club.

2.) Pops Concert.

and will a family member accompany you at either or both of these and attend any of the other functions in the entertainment program?

With kindest regards,

Very truly yours,


Philip Solomon, M. D.

*We are all delighted you are going
to be with us!*

[ans 2/4/58]

SYMPOSIUM ON SENSORY DEPRIVATION

Sponsored by Boston City Hospital,
Harvard Medical School and U. S. Navy.

Revised Provisional Program

General Chairman - Dr. Philip Solomon, Boston

Thursday, June 19, 1958

8:00 P. M. - 12:00 P. M. Reception ----- Dr. and Mrs. Philip Solomon
57 Chatham Street
Brookline, Mass.

Friday, June 20

9:00 A. M. Registration ----- Faculty Room,
Harvard Medical School

Session I

Chairman ----- Prof. Donald Hebb
McGill University

9:15 Intellectual and physiological effects of perceptual isolation. Prof. Woodburn Heron
McGill University

9:45 Open discussion

10:05 Experimental interference with reality contact (perceptual isolation). Dr. Leo Goldberger
and Dr. Robert Holt
New York University

10:35 Open discussion

10:55 Theoretical considerations. Dr. Lawrence Kubie
New York

11:25 Open discussion and Chairman's closing remarks

12:00 Leave by private cars for Boston City Hospital

12:30 P. M. Luncheon, Vose House, BCH, Host - Dr. John Conlin, Superintendent

1:45 Leave by private cars for HMS

Session II

Faculty Room, HMS

Chairman ----- Dr. John Lilly
Nat'l. Inst. of Mental Health

2:15 Effects of sensory deprivation upon perceptual and motor skills. Prof. Jack A. Vernon and Prof. John Hoffman
Princeton University

2:45 Open discussion

3:05 The effects of sensory deprivation upon epinephrin and nor-epinephrin excretion. Dr. Jack H. Mendelson
Mass. General Hospital

3:35 Open discussion

3:55 Are there common factors in sensory deprivation, sensory-distortion and sensory overload? Prof. Donald Lindsley
Univ. of California

4:25 Open discussion and Chairman's closing remarks

5:00 Adjourn

6:00 Cocktails, Harvard Club

6:30 Dinner

8:30 Pops concert, Symphony Hall

Session III

Chairman ----- Dr. Erich Lindemann
Mass. General Hospital

9:15 A.M. Sensory deprivation in aviators. Dr. Michael Bennett
RAF, Inst. of Medicine
England.

9:45 Open discussion

10:05 Anaclitic therapy during sensory deprivation. Dr. Hassan Azima,
Dr. R. Vispo and
F. Cramer-Azima, M. A.
Montreal, Canada

10:35 Open discussion

10:55 The cognitive consequences of early sensory deprivation. Prof. Jerome Bruner
Harvard University

11:25 Open discussion and Chairman's concluding remarks

12:00 Buffet lunch, Host - Dr. George Berry, Dean, HMS

1:00 - 2:30 P.M. Round Table Discussion - Chairman
Dr. Philip Solomon

Participants: Prof. Donald Hebb
Prof. Jerome Bruner
Prof. Ernst Gellhorn, Univ. of Minnesota
Dr. Lawrence Kubie
Dr. John Lilly
Dr. Erich Lindemann
Prof. Donald Lindsley
Dr. H. W. Magoun, Univ. of California
Dr. Gray Walter, Bristol, England
Prof. Heinz Werner, Clark University

DISCUSSANTS

Prof. W. H. Bexton
Waterloo, Ontario

Dr. Grete Bibring
Beth Israel Hospital

Dr. Carl Binger
Mass. General Hosp.

Prof. Edward G. Boring
Harvard University

Dr. Mary A. B. Brazier
Mass. General Hospital

Dr. Enoch Callaway III
Univ. Hosp., Baltimore

Dr. Stanley Cobb
Cambridge, Mass.

Dr. Sanford I. Cohen
Duke University

Dr. Esther Davidson
Boston City Hospital

Dr. Derek Denny-Brown
Boston City Hospital

Dr. Charles H. DuToit
Mass. General Hosp.

Dr. Joel Elkes
N.I.M.H., Wash. D.C.

Dr. Frank Erwin
Mass. General Hosp.

Dr. Charles Fisher
New York, N. Y.

Dr. Joseph M. Foley
Boston City Hospital

Dr. Henry Fox
Brigham Hosp., Boston

Dr. Sanford J. Freedman
Mass. Mental Health Center

Dr. Daniel Funkenstein
Boston Psychopathic Hosp.

Dr. Milton Greenblatt
Boston Psychopathic Hosp.

Prof. Robert G. Grenell
Univ. of Maryland

Prof. Robert R. Holt
New York University

Dr. Roy G. Hoskins
Office of Naval Research

Dr. George S. Klein
New York University

Dr. Philip Kubzansky
Boston City Hospital

Dr. P. Herbert Leiderman
Boston Psychopathic Hosp.

Dr. William Malamud
Boston University

Dr. Andreas Marcotty
Boston City Hospital

Dr. Warren S. McCulloch
Mass. Inst. of Technology

Dr. Asenath Petrie
Boston City Hospital

Dr. David Rapaport
Stockbridge, Mass.

Prof. Austin H. Riesen
Univ. of Chicago

Dr. Norman Rosenzweig
Univ. of Michigan

Capt. George E. Ruff, USAF
Wright-Patterson A.F.B., C

Dr. Elvin V. Semrad
Mass. Mental Health Center

Dr. Jay T. Shurley
Univ. of Oklahoma

Major David G. Simons
Holloman A.F.B., New Mexi

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Mass. Mental Health Center

Dr. Richard Trumbull
Office of Naval Research

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Univ. of Oklahoma

Dr. Donald Wexler
Boston City Hospital

Dr. Robert W. White
Harvard University

Prof. Norbert Wiener
Mass. Inst. of Technology

Dr. Herman A. Witkin
State Univ. of New York

Symposium on Sensory Deprivation

Provisional entertainment program for those
accompanying participants.

Thursday, June 19

8:00 P.M. - 12:00 P.M. Reception ---- Dr. and Mrs. Philip Solomon
57 Chatham Street
Brookline, Mass.

Friday, June 20

9:30 A.M. Full-day sight-seeing tour by bus from Somerset Hotel
Historic Boston - Old South Church,
Bunker Hill, etc.

12:30 P.M. Luncheon, Harvard Faculty Club, Cambridge

Tour of Harvard Yard, Glass Flowers,
Fogg Art Museum, etc.
Mrs. Jack Gardner's Palace.

5:00 Return to Somerset Hotel

6:00 Cocktails, Harvard Club

6:30 Dinner

8:30 Boston Pops, Symphony Hall

Saturday, June 21

9:30 A.M. Boston Arts Festival, Boston Garden

12:30 P.M. Luncheon, Hotel Ritz

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January 31, 1958

Memorandum for Prospective Conferees

From: Dr. Wallace W. Atwood, Jr.
Chairman, Conference Committee

Subject: Conference Plans

This memorandum will bring you up-to-date on recent developments relating to the International Conference on Scientific Information which is to be held in Washington, D. C., November 16-21 of this year, at the Mayflower hotel.

After the unfortunate death last June of Dr. Alberto F. Thompson who had served from the beginning as Executive Secretary of the Conference, it was decided to handle the affairs of the Conference through a committee rather than to appoint a new Executive Secretary. Accordingly the Conference Committee was established, consisting of the representatives of the three sponsoring organizations (the Executive Committee) and the chairmen of the several supporting committees. The Conference Committee is a continuation of the previous planning committee and is composed of the following members:

Dr. Wallace W. Atwood, Jr., Director
Office of International Relations
National Academy of Sciences - National Research Council
Represents the Academy on the Executive and Conference
Committees and serves as Chairman of the Conference
Committee

Dr. Burton W. Adkinson, Head
Office of Scientific Information
National Science Foundation
Represents the Foundation on the Executive and
Conference Committees

Prospective Conferees

January 31, 1958

Page 2

Dr. Milton O. Lee, Federation Secretary
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Represents the American Documentation Institute on the
Executive and Conference Committees

Mr. Charles I. Campbell
Associate for Information Services
Rockefeller Institute
Chairman of the Program Committee

Mr. Henry J. Dubester
Chief, General Reference & Bibliography Division
Library of Congress
Chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee

Mr. John C. Green, Director
Office of Technical Services
Department of Commerce
Chairman of the Exhibits Committee

Currently it is expected that there will be approximately 150 active participants in the Conference, either as authors of selected papers or as designated members of discussion panels. It is also expected that approximately 500 persons will attend the Conference as observers. Registered observers may attend all discussion sessions although active participation in these sessions will be limited to members of the discussion panels and the authors of papers for the various areas. However, observers will have the privilege of submitting relevant questions and comments in writing to the discussion panels prior to the opening of the Conference.

Advance registration of observers will be necessary and will include payment of a fee of \$10.00 per person. These funds will be used to defray a portion of the costs of providing preprints of the conference papers. Since it is desirable for observers to register well in advance of the Conference, detailed information and registration forms will be enclosed with our next general announcement.

Prospective Conferees

January 31, 1958

Page 3

Papers selected for inclusion on the program by the Program Committee in collaboration with the referees for each of the seven areas of the agenda will provide the nucleus for conference discussions. These papers will not be read at the Conference but will be mailed to participants and observers approximately two months prior to the conference date.

A tentative and incomplete conference agenda is attached. It will be noted that there is no overlap insofar as the scheduling of the seven area discussion sessions is concerned. This schedule will permit everyone to attend the discussion sessions of all the areas if they so desire. Special panelists are being selected to lead the discussions in each of the areas. Participation will be open to selected discussants and authors of accepted papers - area by area.

No brief report on conference plans can properly acknowledge all the valuable contributions made by the many interested persons who have been associated with the organizing groups in one capacity or another in the progressive development of specific plans for a conference of the highest possible intellectual content. The insight, vision, and enthusiastic leadership of the late Dr. Thompson remain an inspiration to those who were privileged to be associated with him in the early stages of this endeavor. Among others who have substantive contributions in the preliminary planning of the program are: Mr. Scott Adams, Librarian, National Institutes of Health; Mr. Robert S. Bray, Chief, Division for the Blind, Library of Congress; Mr. Verner Clapp, President, Council on Library Resources, Inc.; Mr. William T. Mason, Bureau of Ordnance, Department of the Navy; Mr. Eugene Power, President, University Microfilms, Inc.; and Dr. Mortimer Taube, President, Documentation Incorporated. On the international level, we would like to acknowledge the early contribution of Dr. Eric de Grolier, Chief Documentalist Professor, Institut National des Techniques de la Documentation, Paris, France, and the constant assistance and cooperation extended by Mr. F. Donker Duyvis, Secretary General of the International Federation for Documentation; Dr. J. E. Holmstrom of the Natural Sciences Department of Unesco; Dr. Alexander King, Deputy Director of the European Productivity Agency; and Dr. D. C.

Prospective Conferees

January 31, 1958

Page 4

Martin, Assistant Secretary of The Royal Society. Members of the Conference Committee regret the resignation of Mr. J. E. Cummins from the Committee occasioned by his acceptance of an assignment in the newly established International Atomic Energy Agency. We congratulate him on his new post and acknowledge with deep appreciation his participation as a member of our Committee.

Interest in the Conference continues to grow. Approximately 6,000 copies of the conference announcement have been distributed to individuals and organizations in 33 countries. Our next general announcement will be mailed in March to all who have expressed an interest in the Conference. Conference papers should be ready for distribution in September.

It is my personal hope, shared by my colleagues on the Conference Committee, that many of you will be with us next November.

Wednesday, November 19MORNING &
AFTERNOON

Area 5 - Organization of knowledge for storage and retrospective search: intellectual problems and equipment considerations in the design of new systems.

Discussion Panel leader will be announced later.

EVENING Banquet

Thursday, November 20MORNING

Area 6 - Organization of information for storage and retrospective search: possibility for a general theory of storage and search.

Discussion Panel Leader will be announced later.

AFTERNOON

Area 6 and Excursion

Friday, November 21MORNING

Area 7 - Responsibilities of governmental bodies, professional societies, universities, and research and industrial organizations to provide improved information services and to promote research in documentation.

Discussion Panel Leader: Mr. Verner Clapp, President, Council on Library Resources, Inc.

AFTERNOON Closing Session

EVENING Reception for Conference Participants at the National Academy of Sciences.

Program Committee Members

- Chairman - Mr. Charles I. Campbell
The Rockefeller Institute
- Area 1 - Mrs. Helen Brownson
National Science Foundation
- Area 2 - Dr. Dwight E. Gray
National Science Foundation
- Area 3 - Mr. Joseph Hilsenrath
National Bureau of Standards
- Area 4 - Miss Mary E. Stevens
National Bureau of Standards
- Area 5 - Mr. H. P. Luhn
International Business Machines
- Area 6 - Mr. L. F. Buckland
Griffiss Air Force Base
- Area 7 - Colonel Frank B. Rogers
National Library of Medicine

All correspondence to any of the above listed persons should be addressed through the Secretariat, International Conference on Scientific Information, National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington 25, D. C., U.S.A.

January 31, 1958

Mr. Henry W. Alexander
10-10 166th Street
Whitestone,
New York

Dear Mr. Alexander:

It is some time since I have been working on sensory prosthesis, although I expect to come back to the field in the future. Meanwhile, with all sympathy for your distress, I am hesitant to give advice which could be construed as medical in nature. I suppose that you have already brought your daughter's case to the attention of competent neurologists. Why not ask them about possibilities in this direction?

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

January 31, 1958

Mr. Bernard S. Benson, President
Benson-Lehner Corporation
11930 West Olympic Boulevard,
Los Angeles 64, California

Dear Sir:

Professor Wiener has received your letter of January 23rd with a request for a copy of the speech which he gave at Wabash College last fall. There are no copies of his speech available, although it is possible that you might obtain one through the college.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to
Professor Norbert Wiener

January 31, 1958

Mr. Elmer F. Beth, Chairman
Humanities Committee,
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Beth:

I am afraid that I cannot accept your invitation to give a lecture at the University of Kansas. I cannot afford to leave the Institute during term time for three days, and the Institute has first claim on my services. Moreover you are to have a very strenuous schedule, and I am not up to it.

Regretfully yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

January 31, 1958

Mr. L. P. Dalcher
Berlin Schoneberg
Kufsteiner Strasse 69
Berlin, Germany

Dear Mr. Dalcher:

I am enclosing the receipt which you request.

I am deeply grateful to you for your kind letter.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD
Enc.

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THIS DOCUMENT PREPARED AT (PLACE) - Ausstellungsort Berlin, Germany DATE - Datum Feb 20, 1958

PURCHASER - Auftraggeber USBER:A:OF:Procurement THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, DR. - Die Regierung 170 Clayallee, Berlin-Dahlem (RIAS) der Vereinigten Staaten v. N. A.

SELLER (PAYEE) - Lieferfirma Prof. Dr. Norbert Wiener PAID BY - Bezahlt von L.W. SHARPE U.S. Disbursing Officer Bonn, Germany

ADDRESS OF SELLER - Anschrift der Lieferfirma Massachusetts Institute of Technology Broadcasting Cambridge 39, Mass. / USA CONTRACT No. Abschlusf. Nr. DATE - Datum Feb 20 & 21, 1958

ORDER IS HEREBY PLACED WITH THE ABOVE-NAMED SELLER FOR THE TO - an ARTICLES OR SERVICES DESCRIBED BELOW. TO BE FURNISHED Vorstehend genannte Firma wird hiermit beauftragt, folgende Lieferungen bzw. Dienstleistungen auszuführen ACCOUNT No. Kontonummer

ITEM No. Pos. Nr.	ARTICLES OR SERVICES Bezeichnung der Waren oder Dienstleistungen	QUANTITY Anzahl (Menge)	UNIT PRICE Einzelpreis		AMOUNT Gesamtpreis
			COST - Preis	PER - pro	
	Radio material and broadcasting rights for a recorded radio contribution consisting of a lecture entitled: "Semantik und Kybernetik" for a one-time broadcast each over programs I and II of the U.S. Government's Radio Station RIAS				\$ 47.62

Signature of Ordering Officer: Mason A. LaSelle Title: General Services Officer AVAILABLE OF FUNDS: Mason A. LaSelle Asst. U.S. Disb. Officer TOTAL OF ORDER 47.62

I CERTIFY THAT THE ORDERED ITEMS LISTED WERE RECEIVED ON Feb 20 & 21, 58 EXCEPT AS FOLLOWS (Date) Elsa A. Reiche (Signature of Receiving Officer) TITLE: Admin. Asst., RIAS PAYMENT COMPLETE [x] PARTIAL [] FINAL [] AMOUNT BILLED, AS PER ATTACHED BILL (S) \$ 47.62 DIFFERENCES AMOUNT VERIFIED CORRECT FOR \$ 47.62 SIGNATURE OR INITIALS

APPROVED FOR \$ 47.62 EXCHANGE RATE TO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME, CERTIFY THAT THIS VOUCHER IS CORRECT AND PROPER FOR PAYMENT MAR - 7 1958 (Date) EDWARD W. HARDING (Authorized Certifying Officer) Admin. Officer

ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION

APPROPRIATION SYMBOL	AMOUNT	ALLOTMENT SYMBOL	OBLIGATION NUMBER	AMOUNT
6780100	\$47.62	8-C-1542	R 1569 \$ 47.62	\$47.62
		151542.2-07B/310		

Bu CHECK No. DATED 19. FOR \$ ON TREASURER OF U. S. PAYEE (SIGNATURE AND TITLE) PAID BY CHECK No. DATED 19. FOR \$47.62 ON AMEXCO CASH \$ DATED 19.

Form 72-422 FOREIGN SERVICE Form approved by Comptroller General, U.S.		PURCHASE ORDER, RECEIVING REPORT AND VOUCHER Auftrag, Eingangsbilanzung, Zahlungsbeleg (FOR USE IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES ONLY) (FÜR DEN GEBRAUCH IN AUSLÄNDISCHEN LÄNDERN)	
D. O. VOU. No. 027838		PURCHASE REQUEST No.	
B.U. VOU. No.		Wichtige Hinweise für den Empfänger	
1. The entering office is exempt from taxes. Die auftragvergebende Stelle unterliegt keinerlei Besteuerung. (Die Umsatzsteuer muß deshalb bei allen Rechnungen sichtbar ab-gesondert sein.)		U. S. DEPARTMENT OR ESTABLISHMENT - A - Americanische Dienststelle oder Unternehmen	
2. The invoices must be submitted in two copies. The following certificate must be duly signed on the original only: Die Rechnungen sind in zweifacher Ausfertigung einzuwickeln. Nachstehende, ordnungsgemäß unterzeichnete Bestätigung muß auf dem Original erscheinen: Certify that the above bill is correct and just, and that payment therefore has not been received. Die Richtigkeit und Angemessenheit vorstehender Rechnung, wofür ich noch keine Zahlung erhalten habe, bestätige ich hiermit.		THIS DOCUMENT PREPARED AT (PLACE) - A - Ausstellungsort Berlin, Germany	
3. The order number shown in the upper right hand corner of this invoice must be shown on every bill placed with the order. Die in der rechten oberen Ecke dieses Auftrags-Formulars erscheinende Auftrags- und Anforderungsnummer ist in Ihren Rechnungen anzuführen.		PURCHASER - A - Auftraggeber THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, DR. - Die Regierung der Vereinigten Staaten ADDRESS OF SELLER - A - Anschrift des Lieferanten Prof. Dr. Robert Rines Cambridge 39, Mass., U.S.A.	
4. All communications concerning this order must refer to order number and be addressed to the originating office. Alle die diesen Auftrag betreffende Mitteilungen muß einen Hinweis auf die Auftrags- und Anforderungsnummer und die auftragvergebende Stelle gerichtet sein.		SELLER (PAYEE) - A - Lieferant	
5. Discount terms, if any, must be shown on all bills.		VOUCHER - A - Zahlungsbeleg VOUCHER - A - Zahlungsbeleg VOUCHER - A - Zahlungsbeleg	
AMOUNT - Gesamtsumme Einzelsumme COST - Preis per - pro		ARTICLES OR SERVICES - Bezeichnung der Waren oder Dienstleistungen	
APPLICABLE TO ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY: Betrifft nur die vergebende Stelle:		METHOD OF OR ABSENCE OF ADVERTISING METHOD OF ADVERTISING I and II of the U.S. Government's Radio Station for a one-time broadcast each over programs recorded radio control radio material and broadcasting rights for a	
1. Advertising in newspapers Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1. Advertising by circular letters sent to dealers. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Advertising by circular letters sent to dealers. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		2. Advertising by circular letters sent to dealers. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Without advertising, under an exigency of the service, the order and would not admit of the way incident to advertising.		3. Without advertising, under an exigency of the service, the order and would not admit of the way incident to advertising.	
4. Without advertising in accordance with		4. Without advertising in accordance with	
5. Without advertising, if being impracticable to secure competition because of		5. Without advertising, if being impracticable to secure competition because of	
AMOUNT BILLED, AS PER ATTACHED BILL (2)		RECEIVED ON FEB 20 1952, 58 EXCEPT AS FOLLOWS	
DIFFERENCES		COMPLETE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
AMOUNT VERIFIED CORRECT FOR		PARTIAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
SIGNATURE OR INITIALS		FINAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
EDWARD W. HARDING		TITLE	
APPROVED FOR		TITLE	
EXCHANGE RATE		TITLE	
NOTE - The above form "Method of or Absence of Advertising" is to be used when purchases are made or services secured under proper authority without written agreement in any form. In case of a written agreement (formal contract, proposal, acceptance, or lease), the Standard Form 72-422, should be used.		TITLE	
absence of advertising and award of contract. (See General Regulations No. 51, as amended.)		TITLE	
PAID BY CHECK No.		TITLE	
DATED		TITLE	
FOR \$		TITLE	
ON AMEXCO		TITLE	
DATED		TITLE	
FOR \$		TITLE	
ON AMEXCO		TITLE	
DATED		TITLE	

No. 1 - VENDOR
 (See Reverse Side - Seite Rückseite)

January 31, 1958

Mr. Clark Foreman, Director
Emergency Civil Liberties Committee
421 Seventh Avenue
New York 1, New York

Dear Mr. Foreman:

As you will see by my article in The New Republic, and by an article which I hope will appear soon on "Who Can Speak For Science", I am very much interested in the questions you are discussing at the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee and am taking responsibility in that matter. On the other hand, I am very busy, and am not a person who acts effectively on committees or in general meetings. I have therefore decided to confine my activity in this field to articles which I, myself, write over my own name.

However, you have my blessing.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

January 31, 1958

Miss Helen Fuller
The New Republic
1244 19th Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Miss Fuller:

In pursuance of your request for an article concerning the spokesmen of science, I am enclosing the accompanying manuscript. If it meets with your approval please let me know at once.

I am deliberately confining my discussion to the fundamental issues and am not going into any detail in discussing the existing situation in Washington which I can well understand but which is only known to me by hearsay. I think it strengthens a paper not to have it too dependent on matters of important news value.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD
Enc.

WHO CAN SPEAK FOR SCIENCE?

By Norbert Wiener

It seems that in various Congressional and other investigations concerning the present crises in science and in invention, a number of people have been called in to speak in the name of scientists and science, either because of their official status in the National Academy, the National Research Council, and similar organizations, or because of their personal prestige as scientists, or because they have felt themselves as entitled to speak in the name of science. This state of affairs is largely unavoidable, as any inquiry as to the state of science must use whatever evidence is available. Nevertheless, this tendency to speak in the name of science has great dangers, and any statements which are received as evidence should be entertained with a high degree of caution and reserve.

Fundamentally, science, like art or music or literature, is a human constructive undertaking, and is a matter of intellectual performance by individuals who transcend in the importance of their individual work all considerations of official status, prestige, and general acceptance. This does not mean that their work is not ^{the} subjected to any judgment whatever. There is, of course, at each time a general ^wform of informed scientific opinion and scientific criticism. In the long run scientific work must submit to such a criticism.

However, this quasi-court of science, unlike the law courts, is not to be bound by the precedent of decisions already made. The composition of this court changes even from year to year, and changes greatly from decade to decade. Not only does it change, but the new work which is done each year contributes greatly and essentially to this change.

There are at least two reasons why a piece of work ^{may} meet with rejection or grudging acceptance at a given time. Here I leave out all extraneous questions of prejudice and personal wrangling, although these constitute an element by no means to be neglected. One reason for a piece of work to be rejected is that it clearly is incompetent, hasty, or ill thought out. Perhaps this is the most frequent reason for a piece of work to be rejected; but another of at least equal importance is that a piece of work is ahead of its time.

All really great progress in science is based on a fundamentally new point of view. At the time at which ^{great new} ~~this~~ work is done, it comes, and must come, into conflict with accepted ideas and traditions. It does not fit into the education and the habitual modes of thought of the prevailing generation of working scientists. Thus it meets opposition in at least two ways. It may be rejected with active hostility, or it may be ignored. Of these two types of rejection the second, or passive type, is often the most damning.

If a new idea meets with opposition, it at least meets recognition. If it is fundamentally sound, this opposition will in the long run fail to make its point. This very failure will generally bring out the merits of the new idea; and if these are great and real, will contribute to its ultimate acceptance. The rejection of work by mere ignorance, on the other hand, does not bring the new work to any test, and very often leads a line of thought to fall into complete desuetude, or at best to wait for independent rediscovery when the time is ripe.

Let me give a few examples. Mendel's ^{was} "Fundamental Investigations of the Laws of Heredity" ^{was} published in an obscure place, and waited several decades until ^{their} ~~its~~ partial rediscovery by ^{DE VRIES} De Vries and others, to attract the recognition which its importance merited.

Willard Gibbs, who died after years of valuable contributions to statistical mechanics in 1903 even though some of the leaders of the field saw the importance of his work at once, did not come to his own with the general scientific public until after the end of the first World War. This was because his work, instead of constituting a new answer to questions already raised by physicists, derived its importance from the asking of new questions which were completely foreign to the ways of thought of most of his contemporaries, and even of his early successors. It required many years of failure to achieve substantial progress by asking the conventional questions of his time to convince scientists at large that his new questions were significant, and that he had made great progress in answering them. In fact his real substantial recognition had to await the rise of a completely new generation of scientists who were willing to look at his work without the instinctively negative reaction of those educated in an earlier age of science.

Oliver Heaviside, as far back as the eighties and nineties, introduced a totally new technique in the investigations of problems of the electric circuit. His methods were so new and unconventional that they were the despair of his contemporary colleagues. It was again only after the end of the first World War in 1919 that most of the electrical engineers engaged in communication problems were convinced of the inadequacy of earlier methods, and were willing to give his techniques a fair hearing.

The examples of Gibbs and of Heaviside bring out another consideration which is important in the evaluation of new work. Neither Gibbs nor Heaviside fully succeeded in making good their new ideas. Gibbs introduced a certain hypothesis concerning dynamical

systems which is known as the ergodic hypothesis. Strictly speaking, this hypothesis is never fulfilled except in trivial cases. In other words, his work is wrong as it stands. Nevertheless, by the use of techniques not available in his lifetime, it has been possible to give a reinstatement to his conjecture in terms which he could not conceivably have stated them, and to establish the correctness and importance of these modified conjectures. Heaviside's formal calculus of operators as he gave it was devoid of a firm and rigorous mathematical basis. Thus after 1919 a considerable group of mathematicians and engineers in England and America and elsewhere were able to rewrite his work in sound mathematical terms.

These two cases bring out a point of considerable importance. The value of a new contribution cannot be measured exclusively in terms of its literal correctness. On the one hand a piece of work may be free from any technical flaw, and yet may be completely dull and nugatory, being merely an essay in existing methods, leading nowhere in particular and without any true motivation. This is certainly the defect of more than one of the abstract mathematical papers which glut the present literature, even though the modern abstract methods are powerful tools in the hands of scientists able to use them for the development of new ideas. On the other hand, a piece of work may contain blunders which may in the course of time make good the importance of the new ideas.

The point of all this is that it takes time and perspective to develop an adequate evaluation of new thoughts in science, just as it takes time and mature consideration to develop an intelligent attitude to new movements in the arts. The creative thinker is indeed subject to the judgment of a court of public opinion, but this court is the court of history. How long the wheels in the mills of this

judgment may consume in their grinding is very difficult to state in advance. This is particularly true in periods of rapid transition and innovation. Of these periods, the present in which we have many branches of physics, but as yet no universal physics, is one.

When an official policy must be adopted toward science or the arts, one must seek the judgment of experts, and these experts are naturally to be sought in the first instance among those of established position, official or unofficial. What I am cautioning against is the danger of supposing that these judgments are in any way final. I am not pleading for a neglect of the best opinion to be found at any time. I am protesting most vigorously against any policy which takes precedent too seriously and which considers in these judgments a final validity.

How should these considerations affect our policy in the recognition of experts and official science? Case by case, an individual departure from the existing norm of science is more likely to be in the wrong direction than in the right direction. On the other hand, the overwhelming majority of the really significant advances in science will be found among departures from the existing norm. If science is really to progress, it is important that these departures should have an accepted place in the mass, notwithstanding that such a tolerance for them will involve a tolerant consideration of at least a tentative character for many scientific missteps. Thus any attempt to suppress them en masse, notwithstanding its probable justification in any single instance, will lead inevitably to the stagnation of science and to an eventual depreciation of its level.

This is an almost inevitable consequence of a too ready

recognition of authority in science. The danger of this is real and immediate, particularly at a time where the sense of urgency leads a large part of science to be channeled in the direction of immediately and visibly useful ends. In the long run, a country which does not admit a very appreciable amount of scientific work whose immediate utility and correctness is doubtful, will fall behind its competitors who have a more tolerant and broad-minded policy. This tolerance must of course be exercised with discretion and intelligence. However, this quality of discretion and intelligence is something over and above a competence in the techniques of the existing state of science.

In other words, in the selection of experts to speak for science in matters involving long time policy, it is essential to demand something more than immediate effectiveness and up-to-dateness.

January 31, 1958

Mrs. Violet Loughry
1689 Auburn Road
Wantagh, New York

Dear Mrs. Loughry:

Many thanks for your letter of January 24th.

I find myself very busy at present and not in a position to write immediately about the matters concerning which you inquired. However, when I have a backlog of work off, it is possible that I may find the time and the attention to devote to it.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

[and 2/11/58]

January 31, 1958

Mr. A. B. Soble
114 N. Fourth Avenue
Highland Park,
New Jersey

Dear Mr. Soble:

I shall be glad to look over your paper,
but I am pretty well rushed with responsibilities
so I do not wish to state the time at which you will
receive a reply.

Thank you for sending it to me.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

January 31, 1958

Dr. S. Fritz Tobias
Grass Valley
California

Dear Dr. Tobias:

Many thanks for your kind letter of the
26th of this month.

Like you, I am not sure how our present
difficulties in education in scientific work can be
cured, and I do not set myself up to prescribe in
this matter. However, I agree with you that the
difficulties are deep and serious, and that it will
not become worth while to say too much about ways and
means until the realization of our plight is more
general.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD