

272

CORRESPONDENCE

Jan. 16-31, 1960

N. WIENER · MC 22

CHERRY VALLEY
NEW YORK
JAN/16/60

PROFESSOR NORBERT WEINER
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

DEAR SIR, -

SEVERAL YEARS AGO I WAS ENABL-
ED TO PURCHASE FROM THE PUBLISHERS -

NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE, Inc.

AT THAT TIME GIVING THE ADDRESS -

37 WEST 47th STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

A SERIES OF SHORT TREATISES BY EMINENT MATHEMATICIANS

AMONG THE MOST VALUED OF WHICH WAS ONE BY YOURSELF, COV-
ERING PHASES OF THE SUBJECT OF CALCULUS.

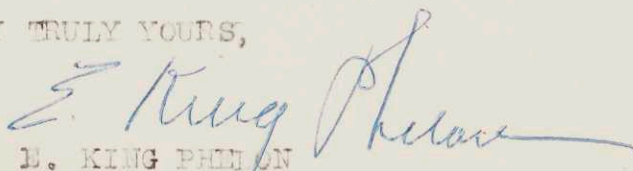
NOW, I VALUED THIS SHORT WORK VERY HIGHLY, BUT
IT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN EITHER MISLAID OR TAKEN OUT
OF THE HOUSE.

I HAVE WRITTEN THE PUBLISHERS AT THE NEW YORK
ADDRESS GIVEN ABOVE BUT THE LETTER RETURNED WITH THE
POSTAL STATEMENT THAT THERE WAS NO SUCH FIRM AT THIS
ADDRESS.

SHOULD YOU HAVE INFORMATION AS TO WHERE I COULD
CONTACT THIS FIRM AND ASCERTAIN WHETHER A COPY OF THIS
BOOK COULD BE SECURED WOULD YOU OBLIGE, USING THE IN-
CLOSED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE, BY CONVEYING THE ADDRESS
TO ME ?

THANKING YOU,

VERY TRULY YOURS,


B. KING MELLON

[ans 1/25/60]

1/16/60

237 E. Queen St.
Hampton, Va.

Dr. Norbett Weiner
M.I.T.
Cambridge Mass.

Dear Sir:

I have been reading about
the machine that can play checkers
and I became curious to know what
progress is being made towards
developing a machine that can play
chess.

Could you send me some infor-
mation on this subject?

Respectfully,
Gerald C. Teicher
Gerald C. Teicher

[ans 4/22/60]

Columbia University
in the City of New York

NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

HAVEMEYER HALL

18 January 1960

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

I was very glad, indeed, to read your pleasant letter.
We shall be just as happy to hear you speak next year.

Sometime early next winter, I shall contact you again
to take care of the details of time and place. I wish you a
fine trip abroad.

Sincerely yours,

William Bahary

William Bahary

WB/s

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
EUGENE, OREGON

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

January 18, 1960

Professor N. Wiener
Department of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

At the present time I am preparing a short article on Cybernetics for a Polish encyclopedia. While rereading your book The Human Use of Human Beings I note that in Chapter I you state that a Polish scientist, in the early nineteenth century, had also introduced the term "cybernetics". I would be greatly obliged should you be kind enough to send me the name of this scientist and the context in which the term was introduced, or a reference that I might consult.

Thanking you, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

A. T. Bharucha-Reid

A. T. Bharucha-Reid

ATB-R

[ans 1/25/60]

The Technology Press



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS

January 18, 1960

Professor Norbert Wiener
M.I.T. 2-276

Dear Professor Wiener:

Sales of your books on our list for the last half of 1959
look like this:

	<u>Last six months</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cybernetics	463	33,152
Nonlinear Problems in Random Theory	528	2,515
Extrapolation . . . of Stationary Time Series	269	5,122

We are moving right ahead on the corrected edition of
Cybernetics, and hope to have copy ready for the printer
in about a month.

Very truly yours,

Lynwood Bryant

Lynwood Bryant
Director

LB:cp

STROMBERG-CARLSON COMPANY

A DIVISION OF GENERAL DYNAMICS CORPORATION



ROCHESTER 3, NEW YORK

January 18, 1960

Prof. Norbert Wiener
Department of Mathematics
M. I. T. College
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Prof. Wiener:

It was a great pleasure to speak with you during my recent visit to M. I. T. In the excitement of having unexpectedly met you, I am afraid I failed to respond as much as I would have liked, to two interesting comments that you made during the course of our conversation.

I was particularly interested in your comments about Dr. Gabor's approach to the multiplier and your modification thereof. I recall your statement to the effect that the information is available in a small manuscript containing Dr. Gabor's acceptance address. However, I have been unable to find a more complete reference to the manuscript. If it is not too much of an imposition, I would greatly appreciate receiving a more detailed reference from you, to assist me in locating a copy of the manuscript.

You also asked if I had been giving thought to 'living circuits'. I have been doing some minor work in this area during the past few months although I refer to them as adaptive mechanisms. Incidentally, your recent book "Random Processes" and Von Neumann's "The Computer and the Brain" initiated my interest in them.

I wish again to express my pleasure in having met you and sincerely hope that the opportunity will present itself again in the near future.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George A. Franco".

George A. Franco, Manager
Radio Communication Laboratory
Research Division

GAF:rd

[ans 1/25/60]

January 18, 1960

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

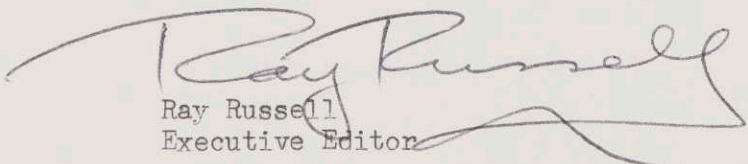
Dear Dr. Wiener,

A speech you recently made in Chicago, and which was subsequently picked up by the newspapers and by TIME, interests me as a possible idea for our pages.

I refer to the possibility of machines one day outstripping and outwitting man. Though, of course, an old idea in fiction, going back at least as far as Capek's R.U.R., it has never before struck me so vividly, so forcibly, with so much reality. I would like to see this concept linked in an article to another, related, subject...and here you must bear with my foggy memory and non-existent scientific training. I remember a piece in SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, perhaps three or four years ago, which explored the possibilities of self-reproducing machines. Do you, by any chance, remember that article? If not, I will dig it up for you, contingent upon your reaction to the following paragraph:

The point of all this: would you be interested in doing for us an article combining both ideas? Do you have the time and the inclination? Though we are not a technical magazine, our readership has a high level of awareness and such an article need not be excessively "popular." Just say yes or no now, and if yes, I will go into details of length, price, etc. May I hear from you soon?

Cordially,


Ray Russell
Executive Editor

RR:jg
Air Mail

michigan 2-1000

[ans 1/20/60]

WILLIAM SIDNEY TAYLOR
5053 SOUTH 22ND STREET
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

18 January 1960

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

Having noticed several newspaper accounts concerning your paper on "The Technical Development of Automatization and Some of its Moral Consequences" as delivered in Chicago, I wondered if it would be possible to obtain a copy for research purposes.

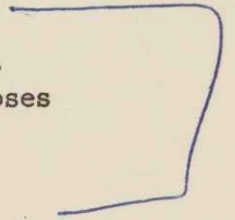
The attached article written in 1958 indicates some degree of my interest in the phenomenon of large scale man-machine systems. I am writing a second article which proposes the development of a new system analysis technique, and I would like to quote or refer to your paper.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Taylor

Enclosure

*plut
answer*



Systems . . . Panoramic Approach to Management

The Management, ~~we~~ must concentrate upon the "whole system" to avoid what one management consultant aptly described as "polishing brass on a sinking ship."

by W. Sidney Taylor

THE BASIC concept of systems engineering is probably best described by a little ode from the Martin Aircraft Systems Engineering Manual:

"Now in building aircraft, remember too!
An integral plan must be carried through:
Lest the weapon prove an unhappy thing
With a jet too strong or a weakly wing,
With a tail too low or a cost too high,
With inadequate radar or fuel supply,
With a bombing load somewhat over-weight,
Or a system, perhaps, going out of date—
Designed too early or built too late!"

Rapid advances in science and technology are tending to preshape not only our personal lives, but our industrial progress and national destiny as well. Atomic power, the jet airplane and the TV set are but a few of many product and weapon systems which are today changing the American way of life and the American standard of living.

The effect of this phenomenon has been an increasing emphasis by top management—not only in business and industry but also in government—to think, plan and manage in terms of major operational "systems."

What do we mean by a "system"? A system, as the writer sees it, is an aggregation of interacting functions or components which have been assembled to achieve a specific objective or effect. In principle, this applies to a product, a weapon, a production line or an administrative process. Each has a purpose for being and each is an aggregation of related components. Inherent in this thinking is the premise that almost everything we do, make, operate or construct involves a system.

A system as such may involve human, mechanical, chemical or struc-

tural components. As a composite it may have operational, logistic or combat objectives. Determining precisely what is and what is not a "system" is purely relative. An air base involving 6,000 people and 50 airplanes can be a system. A servo mechanism on one airplane on the same air base can also be a system. It all depends upon the level of management involved and the scope of analysis.

In the past, systems engineering principles have largely been limited in application to the product-design or military-weapon fields. Industrial designers and engineers, particularly in the aircraft field, have leaned heavily upon the systems approach in developing large, complex, interacting operational systems such as are involved in guided missiles, supersonic aircraft or radar networks, etc. However, a gradual transition is now occurring in the management field where the application of operations-research and systems-engineering principles is becoming more and more commonplace.

Why Systems Engineering?

One of the primary reasons for this transition is the complex and panoramic nature of the action systems inherent in today's age of big business, big industry and big defense. Both weapon and product systems often involve all of the physical and many of the social sciences. As Goode and Machol wrote in their recent book *System Engineering* "There are more of us; we interact with one another more often; and we move with greater speed. We do more things, more kinds of things, and more difficult things." In such a climate, it is no longer sufficient to simply build the better mousetrap. Today's manufacturer or executive must think and plan in terms of an entire mousetrap system.

At the same time, today's operational systems (product, logistic or weapon) introduce new magnitudes of risk. Decision-making, particularly at top management levels, often encount-

ers "the megabuck decision." This expression reflects the risk often involved in the modification of a major operational system. A million dollars (or megabuck) is often committed by the adoption of a single policy, plan, assumption or operational concept. Ford Motors' introduction of the Edsel, for example, was a 250-million-dollar "product system" decision. This is a king-size example. However, many average-size business and industrial enterprises face million-dollar decisions at least once a year. In the military services, the modernization of a bomber command, a naval task force or an airborne Army division may often involve billion-dollar "weapon-system" decisions.

Compounding this problem is the fact that decisions, like equipment, also become obsolete. A system based upon policies, concepts, or planning assumptions appropriate a year ago may be a costly way of doing business today due to technological, economic or legislative changes. The Jones and Lamson adage, "The man who needs a new machine tool is already paying for it," also applies to products, weapons or operational systems.

Expanding this point in a recent ORSA article, Dr. Ellis A. Johnson, Operations Research Office, Johns Hopkins University, pointed out:

"Up until about 1000 A.D. weapons had a lifetime of about 400 years; from about 1500 A.D. until the beginning of the twentieth century, a lifetime of about 50 years. But today weapons systems have a lifetime of about five years, and tend to be obsolescent by the time the first units come off the production line."

Recognizing this trend towards inherent complexity, risk and obsolescence in large-scale operations, both industry and Government are placing greater emphasis upon the so-called "systems approach."

Systems engineering, similar to operations research, begins with a "whole system" attitude. This requires an ini-

tial determination of the boundaries and objectives of the system itself in broad terms. Once these are defined, then systems engineering is primarily concerned with optimizing operations in terms of the whole system rather than with improving operations within one division or function. However, in order to understand the whole system, study must be made into the various major components, their roles and interactions with one another. For this reason, work at the level of the whole organization or system requires a different attitude on the part of management than work conducted within one segment of the organization.

This attitude has been described in various ways by people from industry or business such as Mel Hurni of General Electric, who says:

"In GE, there is a growing understanding that the real power of operations research lies not so much in the solution of individual problems as in providing an increasingly clear vision of a business as a whole . . . a basis for understanding by all our managers of their responsibilities within the almost autonomous departments that they run."

John E. Kusik, Vice President, Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, puts it thus:

"Operations research may be defined as analysis of operations for decision making purposes and for designing efficient operating systems. The only element of newness in OR is a systematic search for opportunities for application of scientific techniques developed in the various fields of science. Its greatest contribution to business lies in the emphasis on viewing problems from a company-wide perspective."

OR or systems thinking tends continually to reorient the modern manager towards the fact that he is not only managing men or machines—but more importantly that he is administering a whole operational complex often involving an interacting mixture of people, machines, objectives, human motivations, controls, planning, programming, policies, methods, environments, etc. These include multi-dimensional factors and elements many of which cannot be easily quantified nor structurally portrayed. Once this awareness is achieved, it then becomes apparent that interactions between these various forces require the most skillful type of management analysis.

This has resulted in a multidiscipline approach which was summarized by Professor Russell L. Ackoff, Case Institute of Technology, in a talk recently:

"Operations research can be characterized very briefly as the scientific investigation of problems involving the management of organized man-machine systems. It should be reemphasized that many of the phases of such problems are investigated by various branches of engineering and science, but it is the whole problem—the problem in all its aspects—that is the subject of operations research. Thus it is for this reason that the industrial engineer sees industrial engineering in OR, the economist sees economics, the statistician sees statistics, the cyberneticist sees cybernetics, and so on. It is all of these things and more. The 'more' arises out of the integration of all of these approaches."

In the weapon-systems area the Air Force, for example, has defined (AFR 5-47) a weapon system thus:

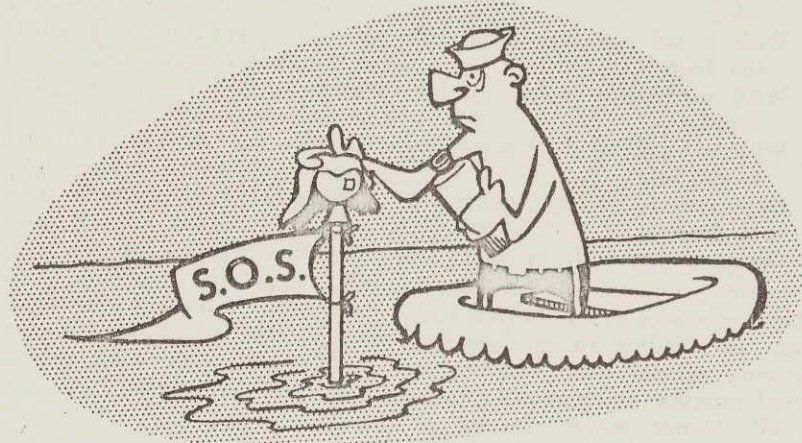
"A weapon system is composed of equipment, skills, and techniques, the composite of which

Federal Government (May 1955):

"The increasing application of science and technology in the instrumentation of warfare has brought about a major change in the character of weapons. An integration of the operating elements into a 'weapons system' is the growing pattern of weaponry. A single element of the system cannot be developed independent of the others."

In weapon systems, the primary problem is not always technological; in many cases, it is managerial. We may have the people, the skills, the equipment and the know-how. Success may not depend upon resources as such, but rather upon how we utilize and deploy resources. In today's global weaponry race, any single component can become operationally or technologically obsolete overnight

The same problem exists in business and industry. Without proper deployment of resources, it is possible to operate an efficient, yet ineffective, business. Like tactics versus strategy



forms an instrument of combat, usually, but not necessarily, having an air vehicle as its major operational element. The complete weapon system includes all related equipment, materials, services, and personnel required solely for the operation of the air vehicle or other major element of the system, so that the instrument of combat becomes a self-sufficient unit of striking power in its intended operational environment."

In terms of the multibillion-dollar deployment of resources involved in our national defense programs, a weapon-systems concept becomes an important management tool, if not a weapon itself, directed towards insuring optimum distribution of resources and effort. This concept was largely outlined in a statement from the Hoover Commission Task Force on Research and Development in the

on the battlefield, it is possible to win a battle and thereby lose a war. Some business firms which have emphasized efficiency and economy have nevertheless fallen in the competitive race. This does not mean to encourage slipshod methods, wasteful practices, nor inefficiency. However, it does emphasize the need for concentrating upon the "whole system" to avoid what one management consultant aptly described as "polishing brass on a sinking ship."

Under modern tax laws, for example, some large firms actually seek inefficiency in the form of tax-loss corporations. Uniquely enough, when losses are injected into a large corporate system (under present tax rules), they often improve overall profit effectiveness. The same situation exists on the production line. One OR study, for example, revealed that full utilization of productive capacity actually reduced the profit potential of an industrial firm by \$250,000. It is

at this point that we begin to differentiate between the scientific management problems of the late 1920s and the strategic management exemplified by OR and systems-engineering techniques of today.

Advancements in data processing are having the interesting side effect of making managements look at their whole enterprises or businesses, in some cases, for the first time in their existence. Integrated data processing, particularly, is forcing modern managements to think in at least two dimensions: (1) analysis of major functions in a vertical sense, down through various organizational echelons; and (2) analysis of the interactions between major functions—in a horizontal sense—across the board.

This is one of the primary reasons for the expanding role and importance of the computer (analog or digital). Human ability to memorize the numerous elements involved in large-scale business or government operations is no match for a battery of tireless electronic memory devices containing possibly 5,000,000 characters with individual access timed in a matter of milliseconds. This has given rise to one of the most important applications of the computer—its ability to simulate large-scale operations, on paper, from data or information often too voluminous or complex for human comprehension.

This process was summarized in a recent WALL STREET JOURNAL article concerning activities of the RAND Corporation in working for the Air Force.

“Some of RAND’s best brains dwell in a world of pretense—a world of violence in which the casualties are often shocking but so far purely imaginary. They are conducting an endless series of mock air battles by feeding complex data into a huge, flashing analog computer. The object: To discover, by bloodless trial and error, the best combination of men, weapons and tactics to crush an enemy.”

However, computers and data processing are only one facet of the total systems problem. As more complete, and current, management information becomes available through integrated data processing, the decision-making process at top management level become more, not less, difficult. The ultimate problem in large management control systems is not one of collection but rather one of interpretation, analysis and synthesis of what the readings on the electronic instrument panels of management really mean. Nobody has yet developed a black box to replace human judgment. Managers still have

to manage. The data-processing problem really begins when the final report, electronically prepared and electronically computed, lands on the president’s desk. At this point, the role of the modern executive becomes one of a master synthesizer who must recognize and relate all the important elements of an entire operating system—before making megabuck decisions.

The Challenge To Management

Underlying this situation is the fact that improvements are needed in the techniques for comprehending and managing large-scale man-machine systems. Operations research is one of the most promising developments to date. However, like Alice in Wonderland, modern managements must learn to step through the looking glass of present-day operations into a never-never land of yet unborn, yet unknown, products or weapons. This is not easy. In many areas, 90% of the products or weapons in use today were completely unknown or unborn as recent as the 1930s. Advancements in basic science have opened up the way for complete breakthroughs in applied science or technology. In weapon systems, for example, modern electronics and nucleonics have made the guided missile a wild deuce in the poker deck of airpower. In product systems, automation, new materials and new resources are creating a situation where our ability to produce is rapidly overtaking our ability to manage.

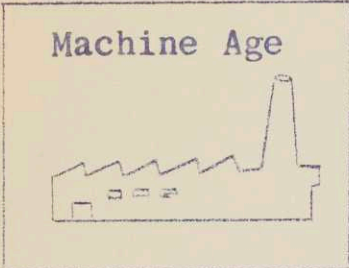
Although we have the energy (atom), and the tools (automation) to usher in an entirely new era, one ingredient is missing. Greater managerial skill and imagination (computers can’t do this) are needed to synthesize the non-mechanical, nonmetric aspects of large-scale man-machine systems.

This is indicated by the paradox that our weapon systems may soon take us to the moon, while our abilities in socioeconomic systems have not yet solved such earthly matters as inflation or human unemployment. These challenges plus the growing bigness and complexity in business and governmental operations are ushering in a new era of systems and systems thinking. As part of this process, OR concepts and data processing may soon combine to produce a new and real breakthrough in the art and science of management.

NOTE: Mr. Taylor is a member of the Systems Analysis Group, Directorate of Personnel Planning, DCS/P, Headquarters United States Air Force. The views and opinions expressed in this article, however, are solely those of the author.

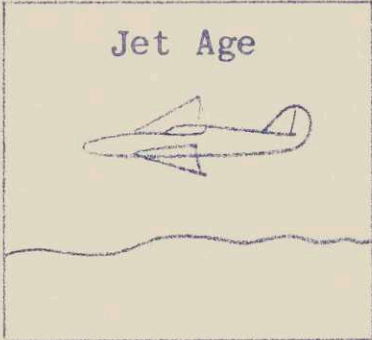
Reprinted from the May 1958 issue
of Armed Forces Management Magazine.
Copyrighted by American Aviation Publications. Permission to reprint
granted in letter from the Managing
Editor dated 19 May 1958.

TREND towardSYSTEMS management:



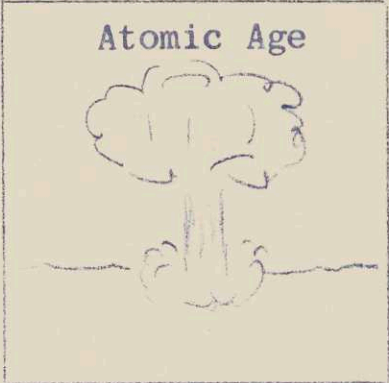
Machine Age

(productivity)



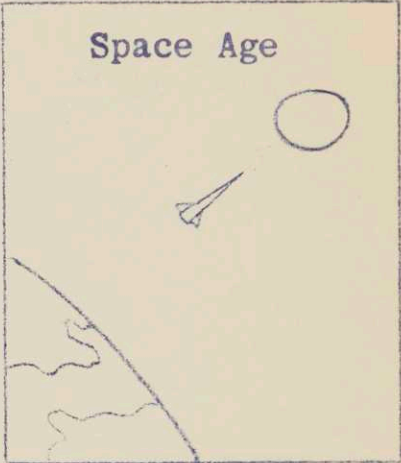
Jet Age

(speed)



Atomic Age

(power)



Space Age

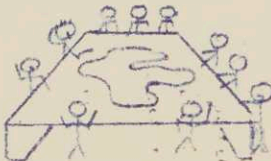
(system)



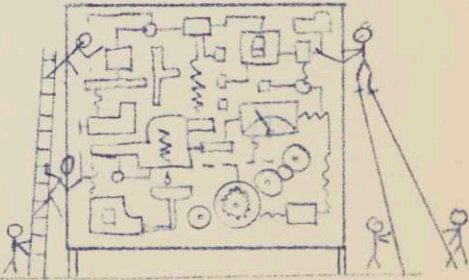
(inventor)



(team)



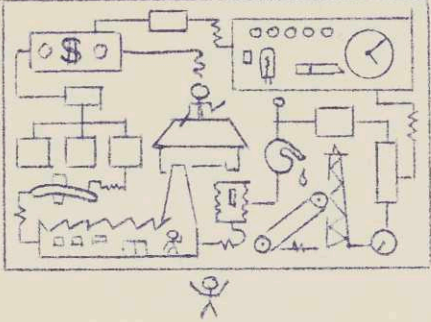
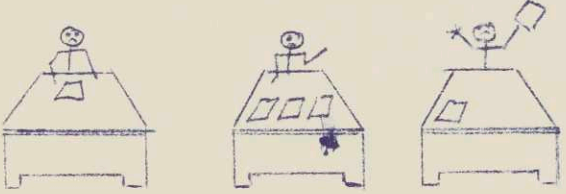
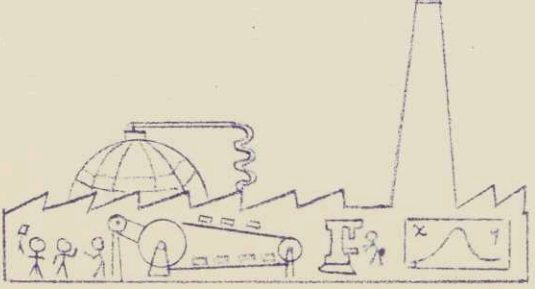
(task force)



(multi-discipline)
group

EXECUTIVE SKILLS:

The human component in man-machine systems.

Area	Skill	Characteristic
<p>Managing the BUSINESS</p> 	<p>Conceptual (ideas)</p>	<p>Ability to see the enterprise as a whole; achieve an optimum balance in objectives, forces, functions, structure, plans, policies, controls, strategy, etc.</p>
<p>Managing PEOPLE</p> 	<p>Human (people)</p>	<p>Ability to work with people. Understanding of human motivations and aptitudes. Leadership skill in terms of people.</p>
<p>Managing WORK</p> 	<p>Technical (things)</p>	<p>Ability to work with things (as opposed to people); hardware, equipment, tools, material, data, techniques. Technical or engineering leadership.</p>

January 18, 1960

Prof. Y. R. Chao
Dept. of Oriental Languages
University of California
Berkeley 4, Calif.

Dear Chao:

I think the situation is still the same and that there is no adequate account that mathematical formulae are to be pronounced in different languages.

It is awfully good to hear from you people. The best wishes from all the ramifications of our family to all the ramifications of yours. It is interesting to find that you have not lost the continuity with your family in China.

Margaret and I are well and are going to spend next summer and fall in Europe. I am officially retiring at the end of this year, but I am going to be kept on for another 5 years. I suppose you find yourself in a somewhat similar situation.

With the best of wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

January 18, 1960

Mr. Graham DuShane
Editor
SCIENCE
1515 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Mr. DuShane:

Many thanks for your letter of January 15. Why don't you send me a copy with your revisions or with an indication of the places which you think I should revise myself. I should get it back to you as soon as possible.

With many thanks and pleasant memories of our breakfast table session, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

January 18, 1960

Mr. Martin J. Gould
Space Technology Laboratories, Inc.
P. O. Box 4277
Patrick Air Force Base, Fla.

Dear Mr. Gould:

I am very much interested in your letter of January 8. I probably followed to some extent along the plans which you indicated by going down to Florida for a couple of weeks during my Christmas vacation, which was paid for by a lecture I gave at the University of Florida. There are definite possibilities in your scheme and definite problems. As far as I myself am concerned, I retire from M.I.T. this year, but shall be kept on for a period on half time. Next winter, I shall follow out your scheme to the extent of lecturing in Naples, Italy. Winter after next, I shall probably be in Mexico City. In having these opportunities, I am more fortunate than many of my colleagues, and I see clearly that something could be done along these lines to make a larger proportion of retired men available. To some extent, the retired man who still retains a fair amount of health and vigor and is fairly well known in his field, is quite likely to be in request for further activity. If on the other hand his health, his personal and moral vigor is not what it was, it may be hard to take care of him even on your scheme. What you are planning is a good idea and would take a great deal of thinking-out.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

January 18, 1960

Miss Thelma Hepburn
Public Relations
Newsweek
Newsweek Building
444 Madison Ave.
New York 22, N. Y.

Dear Miss Hepburn:

It is only now that I find time to thank you for the copy of Newsweek which you so thoughtfully sent to Professor Wiener. He was very pleased and wishes me to express his appreciation to you.

Sincerely yours,

Eva-Maria Ritter (Mrs.)
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

January 18, 1960

Mr. J. Paul Kourkene
Prestressing Consultant
Langley Porter Neuropsychiatric Institute
First and Parnassus Avenues
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Kourkene:

Many thanks for your interest in my book. As to the matter of prestressing, it is a highly complicated art to which I do not feel competent to give any sound advice. To the best of my knowledge, the earliest work in this field was in the matter of the construction of cannon. One of the ways of prestressing which was used in this was the shrinking of successive steel jackets onto the gun barrel which would produce a stress counter to the stress produced by the explosion of the powder charge so that when the gun is fired, part of the inward stress is reversed. Another method used was the winding of wire under stress around the barrel of the gun to produce the same effect. You will find a full account of these on the article of ordnance in the 11th edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica.

You will see that with such an old prior art only an expert could undertake to judge the limitations of previous work and the new directions in which your own work has carried the field. I am not an expert and am scarcely in a position to give you some help. However, I do appreciate your asking me.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

January 18, 1960

Prof. Eric Reissner
2-274

Dear Prof. Reissner:

I have looked the enclosed manuscript over carefully and feel that it is important and should definitely be accepted.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

Enclosure

January 18, 1960

Mr. Lawrence E. Spivak
MEET THE PRESS
528 Lexington Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Spivak:

Many thanks for your invitation to participate in a Meet the Press interview. Frankly, I have my doubts about the advisability of my going into this, and I think it best not to accept. My chief reason is that I feel my work has been over-publicized already and that I consider the situation of a man who has been over-publicized as intrinsically dangerous. I do not have the full energy that I had when I was younger, and therefore I am compelled to direct my efforts in a more concentrated way to the scientific endeavors and the literary work which I intend to do in the future. I hope you will understand.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

January 18, 1960

Mr. Otto W. Winter, Chairman
Honor Awards Committee
1815 Winter Road
Grand Island, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your kind letter of January 9. It looks to me as though I shall find time to be in person at your Honor Awards dinner -- the fact that it is planned for a Saturday evening is indeed a great help -- to accept the A.S.T.E. Research Medal. I hope you will understand that my hesitation was not due to any lack of good will, but merely to the fact that I have to watch my schedule against taking too many responsibilities on. I feel highly honored by the award you are making, and I shall be glad to make contact with you and your colleagues.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr



SOCIETA' INTERNAZIONALE DI MEDICINA CIBERNETICA
S. I. M. C.

IL PRESIDENTE

NAPOLI 19/1/60
VIA ROMA, 348
TEL. 32.26.23 - 31.31.84 - 31.31.25

Dear Professor Wiener,

while I thank you for your letter of January II, I have pleasure in informing you that the Organizing Committee of the International Symposium on Cybernetic Medicine, which will take place in Naples in September 1960, has decided to arrange the schedule of the Symposium so as to make it coincide with your presence in Naples, soon after September 20th, according with the date you mentioned in your letter.

After the lecture you are going to deliver at Hannover on September 20th, please consider yourself our guest as far as traveling expenses, hotel accomodation and all other expenses are concerned. Our invitation is meant for as many days as you choose to remain in our town.

Our offer has nothing to do with any arrangements you may make with Prof. Caianiello or other Institutes. As far as we know no program has yet been made by them.

Our schedule includes three days. The first day will be filled with lectures (the main of which will be held by you) and with receptions in town. The second day will be devoted to a trip to Ischia with receptions there and scientific conversations open to all participants. On the third day there will be a reception in your honour as the founder of Cybernetics.

If the dates 23rd, 24th, and 25th September suit you, please let us know kindly and we shall include those days in the final program. Otherwise we are prepared to make slight alterations for your better convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Aldo Masturzo

[ans 1/22/60]

Lou Ventoulet, 16 Avenue de la Mitre
Mourillon TOULON (Var)

19 Janvier 1960

Professeur N. Wiemer
Laboratoire de Cybernétique
Institut de Technologie du Massachusetts
U.S.A

Monsieur le Professeur

Un journal français vient de publier un bref compte-rendu d'une communication que vous avez récemment faite à l'Association sur l'Avancement des Sciences et dans laquelle vous dénonciez le danger des machines pensantes.

L'Ancien Bactériologiste, que je suis, a pris pour thème de son discours inaugural du Congrès National d'Hygiène qu'en Novembre 1957, il présidait à l'Institut Pasteur, la nécessité d'associer la culture générale et la technicité.

J'avais cité votre opinion sur le manque de culture de nombreux savants américains. Je compte reprendre le thème en faveur des cultures générales, à l'occasion d'une conférence devant l'Académie du Var dont je fais partie. J'aimerais pouvoir citer quelques ^{unes} de vos pensées antérieures ainsi que celles dernièrement émises. Le journal précité mentionne notamment celle-ci: "Si nous n'y prenons garde, le cerveau électronique nous ruinera et nous réduira à l'esclavage."

N'abuserais-je pas de votre amabilité en vous priant de me communiquer des tirés à part de vos communications traitant ces sujets? Le remplacement de l'homme par la machine

ne peut, à mon humble avis, n'être qu'un parti et non total
comme l'envisage, sans crainte, la jeunesse d'aujourd'hui.

Avec mes remerciements et mes excuses, veuillez
agréez, Monsieur le Professeur, l'expression de mes senti-
ments très respectueux.

Dr Paul Rossi

[ans 2/5/60]

INSTITUUT VOOR PERCEPTIE ONDERZOEK

Prof. Dr. J. F. Schouten
Director

INSULINDELAAN 2 - EINDHOVEN
the Netherlands

January 19, 1960

TELEFOON:

K 4900-65703

K 4900-60000-Toestel 7390

K 4900-68000-Toestel 206

JFS/EK

No. 60/17

Prof. Dr. Norbert Wiener
53 Cedar Road
Belmont
Cambridge-Massachusetts
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Wiener,

I shall be participating in a meeting at the California Institute of Technology during the week of February 8th. I am planning to be in or around Boston during the week of the 15th.

I do hope that you will be at home in that period and that there will be an opportunity of meeting again. Would it be possible to let me know before my departure on Saturday February 6th?

With kind regards also to Mrs. Wiener,

yours very truly,

Jan F Schouten

[Ans. 1-25-60]

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CROSLEY DIVISION

P. O. BOX 116—EVENDALE PLANT
CINCINNATI 15, OHIO, U. S. A.

PRINCETON 1-8931

January 19, 1960

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

On 12 and 13 April 1960, the Southern Ohio Section of the American Rocket Society and the local chapter of the Institute of Radio Engineers will hold the "Fourteenth Spring Technical Conference" at the Alms Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio. This meeting is a regional meeting held every year and has enjoyed continuous growth over the years. Participation includes many universities and industrial concerns of the Midwestern United States. All thirty-two papers presented during the meeting will be presented in Proceedings to be issued to participants of the conference. Besides copies to participants, the Proceedings will be issued to libraries only upon request and cannot be obtained except by participation.

There will be six panels with four speakers each, dealing with the following subjects.

1. Panel on Bio-Electronics, Chairman: Colonel Paul Stapp, President ARS
2. Panel on Inertial Guidance, Chairman: Dr. C.S. Draper, M.I. T.
3. Panel on Missile and Space Vehicle Reentry, Chairman: Major General Marvin Demler, USAF
4. Panel on The Objectives and Accomplishments of the International Geophysical Year, Chairman: Dr. J. Kaplan, UCLA
5. Panel on Data Processing and Data Handling, Chairman: Open
6. Panel on Can Computers Out-think Human Beings

For this latter panel we feel that we would not be able to find a more qualified person to serve as chairman than yourself. We, therefore, invite you to take the chairmanship of this panel. We have already received a number of proposed papers on this subject and would be very pleased if you would assist us in the selection of the best qualified papers. We still expect additional papers to arrive and assume that the Bell Laboratories, as in the past years, will contribute some of their outstanding not yet published research work. As you will note under Item 2, Dr. C.S. Draper of M.I. T. is another of our distinguished panel chairmen.

MS

Page Two
January 19, 1960

Based on previous years' experience and the response we have obtained so far, we expect an attendance in excess of 1,000 persons, consisting of engineers and scientists of government institutions, universities, high schools and industry of the Midwestern United States. Aircraft and Missile Industry participation from the entire U.S. is expected since practically all these companies have sponsored exhibitions. The Inertial Guidance Panel is set for the afternoon of 13 April and the panel on the I.G.Y. is set for the morning of 13 April.

The papers to be given should be submitted not later than 10 March 1960 and will be printed in the Proceedings of the conference. The panel chairman will obtain the submitted papers of his panel three weeks in advance of the conference to enable him to prepare the questions discussed during the panel session. Each speaker will be allowed thirty minutes for the presentation of his paper and for five minutes question period from the floor. Another ten minutes of panel discussion will be devoted to each paper including cross references to other papers. Some of the panel chairmen will discuss details of the topics with the individual speakers to insure a well balanced program within each panel. I assume that the panel chairmen will desire to cooperate with the individual speakers as to the particular areas dealt with in their papers and advise these as to content, special features and overlap with respect to other papers.

The Hotel Alms has sufficient accommodations for speakers and guests and we will make every effort to assist in the necessary accommodations, if so desired.

I am hoping to obtain a favorable reply soon.

Respectfully yours,

E.A. Steinhoff/rc

Ernst A. Steinhoff
Program Chairman
Southern Ohio Section
American Rocket Society

rc

[ans 1/27/60]

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Telephone: PLAZA 3-9651

January 20, 1960

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

re: KYBERNETICS OF NATURAL SYSTEMS
by D. Stanley-Jones

Dear Professor Wiener,

Many thanks for your letter of 15 January 1960 and the copy of the preface which you have kindly written for this book by Stanley-Jones which we will soon be publishing. We are most grateful to you for a preface which seems to me to deserve to be followed by a work which is every bit as good as you say the book is!

As you requested I have written to the Technology Press about the question of copyright, and I inclose a copy of this letter for your information.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

E. DeW

EDMUND DEWS

ED:ck

January 20, 1960

Professor Lynwood Bryant
Director
Technology Press
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

re: KYBERNETICS OF NATURAL SYSTEMS
by D. Stanley-Jones

Dear Professor Bryant,

Professor Norbert Wiener has just written a preface for a book on the Kybernetics of Natural Systems which will be copyright and published by Pergamon Press within the next few months. He informs me that he may wish to use some of the material in this preface, with certain changes, as part of a new chapter of the revised edition of "Cybernetics" which he is writing for publication by you.

I am therefore writing to confirm that we are willing for Professor Wiener to use the material in this preface in any way he desires without obtaining our further permission. We would naturally expect that you would make the usual acknowledgement of the source of this material.

Very truly yours,

EDMUND DEWS

ED:ck

c.c. Professor Norbert Wiener ✓

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January 20, 1960

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

I am most pleased to have your acceptance to receive our Society's Research Medal Award for the year 1960.

Accordingly, this letter confirms the action of the National Honor Awards Committee and officially notifies you of it.

The Committee will, of course, directly inform you of all the plans and details for the time, place, and procedure in presenting you with this distinguished award.

I look forward with much pleasure to meeting with you personally, on the happy occasion.

Very sincerely,

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TOOL ENGINEERS

Wayne Ewing
President

WE/lq



POLAROID CORPORATION

CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS

RESEARCH DIVISION, 730 MAIN STREET

January 20, 1960

UNIVERSITY 4-6000

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

Last November I wrote you a couple of rather searching questions about the fundamentals of mathematics and physics. Having received no reply, I wonder whether my letter did not reach you, and am taking the liberty of sending you a copy of the November 13 letter.

I look forward to your reply.

With best wishes,

R. Clark Jones

RCJ:ecj
Enclosure

[ans 1/25/60]

officer
Wiener

November 13, 1959

Professor Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

A couple of questions concerning fundamentals of mathematics and physics have been bothering me for a number of years, and I can think of no one who would be more competent to shed light on these questions than you. Here they are.

1. Let us say that a real number has rank one, a complex number rank two, and a quaternion rank four. It is well known that the solutions of algebraic equations with real coefficients are in general complex; that is to say, of rank two. What is the basic significance of this number two, Professor Wiener? Must we take this number two as being a brutal fact that cannot be analyzed further, or is there a more fundamental significance to the number two?
2. Consider the class of all physical quantities that are usually considered to be functions of frequency. It is usually supposed in physics that the functional dependence on the frequency is an analytic function of $p = i\omega$. Why is it permissible to assume this all-pervading analyticity? Can one show an absurdity if any one of these physical quantities is non-analytic over a finite range of frequency? The immediate answer that occurs to me is that we physicists always write the basic differential equations so that only analytic solutions are permissible. Perhaps this is the only answer, but I hope that there is a more fundamental answer.

Any help you can give me on these problems will be much appreciated.

With best wishes,

R. Clark Jones

January 20, 1960

Prof. Dennis Gabor
The Imperial College of Science & Technology
The University of London
London, England

Dear Gabor:

Your Inaugural Address is magnificent. I wonder if you have explored the relations of your ideas as compared with those of the IBM group. I am spreading far and wide the fame of the voltage multiplier invented in your laboratory, and I believe it is exactly what we need not only to realize your nonlinear apparatus, but mine, too.

I am enclosing a proposed preface to the revised edition of my "Cybernetics". Tell me frankly what you think of it and what suggestions you may have for supplementing the book by new appendices and the like. Also, if you can, tell me what you think of my novel.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

Enclosure

January 20, 1960

Mr. Ray Russell
Executive Editor
PLAYBOY
232 East Ohio
Chicago 11, Ill.

Dear Mr. Russell:

Thank you for your interest in my speech in Chicago and its implications. I greatly fear, however, that I have enough work lined up ahead of me to make it impossible to do another popular article. As you are well aware, an author is in great danger of repeating himself contracting for the same idea in several places, etc. Therefore, I hope you will excuse me if I find myself unable to comply with your request.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

January 20, 1960

Mr. D. Stanley-Jones
Buckshead, Townshend
Hayle, Cornwall
England

Dear Mr. Stanley-Jones:

Many thanks for your appreciative letter concerning my preface to your book which is now either in your hands or in those of the Pergamon Press. I scratch your back and you can scratch mine.

I am enclosing a carbon copy of the preface for your book as well as one of the proposed preface to my own corrected edition of "Cybernetics" which I intend to supplement by several important appendices. Please tell me what you think of it even if your opinion is not favorable. I would appreciate hints, too, as to what appendices you would think to be in order. I am getting opinions of several of my friends here, too.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

Encs: 2

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
LINCOLN LABORATORY
LEXINGTON 73, MASSACHUSETTS

Volunteer 2-3370

January 21, 1960

Mrs. William Court
830 Barrington Road
Detroit 30, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Court:

Dr. Wiener sent me your letter of December 29, and your essay of December 9 on "The Indubitable Deterrent." I am much interested in material of this type, and I happen to know Morgenstern and Schelling (among others). I am quite concerned with such affairs at the present time, being involved with the preparation and editing of a book on arms control, for example.

Perhaps the ensuing discussion can be somewhat sharpened if we consider an extreme form of the system discussed in your essay. Suppose we assume that a weapon which would have sufficient yield to extinguish all life on the planet may be coming into the realm of technical feasibility. Herman Kahn, an analyst with the Rand Corporation, has aptly dubbed such devices "doomsday machines." (They would be quite large machines and could not be delivered as bombs or by missiles. However, this would not matter; wherever it was set off such a device would lead to the same end result.) He has discussed the possibility of using these devices as a retaliatory deterrent threat, in which the triggering of the device would be controlled by a computer, essentially as indicated in your essay. When implemented for automatic operation in this manner, he refers to the device as a "doomsday-in-a-hurry" machine.

A doomsday-in-a-hurry machine would obviously be the ultimate in deterrence against nuclear attack. I am afraid the proposal in your essay is essentially a proposal for a doomsday-in-a-hurry machine. You do not indicate the exact yield you wish to achieve from your deterrent force, but the phrase "as dirty as possible" is certainly moving in that direction. I am afraid that I do not approve of doomsday-in-a-hurry machines, even if not quite sufficient to extinguish life on the planet. There are several reasons for this, as follows.

1. Technical Feasibility. You ask that it be "triggerable only by and inevitably by a nuclear attack on us or on our allies." As a technical objective, this cannot be achieved. If, as you seem to suggest, the machine is to be a one-shot affair, not to be asked to conduct a detailed and complicated war on the basis of intermediate retaliatory steps by the enemy, the only technical problem is deciding the criteria for firing the mechanism and the engineering character of the sensory inputs to the decision mechanism. If the firing criteria are defined by blast and shock effects from a nuclear attack, the device could be triggered by a large earthquake. If the

device did not fire promptly, but instead waited for radiation levels from fall-out to reach a certain threshold, the people in charge of the device would have time to have second thoughts about the matter and could disable the device, if by no other means than removing or shielding its sensory devices and shutting down the prime power inputs to the device. There is also, as you perceived, a very large reliability problem, apart from the problem of initiation by a spurious signal such as an earthquake.

2. Strategic Desirability. Even if the machine were technically realizable in the form you prescribe, and even if it did not destroy all life on the planet, I should say that there are numerous reasons why we should not wish to build a doomsday-in-a-hurry machine. To begin with, the machine would be so expensive that it would consume a large fraction of our resources that might otherwise be directed at solutions of the more basic problems concerned, such as developing the underdeveloped countries and establishing a more rational world political climate. It would divert resources from our conventional armed forces. This would mean that the Communist powers, knowing full well that our retaliation would only be triggered by a direct nuclear strike, and also knowing full well that we had no conventional armament worth mentioning, would feel perfectly free to march all over the world seizing whatever pleased their fancy. I also believe that the construction of such a system would have an adverse effect on the world political climate, which would definitely act to our long-term strategic disadvantage.

3. Absence of Need. I cannot agree that our present nuclear deterrent is either excessively vulnerable or excessively threatening. I believe Morgenstern has over-emphasized the extent to which our present and immediately projected weapon systems are vulnerable or threatening. Perhaps the best publishable evidence I can cite for this is Khrushchev's recent talk about unilateral Russian arms reductions, which would be the height of irrationality if he really thought we were threatening him. The effective invulnerability of our deterrent is a highly technical matter involving such questions as the actual number of operational Russian missiles, the effectiveness of their air defense forces, the number of our bombers and their ability to penetrate Russian air defenses, and the amount of warning we might have of various types of Russian attack. I can assure you that the people who are most intimate with this problem area and who are most competent to judge the question are confident that our deterrent forces will not be excessively vulnerable at any time within the near future. For example, I am sure you must have heard or seen some of the discussion in newspapers and elsewhere related to the use of SAC bombers on airborne alert, as protection against a surprise missile strike, at such time as the Russians might have a significantly larger missile force than we.

4. Subtle Consequences. If I have understood Professor Wiener correctly, the machine he was discussing and to which you refer was a much more complicated concept that involved the detailed conduct of a complete war. I believe his essential point was that we could not understand the consequences of our strategy even if we were able to devise a programmed strategy that would "win" in the terms in which the program was defined. The same problem is of course true of even a relatively simple doomsday-in-a-hurry machine; unless the machine actually destroyed all life, we do not have much idea of what the world would be like afterwards if the machine were ever called upon to do its work.

Mrs. William Court

-3-

January 21, 1960

In spite of my disagreement with the content of your essay, I found it most stimulating, and helpful for bringing these issues into sharp focus. It is gratifying to discover people who are intelligently concerned with the character of the situation in which we find ourselves; so long as such people exist we may have some hope of achieving a solution to our problems that does not entail global suicide. Perhaps our greatest hazard is that we may simply drift into a situation from which there is no escape.

Sincerely yours,

D. G. Brennan

DGB:jej

cc: N. Wiener

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January 21, 1960

Mr. Lichtenstern
Veb Gustav Fischer Verlag Jena
Postschiessfach 176
Villengang 2
Jena, Germany

Dear Mr. Lichtenstern:

We were indeed pleased to receive your recent letter wherein you let us know of your desire to translate the book entitled CYBERNETICS by N. Wiener into German.

The rights to the publication are controlled by the author, Doctor Wiener, and we would suggest that you contact him for further information concerning the translation rights. His address is the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

We are taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to Doctor Wiener so that he will know of your interest in his book.

Most sincerely,

Frank Forkert

Frank Forkert
Overseas Division

FF:ar

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
ST. LOUIS 30, MISSOURI



COMMITTEE ON MOLECULAR BIOLOGY
ADOLPHUS BUSCH III LABORATORY

January 22, 1960

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

First let me thank you for the very exciting talk that you gave at our recent symposium. As you already know it has created a considerable interest in the point of view that you have developed.

The editor of Science is interested in publishing your paper and I hope that he will be willing to publish a manuscript from Dr. Chisholm and possibly a summary of my comments at the same time. Publication in this form will give the readers of Science a good indication of the points of view developed at our symposium.

I hope that you have found the copies of your talk that we sent you recently sufficient for your needs. I have retained only one or two file copies.

Your expense account has been submitted to the AAAS office for payment and you should hear from them directly soon. If you do not, please let me know.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Barry Commoner

BC:da

SCIENCE

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE
1515 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON 5, D.C. • DUPONT 7-7171

22 January 1960

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

We will copy edit your manuscript within the next few weeks and then send you a copy so that you can see the changes that we propose to make.

Sincerely,



Graham DuShane, Ph.D.
Editor

GDuS:lw

Massachusetts

Institute of

Technology

CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS

the Libraries

January 22, 1960

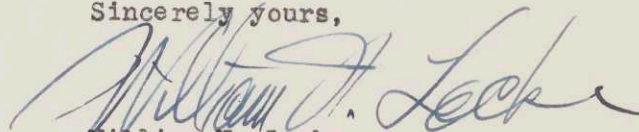
Professor Norbert Wiener
2-276

Dear Professor Wiener:

The autographed copy of your book, "The Tempter", has just arrived. May I thank you, in the name of the Libraries and the Institute, for your kindness in making this presentation to the Technology Collection.

We are eager for the Collection to be completely representative of the work of the Institute alumni and staff and your contribution will help.

Sincerely yours,



William N. Locke
Director of Libraries

WNL/sw

PHONE UNIVERSITY 4-7300



AMERICAN SOCIETY *of* TOOL ENGINEERS

1 0 7 0 0 P U R I T A N A V E N U E

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January 22, 1960

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

It is reported to our Headquarters Staff that you have written formal acceptance of the ASTE Research Medal, following upon balloting by our National Honor Awards Committee. May I offer my own most sincere congratulations, and say that I very much look forward to seeing you in person in Detroit next April.

So that you may definitely reserve the date, the Honor Awards Dinner at which the award will be conferred upon you is scheduled to take place at the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, Saturday evening, April 23.

Details for the dinner and the award ceremonies are now being worked up. As soon as they are finalized, we will inform you in detail.

The better housing accommodations will be very scarce during the Engineering Convention in April. We therefore enclose hotel room reservation form and suggest that you fill it in and mail it as soon as possible.

Cordially,

Frank W. Wilson
Technical Director

FWW/lq

Enclosure

January 22, 1960

Prof. E. R. Caianiello
Istituto di Fisica
Universita di Napoli
Naples, Italy

Dear Caianiello:

I want to thank you for the prompt, courteous, clear and fully acceptable offer which you have made me. It is accepted, as I say, and we shall go ahead with our plans. I shall also try to have a good deal of new content ready for the lectures I am going to give.

I have already written to the Society of Cybernetic Medicine of my acceptance of their plans which I believe will not interfere with yours. With great anticipation, best regards and much friendship from my wife as well as from me, I remain

Sincerely Yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW

January 22, 1960

Dr. Barry Commoner
Adolphus Busch III Lab.
of Molecular Biology
Washington University
St. Louis 30, Missouri
USA

Dear Dr. Commoner:

The copies of Prof. Wiener's AAS talk arrived today, and I wish to thank you for your prompt and courteous reaction to my request.

Sincerely yours,

Eva-Maria Ritter (Mrs.)
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

January 22, 1960

Prof. Aldo Masturzo
President
Societa Internazionale di Medecina Cibernetica
Via Roma, 348
Napoli, Italia

Dear Prof. Masturzo:

Thank you for your kind letter of January 19 and your generous offer.

I have heard from Prof. Caianiello, and the arrangements about my talking to you which you have made are clear and perfectly acceptable. In a few weeks I shall write you about the detailed plan of my talk and the topic which I intend to discuss.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

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Mr.
Professor Dr. Norbert WIENER
Professor of Mathematics
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology

Cambridge 39

Massachusetts - USA

Geneva, January 25th, 1960
BW/sk

Dear Professor Wiener,

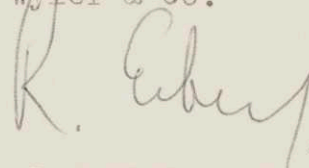
We understand that you recently spoke before the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Chicago.

As publishers of Swiss periodicals we would be greatly interested in reading, and perhaps, publishing your address. Therefore, we would like to ask you to be so kind as to supply us with a copy of your speech.

Hoping to hear from you soon, we remain,

Yours faithfully,

UNIVERSUM PRESS
Wyler & Co.



Dr. Rudolf Eckert

[Jan. 2-3-60]



THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT
MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

January 25, 1960

Dear Dr. Wiener:

For many years the Library of Congress has been collecting the personal papers of American scientists. The holdings of the Manuscript Division already include collections of this nature ranging in time from the Benjamin Franklin papers to the newly acquired Irving Langmuir papers.

Because of the rising interest in the history of science and technology, we recently surveyed our holdings in order to locate gaps in our collections. One noticeable gap we encountered is in mathematics.

Because of your many contributions to modern mathematics, the Library of Congress would be proud to start its collecting activities in this field with your personal papers. We hope that you will decide to place these manuscripts in our institution at a time convenient to you so that they will become available to students of the history of science.

We look forward to your reply. We also welcome suggestions of other mathematicians' personal papers suitable for inclusion in our Manuscript Division.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David C. Mearns".

David C. Mearns
Chief
Manuscript Division

Enclosure

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

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT
MANUSCRIPT DIVISION



Private Papers

A Plea for Their Preservation
and
An Explanation of Their Importance
to the
National Collections

Manuscript Division

THE MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS of the Library of Congress are composed of many millions of papers valuable to students of the American past. Here are the originals of the rough draft of the Declaration of Independence; George Washington's commission as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army; the notes on the proceedings of the Constitutional Convention; the first telegraph message; the first and second drafts of the Gettysburg Address; the correspondence of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, Martin Van Buren, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, James Knox Polk, Zachary Taylor, Franklin Pierce, Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Johnson, Ulysses S. Grant, James Abram Garfield, Chester A. Arthur, Grover Cleveland, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Woodrow Wilson, and Calvin Coolidge; a great variety of papers of their outstanding contemporaries from Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton to Charles Evans Hughes and Cordell Hull; and the papers of distinguished jurists, warriors, scientists, explorers, authors, architects, artists, editors, clergymen, diplomats, labor leaders, social workers, teachers, actors, doctors, merchants, industrialists, financiers, and philanthropists—in short, the papers of those men and women who, throughout the centuries, have most profoundly influenced the lives and destinies of their countrymen. In addition there are millions of transcripts and photo-reproductions of material in the archives of Great Britain, France, Spain, Mexico, and Canada relating to the people of the United States.

The autographic value of the collections is large, for there are rare and curious papers of persons foremost in national life; but the chief value of the collections is historical. In the case of a man or woman who has played a significant part in national affairs, the Library desires all the papers—letters sent and letters received, drafts, memoranda, diaries, journals, notes of every sort and kind.

These national manuscript collections are housed in fireproof, vault-like, air-conditioned stacks with humidity control. An expert staff organizes them for use, insures their protection and preservation, and provides for their scholarly reference use in the Division's commodious and well-equipped reading room. Craftsmen, skilled in modern techniques, repair and restore manuscripts received in damaged condition. The Library maintains an excellent photographic laboratory where manuscripts may be copied.

It is seldom possible to write from source material on any phase of American civilization—political, military, social, economic, religious, or artistic—without recourse to these great national collections. Indeed, historical writers of standing constantly avail themselves of the resources and facilities of the Manuscript Division. For this reason, representation in these collections is the surest way to secure recognition in the history of the Nation. Persons justly proud of the achievements of an ancestor present his papers to the Library in order that historians may have access to them. This they regard as both a duty and a privilege for here they become a living, evocative, and enduring memorial.

Manuscripts are often given to the Library subject to certain conditions, which are faithfully and scrupulously observed. Thus for a period mutually acceptable to the Library and the donor the conditions may provide that the papers may be examined in each instance only upon the specific authorization of the donor; or that for a time the papers will be withheld altogether from public use; or that literary property rights will be reserved by the donor. It is not unusual, however, for donors to dedicate their literary property rights to the public, an action which markedly extends the usefulness of the manuscripts. The collections are made available only to serious scholars. No instance is known of their having been exploited wilfully to injure the reputations of persons whose papers are in our keeping.

The Library will submit for the donor's signature a formal instrument of gift embodying any reasonable conditions which the donor may impose. In shipping, the right way is for the sender to include every paper, even those considered intimate or trivial. The Library will examine all with a view to selecting those of permanent importance to research, and will, upon request, return what appears to be inappropriate. The Library will also, upon request, submit for tax purposes an appraisal of the value of gifts received. Instructions for shipment at the Library's expense will be sent upon application to the Library of Congress, Exchange and Gift Division, Washington 25, D. C.

The advantages to be derived from placing collections of papers in the Library of Congress are:

1. To preserve them. Here they are in an institution belonging to the Government. They will survive as long as the seat of Government survives, and they will be as far beyond danger of loss, dispersion, or deterioration as in an age of perilous weapons it is possible for them to be. They are guarded around the clock.

2. To contribute to the truth of history. While in private hands, they are inaccessible to historians. Their existence is not generally known. There are no facilities for their use.

3. To give the individual whose papers they were the place in history to which he may be entitled. The historian is a reporter. He must have material on which to base his statements. The public man whose papers are accessible takes his proper place in history. The public man whose papers have been destroyed or are kept in private hands is often inadequately or mistakenly estimated—or is entirely overlooked. To retain the papers of a national personage in private hands is to deprive him of the abiding fame which is his right and to which he properly looked forward.

4. To complement a national resource. "History is the memory of mankind." But just as a man's memory is, in particulars, fallible, imperfect, shaded by personality and passion, so the memory of mankind must be collective, cumulative, tested, and proven if history is to further an understanding of experience. The elements of truth must be integrated. A collection of papers in combination with the papers of close associates and formidable adversaries assures sound evidence, and from the reality of experience comes confident ground for present action. And to this consideration there is a compelling, a decisive corollary, for in the Manuscript Division private papers are juxtaposed to the most comprehensive, encyclopedic, universal aggregate of books and pamphlets, magazines and newspapers, maps and charts, prints and photographs, and other records of the human family ever brought together at any place in any time. They can shape the future, for in the Library of Congress private papers are added to the sum of knowledge.

August 6, 1958.

PLAYBOY

232 east ohio • chicago 11, illinois

January 25, 1960

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

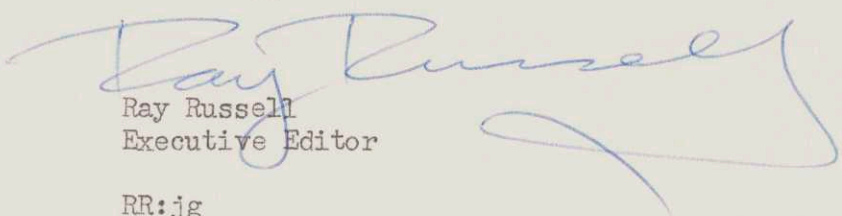
Dear Dr. Wiener,

Thank you for your prompt reply to my letter.

Although I am sorry you won't be able to do the article for us, I do understand the reasons.

Would it be possible to obtain a transcript of your Chicago speech? If copies are easily obtainable, I would like to read the full text myself. Also, in the event we commission another writer to do an article in roughly the same area, he would undoubtedly want to quote you on some points.

Cordially,


Ray Russell
Executive Editor

RR:jg
Air Mail

ECON-VERLAG GMBH

DÜSSELDORF-PRESSEHAUS

Postschließfach 1102

Mr. Norbert Wiener
c/o Random House Inc.

VERLAGSLEITUNG

457 Madison Avenue
New York 22, N.Y.

25-1-1960
vW/oe

Dear Mr. Wiener,

As we have the pleasure to publish your book "The Tempter" next autumn we would like to ask you a favour.

On the occasion of our ten years' existence we want to hand over a small almanac to the bookselling-trade and to friends of our house. In this almanac our most important authors will say their opinion - according to their own choice - to the following questions:

1. How your book published by us came into being
2. Why you wrote this book.

Of course you can answer either or both questions.

Please write for us such a small contribution, minimum 10 maximum 60 lines, how your book THE TEMPTER came into being. We should be thankful, if we could get your contribution until March 1st.

Herewith we hope not only to give an attractive documentation but also to give the great number of our readers a glimpse into the working methods and thoughts of our authors.

Yours affectionately,

W. Wehrenalp
(v. Wehrenalp)

[ans 2/26/60]

January 25, 1960

Mr. A. T. Bharucha-Reid
Department of Mathematics
College of Liberal Arts
University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Mr. Bharucha-Reid:

I have completely lost touch with the place where I heard of the Polish scientist who used the word "cybernetics". I even forgot from whom I heard it. It may have been Prof. Marc Kaz, Cornell University, but I am by no means sure that it was. Why don't you contact him. I hope you will find the proper reference and give credit where credit is due.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

January 25, 1960

Mr. George A. Franco, Manager
Radio Communication Laboratory
Res. Division
Stromberg-Carlson Company
Rochester 3, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Franco:

It was a great pleasure to meet you and a great compliment to find you interested in my book. As to Prof. Gabor's paper, it is his inaugural address on appointment to professorship at the Imperial College of Science and Technology which is one of the colleges of the University of London, Engld. I am quite sure that if you write to him at that address, you can get a copy. It was printed privately.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

le 25 janvier 1960

Hermann et Cie
6, rue de la Sorbonne
Paris V, France

Messieurs:

Nous sommes en train de vérifier notre compte et état de finances et nous serions bien heureux d'avoir votre assistance, s'il est possible.

Je suis très curieux de savoir combien des exemplaires de mon livre "Cybernetics" ont été déjà vendus par vous. J'ai reçu le cheque (\$47.85) que vous m'avez envoyé, mais je ne connais pas le nombre total. Je ne sais non plus combien des droits de traduction ont été accordés, ni le nombre des pays (et langues) à qui vous avez donné la permission de traduire le livre. Est-ce que je demande trop en vous priant de m'envoyer ces chiffres?

Veillez agréer, Messieurs, mes sentiments les plus distinguées et dévouées.

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

FX427689

NEW YORK NOV. 24, 1959
THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK
EIGHTEEN PINE STREET
NEW YORK 15, N. Y.

\$47.85***

2

INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT
REMITTANCE DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

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*

*

* DOLLARS

To

NORBERT WIENER
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS,
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

WE ENCLOSE OUR
OFFICIAL CHECK

RE. DROITS DE TRADUCTION SUR LE LIVRE CYBERNETICS.
BY ORDER SOCIETE HERMANN & CO., PARIS.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN ATTACHED RECEIPT TO US.

PROCEEDS OF EF.24,050.00* * * *

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PARIS, FRANCE

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January 25, 1960

Dr. R. Clark Jones
Polaroid Corporation
Research Division
730 Main Street
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Dr. Jones:

As to your first question, I think it has been shown and is well recognized that the only algebras satisfying the associative, commutative and distributive laws for addition and multiplication apart from possible finite algebras can be embedded either in ordinary real algebra or ordinary complex algebra. Quaternions are not commutative. In the theory of algebraic equations, commutativity is an important property and indeed necessary for the proper definition of these equations. I think this is the reason that two is of such importance in algebra.

As to the second question, if we work in ordinary algebra, harmonic analysis has its importance because of functions $e^{i\theta}$ are linear invariants of the translation group; in fact, its characters. This has nothing to do with analyticity and it is on this that harmonic analysis depends.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

January 25, 1960

Mr. E. King Phelon
Cherry Valley
Otsego County
New York

Dear Mr. Phelon:

I am afraid that the book that you mention belongs to my remote past and that I have no copy of it. I am very sorry that I am unable to fill your request.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

January 25, 1960

Prof. Dr. J. F. Schouten
Director
Instituut voor Perceptie Onderzoek
Insulindelaan 2
Eindhoven, Holland

Dear Schouten:

I was delighted to hear from you. We want you very much at our house some time in the week of the 15th, as may be convenient to you. How about Tuesday, the 16th of February? We have plenty of room to put you up in our home, but hesitate to offer it in view of the fact that you may prefer the freedom of motion of a hotel and that our house is a bit remote from the center of Cambridge and Boston.

How is your family and, in particular, your father? My son-in-law, Gordon Raisbeck, joins me in sending our best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES OPERATIONS MISSION TO PAKISTAN

26 January 1960



Cable : INCOPADMIN

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge , Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Thank you very much for your very kind letter. It reminded me very much of one I received twelve years ago from Dr. Einstein. He did not necessarily subscribe to my findings but he encouraged me to continue and to document my findings. That I have done.

You wrote of perhaps there being a deeper meaning that was not apparent in the paper as prepared. In response to that I have amended the latter portion to point out how it ties into classical mathematics and some of the implications involved.

Thank you again for your kind words and the great amount of help and encouragement you have given me through your publications.

Sincerely yours,


Weldon T. Ellis Jr.

Enclosure

See page 4 as
marked for new
portion

FUNDAMENTAL INTERRELATIONSHIPS

and
Their Impact Upon Higher

Mathematics

by

Weldon T. Ellis Jr.

Principal Atomic Energy Advisor
USOIL/Pakistan

This paper is presented with the belief that the time is rapidly approaching when a fuller and more exact understanding of the fundamental interrelationship of the forces of nature will require a more precise statement of the concepts underlying the higher mathematics in use throughout the world today. It is hoped that a statement of these interrelationships and some of the impacts upon the concepts underlying mathematics will help hasten the development of the type of mathematics necessary to express a fuller understanding of the forces of nature.

Before describing the fundamental interrelationships among the forces of nature, it is necessary to state the parameters within which the interrelationships, as described below, have been developed. As in any system one can, by changing the parameters, change the interrelationships. In brief these parameters, as pertaining to the universe in which we are now living, are:

This universe is finite in space and infinite in time, and
This universe is finite in matter and infinite in energy.

There follows a brief description of the theory involving those interrelationships considered as fundamental to the universe and all that occurs within it.

Theory in Essence

The universe consists of a unified spectrum. All forces of nature are but different aspects of that spectrum. Through an understanding of and control over one aspect all aspects can be controlled. In other words, the forces of nature can be so directed as to interplay and modify one another to a degree hitherto unpractised by man.

Maintaining Focus

In order to keep the theory in sharp focus, it is absolutely essential to keep the following thought in mind at all times. The basic components or facets of nature ... space, energy, matter, time and reactivity are inseparable. Only for purposes of discussion can they be considered separately.

(more)

For the purpose of this paper those facets are defined as follows:

1. Space - - Space is composed of a basic substance that can be called ylem. The relative degree of concentration of ylem determines the relative amount of space. At one extreme there is a minimum concentration of ylem. This represents a state of maximum expansion of space. At the other extreme there is a maximum concentration of ylem and a minimum amount of space. Between the two extremes there are varying degrees of concentration of ylem and thus of space. The degree of expansion or of relatively free ylem determines the relative amount of space. Space can thus be visualized as one facet of a continuum ranging from maximum expansion through all the intermediate stages to maximum concentration.
2. Energy - - There is an energy facet of the continuum paralleling the space facet. The spectrum of energy ranges from the pattern of motion of the smallest unit-of the basic substance ylem-through the patterns of motion of all the components of the universe to include the pattern of motion of the universe itself. Implicit in the concept is the fact that energy is motion and that everything is always in motion. Only relatively speaking is anything ever at rest. Also involved is the hypothesis that all motion is waveform or pulsing in nature. Since there cannot be motion without space in which to move, space and energy must be considered as inseparable. Likewise, there cannot be motion without something to set in motion so it follows that space, energy and matter are inseparable.
3. Matter - - Matter can be considered as the antithesis of space in that it is the result of the concentrating action of energy upon space. The action of the various wave patterns of energy flowing through space produces zones of compression and rarefaction. Within these zones there are further interactions of the waves that create endless complexes of vortexes, nodes and shells. The result is a multiplicity of concentrations of ylem. We call those complex concentrations matter. These we recognize in the form of atoms and molecules. At a lower level we recognize them as sub-atomic particles. Actually they are all nothing more than a segment of the matter facet of the continuum. This facet starts with the smallest unit, ylem, and continues up through all the different combinations and sized units of matter to embrace the largest unit of all, the universe in its entirety.

(more)

4. Time - - The passage of time is dependent upon and relative to the rate of energy flow. The faster the rate of energy flow the faster the passage of time. To state it differently, the greater the amount of energy the greater the potential amount of time. In terms of ageing, the greater the degree of concentration of energy or density of matter the longer its potential life. Also, the greater its density the better it can resist the dissipating effect of the energy flow and the longer it will be able to survive. Conversely, where there is less energy involved there is less time. These interrelationships mean that there is a time facet of the continuum paralleling the space-energy-matter facets. The time spectrum ranges from the pulse rate of the smallest unit, ylem, up through those of all the components to the pulse rate of the universe itself.

5. Reactivity - - Reactivity is the fifth and final facet to the continuum. It is the facet that binds together and gives direction to the other four. The ability to react to changes in pressure, temperature and other environmental forces determines the ability to survive. The extent to which that ability is organized and given direction determines the ability both to survive and to control environment. The forces of environment range from the energy patterns that form the sub-atomic particles, up through the complex forces of nature, to include the radiations that emanate from and act upon all components of the universe. At the lower level reactivity can be viewed as purely mechanical. As it progresses up through the more highly organized and better integrated units it can be called life. As life itself becomes more purposeful it becomes more intelligent. Intelligence helps give control over environment. Intelligence is the highest form of reactivity. Reactivity parallels and is an integral part of the entire space-energy-matter-time continuum. It is the facet that pervades and gives guidance and purpose to nature and all that it includes.

Mathematical Implications

Perhaps the primary change in the system of mathematics needed to express accurately the above concepts lies in the definitions of finite and infinite. The above calls for a definition of finite as being one or unity. In turn, the open-end concept of infinite will have to be replaced by that of the closed or completed cycle. These will be more in accord with both quantum and wave theory than present day definitions. In addition, the concept of equality will have to be modified since pure equality is non-existent within the present universe. For example, it will no longer suffice to say that for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. It must be restated as-for every action there is an almost equal and almost opposite reaction. To state otherwise is

(more)

to postulate a perfectly balanced and thus a perfectly static universe. That we know is not true.

The concept of zero will have to be eliminated from the new system. Such a concept is sufficiently exact when dealing with the daily needs of, say, an economic system but it is not admissible when expressing universal interrelationships. The use of zero postulates the existence of nothing a contradiction on the face of it. In the place of zero the concept of spatial displacement will have to be adopted. Taking away two apples from a pile of two does not leave zero apples. It merely displaces them, otherwise a segment of the universe will have been destroyed and with it the parameters within which this paper was developed.

Derivative Definitions

When viewed in terms of the above hypothesis, a number of formerly hazy concepts can be defined precisely and in quantitative terms. Such definitions can then be expressed mathematically. Two cases in point are entropy and chaos.

Entropy

The entropy, or stage of degradation of any system, at any given point in time, is directly proportional to the mean wave-length of energy of the system.

Chaos

The potential for chaos in any system, at any given point in time, is inversely proportional to the stage of development of the reactivity of the system.

From the above it can be seen that the potential for chaos of any system is inversely proportional to the entropy of the system. This is not entirely in accord with the classical definition. In the past the concept of chaos has been derived from what might be considered as the statistical probability of the physical universe. This meant that past events were the controlling factor and how they happened to occur was the pattern of probability for the future. When reactivity in the form of intelligence is introduced the picture is changed.

Without the modifying influence of reactivity at the higher level, man's future, and the development of man himself, is dependent entirely upon the haphazard impacts of environment or the influence of some outside force. That concept negates completely the doctrine of freedom of choice or of man having any say so in his future. Man is already demonstrating his ability to exercise control over his environment and his physical and mental well being. Slight though that control may be it still denies any contention that he is powerless to do so. The act

of his so doing automatically changes the former concept of entropy being a measure of chaos.

The ability to express mathematically both entropy and chaos and to relate one to the other would provide a formidable mathematical tool that could be used to analyze the status and thus to predict the behaviour of all types of systems. A mathematical system capable of such a breadth of application would fulfill the dreams of mathematicians down through the ages.

Fundamental Relationship

The fundamental interrelationships among space, matter, energy and time, as modified by reactivity, can be expressed as follows:

$$\frac{m}{s} \approx \left(\frac{e}{t}\right)^r$$

It will be noted that there is no constant involved, rather, there is a series of inter-related variables to which a constant value or values can be attached. Further, it is believed that the potential of intelligence, or the ability to exercise conscious control over environment, has been introduced, for the first time, as a factor to be considered in mathematical computations.

Relation to Classical Mathematical Systems

As stated in the beginning, by changing the parameters of any system the system itself can be changed. In the universe, as visualized by Sir Isaac Newton, everything was in balance and thus the mathematical system had to be balanced. This was changed when Dr. Albert Einstein introduced the concept of relativity. He introduced the variable that upset the Newtonian balance for a period. Actually, this represented a shift in parameters to take into account greater influences.

The universe, as conceived by Dr. Einstein, though considerably broadened, was limited by the speed of light. Thus the equation $e = mc^2$ automatically circumscribed the potential of the universe so expressed. It also limited the degree of control that man could exercise over his environment since it limited all speeds to that of light. In addition, it gave man no control over time and space. Despite these obvious limitations it represented an evolutionary, if not revolutionary, step forward in the field of mathematics.

The equation, as expressed in this paper, is merely another step forward. It represents an attempt to remove those limitations that man has placed on the mind of man. Without a supporting mathematical system this step will be of little value. There is already evidence of a start toward such a system. Dr. A. B. Pal of the University of

the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan, has presented a paper on the elimination of the concept of zero. His paper shows how this eliminates certain discontinuities in classical mathematics. This, and other such papers, will make the elements of a meaningful system that will prove useful to mankind.

The three systems, one limited by balance, one by the speed of light and the other by the intelligence of man, can easily be reconciled. In the formula $e = mc^2$, if c is made equal to one then the old Newtonian balance is restored, since speed is eliminated as a factor to be considered. The same is true in the latest equation if " r " is made equal to one. Likewise, if the limitation of the speed of light is removed from Dr. Einstein's equation there is no basic conflict with the more inclusive equation.

Other Implications

Man is different from the other animals. He has the ability, not only to learn and to think, but also to create. It is the creative element of the spectrum of reactivity that distinguishes him from lower forms of life. There is a quantum jump between his brain, and thus his mental capacity, and those of lesser forms of life. It is this difference that gives him the freedom of choice if he chooses to exercise it. This jump is what changes the classical entropy-chaos relationship.

Freedom of choice is both a curse and a blessing. It has too often in the past been a curse when it has led to violence and destruction; destruction of those very resources upon which the existence of man himself depends. Man is once again faced with a choice as to whether to use the intelligence element of reactivity creatively or destructively.

To the extent that man uses reactivity and his freedom of choice creatively he is approaching the divine. This can be proven mathematically. It can also be shown mathematically how very insignificant man is in relation to the entire universe with its estimated millions of centers of intelligence but the relationship exists nonetheless. Man as an individual, nations and civilizations, all have a collective intelligence. So it is with the universe in its entirety. As man approaches the upper levels of reactivity, as expressed by the orderly pattern of development of the universe, he approaches the divine.

ENDICOTT JOHNSON CORPORATION

BETTER SHOES



FOR LESS MONEY

St. Louis 2, Mo.

January 27, 1960

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Read your article in the January 11th issue of U. S. News and World Report. Found it very interesting mainly because we are living more and more in a push-button world.

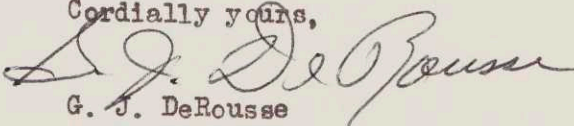
This, however, I do believe, that man is undoubtedly superior to the machine since it was first born in the realm of his own brain.

Do not know how true this statement is but have often heard it said that man actually only uses one-quarter of his brain power.

Because of your scholastic standing in the scientific world, possibly you could tell me how would it be possible for man to utilize or learn to use parts of his brain that are lying dormant and useless now and to what advantage would it serve him if he could?

Any comments or suggestions you would care to make would be very much appreciated. Please use the enclosed self-addressed envelope when replying.

Cordially yours,


G. J. DeRousse

GJD/jt

[ans 2/5/60]

VEUILLEZ AGRÉER, MONSIEUR LE PROFESSEUR,
L'ASSURANCE DE NOTRE HAUTE CONSIDÉRATION.

LE SECRÉTAIRE ADJOINT,

SIGNÉ:

ROBERT PLANCHER

COMITÉ DU FRONT
NATIONAL FRANÇAIS

PARIS, LE 27-1-60

MONSIEUR LE PROFESSEUR,

DE DEUX CHOSES L'UNE: OU BIEN IL EXISTE UN CRÉATEUR DE L'UNIVERS OU BIEN IL N'Y EN A PAS. SI CRÉATEUR IL Y A, CELUI-CI CONTRÔLE TOUT OU PARTIE DE CE QU'IL A CRÉÉ. S'IL N'Y A PAS DE CRÉATEUR, IL Y A MATÉRIALISME. DANS LA PREMIÈRE HYPOTHÈSE, L'HOMME CRÉÉ PAR LE CRÉATEUR DEVRAIT AUTOMATIQUÉMENT SUBIR LE CONTRÔLE DE CELUI QUI L'ACRÉÉ. ON NE PEUT CONCEVOIR UN ÊTRE VIVANT OU UNE CHOSE VIVANTE SANS CONTRÔLE.

PARTANT DE CES CONCEPTIONS LOGIQUES ET EN FACE DE TOUTES LES CHOSES QUI NOUS ENVIRONNENT ET QUE NOUS VOYONS ET TOUCHONS À CHAQUE INSTANT DE NOTRE VIE, ON PEUT DIRE QUE LA BASE FONDAMENTALE DU CHRISTIANISME EST UNE FAUSSETÉ ET DONC UNE PURE INVENTION DE L'HOMME. UNE SEULE PHRASE CONTENUE DANS LA BIBLE SUFFIT À DÉMOLIR TOUT SON ÉDIFICE. CETTE PHRASE DIT: JÉSUS CHRIST, FILS DE DIEU

II

EST MORT, A ÉTÉ ENSEVELI, EST DESCENDU AUX ENFERS, EST RESSUSCITÉ DES MORTS, EST MONTÉ AUX CIEUX D'OU IL VIENDRA JUGER LES VIVANTS ET LES MORTS. (CELA VEUT DIRE QUE LE CRÉATEUR A CRÉÉ L'HOMME PUIS, ABANDONNANT TOUT CONTRÔLE SUR LUI (POURQUOI PAS AUSSI SUR TOUTES SES CRÉATIONS, CE QUI VOUDRAIT DIRE ALORS QUE TOUT MARCHE SANS CONTRÔLE, QU'IL N'Y A PAS DE CRÉATEUR ET QU'IL FAUT DONC CROIRE AU MATÉRIALISME) L'A LAISSÉ ALLER À LA DÉRIVE, LIBRE DE SON DESTIN PUIS, AU BOUT DE QUELQUES MILLIERS, DE MILLIONS OU DE MILLIARDS D'ANNÉES, LE CRÉATEUR S'EST CRÉÉ UN FILS «JÉSUS-CHRIST») ET L'A ENSUITE CHARGÉ DE REVENIR UN JOUR SUR TERRE POUR JUGER LES VIVANTS ET LES MORTS. CETTE CONCEPTION, BASE FONDAMENTALE DU CHRISTIANISME EST DONC UNE FAUSSETÉ. ELLE FAIT APPARAÎTRE QUE : LES ANGES, LES SAINTS, LA VIERGE, LE SAINT ESPRIT, JÉSUS CHRIST, LES INNOMBRABLES MIRACLES DE CELUI-CI, L'ÉGLISE ET TOUTS SES DIRIGEANTS, TOUT CELA N'EST QUE PURE INVENTION DE L'HOMME ET DONC UN TISSU DE MENSONGES ; UN MÉTIER STÉRILE EXERCÉ PAR DES FAÎNÉANTS ET CHARLATANS. IL N'Y AURA JAMAIS EU BIEN SÛR ET IL N'Y

III

AURA JAMAIS DE RELIGIONS ET DE CIVILISATIONS BASÉES SUR LE MENSONGE, L'HYPOCRISIE, ÉTERNELLES.

ON PEUT DIRE QUE LE CHRISTIANISME PORTE EN SON SEIN LE VIRUS QUI L'EMPORTERA UN JOUR QUI NE PEUT ÊTRE ÉLOIGNÉ MAINTENANT.

NOTRE MONDE S'ACHEMINE VERS LA VÉRITÉ VRAIE. ENCORE QUELQUES ANNÉES (PEUT-ÊTRE 15 SEULEMENT AU MAXIMUM) ET ON VERRA L'INTELLIGENCE SUPPLANTER L'INSTRUCTION ET AVOIR LE DERNIER MOT PARCE QUE LA 1^{RE} EST NATURELLE ET DONC ÉTERNELLE ET PRODUIT DES VALEURS RÉELLES POUR LE BIEN DE L'INTÉRÊT GÉNÉRAL. LA SECONDE ÉTANT ARTIFICIELLE NE PRODUIT QUE DES VALEURS SECONDAIRES QUI VONT À L'ENCONTRE DE L'INTÉRÊT GÉNÉRAL D'OU L'INJUSTICE SOUS TOUTES SES FORMES.

LA DISPARITION DE CERTAINS MYTHES ET MODES DE VIE EST CERTAINE DANS UN AVENIR ASSEZ PROCHE. INDISCUTABLEMENT, LA SCIENCE, NOUS APPORTE CHAQUE JOUR D'AVANTAGE LES ÉLÉMENTS NÉCESSAIRE POUR CETTE DISPARITION.

MRS. JESSIE B. SHEUERMAN
325 HIGHLAND AVENUE
MOUNT VERNON, N. Y.

1-27, '60.

Mr. Bienen;

Dear Sir;

Just wondering whether
you can stand a bit of Ancient
History, this evening.

Dislikes (very much)
to bring this "first personal
pronoun" into prominence,
but, otherwise, how can I
tell of story?

My maiden-name was
Jessie Bachrach (of Kansas
City, Mo.) & I graduated from
Central High School (Eleventh
& Twelfth) in 1894. Before

that time I had studied
 two years of German with
 your dear father; (a two
 year with his successor,
 Miss Don Anwerth.) You
 may have heard "Prof. Bienen"
 speaking of "Prof. Greenwood" — an
 then superintendent of schools
 who brought "German" at the
 corner nearly, & helped lift your
 Dad to — when he belonged.

My father saw brother to
 the original Bachrach, —
 (photographers in Baltimore)
 of whom the 2nd generation
 is now "carrying on" in New York.

MRS. JESSIE B. SHEUERMAN
325 HIGHLAND AVENUE
MOUNT VERNON, N. Y.

City & vicinity.
I have "kept up" through
the press, whatever pertained
to this early days in your "old
home town"; so, when I read
of you & your attainments,
I'm sure you go back through
Memory's Lane.

Pardon my intrusion;
but it just "popped out"
with my good wish to
you & yours.

I remain
A page for the fact
Jessie Beach Sheuerman

January 27, 1960

Prof. Arthur W. Burks
180 Frieze Building
The University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Prof. Burks:

As time is drawing near for the February 23 lecture Prof. Wiener agreed to deliver at your University, we thought it might be helpful in making the necessary travel arrangements to find out at what time on February 23 the lecture has been scheduled. Since he agreed, too, to give an additional, more advanced talk, we would appreciate it very much if you would let us know if this has been planned for a specific time or if it depends on Prof. Wiener's choice.

Thank you for your kind offer to arrange transportation on campus and to assist in any other matter. As Prof. Wiener will be flying out, any suggestions you might have re getting to Ann Arbor will be greatly appreciated.

May we hear from you soon?

Sincerely yours,

Eva-Maria Ritter (Mrs.)
Secretary to Prof. Wiener

[ans 1/28/60]

January 27, 1960

Mr. Lichtenstern
Gustav Fischer Verlag
Postschliessfach 176
Villengang 2
Jena, Germany

Dear Mr. Lichtenstern:

The Overseas Division of John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Publishers, has forwarded a carbon copy of the letter they wrote to you in response to your interest in translating my book CYBERNETICS.

I am indeed interested in seeing it translated into German, but if you do intend to publish it, there are a few things to consider: 1. (which was your main concern) all rights regarding the book belong to Hermann & Cie, Paris. I suggest that you get in touch with them, as they printed the first edition. 2. Frau Gertrud Walther, wife of Professor Walther of the Technische Hochschule in Darmstadt, has done translations of my books before, and has previously expressed interest in translating "Cybernetics", but could not find a publisher. Would you consider contacting her for a translation? 3. I am working on a revision of the present book and suggest that if you do get the translation rights, you wait until the new version has come out.

Wishing you good luck in your undertaking and hoping to hear from you, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

January 27, 1960

Mr. Ernst A. Steinhoff
Program Chairman
Southern Ohio Section
American Rocket Society
Avco Corporation
P.O. Box 116-Evendale Plant
Cincinnati 15, Ohio

Dear Mr. Steinhoff:

Thank you for your letter of January 19 in which you invited me to be one of the speakers at the 14th Spring Technical Conference. I feel honored indeed to be asked to act as chairman on the panel on "Can Computers Out-think Human Beings"; unfortunately, however, I am so heavily loaded up with lectures, scientific articles and my own research work that I find it impossible to accept your invitation.

I see you have a fine list of speakers. Please accept my best wishes for a successful conference.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR

January 28, 1960

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

We have scheduled your University lecture for 4:15 p.m. on the afternoon of the 23rd. For the more informal (but more technical) discussion two alternatives suggest themselves: (i) the evening of Tuesday, February 23, 8:00 p.m. (ii) the morning of Wednesday, February 24, 9:00 a.m. If either of these times is satisfactory or if you would like to suggest an alternative would you inform us of your choice? Also could you supply us with a title for you University lecture?

Would you like us to make arrangements for a room at the Michigan Union for the night of Tuesday, February 23? If I can help you in this or in any other way, please let me know--



John H. Holland
Logic of Computers Group
4001 Angell Hall

JHH:af

Title of lecture

[ans 2/5/60]

HUMBLE OIL & REFINING COMPANY
EXPLORATION DEPARTMENT
GEOPHYSICS EXPLORATION & RESEARCH DIVISION
HOUSTON 1, TEXAS

January 29, 1960

ED J. HAMNER
DIRECTOR
W. A. MALEY
MANAGER
S. E. BUCKLEY
ASSISTANT MANAGER
H. G. PATRICK
CHIEF GEOPHYSICIST
W. M. RUST
ASSISTANT CHIEF GEOPHYSICIST
W. R. FEATHER
CHIEF, GEOPHYSICS COORDINATION
R. R. THOMPSON
CHIEF, GEOPHYSICS RESEARCH
J. A. SMITH
CHIEF, GEOPHYSICS ENGINEERING

R. R. Thompson
P. O. Box 2180
N-351 Houston Research Center

Dr. Norbert Wiener
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Wiener:

Since returning to Texas, I have thought a great deal about your book, "The Tempter." I don't know how the sales are going here in the Southwest, but I have prompted two bookstores in Houston to get copies of it by way of persuading friends of mine that they should go down to their bookstore and get a copy. My daughter informs me that there is a copy in the library at the senior high school which she attends. Thus you see that the book is making progress here.

I am now convinced that I recognize the main characters: Woodbury is Oliver Heaviside; Dominguez is Michael Pupin; and, Williams Controls is the Bell Telephone Company. The other characters I do not recognize and I wonder if all of them are real.

I will always remember the pleasure of the brief chats I had with you at the Faculty Club and the very interesting experience of hearing you tell about writing the novel in your talk to our group at Endicott House. I sincerely hope that I will get back to M.I.T. and get a chance to talk with you again at a future date. If you should get to Houston, I would certainly enjoy the opportunity of showing you around our research laboratory and telling you something about the way we attempt to use the physical sciences in exploring for oil.

Yours sincerely,



R. R. Thompson

RRT:mg

January 30, 1960

Mr. Jason Epstein, Editor
Random House, Inc.
457 Madison Avenue
New York 22, N. Y.

Dear Jason:

I just received the enclosed letter. Can you tell me anything about the circumstances under which this company acquired rights in my novel and whether by any chance Mrs. Walther is the translator? Can you also let me know if there are other translations completed or under way?

I am thoroughly satisfied with the way the book is selling and is accepted. I know it won't be a best-seller, but it is far from a failure. I do again wish to express to you my gratitude for your encouragement and your very good and sensitive editing.

With best wishes from house to house,

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW/emr

Enclosure : Copy of letter by Ecou Vedaj, Germany

①

WILLIAM APPLEBAUM
29 TOBEY ROAD
BELMONT 78, MASSACHUSETTS

January 31, 1960

Dear Prof. Wiener:

You will recall that about a week ago I introduced myself to you at the MIT Faculty Club. Our conversation was much too brief — and now that I've finished The Tempter I hope we can resume the conversation at some other chance opportunity.

Felix Browder, as I mentioned to you, sent me a copy of The Tempter, with the recommendation that it was very much worth reading. Felix' wife, Eva, lived with us for a period about twenty years ago. Anyway, I'm glad that I got the book. Now for a few comments, as promised to do. Let me set these down in terse form; the order is immaterial:

1. The author has great respect for the intelligence of his reader. He proceeds on the basis that honesty, integrity, justice and fair play are universal virtues devoutly to be wished. Hence infractions and violations of these virtues are evil and should be disclosed to indignant censure.

2. I know of no passage in literature where man's conscience pleads more contritely than that recorded on pages 200-201. If to forgive is divine, then Woodbury's statement (last ¶ p. 201) in accepting the medal comes close to it.

WILLIAM APPLEBAUM
29 TOBEY ROAD
BELMONT 7B, MASSACHUSETTS

3. One can only be grateful to the author for his consideration of the reader's time and energy. From the obituary column to Gregory James' final signature, there isn't a wasted word. Every sentence fits and belongs to the unity of the whole. So much has been packed into 240 short pages — what an economy of words!

4. The narrative is racy, very interesting and full of surprises. The weakest part is the esoteric love relation between Gregory and Helen — and the dialogue between them is much too formal. Aleste is a far more real woman than Helen in the rôles portrayed. The summary of the contents of A Border Scientist reveals the author's narrative power at its best.

5. The author has the reader's gratitude for doing so effective a job in introducing the uninitiated to the spirit of engineering and machines. Like Ezekiel's dry bones, these man-made shapes of metal come to meaningful life.

6. The story — racing through many years and touching the soil of several countries — is sprinkled with a vast array of cultural tidbits and wise observations about places, people and issues. The author has read, traveled, observed and thought widely. For those who have delved into the philosophy of the tragedy, the last two pages of the narrative are especially meaningful.

WILLIAM APPLEBAUM
29 TOBEY ROAD
BELMONT 78, MASSACHUSETTS

7. As one ponders the moral of the tale, one comes away with emptiness in the pit of his stomach. *Quem patronum rogaturus, vix cum justus sit securus?* (my Latin may be scrambled) What did Gregory James get out of life? And wasn't Watman a little bit illegitimately pregnant? And what about all the Mannings in our institutions of higher learning? Catherine de Medici - that shrewed, superbly competent and brutally efficient woman who master-minded with consummate ambition a long era of royal and political adventure, intrigue and cruelty - had her "Flying Squadron" of extremely clever and beautiful young women who were so devoted to Catherine that they were happy to serve in every way that a beautiful woman might conceivably please a man. Are those who apply the sciences less susceptible to sin? Perhaps these sins, while they hurt the tempters and tempted (and of course the Woodburys are victimized) are mitigated by the end-results of the game: material progress, even when "continually devoted to the creation of new weapons" (p. 238). Perhaps the author has scored a bull's-eye with this reader.

8. I must now read some of your other books and look forward to the novel which is now in process of gestation.

Sincerely
William Applebaum

Personality: Globe-Trotter With Easy Pace

Love Takes World Textile Interests in Stride

By WILLIAM M. FREEMAN

Lela Love, now 8 years old, and her sister, Spencie, just about 10 by now, recall vividly the day the living room was all moved this way and that.

They peeked in to see the strange goings-on, and Yousuf Karsh, the distinguished Canadian photographer who has claims to fame other than his portrait of a scowling Winston Churchill, turned his camera around.

He was there—in a good-size house at Greensboro, N. C.—to take a picture of J. Spencer Love, chairman of Burlington Industries, one of the world's largest textile organizations. This was serious business, but the entrance of the two giggling girls changed all that.

Mr. Karsh took pictures of Lela and Spencie (whose full name is Cornelia Spencer Love), and their father couldn't have been more delighted. The resulting picture is one of his treasures.

Mr. Love, although a family man first, is a leader of the textile industry, keenly alert to its ups and downs. Burlington most recently was in the news last week when a proposal to merge Burlington with James Lees & Sons Company, rug manufacturer, was announced.

Global Enterprise

His home is in Greensboro, but he is obliged to move around often and fast in the course of his work, directing Burlington Industries, the world's largest producer of man-made fiber fabrics, which employs some 60,000 persons in 123 plants in seventeen states and four foreign countries. The giant concern, one of the first to use rayon, reported its assets as of last Oct. 3 at \$525,719,091, with earnings in the fiscal year ended last Oct. 3 of \$27,642,895 on sales of \$805,450,222.

Mr. Love does not indicate any great pressure. In a quiet, rambling talk in his office the other day there was no sign that busy hours were ahead, except for a brace of heavily packed briefcases near his desk.

The desk is in an unpretentious office on the sixteenth floor of 1430 Broadway, the structure that not long ago replaced the Empire Theatre. Mr. Love is well aware of the theatrical history of the site and of his concern's part in taking over the Empire as the theatre continued its northward march, and the textile industry began to take up residence in the Forties.



The New York Times

Always ready to travel, J. Spencer Love, chairman of Burlington Industries, keeps packed briefcases in his office.

In an easy-going conversation, touching on a hundred subjects and proving that conversation itself was by no means a lost art, he mentioned Katharine Cornell and other luminaries who graced the Empire. He discussed in detail the troubles of the textile industry, its recent gains and its long-term trials, and more than once he returned to the subject of his family and his home life.

He was at his New York office only for the day. In a matter of hours he was planning to be on his way to Philadelphia to confer with Joseph L. Eastwick, president of James Lees. From there he was to go on to a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee, an unofficial group of leading industrialists, in Washington. After that he would be on his way to Greensboro, and from there to his home in Palm Beach, Fla., with a return to his desk in New York planned for tomorrow.

Thoughts Racing

Except for the two briefcases standing ready, Mr. Love does not give the impression of being in a hurry, although he speaks quickly, with his thoughts seeming to race ahead. He likes flying, using a company plane, but he chooses the best means of travel available. He studies weather reports and makes his decisions at the last minute,

acting on the latest information available.

The son of a mathematics professor at Harvard, he took a B. A. degree there and studied also at the Harvard Graduate School of Business. He left for war service and was promoted to Major in the Army in Europe. He is now on the visiting committee at the Harvard Business School and is a trustee of Davidson College, Davidson, N. C., and of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C. He is deeply interested in people and has surrounded himself with a group of skilled textile men who share his interest in education ranging beyond the textile industry.

He is highly vocal in discussing trends in the textile industry, and it is apparent that long study has produced his views, some of them a product of Government service in World War II.

How does foreign competition affect domestic producers?

"Like others in the textile industry," he said, crossing a long leg in a simply-outfitted combination living room-meeting area adjoining his office, "I am very much concerned about the threat of foreign competition from low-wage areas.

"The problem is not that of the textile industry alone but of the entire economy. I do not believe the United States can

Head of Burlington Industries First a Family Man

keep the relative productivity advantage it has enjoyed until recently. Others in Asia and in Europe are catching up fast. There is an artificial advantage, a subsidy in buying our cotton at less than we pay for it and returning finished goods for less than we can sell them for."

With the company's approach broadened, as indicated in the name, Burlington Industries, replacing the earlier name of Burlington Mills Corporation, were there any further plans for expansion?

This brought a smile and a ready answer, to the effect that there were no plans for any further acquisitions or mergers, at least for a while, until "digestion" had taken its course.

Was there any single factor responsible for the return of the textile industry from the all-too-recent days of weeping and wailing to the present prosperity, with customers being asked to wait until the third quarter or later for deliveries of some popular cotton constructions?

Balance Improved

"The period of adjustment following the war is not yet over," Mr. Love said, "but the balance is vastly improved. It took this long for the domestic industry to catch up with the three-shift operation that started in 1939. This country supplied all the textiles the war made necessary, and now consumption is catching up."

Burlington has no plan to go into a truly vertical operation, making fiber, fabric and finished goods plus consumer products. It does turn out hosiery under the well-known Bur-Mil trade name, but in the main it concentrates on supplying goods to apparel manufacturers and converters, who sell to makers of consumer end-products.

There are worries ahead, in Mr. Love's view, and not the least of them is the rise of modern textile plants abroad, especially in Hong Kong, in Osaka and in cities in Germany and elsewhere.

On the walls of his office as he spoke were pictures of Spencie and Lela and a portrait of his father, the late James Lee Love. There are two boys, Charles, 14, and Martin, 12, at home, and four sons by an earlier marriage, James Spencer, Robert Lee, Richard and Julian.

Mr. Love seems to like the competition of the market place—he thinks the textile industry is one of the most competitive in the economy—but his heart is clearly with the children.

