

237

CORRESPONDENCE Nov. 14-30, 1957

N. WIENER · MC 22

November 14<sup>th</sup> 1957

Dear Professor and Mrs Wiener,

I had the pleasure of meeting you years ago when Beatrice Paipert, who had worked with my husband, was making a portrait bust of Professor Wiener. I have been reminded of you during the past year in connection with my translation of Simone Weil's Intimations of Christianity (published this September by Routledge and Kegan Paul, London) especially in her essay on the Pythagoreans.

I am writing you today because in my new translation of her Note Books I also find mathematical doctrines and expressions with which I cannot cope and I can think of no one who would be as qualified

III  
myself and others whom I have asked.  
For example I believe the expression:  
"Passage à la limite" is not simply  
passing a barrier but has some  
particular significance in mathematics  
which I cannot find?

I am on Cape Cod at present but  
my husband, who teaches Mondays  
and Wednesdays at Wellesley College,  
could drop me off in Boston on either  
of those mornings if I might go to you  
with a few questions?

Hoping to hear from you,

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Chase Grissbuhler

(Mrs Arnold Grissbuhler)

Box 202

Dennis

Mass

[ms. 11/27/57]

II  
as yourself to help me.

Of course there is no reason to hope  
that you would bring your attention  
to my aid in this labor of love unless  
you know and admire Simone Weil.  
But it is just because I believe that  
if you do know her, you will be  
willing to help, that I am bold to  
write to you. who

Simone Weil, learned mathematics  
from her brother André, the french  
mathematician, died in 1942 at the  
age of thirty four leaving papers  
which have been published since  
and translated into almost every  
language, including Japanese. Her  
works have been published here by  
G. P. Putnam's and the Beacon Press.

My questions are probably routine  
for you but are unanswerable by

II  
 The first part of the paper is devoted to a study of the  
 properties of the solutions of the system of equations  
 which arise in the theory of the propagation of  
 waves in a medium with a periodic structure.  
 It is shown that the solutions of this system can be  
 expressed in terms of the Floquet functions which  
 are periodic in the coordinate of the periodic  
 structure. The Floquet functions are characterized  
 by the fact that they are solutions of the wave  
 equation in the absence of the periodic structure  
 and are periodic in the coordinate of the periodic  
 structure. The Floquet functions are characterized  
 by the fact that they are solutions of the wave  
 equation in the absence of the periodic structure  
 and are periodic in the coordinate of the periodic  
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 by the fact that they are solutions of the wave  
 equation in the absence of the periodic structure  
 and are periodic in the coordinate of the periodic  
 structure.

# Newsweek

NEWSWEEK BUILDING • BROADWAY AND 42ND STREET  
NEW YORK 36

14 November 1957

Prof. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge,  
Massachusetts

Dear Prof. Wiener:

I was extremely pleased to have met you during my recent visit to M.I.T. I found our conversation stimulating and provocative--not to say immensely gratifying, since our views mated so well.

I am enclosing a copy of NEWSWEEK--not the one about the "egghead," although at first glance the cover may be somewhat misleading. This issue contains the special report on Soviet science and Robert Oppenheimer's eloquent remarks. I think you will want to read the report--although much of it will not be enjoyable reading.

Hoping that you are well and that I may soon see you again, I remain

Yours sincerely,

*Irwin Goodwin*

Irwin Goodwin

IG:h

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
SCHOOL OF INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT

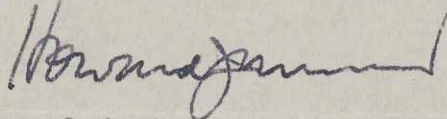
EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS  
SLOAN FELLOWSHIPS

50 MEMORIAL DRIVE  
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS

MEMORANDUM

November 14, 1957

TO: Professor Norbert Wiener  
Room 2-276

FROM: Howard W. Johnson 

SUBJECT: Seminar for Members of the Program for Senior Executives  
Wednesday, November 20th, 5:30 p.m., Endicott House

I appreciate very much your willingness to once again be a speaker in the "senior executive" seminar series at Endicott House on November 20th. This series has been a high point in the experience of these men at Tech and they, as well as I, are grateful for your participation.

Our purpose in these seminars, as you know, is to indicate the outline of technological change in each of several fields that will affect the job of management. The plan of the seminar is as follows. The men have an opportunity to meet the guest at 5:30 at cocktails in the Trophy Room. At approximately 6:00 you will have roughly a half hour to comment on any phase of the work in your field that you care to. We then go to dinner and after dinner open for discussion and questions from the group. We will break off the meeting no later than 9:00 p.m.

I enclose a picture list of the members of the group. Messrs. Samples and Shaub will be the informal chairmen for your session. Please let me know if I can help you in any way as far as travel is concerned.

Howard W. Johnson  
Director

HWJ:ecs  
enclosure

*at home  
11/20*

MEMBERS OF THE PROGRAM FOR SENIOR EXECUTIVES, FALL, 1957  
SCHOOL OF INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT, MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



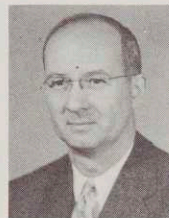
EDWIN L. ARNOLD, JR.  
Division Manager  
The Standard Oil Company (Ohio)  
Youngstown, Ohio



IVAN P. DE WITTE  
Assistant General Manager  
of Manufacturing; Director  
of Research  
Tréfileries Léon Bekaert  
Zwevegem, Belgium



CHARLES BENTON, JR.  
Eastern Regional Manager  
International Business  
Machines Corporation  
New York, New York



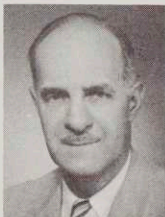
DAVID L. FLANDERS  
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The B. F. Goodrich Company  
Akron, Ohio



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General Sales Manager  
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Canada, Ltd.  
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Administrative Manager  
Engineering and Construction  
Department  
The Atlantic Refining Company  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



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Vice President  
The Chase Manhattan Bank  
New York, New York



HENRY T. INMAN  
Vice President - Merchandising  
The Bell Telephone Company of  
Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



WILLIAM H. COGHILL  
Assistant Chief Industrial  
Engineer - Mining  
Republic Steel Corporation  
Cleveland, Ohio



WILLARD L. IRWIN  
Works Manager  
Poinsett Lumber and  
Manufacturing Company  
(The Singer Manufacturing  
Company)  
Pickens, South Carolina



MILFORD A. MANGER  
 Assistant Comptroller  
 Sears, Roebuck and Company  
 Chicago, Illinois



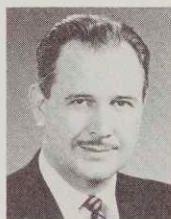
LOVETT R. SMITH, JR.  
 Division Superintendent  
 Southern Pacific Company  
 Portland, Oregon



AMBROSE J. PETZINGER  
 Manager, Instrument Department  
 Meter Division  
 Westinghouse Electric Corporation  
 Newark, New Jersey



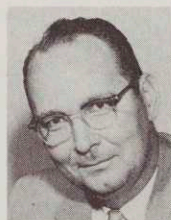
HUGH K. SPAULDING  
 Assistant General Plant  
 Superintendent  
 American Smelting and  
 Refining Company  
 Barber Station, New Jersey



J. LYLE SAMPLES ✓  
 Assistant to the Vice President -  
 Operations  
 Columbia-Southern Chemical  
 Corporation  
 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



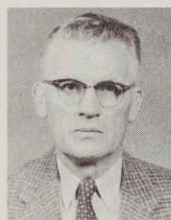
LEON A. SWEET  
 Vice President, Research  
 Division  
 Parke, Davis and Company  
 Detroit, Michigan



HAROLD A. SHAUB ✓  
 Assistant to the Vice President -  
 General Manager  
 Campbell Soup Company, Ltd.  
 Toronto, Canada



ROBERT A. WINSLOW  
 Head, Mechanical Division  
 Esso Standard Oil Company  
 Baton Rouge, Louisiana



RALPH J. SHEMANSKI  
 Comptroller  
 Kimberly-Clark Corporation  
 Neenah, Wisconsin



JOHN D. WOODWARD  
 Chief Engineer, Airborne  
 Systems Department  
 Radio Corporation of America  
 Camden, New Jersey



November 14, 1957

Mr. Bengt Ulin  
Matematiska Institutionen  
Uppsala Universitet  
Uppsala, Sweden

My dear Mr. Ulin:

Your letter of November 11th has  
been received. Professor Masani and I would  
each like 100 copies and thank you for advising  
us that these are obtainable.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

*no time*

Joseph W. Still, M.D., M.P.H.  
1940 Biltmore Street, Northwest  
Washington 9, D.C.

November 15, 1957

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

Dear Doctor Wiener:

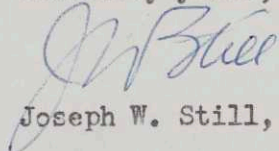
This is written in the hope of bringing to the attention of someone who has sufficient prestige to do something effective about, and enough imagination to understand a novel approach to the literature problem, which is based on an idea rather than on a gadget.

Two years ago while visiting Dr. Selye's laboratory, I discovered his unique classification scheme. He has built a dynamic scheme to serve his needs rather than the convenience of the librarian. The scheme cuts library searchings time almost to zero for those scientists who use the system properly. The basic idea is as simple as the (1,0) bit concept.

I did some research, to convince myself that nothing similar was being done on this continent, to solve the literature storage and retrieval problem. I then wrote up a research proposal and tried to "sell" the idea. After several discouraging efforts, the details of which I'll spare you, I gave up until Sputnik came along. Hoping this might make the people supposedly interested in this area of science, more receptive to new ideas than in the past, I now have written evidence that this was a false hope.

Although I understand that you are "allergic" to matters that threaten to take you away from your laboratory, I appeal to you to consider my twelve page (double spaced) presentation of this proposal. May I send it to you?

Sincerely yours,

  
Joseph W. Still, M.D.



THE PECK SCHOOL  
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

November 15, 1957

To the Alumni of The Peck School:

For the past ten years The Peck School has enjoyed the use of considerable property that it did not own. This property, consisting of the two lots outlined in red on the enclosed map, provided driveways and an extensive playground area.

When the Chaflin property was purchased in 1946, the sellers insisted on retaining frontage on South Street, immediately on each side of the school property, in order to give themselves access to the back land, which they expected to develop. The two lots have a total frontage of 445 feet and consist of over six acres. The school was permitted to use them until such time that they would be developed or sold. Last spring The Peck School was formally notified that the privilege of using the land was being withdrawn because the land was being put up for sale. This situation gave the school the choice of relocating the driveway and various essential fences, or of going into debt to purchase the land. To relocate the driveway and fences would involve substantial expense, and the school would be left in a position where in the future it could be crowded in by buildings on both sides. Looking ahead it seemed to the Trustees that they had no choice other than to buy the land, if the price were reasonable.

The school was able to purchase the property in September for \$25,000, a figure in line with three independent appraisals. The cost was financed by increasing our present mortgage of \$7,000 to \$32,000. The school cannot afford to pay out of current income the interest and amortization on this loan. As with any independent school or college, it is a tremendous problem just to keep the annual operating loss as small as possible. Furthermore, it is essential that we have a minimum outstanding debt, in order that future emergencies can be handled as they arise.

The parents and friends of Peck who live near Morristown are being approached personally and asked to contribute what they can to reduce the mortgage. Despite the fact that the successful Building Fund Campaign has only just been completed, there is a general understanding of this present need. It is hoped that you will also want to help, realizing that schools like Peck depend for their existence on the support of their alumni. No amount is too small to be appreciated - we shall be most grateful for any gift. Contributions are, of course, deductible for income tax purposes.

We are most grateful for your loyalty and interest.

Sincerely,

Archer Harman, Jr.,  
Headmaster.

Allan H. McAlpin, Jr.,  
President, Alumni Association.

[ans 3/13/58]

November 15, 1957

Mr. Paul. Chalmers  
Advisor to Foreign Students  
3-108  
M.I.T.

Dear Mr. Chalmers:

Professor Wiener has asked me to write and tell you how delighted he is with the Japanese tie which you sent him on behalf of Mr. Kiichi Murakami. He says he has much admiration for Japanese textile work and thinks this is a fine example of it.

Arrangements have been made for Professor Wiener to see Mr. Murakami on Tuesday, November 19th, at 2 o'clock.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to  
Norbert Wiener

November 15, 1957

Miss Doris Flowers  
Julian Messner, Inc.  
8 West 40th Street,  
New York 18, New York

Dear Miss Flowers:

I have glanced over Mr. Bronowski's book, SCIENCE AND HUMAN VALUES, as I should naturally glance over anything Mr. Bronowski writes. I find his point of view sympathetic and his knowledge and understanding of cultural history scientific and artistic, profound and far reaching. I think it is the best book he has done, and that is saying a great deal.

I have no class in which the material in Mr. Bronowski's book is taken up, but I shall be glad to pass the book along to Professor Stahlman who is our Professor of the History of Science.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

November 15, 1957

Dr. R. K. Mishra  
Institut de Medecine et de Chirurgie experimentales,  
Universite de Montreal  
Montreal, P. Q.  
Canada

Dear Dr. Mishra:

I thank you for your letter of November 8th and your good wishes. While my health is not particularly poor at this time, I have been warned that I must be careful and am not in a position to accept further outside engagements.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

November 15, 1957

Mrs. E. Sara Turing  
6 Waterden Road  
Guildford  
Surrey, England

Dear Mrs. Turing:

I have read with interest your son's  
biography. I fully approve of it as it now stands  
and find very little to suggest in any way.

I am returning it herewith.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
AUSTIN

DEPARTMENT OF THE  
HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

November 16, 1957

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

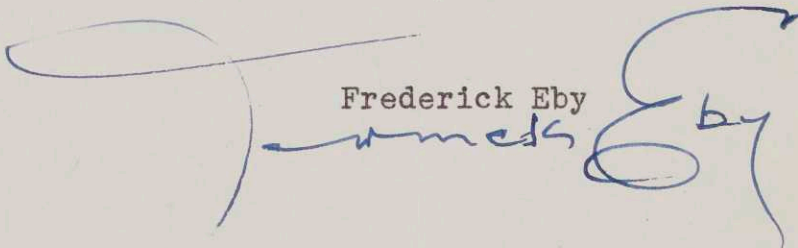
Dear Dr. Wiener:

Would you give a stranger like me a few moments of your time, precious as I know they are? I am just completing a somewhat detailed comparison of education in the German Gymnasia and the Russian Complete Secondary School. I am deeply impressed with their superiority in building a broad foundation of general education rather than the smattering of elective courses which we have in our country.

The statement of your address as given in the education section of Time Magazine is so much to the point that I would like to use several sentences in my writing. I not only desire your approval, but I would like to have from you the source to which I should attribute the quotation. Shall it be Time Magazine or was your address printed elsewhere? I hope you will let me have this approval and information.

Faithfully yours,

Frederick Eby

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Frederick Eby'.

[ans 12/9/57]



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ESTABLISHED 1807

## PUBLISHERS OF BOOKS

440 FOURTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

November 18, 1957

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TELEPHONE  
MURRAY HILL 9-7630

Professor R. Duncan Luce  
Harvard University  
Laboratory of Social Relations

Dear Professor Luce:

We are quite willing to grant you permission to re-print the material listed below, provided:

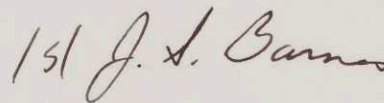
1. The illustrations or quotations to be used have appeared in our books without credit or acknowledgment to another source.
2. Suitable acknowledgment to the source be given, preferably in the following form:  
"Reprinted with permission from (author) (title) (copyright date), John Wiley & Sons, Inc."

In respect to this method of giving credit, however, we are willing to accept the standard editorial practices of other publishers as long as the essential items above are included.

This borrowed material will be used in

a book  
tentatively entitled "Developments in Mathematical Psychology".

Sincerely yours,



J. S. Barnes  
Vice President

JAM/jb

Wiener, Norbert, CYBERNETICS, (1948). Page 55: "We are scarcely ever.....  
.....expected to receive."

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS

November 18, 1957

Dr. W. Grey Walter  
Burden Neurological Institute  
Stoke Lane  
Stapleton, Bristol  
England

Dear Sir:

I regret very much that I was not present when you and Professor Wiener discussed some problems of considerable common interest. We were wondering if it might be possible for you to send us your relevant material on these issues and also to give us at least some references to the relevant Russian literature.

We do hope that it will be possible for you to plan your next trip in a manner that will give all of us a chance to discuss these issues at more leisure.

Sincerely yours,

Walter A. Rosenblith

Professor of  
Communications Biophysics

WAR:jw

CC: Professor N. W. Wiener. ✓

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Registry of Guests

Room 7-201

Schedule of Appointments

Name Kiichi Murakami Date November 18, 19 and 20

Title Head Professor - Industrial Eng. Dept.

Address Nihon University / Surugadai, Kanda, Tokyo

Sponsor -

Purpose of Visit -

Time of Arrival 9:45 Nov 18 Departure 11:00 20 Nov

	To be Received by	Subject	Room	Hour
18th	Dr. T. Mahoney	Registry of Guests	7-201	9:45-10:00
	Prof. H. Hazen	Elec. Eng.	3-136	10:00-11:00
	Prof. C. Hayward	Metal	35-304	11:00-12:00
	Prof. D. MacLaurin		52-271D	12:30
	Lunch with Prof. D. MacLaurin			
19th	Prof. A. Gaudin	Metal	8-211	10:00-11:00
	Prof. N. Wiener	Mathematics	2-276	2:00-3:00
20th	Prof. P. Chalmers	Asso. Dir. Admissions	3-108	10:00-11:00

Remarks:

Thomas H. D. Mahoney, Ph. D.  
Director, Registry of Guests

November 19, 1957

Mr. Herbert Prescott  
Faculty Director of Broadcasting  
Grinnell College,  
Grinnell, Iowa

Dear Mr. Prescott:

The record which you were good enough to have sent to me of the presentation ceremony at Grinnell College will always be a cherished memento. It was a most thoughtful gesture, and I deeply appreciate it.

Again my thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

November 19, 1957

Mrs. Eleanor S. Riger  
National Broadcasting Company, Inc.  
RCA Building  
Radio City  
New York 20, New York

Dear Mrs. Riger:

I am sorry that your letter of November 7th  
has had to remain so long without acknowledgment.  
It was kind of you to send me the transcript on "The  
Open Mind" which I find very interesting. Kindly  
convey my thanks to Mr. Heffner for suggesting it.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

November 19, 1957

Dr. Joseph S. Roucek  
395 Lakeside Drive  
Bridgeport 6, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Roucek:

I am sorry that your letter of November 7th has had to remain so long unanswered.

It is with regret that I have to tell you that because of pressure of work and my present commitments it will be impossible for me to contribute a chapter to SOCIETY and AUTOMATION. I do appreciate having been asked, and wish that I was in a position to comply with your request.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY  
BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA

November 20, 1957

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Dear Professor Wiener:

Thank you very much for your letter enclosing the reprint I had requested.

Permit me to enclose herewith a page which supplants the discussion of Margenau's views on pp. 15-16 of the typescript of my "Complementarity in Quantum Physics and its Philosophical Generalization," which has been sent to you by the Program Committee of the American Phil. Assn. for the Harvard meeting.

Sincerely yours,  
Adolf Grünbaum



The conclusion that quantum mechanics must be held to be only a statistico-deterministic description of physical reality has been contested by Margenau<sup>26</sup> on the grounds that the  $\psi$ -function may be regarded as a causally unfolding state<sup>27</sup> and that the resistance to the latter interpretation springs from an unwarranted identification of causality with the particular states and laws of Newton's theory rather than with that theory's general formalism. But this view does not allow for the principal fact prompting the appeal to the states of classical physics as providing the prototype of causal relatedness: the conception that causality is a relation between attributes of individual events. It is therefore not the gratuitous retention of the particular states and entities of Newtonian theory which confers significance upon the claim that quantum mechanics has abandoned causality. Instead, the affirmation of that abandonment stresses that the successive  $\psi$ -values do not denote the attributes of individual occurrences but determine only the statistical distributions of such attributes in aggregates of occurrences. Thus, there is a very important sense in which the evolution of the  $\psi$ -function cannot serve to show that microphysical reality is deterministic.

---

<sup>26</sup>Cf. his Preface to E. Cassirer, Determinism and Indeterminism in Modern Physics, New Haven, 1956, pp. xvi-xvii.

<sup>27</sup>Margenau has dealt very suggestively (cf. his "Philosophical Problems Concerning the Meaning of Measurement in Physics," Phil. of Science, in press, and The Nature of Physical Reality, pp. 377-380) with the objection (see, for example, H. Reichenbach's "The Principle of Anomaly in Quantum Mechanics," in Feigl and Brodbeck, eds., Readings in the Philosophy of Science, New York, 1953, pp. 515-516) that there is no continuous causal linkage of  $\psi$ -states, since changes in the  $\psi$ -function arise from the occurrence of a measurement and are <sup>they</sup> not governed by Schrödinger's equation. Margenau suggests the abandonment of the customary interpretation of the measuring process as the reduction of a wave packet, which underlies this objection.



GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

20 November 1957

Dr. and Mrs. Norbert Wiener  
53 Cedar Street  
Belmont, Massachusetts

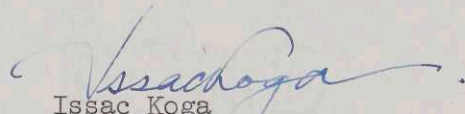
Dear Dr. and Mrs. Wiener:

I do not know how to find words expressing my appreciation for your cordial hospitality during my stay in Cambridge. It was really a great privilege to be invited into your home.

I hope I can see you again some time.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

  
Issac Koga  
c/o Mr. W. B. Wrigley, Head  
Communications Branch

IK/jh

P.S. I am leaving Atlanta on the Thanksgiving Day, arriving in Tokyo on Monday morning, 2 December.

You will find enclosed a copy of the manuscript submitted to the editor of Physical Review which has been accepted for publication around February, 1958. I shall be very happy should it be of interest to you.

Enclosure

WGBH-FM

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WGBH-TV

Channel 2

84 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE · CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS · UNIVERSITY 4-6400

November 21, 1957

Norbert Wiener  
Professor of Mathematics  
M.I.T. 2-276  
Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Prof. Wiener:

WGBH-TV is planning a television series in which we will take a visionary approach to the new possibilities opened by recent advances into outer space. Since space barriers have been removed, many traditional barriers in human thought and activity have dissolved. Heretofore unconceived notions and projects will come to light in this new limitless space.

We want to document on television some of these newly broken barriers, and indicate some of the new directions thought and activity might take in the "space age."

We are therefore proposing a series of nine fifteen-minute programs on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from December 16 to January 3, from 7:45-8:00 PM. In this series we hope to cover the philosophical, psychological, astronomical, commercial, medical, military, engineering, and historical implications of the space break-through. As moderator of the program we have Harry C. Stubbs who is a Science Instructor at Milton Academy and a writer of science fiction. On each program we will have a guest-professional, capable of visionary imaginative projection of ideas, from each of the areas listed above.

I must say, Professor Wiener, that in planning this series we felt that without one appearance from you, the series would be inadequate. For many years your visionary ideas have stimulated man to concepts once believed to be impossible. We would like you to discuss the over-all implications of the space break-through....and of man's future and destiny in this new age. Because of your extremely busy schedule and your known reluctance to appearances, we are offering you one of the following dates: 12/18, 12/20, 12/23, 12/27, 12/30, 1/1/58, 1/3/58. If you are going to be around M.I.T. about 7:30 on any one of these evenings all you would have to do is speak extemporaneously on anything that came into your mind. I'm sure there are many things you would like to say to our audience.

Professor Norbert Wiener, continued

We sincerely hope that you will be able to join in this important program and that we will hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

*Robert L. Larsen*

Robert L. Larsen  
TV Program Manager

[ms 12/2/57]

November 21, 1957

Dr. Berndt  
Berlin Schoneberg  
Kufsteiner Strasse 69  
Berlin, Germany

Dear Dr. Berndt:

I see that I am to send you a paper on Semantics and Cybernetics for a radio talk to be given on December 12. My recollection is that I offered to talk on Cybernetics and Information Theory. Similar as these two titles may appear to be, they are not identical, and I am not prepared at this late date to write a paper on Semantics.

Will you therefore let me know by return air post precisely what the title is on which I agreed to write.

Sincerely yours,

Norbert Wiener

NW:AD

[ans 11/25/57]

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

*School of Industrial Management*

CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

November 22, 1957

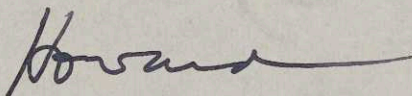
Professor Norbert Wiener  
Room 2-276

Dear Professor Wiener:

I want to thank you for meeting with the "senior executives" at Endicott House last Wednesday evening.

I certainly appreciate your willingness to spend the evening with them when I know how heavy your schedule must be. The men made many fine comments about their session with you; it was highly worthwhile from their point of view. I regret very much that I was not able to be there.

Sincerely,



Howard W. Johnson  
Director

HWJ:ecs

16, Comely Bank Grove, Edinburgh H U.K.  
22nd Nov. 1957 -

Robert Wiener,

Dear Sir,

Sometime ago I was deeply impressed by your book - The Human Use of Humanity. It demonstrated so clearly how you realized the superiority of human feeling above any of the mechanical marvels devised by man. 1957 is the Geophysical year - while scientists from over 50 nations are in collaboration could they not follow it up by a Geopsychical year.

I am 100 years old & have witnessed the transformation of the world since the splitting of the atom - which, in my view, has placed him <sup>the scientist</sup> in the thick of forces that he knows not how wisely to control.

Our law, education, governments lag behind this new age of discovery. <sup>Before</sup> exploring space there <sup>are</sup> many things in need of scientific supervision on Mother Earth (incidentally the only planet bearing an Anglo Saxon name). I implore all who love their kind especially scientists - man

of knowledge, to concentrate more on the development of the spirit of humanity.

Through contact with my fellows, also newspaper, correspondence, <sup>and</sup> I know that a large majority of the public support, or share my ideas.

Love is the strongest force in life. Men can only be led to follow that which they love. Love of money & domination have led to a disrupted world.

Women are largely responsible.

They must fulfil the task imposed on them by nature herself, of mothering mankind, instead of dazzling it by playing the part of showgirl.

I fear enthusiasm carries my dissertations too far from the original design of a plea for aid to hold a socio-psychical year on some equivalent for spiritual regeneration. My sight fails through smugness, of your goodness, prothes overlook blunders.

Very faithfully,

(Mrs.)

L. Marion Jones —

[and 12/19/57]

Dear Prof. Wiener: <sup>90</sup>

[Call 11/24/57]

This book seems far beyond "Vic  
et Probabilité" of Pierre Kendryie's  
in the use of cybernetics in  
the study of living organisms.

Nov. '57

J. D.





**EDWIN HERMANN**

**E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY  
INCORPORATED  
FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE**

The approach is essentially that of an organic chemist who needs to know about molecular structure in order to develop theories about chemical reactions. Thus after a short, fairly standard, introduction Ingold deals in his second chapter with interactions within and between molecules in terms of molecular polarization and molecular polarizability. This leads to a detailed explanation of the significance of inductive and mesomeric effects. The third chapter relates these concepts to physical measurements with aliphatic compounds and the fourth deals with aromatic character.

The book leaves one with a picture of tangible molecules of fairly definite geometrical shape with reasonably stable, though deformable, electronic constitutions. The picture is elucidated by experimental measurements and not just deduced by mathematical theory.

This treatment is just what the chemist requires and can comprehend.

W. A. WATERS

#### HETEROCYCLIC COMPOUNDS

Heterocyclic Compounds, *Vol. V*, edited by Robert C. Elderfield. Pp. vi + 744. John Wiley & Sons Inc., New York; Chapman and Hall Ltd., London. 1957. 16os. net.

This substantial book continues the high tradition of earlier volumes in this very valuable series. The eight chapters cover 1,3-dioxolane and derivatives (R. C. Elderfield and F. W. Short), pyrazoles and related compounds (T. L. Jacobs), indazoles (R. C. Elderfield), imidazoles and condensed imidazoles (E. S. Schipper and A. R. Day), oxazole and its derivatives (J. W. Cornforth), benzoxazoles and related systems (J. W. Cornforth), isoxazoles (R. A. Barnes), thiazoles and benzthiazoles (J. M. Sprague and A. H. Land). It is claimed that the major English and German-language periodicals have been covered up to the end of 1955. The pyrazoles (117 pages), the imidazoles (104 pages), the oxazoles (120 pages), and the thiazoles (239 pages) receive extremely full treatment.

It is a tribute to the uniformly high quality of the writing that these detailed and comprehensive chapters, though likely to be used mainly for reference purposes, are yet readable and stimulating. The generous use of formulae and the many footnote references (about 4000) make this book invaluable to the research worker. The formulae are occasionally awkward and there are

planations and the summaries of actual conditions of reactions, this being a very valuable feature.

A high standard of accuracy is maintained but there are nevertheless a few fallings from grace. The spark that lit the polyethylene train was not an attempt to combine ethylene with benzene (p. 102) but with benzaldehyde. In the same section the emphasis in the description of the Ziegler catalyst is

"Endeavour" published  
by J. G. I. in England.

OCTOBER 1957

may in itself not be new, that animals are self-controlling systems whose activities are devoted to the maintenance of a stable pattern. But so far as I know, no major synthesis has previously been attempted to interpret the now vast accumulation of facts in the fields of anatomy, physiology, embryology, ecology, and genetics, in terms of what is now also known of the principles and properties of machines that regulate themselves. It would be a complete mistake to conclude from this that the author has decided that animals are nothing more than servomotors. On the contrary, he has used this concept as a principle to be applied as far as it will go, which means as far as scientific evidence will allow, in order to understand better how animals live. They remain alive because they make the appropriate responses during development when they build themselves, and in adult life when they maintain themselves. They make use of the data provided by heredity, by the environment, and by a store of information which they have amassed (also called experience) and which they either keep to themselves as memory or communicate to fellow-members of their species by social contacts, and in the case of man to posterity by tradition whether oral or written. Finally, the self-regulating pattern is coded into the hereditary material of the genes for the succeeding generation.

It is by failure to make appropriate responses that organisms succumb to natural selection. It is by the reshuffle of genes that have undergone mutation that selection favours those types that are regulated to make the most appropriate responses to their environments (whether changed or not), and this is evolution. The interpretation of organisms in terms of the control mechanisms by which life is maintained is therefore applicable to all fields of biology, and provides a unifying concept in a field where descriptive and comparative methods have already produced numerous generalizations, and analysis has yielded innumerable principles of partial and restricted applicability. What Professor Young has been looking for is a language which describes the whole living organization. There will be time enough to know whether there are any aspects of that organization that resist integration in this system. Meanwhile he has provided a framework, as Darwin said of his own work, 'to guide our speculations'.

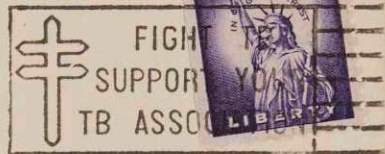
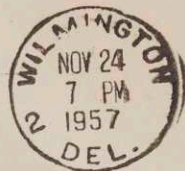
Special praise must be accorded to

#### MAMMALS

*The Life of Mammals*, by J. Z. Young.  
Pp. xv + 820. Oxford University Press,  
London. 1957. 84s. net.

The most important point to make in any appraisal of this work is that it is not just another book on the structure and function of mammals. It is planned and written in terms of a concept, which

Fermann  
201 Lancaster Ave.  
Wilmington, Del.



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





EINE FREIE STIMME DER FREIEN WELT

Luftpost! Eilboten!

Herrn  
Prof. Dr. Norbert Wiener  
South Temworth  
New Hampshire/USA.

BERLIN-SCHÖNEBERG · KUFSTEINER STRASSE 69  
SAMMELRUF 71 02 71 · FERNSCHREIBER 0183790

IHRE ZEICHEN	IHRE NACHRICHT VOM	UNSERE ABTEILUNG	UNSERE ZEICHEN	DATUM
		Kulturelles Wort Funk-Universität	E./Kz	25.11.57

Sehr geehrter Herr Professor Wiener!

Haben Sie besten Dank für Ihren Brief vom 21. d. M. Wir bedauern sehr, dass es hier offenbar zu einem Missverständnis gekommen ist. Wir haben noch einmal in unserer Korrespondenz nachgesehen und fanden dort Ihren Brief vom 1. August, in dem Sie uns ausdrücklich einen Vortrag über "Semantik und Kybernetik" zusagten, und zwar wollten Sie uns das Manuskript (180-200 Schreibmaschinenzeilen oder 1800 bis 2000 Wörter) in deutscher Sprache Ende des Sommers schicken. Sollten Sie allerdings zum jetzigen Zeitpunkt - wir müssten ja das Manuskript allerspätestens am 9. Dezember in Händen haben - keine Möglichkeit mehr sehen, das Thema in der verabredeten Weise zu behandeln, so wären wir Ihnen selbstverständlich ebenso dankbar, wenn Sie es in "Kybernetik und Informationstheorie" abwandeln würden. Wir würden dann in der Ansage zur Sendung entsprechend auf diese Änderung hinweisen.


In der Hoffnung, dass Sie uns das Manuskript recht bald zugehen lassen können, verbleiben wir mit den besten Empfehlungen


und dem Ausdruck unserer  
vorzüglichen Hochachtung

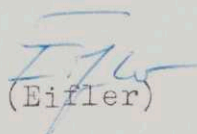
R I A S  
BERLIN

i.A.

i.A.

  
L.P. Dalcher  
Director, RIAS

  
(Berndt)

  
(Eifler)

**EUGENE MITTELMANN, E. E., PH. D.**

CONSULTING ENGINEER, PHYSICIST  
549 WEST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO 6, ILLINOIS

November 25, 1957

TELEPHONE  
STATE 2-3171

Dr. Norbert Wiener  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Wiener:

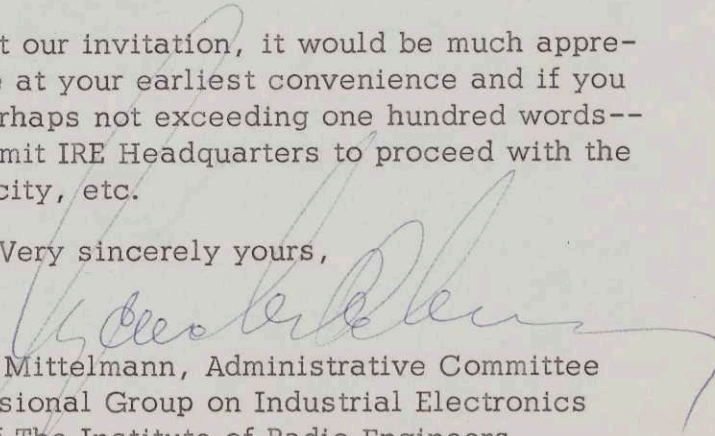
It is customary for The Institute of Radio Engineers to hold during its National Convention in New York two evening Symposia which are the high lights of the National Convention. This year the Professional Group on Industrial Electronics of the Institute has undertaken to organize one of the panels, choosing the topic Electronic Systems in Industry, to be held at the Coliseum in New York City on the evening of March 25, 1958. It is our intention to lay emphasis on ideas rather than on specific equipment. We also feel that it is essential for the engineering profession to recognize fundamental concepts.

In view of your own work which so greatly influenced the thinking of many of us, we would consider it a great honor indeed if you could see your way clear to accept an invitation to participate in this panel discussion. Of course, you would be a guest of the Professional Group of the Institute and all your expenses would be paid.

Two other speakers who have accepted are Dr. Cuthbert C. Hurd, Vice President and Director of Automation Research of the International Business Machines Corporation and Mr. Thomas Roy Jones, President of Daystrom Incorporated.

If you are in a position to accept our invitation, it would be much appreciated if you could so advise me at your earliest convenience and if you could supply a brief resume--perhaps not exceeding one hundred words--not later than December 6 to permit IRE Headquarters to proceed with the mechanics of publication, publicity, etc.

Very sincerely yours,

  
Eugene Mittelman, Administrative Committee  
Professional Group on Industrial Electronics  
of The Institute of Radio Engineers

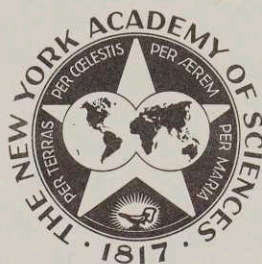
EM:gj

[ans 12/3/57]

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*Executive Director*

2 EAST SIXTY-THIRD STREET  
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

November 26, 1957

Dr. Norbert Weiner  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Weiner:

The New York Academy of Sciences is sponsoring a symposium tentatively entitled "Biochemical Aspects of Cardiac Failure". The conference will be held on March 18 and 19, 1958 in New York City.

The conference is planned so that heart failure will be considered from the point of view of (a) energy production, (b) energy transference, and (c) energy utilization. As you know, one of the most fundamental questions to answer in congestive cardiac failure is why biochemical energy is not transferred into mechanical energy. We are attempting to discuss this question from many points of view, such as biochemistry, biophysics, physiology and clinical medicine.

On the evening of March 18 a dinner is being planned where the participants and interested guests will have an opportunity to discuss their views informally. At the same time, the Committee ~~was~~ hoping that you would be available to give the group an enlightened talk on congestive heart failure as you would see it. We fully realize that this is somewhat out of your field but we feel that because you are so vitally interested in medicine and physiology that your contribution would be an entirely fresh one and would be welcomed by the group.

I do hope that you will look upon this request favorably for I personally feel certain that your point of view would be most helpful and stimulating. Should you feel that you are able to accept this invitation, would you be good enough to send us the title of your proposed talk.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

*Menard M. Gertler*

Menard M. Gertler, M.D.  
Chairman, Committee on Symposium  
on Congestive Heart Failure

MMG:jbp

[ans 12/5/57]



BROWN UNIVERSITY

PROVIDENCE 12, RHODE ISLAND

November 27, 1957

*Being done by  
Prof. H. + Masani*

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

Dear Professor Wiener:

Thank you for your letter and your promise to write a paper for the survey volume to be dedicated to Harald Cramér. Do you think it will be possible for you to send me the manuscript in the middle of April?

The list of authors promising to participate in this volume looks very promising, and I am sure it will be a valuable book.

Sincerely yours,

*Ulf Grenander*  
Ulf Grenander

UG:mp

*5/27*

*Taken care of  
by Prof. Masani*

*200-13/27/57*

EAST CONTRA COSTA JUNIOR COLLEGE

GOLF LINKS ROAD  
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA  
MULBERRY 5-1230

November 27, 1957

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DIRECTOR

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

Dear Dr. Wiener:

The communication faculty of this college is planning a series of lecture-discussions around the topic, the symbol. For this purpose we are inviting in experts from such fields as linguistics, psychology, literature and semantics. We believe it would be desirable for us to include someone from the field of cybernetics. We would be delighted, of course, if you were close enough to join us. Since this is probably not possible, do you know of someone in the Bay Area whom you believe is well informed in this field?

Any information you can give us will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

*John G. Kelly*

John G. Kelly  
Assistant Dean of Instruction

JGK/mb

*Gregory Bateson  
Palo Alto Calif*

*[ans 12/9/57]*

November 27, 1957

Mr. William Crocker  
Box 1883  
Prescott, Arizona

Dear Mr. Crocker:

At the request of Professor Wiener I am returning herewith your manuscript on "The Calculous of Justice - The Bargain Principle of Voting Vs. The Majority Principle". Because of pressure of work he has found it impossible to look over this manuscript and sees no prospect of doing so in the near future. He therefore feels it should be sent back to you without further delay.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to Norbert Wiener

November 27, 1957

Mrs. Arnold Geissbuhler  
Box 202  
Dennis, Massachusetts

Dear Mrs. Geissbuhler:

I am sorry to have to inform you that because of pressure of work and his present commitments, Professor Wiener finds it impossible to arrange an appointment with you at any time in the near future. He has read your letter of November 14th with interest, but regrets that he cannot be of any assistance to you.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to Norbert Wiener



STANFORD RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA

DIVISION OF ENGINEERING RESEARCH

Nov. 29, 1957

Dear Professor Wiener,

Two years ago, or so, I heard you speak  
of certain mathematical techniques you were applying  
to make sense of electroencephalograms. My memory  
is very vague, ~~and~~

Are there any references or reports that  
you could let me have dealing with the question  
of the summarization of the information contained  
in the electroencephalogram.

Yours truly

William G. Madow  
MADOW

[msw/11/9/57]

JOSEPH S. ROUCEK, Ph.D.  
Chairman, Prof. of the Depts.  
Political Science, Sociology



NOV 29 1957

no

University of Bridgeport  
Bridgeport 4, Connecticut

Dear Professor Wiener:

Several of our collaborators of the projected AUTOMATION & SOCIETY book have stressed that I should make every effort to secure your collaboration.

I am enclosing the outline of the project, with the hope you will find it possible to contribute a chapter, or make suggestions for possible specialists who could write for us especially in the field covering in the first section of the outline.

Sincerely,

Dr. JOSEPH S. ROUCEK  
395 LAKESIDE DRIVE  
BRIDGEPORT 6, CONN.

[ama 12/6/57]

Publisher:  
Philosophical Library  
15 East 40th St.  
New York, 16, N. Y.

EDITOR:  
Joseph S. Roucek  
395 Lakeside Drive  
Bridgeport 6, Conn.

AUTOMATION and SOCIETY

(First draft)

The Rise of the Concept

The Automatic Factory

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Production machines for industry, agriculture and clerical work

CHEMICALS  
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CIGARETTES  
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Mrs. E. R. Becker, Rutgers Univ.

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AIRCRAFT  
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RADIO & TELEVISION  
TELEPHONE

Mechanization of leisure (techniques)

HOME ECONOMICS & MANAGEMENT

The Social Aspects of Automation

Some Sociological Implications--Jori Nehnevajsa, Columbia Univ.  
Implications for Underdeveloped Countries--J. van der Kroef, Univ. of  
Bridgeport  
Economics of Automation--Yale Brozen, Univ. of Chicago  
Medical & Biological Fields--Randolph Batson, Vanderbilt Univ.  
Leisure Activities  
Politics--Charles Shull, Wayne University  
Industrial Management--Walter Bickingham, Georgia Tech.  
Union Policies  
Motion Pictures  
Radio  
Television  
Newspapers--Howard Boone Jacobson, Univ. of Bridgeport

(Preliminary List of Instructions for Co-authors of):

AUTOMATION & SOCIETY

Philosophical Library  
15 E. 40 St.,  
New York 16, N.Y.

Editor  
JOSEPH S. ROUCEK  
395 Lakeside Dr.,  
Bridgeport 6, Conn.

- (1) Each chapter is to survey the general trends of the specific field. The details should be subordinated to the general framework, and the more specific references should be noted in footnotes. But try not to overburden your contribution with too many footnotes.
  - (2) The following formula should be used in footnotes: Some examples:
    14. Emile Durkheim, The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life (London: Allen & Unwin 1943), 43-44.
    15. Ibid., 56-57.
    16. J.N. Hazard, "Soviet Textbooks on Law," Slavonic and East European Review, XXI (March, 1956), 215-216.
- The footnotes should be in the text--and not at the end of the chapter. Double-space "everything."
- (3) Include a Selected Bibliography of some 15 titles, arranged alphabetically, using the same formula as outlined for the footnotes. Each item should be annotated.
  - (4) Follow the Selected Bibliography of some 300 words of your curriculum vitae, which you would like to have included in the book.
  - (5) Include sub-headings in your chapter.
  - (6) Since we are aiming for a readable work, and not for an encyclopedia, and for a book which can be sold only at a reasonable price, please be sure that your chapter does not run over 10,000 words. Should you run over this limit, don't get mad if the editor will mutilate your chapter by cutting it down to the assigned limit.
  - (7) Be sure to keep a carbon for yourself; send the original, plus one carbon, to the editor.
  - (8) You will receive 2 (two) complimentary copies of the book, plus 25 (twenty five) reprints of your chapter. No royalty will be paid either to the editor or the co-authors.
  - (9) It is agreed that any extensive changes made by the co-authors in the proofs of their chapter will be paid by the co-authors making changes.