THE FRICK COLLECTION

Anshen Transdisciplinary Lectureships
in Art, Science and the Philosophy of Culture

April 17, 1993

Dear Dr. Griffiths;

How kind and thoughtful you are!

The copy of the program at the dedication of the School of Mathematics is supernal and brings to my memory those golden days of long ago when my mentors and friends, Einstein, Weyl, and Oppenheimer, collaborated with me in my philosophy endeavors.

Thank you so much.

Faithfully,

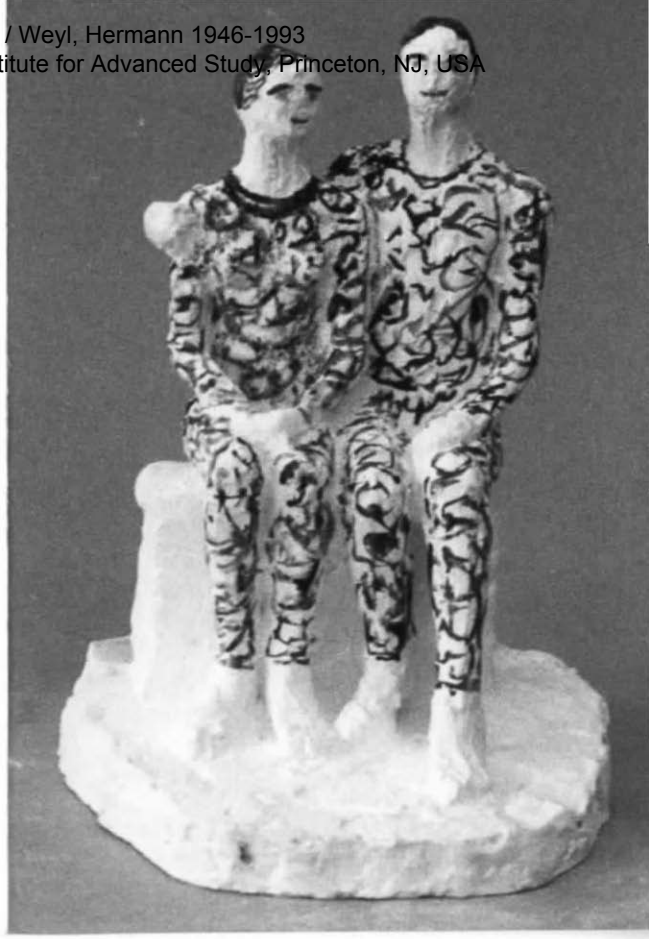
Ruth Nanda Anshen

Enclosure:

P.S. I have the pleasure of enclosing the original letter I received from Dr. Hermann Weyl - for your archive as my gift to the Institute for Advanced Study.

The Frick Collection 1 East 70th Street, New York 10021 (212) 288-0700
Ruth Nanda Anshen 50 East 77th Street, New York 10021 (212) 288-2314

P.P.S. At the time ~~this~~ enclosed letter was written I was using my husband's name and also my own family name at an address 205 West 57th St. N.Y.C. while my permanent address of 50 East 77th Street was in the process of alteration for occupancy. R.N.a.



Dear Perry, Thank you so much for letting me have the beautiful volume of the Institute. All the old memories are coming back and it is good to have it at hand.

Delayed still my best wishes for a good New Year

Sincerely,

Ellen Weyl-Bär

2/1/81.

"Original filed in Weyl - 1940

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

July 16, 1940

Dear Doctor Anshen:

The predictions of science may be reliable, but the predictions of a scientist about the time his manuscripts will be ready are as unreliable as anybody else's. I have to apologize for the long delay in sending in my article on Man and the Foundations of Science. I had to wrestle with a tough mathematical problem, and you will admit that the course of world events has not been particularly favorable for quiet work anyway.

What I am sending you now, I could equally well have sent three or four months ago. It is the manuscript of a lecture which I delivered before the Princeton Chapter of the Sigma Xi. My intention had been to overhaul and change it in accordance with the purpose it is going to serve as a contribution to your volume on Man and Science. But I now realize, however reluctantly, that in the near future I shall find neither time nor the right attitude of mind to accomplish this, and I must therefore beg you either to accept the manuscript as it is, or to refuse it altogether. I can well imagine that in the present form it will not fit in at all with your plans; in that case please do not hesitate to regret and to return.

Thanks for your concern about Dr. Günther.

Sincerely yours,

Hermann Weyl

Hermann Weyl

Dr. Ruth N. Anshen
205 West 57th Street
New York City
HW:GB

WEYL—BÄR

September 12, 1979

Mrs. Ellen Weyl-Bär
Bergstrasse 27
Zurich 7
Switzerland

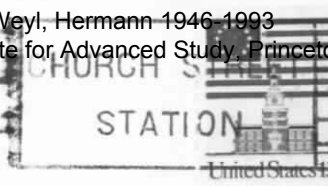
Dear Mrs. Weyl-Bär:

I thought you might like to have a copy of the Einstein poster which we commissioned for the celebration last March. You may know the artist who did the original drawing, Josef Scharl, who was a friend of Einstein and possibly of your family too.

With warm regards, I am,

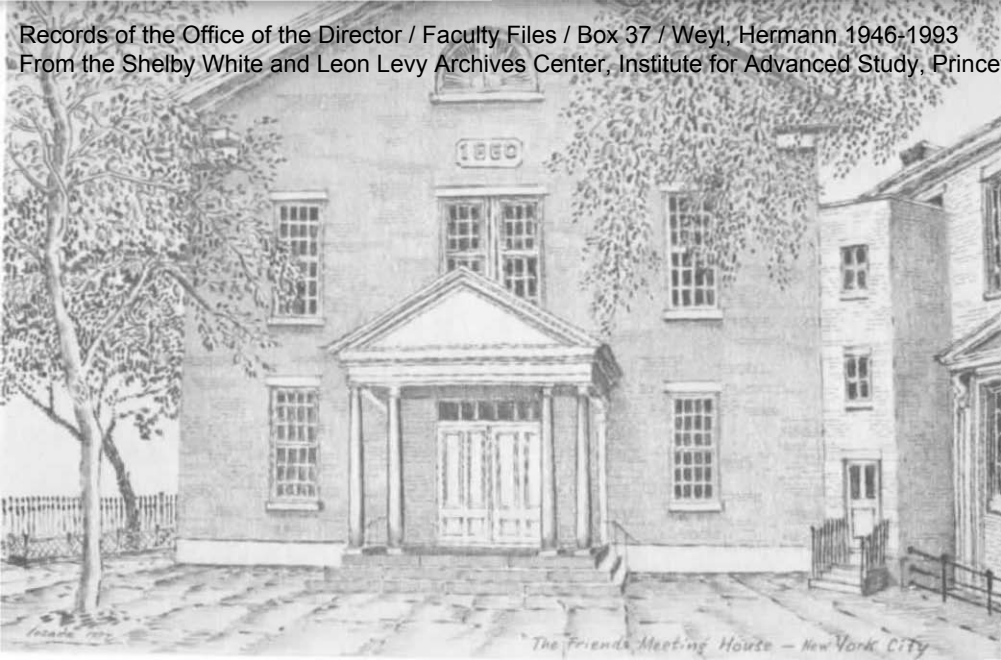
Cordially yours,

Harry Woolf



Dr. Harry Woolf
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton
New Jersey
08540

331 W. 20 St.
NYC
10011



"It has been a deep romantic symbol for me — starting out on the trail when the morning is fresh; the birds are singing, a distant target clearly on the mountain . . ."

F. J. W., July, 1977

Dear Barry Woolf - It was generous of you to write me in behalf of the Institute - I want to thank you so much. This is the beautiful old building where Joe's moving Memorial Service was held -

Sincerely Martha Weyl

WEYL

July 28, 1977

Mrs. Martha Bowditch Weyl
331 West 20th Street
New York, New York 10011

Dear Mrs. Weyl:

I have just learned of the death of your husband, and while he had no direct connection with the Institute for Advanced Study I am writing to express my sympathy with you and the children and to do so in the memory of his father's participation in the Institute, as well as the many associations which he and your family continue to have with us.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Woolf

Former Fac

9 August 1965

Dear Mr. Pennino:

In response to your letter of July 16, requesting a photograph of Professor Hermann Weyl, I am sorry to say that we do not have a picture file here at the Institute and cannot, therefore, be of help to you.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Carol Nielsen
Office of the Director

Mr. John Pennino
Head, Acquisitions Department
Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn
333 Jay Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE of BROOKLYN
333 JAY STREET • BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201

16 July 1965

Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey

Sorry, no picture file

Gentlemen:

We are interested in obtaining for our files a photograph of Hermann Weyl.

We would like to know if we could purchase one from you. We must ask you, however, to quote a price before sending a picture.

Yours very truly,

John Pennino

John Pennino
Head, Acquisitions Department

JP/ik

1-2
210

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, N. A.
New York, N.Y.

DATE 4.6.70

PAY $44.03--

FPT 741827

RE SHARE IN SALE OF SELECTA HERMANN WEYL AS PER
STATEMENT BIRKHAUSER&VERLAG BASEL FROM 1.1.8X TO
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BO SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KASSE DER ETH
ZURICH

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

OFFICIAL CHECK

TO THE ORDER OF BANCA NAZIONALE SVIZZERA BERN

INSITITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
PRINCETON, NJ.

9

BANQUE NATIONALE SUISSE
P. O. BOX
8022 ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

INSTRUCTIONS L 3.25.70 20429 BERN

NG ⑈741827⑈ ⑆0210⑉00021⑆ 941⑉6⑉000017⑈

FPT 741827

MEMORANDUM
WE ENCLOSE OUR CHECK

DATE

AMOUNT

3

RE SHARE IN SALE OF SELECTA HERMANN WEYL AS PER
STATEMENT BIRKHAUSER&VERLAG BASEL FROM 1.1.8X TO
12.31.69 SWISS FRANCS 190 AT RATE OF 4.315
BO SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KASSE DER ETH
ZURICH

MAIL TO

INSITITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
PRINCETON, N.J.

E264

BY ORDER OF

INSTRUCTIONS L 3.25.70 20429 BERN

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, N.A.
1 Chase Manhattan Plaza, New York, New York 10015
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FX 247AM REV. 9-66 PTG. 3/69

FPT 346194

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, N.A.
New York, N.Y.

DATE AUGUST 5/69

PAY $57.92--

1-2
210

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9

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P.O. BOX
8022 ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

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INSTRUCTIONS L 7/29/69 20 867 B/O BERN

⑈346194⑈ ⑆0210⑉0002⑆ 941⑉6⑉000017⑈

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March - 54-55

FPT 346194

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, N.A.
New York, N.Y.

DATE AUGUST 5/69

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1-2
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OFFICIAL CHECK

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MENT BIRKHAUSER VERLAG, BASLE FROM 1.1.-31.12.68 SW.
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9

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P.O. BOX
8022 ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

INSTRUCTIONS L 7/29/69 20 867 B/O BERN

⑈346194⑈ ⑆0210⑉00021⑆ 941⑉6⑉000017⑈

FPT 346194

MEMORANDUM
WE ENCLOSE OUR CHECK

DATE AUGUST 5/69

AMOUNT 57.92--

3

B/O BANQUE NATIONALE SUISSE, BERN
B/O SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ZURICH 8000
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FRANCS 250.-- RATE 4.315/8

MAIL TO

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
PRINCETON NJ

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BANQUE NATIONALE SUISSE
P.O. BOX
8022 ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

E264

INSTRUCTIONS L 7/29/69 20 867 B/O BERN

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, N.A.
1 Chase Manhattan Plaza, New York, New York 10015
INTERNATIONAL PAYING
AND RECEIVING TELLERS

FX 247AM REV. 9-66 PTG. 3/69

Math - 54-55

Credited #1215 - Math Publications

HERMANN WEYL

Among all the mathematicians who began their working lives in the twentieth century, Hermann Weyl was the one who made major contributions in the greatest number of different fields. He alone could stand comparison with the last great universal mathematicians of the nineteenth century, Hilbert and Poincare. So long as he was alive, he embodied a living contact between the main lines of advance in pure mathematics and in theoretical physics. Now he is dead, the contact is broken, and our hopes of comprehending the physical universe by a direct use of creative mathematical imagination are for the time being ended.

Weyl was fortunate in the manner of his death. On November 9, 1955, he celebrated his seventieth birthday, in full and robust health of body and mind. At the banquet which was given in his honour in Zürich, he received messages of good-will and homage from all over the world. Less than a month later, on December 8, he walked out of his house to post a letter, suffered a heart-failure, and died instantaneously.

The beginning of Weyl's scientific life cannot be better described than in his own words. "I came to Göttingen as a country lad of eighteen, having chosen that university mainly because the director of my high school happened to be a cousin of Hilbert's and had given me a letter of recommendation to him. In the fullness of my innocence and ignorance I made bold to take the course Hilbert had announced for that term, on the notion of number and the quadrature of the circle. Most of it went straight over my head. But the doors of a new world swung open for me, and I had not sat long at Hilbert's feet before the resolution formed itself in my young heart that I must by all means read and study whatever this man had written. And after the first year

I went home with Hilbert's 'Zahlbericht' under my arm, and during the summer vacation I worked my way through it. These were the happiest months of my life, whose shine, across years burdened with our common share of doubt and failure, still comforts my soul." The words "read and study whatever this man had written" are the key to Weyl's breadth and versatility. Hilbert's method of work was to choose a field of mathematics, study it intensely for a few years, revolutionize it with a basic new idea, then drop it and look for another field. Weyl followed the same method, and was equally successful.

The following is a very incomplete chronological summary of Weyl's activity. Between 1908 and 1917 he worked on problems in classical pure mathematics, in particular the theory of numbers, singular integral equations, and functions of a complex variable. His book "Die Idee der Riemannschen Fläche" created a new branch of mathematics by uniting function-theory and geometry; the influence of this book led directly to a synoptic view of analysis, geometry and topology which has become a central theme in the mathematics of today. From 1917 to 1923 he worked on the logical foundations of mathematics, and simultaneously took an active part in the development of Einstein's relativity theory and its generalizations. He discovered the first "unified field theory" in which the Maxwell field appears along with the gravitational field as a geometrical property of space-time. This theory he soon rejected as being without empirical foundation, but it remains at least as plausible as any of the other unified theories which came later. Between 1923 and 1938 he created a general theory of matrix representations of continuous groups, which powerfully assisted the growth of quantum mechanics. He discovered that a large proportion of the

regularities of quantum phenomena in atomic physics can be understood most simply by means of group theory. By bringing group theory into quantum mechanics he led the way to our modern style of thinking in physics. Today the instinctive reaction of every theoretical physicist, confronted with an unexplained regularity in the behavior of elementary particles, is to postulate an underlying symmetry-group.

After taking his degree at Göttingen, Weyl occupied chairs successively at the ETH in Zürich (1913-30), at Göttingen (1930-33), and at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton (1933-51). He was elected a Foreign Member of the Royal Society in 1936. He was twice married, and is survived by a widow and two sons.

Characteristic of Weyl was an aesthetic sense which dominated his thinking on all subjects. He once said to me half joking, "My work always tried to unite the true with the beautiful; but when I had to choose one or the other, I usually chose the beautiful." This remark sums up his personality perfectly. It shows his profound faith in an ultimate harmony of nature, in which the laws should inevitably express themselves in a mathematically beautiful form. It shows also his recognition of human frailty, and his humour which always stopped him short of being pompous. His friends in Princeton will remember him as he was when I last saw him, at the Spring Dance of the Institute for Advanced Study last April; a big jovial man, enjoying himself splendidly, his cheerful face and his light step giving no hint of his sixty-nine years.

13 February 1956 Freeman J. Dyson

EIDGENÖSSISCHE
TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE

KASSE

ZURICH, April 19th, 196

Institute for Advanced Study,
Office of the Director,
Princeton, N.J. / USA

Dear Sirs,

We have instructed the Swiss National Bank, Berne, to transfer to you the equivalent of

Sw.Frcs. 480.--

which amount we have received from the editor of the book "Selecta Hermann Weyl" beeing the half of the proceeds of 48 volumes sold during the year 1965.

Yours faithfully

SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
The Treasurer:

$110.65

12591

1) [illegible] d. Sept. 5, 1948
(Helene)

2) Remarried Jan 1950 - Ellen Baer

3) H Weyl - d. Dec. 8, 1965

4) Mrs. Ellen Weyl-Bär (1957)
Bergstrasse 27, Zurich

5) Sons:
Fritz Joachim
3025 Macomb St
Washington 8, D.C.

Michael (diplomatic service)
no recent address

Weyl

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, N. J.

RECEIPT

No. 715

DATE RECEIVED	RECEIVED FROM
5/16/66	The Chase Manhattan Bank

IN PAYMENT OF:	ACCOUNT NUMBER
Order of Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich Weyl Selected Royalties –	1116

AMOUNT IN WORDS	AMOUNT IN FIGURES
One hundred Tenst 65/100 dollars	$110 65

POSTED BY		RECEIVED BY
DATE	INITIALS	
		O. Modzelewski

SIGNATURE

Weyl

UNIVERSITE TECHNIQUE NATIONALE
LABORATOIRE DE PHYSIQUE EXPERIMENTALE II
ADRESSE POSTALE: P. O. Box 49, ATHENES - Tél. 622.554 & 625.700

DIRECTEUR PROFESSEUR P. SANTORINI, Dr. sc., Dipl.-Ing.

PROFESSOR EMERITUS, 1965

Athènes, le den 2. Mai 1966

Herrn
Prof. Dr. R. OPPENHEIMER
Princeton.

Sehr geehrter Herr Professor Oppenheimer,

Darf ich mich um eine Auskunft an Sie wenden, die die Familie des verstorbenen Hermann WEYL, betrifft ?

Prof. Weyl war, seit 1913, der Nachfolger meines Professors für Analytische Geometrie, Geiser, an der Eidg. Techn. Hochschule Zürich. Gerade weil ich nicht sein früherer Student war, konnte ich , in seinem Hause, meinen früheren Professor für Darstellende Geometrie, Marcel Grossmann, treffen und wurde, von beiden, unter Anderem, zur Durchführung von Rechenarbeiten herangezogen.

Mit den Jahren entwickelte sich die Bekanntschaft, trotz des Alterunterschiedes, zur Freundschaft, mit Gipfelpunkt im Jahre 1918, als auch mein früherer Lehrer Einstein für 20 Vorträge nach Zürich kam.

Um jene Zeit arbeitete Hermann, ich glaube, an seinem Werk RZM. Hella, die ihren Mann in Göttingen, als Studentin, kennen lernte und heiratete, war ihm jetzt nicht nur bei der Lesung der Korrekturen behilflich, sondern kontrollierte sogar auch seine Manuskripte: grosse Papierbogen mit grossen Buchstaben und Ziffern in Bleistift, die ihr Mann, im Nebenzimmer, im Bett liegend, schrieb. Und wie oft fand sie Fehler in den Manuskripten und stritt sie mit ihm, bis er endlich zugab, dass sie Recht hatte.

Um jene Zeit, eher 1919, machte Hella eine schwere, geistige Krise durch. Einmal schüttelte sie mir ihr Herz aus: ihr Kummer waren ihre Kinder, damals etwa 6-8 Jahre alt, wenn ich mich gut erinnere. Sie litt unter der fixen Idee, dass an der mangelhaften geistigen Entwicklung der Kinder, besonders des Sohnes, Schuld sei eine, wie sie glaubte, unpassende Rassenmischung der Eltern: sie, eine zierliche, hochfeinfühlende Jüdin und er, das urwüchsige Ebenbild des blonden Germanen.

Seitdem sind viele Jahre verstrichen. Gelegentlich eines Empfanges an einer fremden Botschaft erfuhr ich, ganz zufälligerweise, dass Hermann Weyl bereits seit Jahren verstorben ist. Wenn wir auch später nicht mehr im Kontakt waren, so hat mich die Nachricht von seinem Tode genau so erschüttert, wie jene über Einsteins Tod. In meinem Alter (73) fängt man plötzlich an seinen Jugenderinnerungen zu hängen. An der schönen Zeit, wo weder der eine, noch der andere, trotz der äusseren Anerkennung, nicht so recht an das eigene Genie glaubten.

[Ich meine Weyl und Einstein,

Ich nehme an, sehr verehrter Herr Oppenheimer, dass Sie die Familie Weyl gut gekannt haben. Würden Sie die Freundlichkeit haben mich darüber zu unterrichten, was aus ihr geworden ist ? Ich hoffe, dass sich die damaligen Befürchtungen nicht bewahrheiteten. Frau Weyl war geistig ausserordentlich hoch entwickelt und, meiner Ansicht nach, erwartete sie bei ihren Kindern eine Reifenstufe, die gar nicht deren Alter entsprach.

Bitte entschuldigen Sie mich für diese Belästigung, aber ich kann mir kaum jemand anders denken, der mich über den Werdegang der Familie Weyl unterrichten könnte. Selbstverständlich lese ich englisch, nur ausdrücken kann ich mich nicht so gut wie deutsch oder französisch.

Ihnen also für Ihre Mühe im Voraus dankend, verbleibe ich,

mit ausgezeichneter Hochachtung

P. Lauterson.

Adresse:
P.O.Box 49
Athens, Greece.

c — ee. (Ellen Baer) / c — y

/ c W.S.

W.S. Zurich (RO gen)

2 Sonne

2 — ee

Forward Fac. Weyl

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, N. J.

RECEIPT

№ 8171

DATE RECEIVED	RECEIVED FROM
5/12/65	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology

IN PAYMENT OF:	ACCOUNT NUMBER
Zurich Publication - Hermann Weyl	1116

AMOUNT IN WORDS	AMOUNT IN FIGURES
Ninety six + 27/100 dollars	$ 96 27

POSTED BY		RECEIVED BY
DATE	INITIALS	
		A Modzelewski
		SIGNATURE

EIDGENÖSSISCHE
TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE

KASSE

ZÜRICH, April 22nd, 1965.

Institute for Advanced Study,
Office of the Director,
Princeton, N.J. / USA

Dear Sirs,

We have instructed the Swiss National Bank, Berne, to transfer to you the equivalent of

Sw.Frcs. 42o.--

which amount we have received from the editor of the book "Selecta Hermann Weyl" beeing the proceeds ($\frac{1}{2}$) of 42 volumes sold during the year 1964.

Yours faithfully

SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
The Treasurer:

Tiger

12591

Weyl

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, N. J.

RECEIPT

№ 5714

DATE RECEIVED	RECEIVED FROM
4/19/63	(Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule) Swiss Federal Institute of Technology

IN PAYMENT OF:	ACCOUNT NUMBER
"Selecta Hermann Weyl" 1/2 proceeds - 35 volumes sold - 1962	1116

AMOUNT IN WORDS	AMOUNT IN FIGURES
Eighty & 35/100 dollars	$ 80.35

POSTED BY		RECEIVED BY
DATE	INITIALS	
		P. Modzelewski
		SIGNATURE

EIDGENÖSSISCHE
TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE

KASSE

ZURICH, March 25th, 196

Sabina, pls. return

Institute for Advanced Study,
Office of the Director,

Princeton, N.J. / USA

Dear Sirs,

We beg to refer to our letters of July 4th, 1961 und March 14th, 1962 in connection with the edition of the book "Selecta Hermann Weyl" and take pleasure in handing you enclosed a check for

$ 80.35

beeing the equivalent of sw.frcs. 350.--, paid by the editor of the aforesaid book as proceeds (½) for 35 volumes sold during the year 1962.

Yours faithfully

SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOG
The Treasurer:

Encl.: 1 Check

REGISTERED

deposit to Pub Fund
V. Hobson 4/19/63

12591

Weyl

4 March 1957

Your Reference
No. 31707

Dear Mr. Madans:

Thank you for your letter of 1 March. In Dr. Oppenheimer's absence, the Institute's General Manager, Mr. Minot C. Morgan, Jr., has signed the Bureau of Customs form, Declaration for Free Entry of Works of Art, Artistic Antiquities, Original Paintings, Statuary, Etc. returned herewith.

The case containing the bronze bust should be sent to Dr. Oppenheimer here at the Institute. Your care in handling this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Velma A. Mumper
Office of the Director

Mr. Howard Madans
Baggage Department
Express Forwarding and Storage Co., Inc.
8 Bridge Street
New York 4, New York

EXPRESS FORWARDING AND STORAGE CO., INC.

CUSTOM HOUSE BROKERS
INT. FREIGHT FORWARDERS
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CONTAINER SERVICE

8 BRIDGE STREET • NEW YORK 4, N. Y. • CABLES EXPRESSAGE NEW YORK • TEL. WHITEHALL 3-9044

March 1, 1957

Prof. Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.

Re: Our Ref. #31707; one case bronce sculpture, ex SS Goettingen.
Artist: Mrs. Ellen Weyl-Baer.

Dear Doctor:

We are pleased to advise you that we are in receipt of documents from our agents A. Welti-Furrer of Zurich covering the above mentioned shipment which is due to arrive at New York on March 6.

We are instructed by Welti-Furrer to effect customs clearance of the shipment and delivery to you for their account. We enclose customs form # 3307 which we ask you to sign where indicated by an "x" and return to this office. We will need this form to enable us to obtain free entry of the shipment.

Please advise us whether the case is to be delivered to you at the Institute for Advanced Study or a private address. We await your reply in due course.

Very truly yours,

EXPRESS FORWARDING & STORAGE CO, INC.

Howard Madans,
Baggage Department

HM/mk
Encl.

Fac Weyl sculpture (new folder)

BERGSTRASSE 27
ZÜRICH

2/19/57.

Dear Robert,

I am happy to report that Hermanns truck left a few days ago. Although it will take quite some time I do hope that it may reach Princeton still before the end of the term. There should not be any duty to be paid; if necessary you could perhaps show our correspondence.

At the last moment I decided on sending you the fifth case which was on exhibition in Basel; so I am sure that the packing will not change too much any more.

As for placing portraits we made good experiences in putting them on wooden bases of 9 square inches and about 48" high. I only do hope that you will not be disappointed in seeing my work.

Thanking you again for your great kindness I am with best regards also to Kitty,

Sincerely, Ellen Weyl.

Fam. Fam.
Weyl, Hermann

27 June 1962

Dear Mr. Blumenfeld:

We have your letter of June 21 which Princeton University forwarded to us; Dr. Weyl was associated with our Institute which is not part of the University. Unfortunately, we do not have a picture file and cannot send you the requested photograph.

Sincerely,

(Miss) Bonnie Scott
Office of the Director

Mr. J. Blumenfeld
Encyclopaedia Hebraica
1 Rehov David Hamelech
Jerusalem

This is your man.

No photographs here.

M. H. Thomas

איגרת אוויר
AEROGRAMME

The Administrative Department of
Archives and Records
Princeton University
Princeton
New Jersey
U.S.A.

דואר אוויר
PAR AVION

קפל שלישי

אם יושם משהו בפנים, תישלח האיגרת בדואר רגיל

EXPEDITEUR - השולח

P. O. Box 1232
JERUSALEM, Israel

קפל שני

קפל ראשון

האנציקלופדיה העברית
ENCYCLOPAEDIA HEBRAICA

HONORARY PRESIDENT: I. BEN-ZVI, PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL

June 21, 1962
Our ref.: EH/4530/XVI

The Administrative Department of Archives and Records
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Sirs:

We should appreciate it if you would kindly send us the following photograph, on glossy paper, which we require for the 16th volume of the Hebrew Encyclopaedia, due to appear shortly:

Photograph of
Weyl, Herman (1885-1955).

We should be glad if you would kindly send us your invoice in triplicate, together with the photograph, in order that payment may be facilitated.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours sincerely,

J. Blumenfeld

J. Blumenfeld
For the Editors

JB:js

Editorial office: Jerusalem, 1 Rehov David Hamelech, Phone, 24208/9, P.O.B. 1232, Cable address: ENCI, Jerusalem

For 5 [illegible] 1962 Selecta

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, N. J.

RECEIPT

№ 4440

DATE RECEIVED	RECEIVED FROM
4/2/62	(Swiss Federal Institute of Technology) The American Express Co.

IN PAYMENT OF:	ACCOUNT NUMBER
In connec. with the book "Selecta Hermann Weyl". 53 volumes sold.	# 1116

AMOUNT IN WORDS	AMOUNT IN FIGURES
One hundred and twenty-one and 55/100	$ 121.55

POSTED BY		RECEIVED BY
DATE	INITIALS	
		Ella Britt Kendall
		SIGNATURE

EIDGENÖSSISCHE
TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE

KASSE

ZURICH, March 14th, 1962.

Institute for Advanced Study,
Office of the Director,

Princeton, N.J. / USA

Dear Sirs,

We beg to refer to our letter of July 4th, 1961 in connection with the edition of the book "Selecta Hermann Weyl" and take pleasure in handing you enclosed a check for

$ 121.55

beeing the equivalent of sw.frcs. 530.--, paid by the editor of the aforesaid book as proceeds (½) for 53 volumes sold during the year 1961.

Yours faithfully

SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
The Treasurer :

Encl.:
1 Check

REGISTERED

credit to Publications Fund.

pls. return this note to me. V. Hobson

12591

Former Fac. Weyl

Hermann Weyl

31 May 1961

Dear Dr. Eckmann:

Thank you for your good letter of May 24th. We should be glad to receive our share of the refunds for SELECTA HERMANN WEYL once a year, and would suggest that June is a good month for us.

With all good wishes,

Robert Oppenheimer

Dr. B. Eckmann
Eidg. Technische Hochschule
Zürich
Switzerland

cc Mr. Morgan - these payments to be credited to the Publications Fund.

check for $196.46
dated 7/18/61 rec'd.

Eidg. Technische Hochschule
Höhere Mathematik
Prof. Dr. B. Eckmann

Zürich, May 24, 1961

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, Director of the
Institute for Advanced Study
P r i n c e t o n , New Jersey, USA

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer,

This letter refers to the Selecta Hermann Weyl, published jointly by the Institute for Advanced Study and the Eidg. Technische Hochschule in 1955. At that time, our institutions both contributed 9'000.- Swfrs. each to the publication costs of the Selecta. According to the provisions of the contract with the publishing firm Birkhäuser, Basle a small part of the subvention has been paid back by Birkhäuser, after the 700th copy of the book had been sold. At present, the total of the refunds is 1'700.- Swfrs. which were paid to the administration of the ETH.

May I ask you now in which way you would like us to remit to the Institute for Advanced Study its share of these refunds (once a year, every time a refund is paid to us, or to wait until the whole sum gets bigger, etc.)?

With best regards,

Yours cordially,

B. Eckmann

B. Eckmann

28527

Former Fac. Weyl (Publications, or Selecta?)

copy

Zürich, January 5th 1961

Professor
Marston Morse
Institute for Advanced Studies
Princeton / New Jersey
USA

Dear Marston,

Today I am writing in connection with a matter which has nothing to do with IMU.

These last weeks the question has been brought up from several sides, whether the time has come for publishing the collected mathematical papers of Hermann Weyl. In 1955 already, after H. Weyl's death, many mathematicians and publishers had shown their interest in such a publication. We thought, however, that in view of the Selecta one should rather wait a few years. Now Springer, Heidelberg and Birkhäuser, Basle on one hand and some colleagues, together with Mrs. Weyl, have again brought up that question. May I ask you what your opinion is? Hopf and I have discussed the matter and we came to the following conclusion: we agree in principle that the collected papers as listed in the Selecta (not the books) should be published now. However, one should find out

(1) what the financial needs would be.
(2) what institutions would be ready to contribute,
(3) whether a mathematician could be found to do the editing (as a part-time job).

As for (1) it is not difficult to make an estimate of the total number of pages of the publication, and within a few weeks I will get from Birkhäuser some figures showing what grant the publisher considers necessary, in order to undertake the publication. It might be interesting to compare this with the corresponding information from an US publisher. As for (2) above, I am pretty sure that some institution in Switzerland can be found to make a financial contribution (perhaps the ETH). As for (3) this seems more difficult. Would it be possible to finance the job through some contract with a foundation, etc.? Hopf and I would be very glad to have some comments from you on all these points, before proceeding to further steps, but I hope that this will not cause too much trouble for you. Mrs. Weyl is at present in New York; when visiting Princeton, she will certainly see you and you could give her some oral information on these questions. Many thanks in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

With kind regards,

Yours cordially,

/s/ Beno

Prof. Dr. B. Eckmann

CC: A. Borel
A. Beurling
K. Gödel
D. Montgomery
✓R. Oppenheimer
A. Selberg
A. Weil
H. Whitney

FILE: Riefler

RE: housing

SEE: Meritt - housing

(composite file on housing for Meritt, Riefler and Weyl)

27 August 1958

Morton Deitz, Esq.
Messrs. Smith, Stratton & Wise
37 Hulfish Street
Princeton, N.J.

Dear Mr. Deitz:

In response to your request for further information in connection with the grants-in-aid given by the Institute for Advanced Study to Dr. Hermann Weyl, this letter is to state that:

1) Dr. Weyl was a permanent Professor of the Institute for Advanced Study prior to his retirement in 1951. Professor Weyl's activities, as a permanent Professor, comparable to all permanent faculty members, included the conduct of seminars and lectures in advanced mathematics. As a member of the faculty, he had the duty and responsibility of advising the Director on the appointment of new faculty members. Again, as a member of the faculty of the School of Mathematics, he had the duty and responsibility for the selection of temporary members of the faculty in the School of Mathematics. These duties and responsibilities devolved upon each permanent faculty member of the Institute for Advanced Study.

All faculty members have a rank equivalent of that of a full Professor at a University. They all have permanent tenure and receive identical salaries.

Subsequent to Dr. Weyl's retirement, Dr. Weyl had no duties or responsibilities of any kind. The Institute exercised no supervision over Dr. Weyl's research; made no effort to exercise any supervision or guidance; did not receive, or request, any reports upon his research, either as to progress or completion; and sought and derived no economic benefit from any actual or potential publication of the results of any of Dr. Weyl's research. Dr. Weyl, as the recipient of a grant-in-aid, performed research work of his own choosing and under his own direction and control.

2) Dr. Weyl's salary prior to retirement was $15,000.00 per annum, the same as that paid to all permanent Professors or the Institute for Advanced Study.

3) Although the policy of the Institute for Advanced Study has been in the process of change over the past few years, at the time of Dr. Weyl's retirement, his retirement was mandatory at age 65.

Smith, Stratton & Wise
Counsellors at Law
37 Hulfish Street
Princeton, New Jersey

EDGAR S. SMITH
HENRY M. STRATTON, II
HUGH D. WISE, JR.
MORTON DEITZ
HENRY S. BROAD
HOMER R. ZINK
FRANK L. SCOTT

MAIL ADDRESS:
P. O. BOX 209

WALNUT 4-5151

August 25, 1958

Mr. Minot C. Morgan, Jr.
Institute for Advanced Study
Mercer Street
Princeton, N.J.

Dear Mr. Morgan:

RE: Estate of Hermann Weyl, deceased

Please find enclosed herewith draft of proposed letter, prepared in accordance with the information received by me from your office. Please make whatever factual and other corrections you deem necessary and have it signed and sent to me as quickly as possible.

Very truly yours,

Morton Deitz

MD:MYS
Encls.

August 19, 1958

Morton Deitz, Esq.
Messrs. Smith, Stratton & Wise
37 Hulfish Street
Princeton, N.J.

Dear Mr. Deitz:

In response to your request for further information in connection with the grants-in-aid given by the Institute for Advanced Study to Dr. Hermann Weyl, this letter is to state that:

1) Dr. Weyl was a permanent Professor of the Institute for Advanced Study prior to his retirement in 1951. Professor Weyl's duties, as a permanent Professor, comparable to all permanent faculty members, included the conduct of seminars and lectures in advanced mathematics. As a member of the faculty, he had the further duty and responsibility of concurring or disagreeing with the appointments by the Director of new faculty members. Again, as a member of the faculty of the School of Mathematics, he had the duty and responsibility of the selection of temporary members of the faculty in the School of Mathematics. Each of these duties and responsibilities devolved upon each permanent faculty member of the Institute for Advanced Study.

All faculty members have a rank equivalent of that of a full Professor at a University. They all have permanent tenure and receive identical salaries.

Subsequent to Dr. Weyl's retirement, Dr. Weyl had no duties or responsibilities of any kind. The Institute exercised no supervision over Dr. Weyl's research; made no effort to exercise any supervision or guidance; did not receive, or request, any reports upon his research, either as to progress or completion; and sought and derived no economic benefit from any actual or potential publication of the results of any of Dr. Weyl's research. Dr. Weyl, as the recipient of a grant-in-aid, performed research work of his own choosing and under his own direction and control.

2) Dr. Weyl's salary prior to retirement was $15,000.00 per annum, the same as that paid to all permanent Professors or the Institute for Advanced Study.

3) Although the policy of the Institute for Advanced Study has

been in the process of change over the past few years, ~~as a result of the efforts of the Institute for Advanced Study to keep its retirement policies comparable to that of Princeton University, it would appear that,~~ at the time of Dr. Weyl's retirement, his retirement was mandatory at age 65.

4) Dr. Weyl did not request this grant-in-aid nor did he offer his services to the Institute. It was the decision of the Director & the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study to offer a grant-in-aid to Professor Weyl, because of the ~~tremendous~~ potential contributions that his research ~~in the~~ might ~~make~~ contribute to the fields of mathematics ~~might produce~~, to the benefit of his presence at the Institute

5) Dr. Weyl ~~could not have conducted the research, made possible by the Institute's grant-in-aid to him~~, at any place other than the Institute for Advanced Study ~~at~~ in Princeton. ~~This~~ It was required by the terms of the grant-in-aid. The interchange of ideas among the faculty members and among temporary members at the Institute plays an extremely important part in the development of new lines of thought.

6) There was no specific amount, out of the total grant-in-aid to Dr. Weyl, designated to cover travel, clerical and other expenses incident to the research made possible by the grant-in-aid.

7) Dr. Weyl arrived at the Institute in 1954 on January 13, 1954 and departed April 10, 1954. He returned in October 1954 for the purpose of lecturing at Columbia University. The second term of the 1953-1954 academic year commenced January 11, 1954 and ended April 9, 1954.

8) The Institute for Advanced Study has no policy or practice of awarding grants-in-aid to retired members. ~~Of all of the~~ Of the permanent faculty members ~~who have retired~~ from the Institute for Advanced Study, only one permanent member, other than Dr. Weyl, was awarded a grant-in-aid subsequent to his retirement.

I hope this information will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

now in retirement

Robert Oppenheimer,
Director

DRAFT
MD/mys

Weyl

Smith, Stratton & Wise
Counsellors at Law
37 Hulfish Street
Princeton, New Jersey

EDGAR S. SMITH
HENRY M STRATTON, II
HUGH D. WISE, JR.
MORTON DEITZ

PRINCETON 1-5151

November 24, 1956

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Director, Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer: Re: Estate of Hermann Weyl, dec'd
Grants-in-Aid

Under date of October 23, 1956, I wrote you reporting on the status of the Internal Revenue Service's pending examination of the income tax status of the grants-in-aid made by the Institute to the late Professor Weyl. Since that time, I have had a third informal conference with the Internal Revenue Agent and his acting Group Supervisor at their office in Trenton, New Jersey. At this third conference, I presented your letter addressed to me dated October 16, 1956 in which you explained the background of the payments made by the Institute in 1953 and 1954 to Professor Weyl. For some unexplained reason, the previous informal assurances given me, that the Stone decision would be applied in this case with respect to 1953 and that Section 117 of the 1954 Code would be applied to 1954, were not carried out, the conferee stating that he was unable to accede to such a position in the absence of any formal ruling as to the applicability of the Stone case and of Section 117 to grants-in-aid made by the Institute for Advanced Study. The conferee felt that he had to take the position that such applicability in the subject case, like that of Julian H. Bigelow, should be resolved in the Appellate Division. Inasmuch as I could not agree with his position, I asked that the Revenue Agent's Report be prepared and that the necessary procedural steps would then be taken to bring the matter before the Appellate Division.

I am sending a carbon copy of this letter to David J. Levy, Esq., for his information and with the expectation that he will allow us the benefit of his reaction to the foregoing developments should he deem it necessary so to do.

I am sorry that I have the unpleasant duty to report this development to you, but I am confident that the matter

Smith, Stratton & Wise

will ultimately be resolved in the taxpayer's favor.

Very truly yours,

Morton Deitz

MD:MS

cc to: Mr. Minot C. Morgan
David J. Levy, Esq.
The First National Bank of Princeton
Dr. Fritz Joachim Weyl

Weyl

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

16 October 1956

Dear Mr. Deitz:

You have asked me to explain the background of the payments made by the Institute for Advanced Study in 1953 and 1954 to the late Professor Hermann Weyl.

In 1953, the Institute paid $4,238.56 to Professor Weyl as a supplement to the pension which Professor Weyl was receiving from the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association (T.I.A.A.) as a result of his Professorship at the Institute. When Professor Weyl came to the Institute, it was foreseeable that during the maximum number of years in which he could remain a Professor at the Institute prior to retirement, there would be insufficient amounts paid in to the T.I.A.A. plan to afford him a comfortable retirement pension. It was, therefore, understood that, after retirement, the Institute would pay, out of the Institute's pension account for its faculty, such additional sums as would be necessary to bring to $8,000. the total amount available from both T.I.A.A. pension and supplemental compensation from the Institute. After Dr. Weyl retired in 1951, he became legally entitled to such supplemental payments which approximated some $4,200. a year. Hence, in 1953, the Institute paid the sum of $4,238.56 to Professor Weyl in accordance with its obligation, and in 1954 likewise paid him $4,238.60. As in previous years and as with other items of compensation, the Institute periodically withheld Federal Income taxes from the amounts so paid.

At the time of Professor Weyl's retirement, the Faculty and the Board of Trustees of the Institute unanimously decided to offer Professor Weyl a membership in the Institute for the three (3) years from July 1, 1951 to June 30, 1954. Because Professor Weyl was at that time, after his remarriage, living in Zurich, Switzerland, it was understood that he would be able to be in residence at the Institute for only one term out of each academic year. It was, therefore, decided to offer to Professor Weyl a grant-in-aid, such as we normally offer to our members, in the amount of $4,000.00 for each six (6) month term during those three (3) academic years during which he could be in residence at the Institute. The Institute's budget for each of those years provided for a $4,000.00 grant to Professor Weyl. It was contemplated that a portion of the $4,000.00 would allow

Professor Weyl assistance in the pursuit of further studies or research in his specialized fields of mathematics, and that a portion of the grant would be used to cover expenses for Professor and Mrs. Weyl's travel from Switzerland to the Institute at Princeton and return.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Oppenheimer
Director

Mr. Morton Deitz
Smith, Stratton and Wise
37 Hulfish Street
Princeton, New Jersey

Dr Oppenheimer.

Weyl

You may like to see this. C/R Dyson

February 13, 1956

The Editors of "Nature"
Mac Millan and Company, Ltd.
St. Martin's Street
London W.C.2, England

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is an obituary notice of Professor Weyl. I asked four people in Princeton who are better qualified than I am to write it; all of them excused themselves, and so I ended by writing it myself.

Yours faithfully,

Freeman J. Dyson

FJD:jlk
Enclosure

HERMANN WEYL

Among all the mathematicians who began their working lives in the twentieth century, Hermann Weyl was the one who made major contributions in the greatest number of different fields. He alone could stand comparison with the last great universal mathematicians of the nineteenth century, Hilbert and Poincaré. So long as he was alive, he embodied a living contact between the main lines of advance in pure mathematics and in theoretical physics. Now he is dead, the contact is broken, and our hopes of comprehending the physical universe by a direct use of creative mathematical imagination are for the time being ended.

Weyl was fortunate in the manner of his death. On November 9, 1955, he celebrated his seventieth birthday, in full and robust health of body and mind. At the banquet which was given in his honour in Zürich, he received messages of good-will and homage from all over the world. Less than a month later, on December 8, he walked out of his house to post a letter, suffered a heart-failure, and died instantaneously.

The beginning of Weyl's scientific life cannot be better described than in his own words. "I cameto Göttingen as a country lad of eighteen, having chosen that university mainly because the director of my high school happened to be a cousin of Hilbert's and had given me a letter of recommendation to him. In the fullness of my innocence and ignorance I made bold to take the course Hilbert had announced for that term, on the notion of number and the quadrature of the circle. Most of it went straight over my head. But the doors of a new world swung open for me, and I had not sat long at Hilbert's feet before the resolution formed itself in my young heart that I must by all means read and study whatever this man had written. And after the first year I went home with Hilbert's 'Zahlbericht' under my arm, and during the summer vacation I worked my way through it. These were the happiest months of my

life, whose shine, across years burdened with our common share of doubt and failure, still comforts my soul." The words "read and study whatever this man had written" are the key to Weyl's breadth and versatility. Hilbert's method of work was to choose a field of mathematics, study it intensely for a few years, revolutionize it with a basic new idea, then drop it and look for another field. Weyl followed the same method, and was equally successful.

The following is a very incomplete chronological summary of Weyl's activity. Between 1908 and 1917 he worked on problems in classical pure mathematics, in particular the theory of numbers, singular integral equations, and ~~the theory of~~ functions of a complex variable. His book "Die Idee der Riemannschen Fläche" created a new branch of mathematics by uniting function-theory and geometry; the influence of this book led directly to a synoptic view of analysis, geometry and topology which has become a central theme in the mathematics of today. From 1917 to 1923 he worked on the logical foundations of mathematics, and simultaneously took an active part in the development of Einstein's relativity theory and its generalizations. He discovered the first "unified field theory" in which the Maxwell field appears along with the gravitational field as a geometrical property of space-time. This theory he soon rejected as being without empirical foundation, but it remains at least as plausible as any of the other unified theories which came later. Between 1923 and 1938 he created a general theory of matrix representations of continuous groups, which powerfully assisted the growth of quantum mechanics. He discovered that a large proportion of the regularities of quantum phenomena in atomic physics can be understood most simply by means of group theory. By bringing group theory into quantum mechanics he led the way to our modern style of thinking in physics. Today the instinctive reaction of every theoretical physicist, confronted with an unexplained regularity in the behavior of elementary particles, is to postulate an underlying symmetry-group.

After taking his degree at Göttingen, Weyl occupied chairs successively at the ETH in Zürich (1913-30), at Göttingen (1930-33), and at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton (1933-51). He was elected a Foreign Member of the Royal Society in 1936. He was twice married, and is survived by a widow and two sons.

Characteristic of Weyl was an aesthetic sense which dominated his thinking on all subjects. He once said to me half joking, "My work always tried to unite the true with the beautiful; but when I had to choose one or the other, I usually chose the beautiful." This remark sums up his personality perfectly. It shows his profound faith in an ultimate harmony of nature, in which the laws should inevitably express themselves in a mathematically beautiful form. It shows also his recognition of human frailty, and his humour which always stopped him short of being pompous. His friends in Princeton will remember him as he was when I last saw him, at the Spring Dance of the Institute for Advanced Study last April; a big jovial man, enjoying himself splendidly, his cheerful face and his light step giving no hint of his sixty-nine years.

H. Weyl

CROSS REFERENCE

FILE: Weyl

RE: Income Tax

LETTER DATED: 28 Nov. 56. From D. J. Levy of Moses, Davidson, Levy, Friedman + Weston to R.O.

SEE: Income Tax - Taxation of Grants.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

16 October 1956

Dear Mr. Deitz:

You have asked me to explain the background of the payments made by the Institute for Advanced Study in 1953 and 1954 to the late Professor Hermann Weyl.

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Professor Weyl assistance in the pursuit of further studies or research in his specialized fields of mathematics, and that a portion of the grant would be used to cover expenses for Professor and Mrs. Weyl's travel from Switzerland to the Institute at Princeton and return.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Oppenheimer
Director

Mr. Morton Deits
Smith, Stratton and Wise
37 Hulfish Street
Princeton, New Jersey

BERGSTRASSE 27
ZÜRICH

December, 27, 1955.

Dear Robert

Please let me thank you once more for your great kindness to call me after the sad message had reached Princeton; it was good to feel that there are friends across the ocean who share this great pain with me. I also want to thank you that Prof. Alföldi, who sent a beautiful wreath, could pay the last tribute to Hermann as the representative of his beloved Institute.

You probably have heard from Joachim in the meantime how unexpectedly all had happened. On Hermanns birthday, which he enjoyed so much, nobody could anticipate that the completion of his life-cycle was so near. It is very hard to realize his going-away.

At this occasion may I also say that I was extremely grateful to you and Kitty for all you have given to me in these last years. I came to Princeton more or less as a stranger almost 6 years ago and through the kindness and hospitality of you and all the many friends at the Institute it became to me a second "Heimat" which I shall miss very much from now on.

With the best wishes for a good New Year to all of you,

Sincerely, Ellen Weyl.

Please circulate:

Prof. Beurling
Prof. Cherniss
Prof. Dyson
Prof. Gödel
Prof. Goldman
Prof. Kantorowicz
~~Prof. Lowe~~
Prof. Meritt
Prof. Montgomery
Prof. Morse
Prof. Panofsky
Prof. Selberg
Prof. Stewart
Prof. Thompson
Prof. Veblen
Prof. Whitney
Prof. Woodward
Prof. Yang
Prof. Lowe

And return to Director's office.

Fac Weyl

Seminar für alte Geschichte der Universität Basel, Augustinergasse 19

Vorsteher: Prof. A. Alföldi, Sevogelstrasse 144

Basle, dec. 13th, 1955.

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer,

As soon as I got your telegram, I thought to follow your lead calling on the widow of the late Hermann Weyl, and joining the gathering -a very illustrious one- yesterday in Zurich. I ordered a very beautiful wreath, -laurel branches with yellow roses and a silk ribbon in appropriate color, with the inscription: TO HIS UNFORGETTABE MEMBER THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY PRINCETON.

This wreath was prominently displayed on the ceremony which was worthy to the deceased and very impressive. There were only three speakers: one Princeton friend, whose name I did not grasp, but you will cerainly know who he was, a professor of the ETH and the burgomaster of his native town; their farewell was interwoven with musical inter - ludes. The Institute played a prominent role in both the speaches of

the colleagues; your personal message for the 70th birthday of Weyl was quoted by the speaker of the ETH.

I would like to join to these lines my best wishes for Christmas and the New Year, as well to you and the yours as to the Faculty and the Institute.

Yours very truly

Andrew Alföldi

C O P Y C O P Y

Bergstrasse 27
Zürich

November 27, 1955

Professor Robert Oppenheimer
Director, Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey
U. S. A.

Dear Robert:

Many were the messages I received on the occasion of my seventieth birthday, but none gave me deeper satisfaction than the poem in my praise which you cabled me in the name of the whole faculty of the Institute. My sincere thanks to you and every faculty member! How could I help to feel proud when I read it, but also: how could I help blushing! For I am only too aware of how short of the goal I had aimed at my arrows fell. But this, I think, is true: the will was good - though the flesh was weak.

Perhaps the Zurich years before 1930 were the most fruitful of my life scientifically, but the years at the Institute were the happiest. When Hella and I came over to America in the critical year 1933, a new light shone upon us; open doors and friendship we found everywhere, and at the Institute such a light-winged human and scientific atmosphere as we had never breathed before. We felt at home in Princeton almost from the very first day. And to participate in the Institute's early development was certainly a unique experience.

To the last breath of my life I shall be grateful for what the Institute has given me: a free and untrammeled opportunity for working in solitude and for communicating under ideal conditions with the many scientists who passed through our gates as temporary members; above this: the enjoyment of the friendship of my colleagues and of our always perfectly harmonious collaboration.

I hope, these ties will never break!

With the sincerest thanks and best wishes to all of you

yours forever

/s/ Hermann Weyl

Hermann Weyl

Michael Schaap
745 Lexington Avenue
New York 22, New York

December 21, 1955

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

Thanks for sending me a copy of Dr. Weyl's letter to you. His passing, suddenly and in such apparent good health, was a great loss to the Institute and to learning in general. It must be a source of great satisfaction to you in having had so active a share in the production of the volume of his selected writings.

Thanks again, and

Sincerely yours

Michael Schaap

Michael Schaap

edv

Weyl

14 December 1955

Dear John:

Thank you for your note. Hermann Weyl's wife, Ellen, was with him at the time of his death. She is in Zurich, at 27 Bergstrasse. I have had two letters from Weyl, mailed just before his death. One of them will be coming your way.

Warm greetings,

Robert Oppenheimer

Dr. John Fulton
Yale University School of Medicine
333 Cedar Street
New Haven 11, Connecticut

BELGIAN AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.
ESTABLISHED BY
THE COMMISSION FOR RELIEF IN BELGIUM

HERBERT HOOVER
HONORARY CHAIRMAN

GRAYBAR BUILDING
420 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

TELEPHONE
MURRAY HILL 3-1496

December 9,1955

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton,New Jersey

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

It is distressing to have the sad news of Professor Hermann Weyl's unexpected death. I trust I may be associated with any acts of sympathy expressed to Mrs. Weyl on behalf of the Trustees that may be appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

Perrin C. Galpin

PERRIN C. GALPIN
~~President~~

PCG:m

YALE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
333 CEDAR STREET · NEW HAVEN 11 · CONNECTICUT

Department of the History of Medicine
Historical Library

12 December 1955

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Oppie:

It was good of you to wire me about Hermann Weyl. From the account of him in the Times on Sunday I am not very clear about his wife. Was she with him in Zurich or is she at Princeton? His death will be a great loss to the Institute.

Very sincerely yours,

John

John Fulton

Weyl.

Statement given to N.Y. Times
12/9/55

We at the Institute, and the whole community of scientists and scholars throughout the world, mourn the death of Hermann Weyl--sudden and, despite his years, untimely. We have the record of his past great, varied, long-continuing contributions to creative mathematics and mathematical physics. We mourn not only his work undone, but his wisdom, his immense scope and humanity, his understanding, and his friendship.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Office of the Registrar
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Date Sept. 26, 1960

Gentlemen:

We have received a report of the death of the following individual who is scheduled for inclusion in the 10th Edition of AMERICAN MEN OF SCIENCE:

Prof. Claus Hugh Hermann Weyl

Since it is our policy to include only biographies of those living, it is necessary that we obtain confirmation of this report. We cannot print obituary lines without confirmation.

Your prompt reply with dates on the return postcard will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Jaques Cattell

Jaques Cattell, Editor

DOMESTIC SERVICE

Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

FULL RATE TELEGRAM		SERIAL	
DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

WESTERN UNION

1206

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate

FULL RATE		LETTER TELEGRAM	
VICTORY LETTER		SHIP RADIOGRAM	

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Hermann Weyl died yesterday in Zürich of a sudden and unexpected heart attack. There had been a great celebration of his seventieth birthday this November, and he was planning to return to the Institute next term.

Robert Oppenheimer

sent 12/19/55 to Trustees and absent Faculty

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

FULL RATE TELEGRAM		SERIAL	
DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

WESTERN UNION

1206

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate

FULL RATE		LETTER TELEGRAM	
VICTORY LETTER		SHIP RADIOGRAM	

NO. WDS.	CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

9 Dec. 1955

Dr. Oppenheimer

From: Washington, D. C.

Saddened by news of Dr. Weyl's unexpected death. Please convey my profound sympathy to his family whose whereabouts I do not know.

Lewis Strauss

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM

(30). 1201

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LT = International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

PA 220 1955 DEC 8 PM 4 37

P CDV501 20 PD INTL=CD ZURICH VIA RCA 8 2110=
LT ROBERT OPPENHAIMER=
INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUY=PRINCETON (NJER)=

HERMANN DIED TODAY COMPLETELY UNEXPECTEDLY OF A
HEART ATTACK REGARDS=
ELLEN WEYL=

TELEPHONE No. 4400
TELEPHONED TO adee
TIME 907a
BY BC TO BE fed
ATTEMPTS TO DELIVER

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

BERGSTRASSE 27
ZÜRICH

December 6, 1955.

Dear Robert:

It seems to be about time to let you know when I shall come back to Princeton. Probably, I am sorry to say, a little later than the beginning of the term, maybe even als late as the end of January. Ellen has not felt well all the last weeks, she is under medical examination and the diagnosis is not yet clear. So she feels unable to make a decision now. I also have some slight trouble with my heart - although the electrocardiogramm indicates no perceptible change. Can you wait a little longer for a definite notice? In the meantime let Pauli be my substitute!

With kindest regards, also from Ellen and to Kitty,

yours

Hermann

Hermann Weyl

BERGSTRASSE 27
ZÜRICH

December 6, 1955

Professor Robert Oppenheimer
Director, Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, N. J.
U. S. A.

Dear Robert:

My letter of Nov. 27 was incomplete: I forgot to mention the most important item: the "Selecta Hermann Weyl", a provisional copy of which was handed over to me by Prof. Eckmann at a banquet given to me by the Department of Mathematics and Physics of the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule on the eve of my seventieth birthday. The publishers Birkhäuser in Basle did a fine job: it is an impressively looking volume. I got wind of the enterprise first from you, but was soon asked by the Zurich people for cooperation concerning a few details; in particular they discussed the selection of papers with me.

Apart from the few years in Göttingen, first as Privatdozent and then as Hilbert's successor, my whole scientific life was divided between the ETH Zurich and the Institute in Princeton. A better lot could hardly have fallen to a mathematician! Therefore it gave me great satisfaction that these two institutions joined hands in editing this volume of Selecta.

This letter is written to express my sincerest and warmest thanks to the one party, the Institute for Advanced Study, including you, the Trustees, and whoever among the members of the Institute had a share in accomplishing this work. I hope, it will make those papers it contains more accessible and readable, and will be consulted, at least now and then, by our young mathematicians!

Most cordially yours

Hermann Weyl

Hermann Weyl

BERGSTRASSE 27
ZÜRICH

November 27, 1955.

Professor Robert Oppenheimer
Director, Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey
U. S. A.

Dear Robert:

Many were the messages I received on the occasion of my seventhieth birthday, but none gave me deeper satisfaction than the poem in my praise which you cabled me in the name of the whole faculty of the Institute. My sincere thanks to you and every faculty member! How could I help to feel proud when I read it, but also: how could I help blushing! For I am only too aware of how short of the goal I had aimed at my arrows fell. But this, I think, is true: the will was good - though the flesh was weak.

Perhaps the Zurich years before 1930 were the most fruitful of my life scientifically, but the years at the Institute were the happiest. When Hella and I came over to America in the critical year 1933, a new light shone upon us; open doors and friendship we found everywhere, and at the Institute such a light-winged human and scientific atmosphere as we had never breathed before. We felt at home in Princeton almost from the very first day. And to participate in the Institute's early development was certainly a unique experience.

To the last breath of my life I shall be grateful for what the Institute has given me: a free and untrammeled opportunity for working in solitude and for communicating under ideal conditions with the many scientists who passed through our gates as temporary members; above this: the enjoyment of the friendship of my colleagues and of our always perfectly harmonious collaboration.

I hope, these ties will never break!

With the sincerest thanks and best wishes to all of you

yours forever

Hermann Weyl

Hermann Weyl

Mr. Berger, Voice of America, U.S. Information Agency, 250 W. 57th St., JUdson 6, 1200. Sent down tape recording he made with Professor Weyl and Caroline Underwood in connection with the death of Professor Einstein. Does not want it back.

3 August 1955

Dear Sirs:

The Institute for Advanced Study does not have a photograph of Professor Hermann Weyl that we could send you. You might wish to contact Professor Weyl himself at the following address:

Professor Hermann Weyl
Bergstrasse 27
Zurich, Switzerland

I am sorry we cannot be of help to you.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. James Beacham)
Office of the Director

Gerhard Stalling Verlag
Ritterstrasse 2-6
Oldenburg, Germany

GERHARD STALLING AG · DRUCK- UND VERLAGSHAUS

OLDENBURG (OLDB) · RITTERSTRASSE 2-6

Fernruf 6031

Institute for Advanced Study

Finehall

Princeton, U.S.A.

IHRE ZEICHEN	IHRE NACHRICHT VOM	UNSERE ZEICHEN	TAG
		Ca/Bi	15.7.1955

Sehr geehrte Herren !

In unserem Verlage erscheint im Herbst ds.Jrs. das Werk "Forscher und Wissenschaftler im heutigen Europa" als Fortsetzung der Reihe "Gestalter unserer Zeit", die wir im vorigen Jahr begonnen haben. Innerhalb dieses Werkes bringen wir auch eine Biographie von Hermann Weyl. Wir möchten annehmen, daß sich ein Bild des Autors in Ihrem Besitz befindet und wären Ihnen ausserordentlich dankbar, wenn Sie uns ein oder mehrere Fotos zur Auswahl leihweise zuschicken könnten.

Mit bestem Dank für Ihre Bemühungen und verbindlichen Empfehlungen

Ihr sehr ergebener

GERHARD STALLING VERLAG

i.A. [illegible]

BB: ask Miss Sachs
[they want photos of Weyl & thanks]

Vorstand: Dr. W. Michaelis und Borwin Venzky-Stalling · Vorsitzer des Aufsichtsrates: Handelskammerpräsident W. Trinne
Telegrammadresse: Stallingverlag Oldenburgoldb · Bankkonten: Oldenburgische Landesbank AG. Nr. 7111;
Bremer Landesbank, Oldenburg, Nr. 2757 · Postscheckkonto: Hannover Nr. 9139

Weyl

United Press Associations
INCORPORATED IN NEW YORK
GENERAL OFFICES
NEWS BUILDING NEW YORK CITY

HAROLD BLUMENFELD
NEWSPICTURES EDITOR
461 EIGHTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

May 6, 1955

Director of Public Relations
Institute of Advanced Sciences
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Sir:

On April 25th we asked whether you could make available to us a picture of Professor Hermann Weyl, of Zurich, Switzerland.

We have had another request for his photograph and we wonder if we may expect receiving it soon.

Sincerely yours,

HBLU:ABB

5 May 1955

Dear Mr. Blumenfeld:

Thank you for your enquiry of April 25th. I am sorry that we do not have a photograph of Professor Weyl which we could send to you. I have tried to reach Professor Weyl to ask him if he had one, but he has been out of town, and I do not know when he will return.

I regret that we cannot be of help to you.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Wilder Hobson)
Secretary to the Director

Mr. Harold Blumenfeld
Newspitcures Editor
United Press Associations
461 Eighth Avenue
New York 1, New York

United Press Associations
INCORPORATED IN NEW YORK
GENERAL OFFICES
NEWS BUILDING NEW YORK CITY

HAROLD BLUMENFELD
NEWSPICTURES EDITOR
461 EIGHTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

April 25, 1955

Director of Public Relations
Institute for Advanced Sciences
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Sir:

We have had a request for a photograph of Professor Hermann Weyl, of Zurich, Switzerland, who is now at the Institute.

If you have a photograph which you can make available to us, we would appreciate it if you would mail it to this address.

Sincerely,

HBLU:ABB

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

LECTURE

WHY IS THE WORLD FOUR-DIMENSIONAL?

BY

HERMANN WEYL
PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS EMERITUS AND MEMBER
THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

TUESDAY, 29 MARCH 1955

AT FOUR O'CLOCK

THE SCIENTIFIC PUBLIC IS INVITED

TEA WILL BE SERVED
FOLLOWING THE LECTURE

2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

PARKING IN REAR OF BUILDING

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

10 March 1955

Memorandum to Professor Weyl:

Would you be willing to represent us?

Robert

Robert Oppenheimer

Sure! Hermann

10 March 1955

Memorandum to Professor Weyl:

Would you be willing to represent us?

Robert Oppenheimer

attached: Request to designate representative to the Centenary Celebrations of Swiss Federal Institute of Technology.

Form filled out by RO 3/11/55

Hermann Weyl
Bergstr. 27
Zurich

Weyl

1855  1955

EIDGENÖSSISCHE TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE
ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FEDERALE
SCUOLA POLITECNICA FEDERALE
SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology to

The Institute of Advanced Study

Princeton

Gentlemen,

Referring to the enclosed "Announcement" we invite you to take part in the Centenary Celebrations in autumn 1955 by sending *delegate* , whom the Institute will take pleasure in considering as its *Guest of Honour*.

We hope to be able to welcome your representative and assure you of our high esteem.

For

THE SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The President of the Board: Pallmann.

The Rector: K. Gerold.

Zurich, February 1955

GEBR. FRITZ AG. ZÜRICH

Weyl

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

March 8, 1954

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study

Dear Robert:

Itwas very kind of you to recommend to our board of trustees the extension through 1954-55 of my present arrangement with the Institute. You know how close I feel to the Institute, and I therefore gladly accept the invitation with thanks to you and the Trustees, in the hope that I may still be able to contribute a little to the scientific life of our community.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Hermann Weyl

Hermann Weyl

HWcdu

Weyl

BERGSTRASSE 27
ZÜRICH

November 27, 1954.

Dear Kitty, dear Robert:

Of course, I realize that I was a somewhat strange house guest. But I hope you will believe me, dear Kitty, that one of the reasons for my treating your house (as you once said) as a hotelito was this, that I felt that you were still a little schonungsbedürftig after all what you had gone through plus the broken ribs and should be spared the trouble of having to look after other people; the other reason being that I have too many friends (of various degrees of intimacy) in Princeton whom I felt I had to see during a short fortnight. But I was (and still am) really infinitely grateful to you for letting me stay in your house and spend the most restful nights under its roof. In earnest, it was a greater experience for me than you probably realize to live with you for a short while and to breathe the informal, warm and pleasant atmosphere of your home and home life – in particular around the breakfast table. I came away from Princeton with a strong feeling that there I am still at home. On my return all people including Ellen were surprised how well, even "ausgeruht", I looked after this hectic journey.

Today I sent you from a bookstore a selection of English translations of some of Christian Morgenstern's Galgenlieder, which I found quite amusing; I hope you will enjoy this little linguistic experiment too! Yours with warmest thanks and greetings

Hermann W.

P.S. Ellen also sends you her warm thanks and greetings!

Copy to Mr. Morgan
Mrs. Barnett
Miss Underwood

22 May 1954

Dear Hermann:

I am glad to inform you that the Trustees have extended for another year a grant of $4,000 to facilitate your visit to the Institute.

With every warm good wish,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Hermann Weyl
Bergstrasse 27
Zurich, Switzerland

24 February 1954

Dear Hermann:

At last week's meeting of the Board of Trustees, I recommended the extension through the academic year 1954-55 of the present arrangements, whereby we make available to you a grant of $4,000 to facilitate your coming to the Institute for several months during that year. The Trustees were delighted to confirm the arrangement; and I look forward to your return for as long as you can manage it in the coming year. At that time we may wish to discuss further extensions.

With every warm good wish,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Hermann Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

cc: Mr. Morgan

Weyl

July 3, 1951

Dear Hermann:

It was good to have your sweet letter. I am so happy at your coming back to the Institute, and would feel forelorn were that not assured.

As for the immediate question of your lecturing at the ETH and receiving remuneration for that, I cannot conceive that anyone would object, and certainly I have no objection at all.

Kitty and I send our best to you and Ellen, and hope you will have a happy time and come back to Princeton where your friends will be awaiting your return.

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Hermann Weyl
Bergstrasse 27
Zürich, Switzerland

BERGSTRASSE 27
ZÜRICH

June 30, 1951.

Professor Dr. Robert Oppenheimer,
Director, Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

Dear Robert:

Just before I left Princeton I had occasion to thank you for your kind letter of May 18, and I suppose you understood that I was very glad to accept the offer and invitation it contained. Not only was I deeply touched by the vote and action of Faculty and Trustees but also by what you wrote about my past activities at the Institute. This is to confirm my acceptance in writing.

Looking back, on this last day of my professorship, I do not feel particularly proud of what I accomplished; but I feel the deepest gratitude towards the fate and the men that brought me to the Institute in the fateful year 1933, and towards the colleagues whose help and friendship have made life and work so enjoyable for me during all these years.

As I told you, I should like to spend the second term of the academic year 1951/52 in Princeton, and I promised Morse to let him know in due time of any courses or seminars I may plan to give.

My colleagues here at the Eidgen. Technische Hochschule want me to give a course on some general subject, 2–3 hours per week, during the first half of the winter semester, end of October until Christmas, and I have to expect that the Schweizerische Schulrat (the equivalent of director + trustees at the ETH) will offer me a "Lehrauftrag" with a small remuneration for that purpose. Would this meet with the Institute's approval? If there is the least objection to it I shall without reluctance decline the offer.

Sincerely yours

Hermann Weyl

Copy to Mr. Fleming
Miss Trinterud
Miss Underwood

May 18, 1951

c/R - See also former faculty file

Dear Professor Weyl:

It gives me great pleasure to offer you, on the unanimous vote of the Faculty and the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study, a Membership in the Institute for the next three academic years, from July 1, 1951 to June 30, 1954. In this way we hope that you will be able to return to the Institute for at least one term in each of these years, and to extend your visit as much as your own convenience makes possible. We can offer you a grant-in-aid of $4,000 for each such term.

I need hardly tell you how happy I am, and how much it will mean to your associates here, to have you continue to be one of us. There is no one who more fully represents what the Institute has hoped to do and what its hopes for the future are than you; and we are only sorry that your personal arrangements, which afford you and thus us so much happiness, keep you from being with us always.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Hermann Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Copy to Mr. Fleming
Miss Trinterud
Miss Underwood

7 Weyl Fac. folder

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

May 18, 1951

e/R See also Cons 9m. 7, 7/1/51 - 6/30/54

Dear Professor Weyl:

It gives me great pleasure to offer you, on the unanimous vote of the Faculty and the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study, a Membership in the Institute for the next three academic years, from July 1, 1951 to June 30, 1954. In this way we hope that you will be able to return to the Institute for at least one term in each of these years, and to extend your visit as much as your own convenience makes possible. We can offer you a grant-in-aid of $4,000 for each such term.

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Sincerely yours,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Hermann Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

Weyl

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

FULL RATE TELEGRAM		SERIAL	
DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

WESTERN UNION

1206

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate

FULL RATE		LETTER TELEGRAM	
VICTORY LETTER		SHIP RADIOGRAM	

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Beno
~~Wire to~~ Eckmann
Eidgen. Tech. Hoch.
Zürich, Switz.

Have sent cable message to Weyl from his colleagues at the Institute.
Suggest you read it at ceremonial dinner.

R.O.

sent 11/4

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Professor Hermann Weyl,
~~c/o Eckmann,~~
Bergstrasse 27
Zürich, Switz

On this happy occasion, the celebration of your 70th birthday, we, your colleagues in the Institute for Advanced Study, send you our heartiest congratulations and our most cordial good wishes. Like all the world of science and scholarship we honor you for your great and long-continued contributions to creative mathematics and for your wide-ranging and profound illumination of philosophical thought, but we also wish to assure you of our sincere and abiding gratitude for the universal interest and untiring devotion that you have lavished upon our Institute in all its aspects from its earliest years, for your wise counsel and energetic service, to which we owe such a large measure of its successful development, and for the genial humanity with which you have endeared yourself to all of us. We are proud and happy that even after your formal retirement you continue to give us a portion of your time each year and renew by your presence the spirit that you implanted here. May you long continue in health and happiness to give the world the benefit of your creative thought and teaching and to give us the pleasure of your company.

For the Faculty
R.O.

sent 11/4

BERGSTRASSE 27
ZÜRICH

Nov. 3, 1950.

Professor Dr. R. Oppenheimer,
Director, Institute for Advanced Study,
PRINCETON, New Jersey

Dear Robert:

A bronchial catarrh contracted in Munich made it impossible for me to leave for Princeton, as I had planned, immediately after the end of the Munich meeting. I made new plane reservations, had to cancel them again on the doctor's advice, but now hope to get a seat, TWA, for Tuesday, the 7th, directly to New York (without stopping in Copenhagen!). I apologize for this further delay!

Sincerely yours

Hermann Weyl

October 31, 1950

Cable received by Professor Artin at Princeton University.

Arrival delayed by a cold until Monday 6th. Will cable flight number.
Please notify Institute.

Hermann Weyl

July 24, 1950

Dear Professor Weyl:

I am just back from vacation and I am not sure whether I wrote you acknowledging your check for Miss Blake. At any rate, I meant to and also to tell you that Minakshi arrived and is now in Oklahoma, apparently giving lectures. He will be back in Princeton during August and September. He looked very hungary, otherwise just the same.

There is one problem about which I whould like your advice. Dr. Ramanathan was appointed as your assistant for next year; this means that he is put on a taxable basis and must have permission from the Immigration authorities in order to accept a salary since he is in this country on a student's visa. To get this permission is quite a complicated process, as was the case of Dr. Rädstrom last year, but if necessary we can make application and I am sure the permission will be given. However, if Dr. Ramanathan is not going to perform any formal duties for you — and he does not seem to know whether that is what you have in mind — it would be very simple to transfer your assistant's fund to the members grant-in-aid fund and leave Dr. Ramanathan on his present visa with a non taxable stipend. I do not know the background of his appointment; but Dr. Oppenheimer did write Dean Taylor about graduate admission for Ramanathan and in his letter to Dean Taylor, he stated that Ramanathan was to be your assistant. I do not presume it would make any difference to the Graduate School in any case. But I thought I should mention it in the event that this would have some bearing on Ramanathan's appointment. We cannot pay Ramanathan any salary until he has either changed his visa or changed his status to that of plain membership. He tells me that he has plenty of money to carry him through September, so there is no immediate problem. I would appreciate, however, knowing whether his appointment should remain an assistantship or whether it would be possible to transfer your assistant's fund to the membership fund.

All is quiet at the Institute at present. Miss Underwood seems to be very happy starting her job, and Miss Blake is spending a great deal of her time with her. I am very sorry to see Miss Blake leave us.

I hope you are thoroughly enjoying yourself.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs. John D. Leary)

Prof. Hermann Weyl
27 Bergstrasse
Zurich, Switzerland

Weyl

June 29, 1950

Dear Professor Weyl:

Thank you so much for your letter with the check for Miss Blake. We have quite a sum collected as a gift for her. I wish she were not leaving; I think it is silly.

Minakshisundaram flew through here last week. He arrived in Newark the only passenger on a seventy seat Flying Tiger ! He is now in Oklahoma — and the good college there sent their private plane to meet him. We expect him back later. Chandra has written that he hopes to be in Princeton for the month following the Congress. He seems to be more conservative than Minakshi and is waiting for official confirmations.

It is good to know you are enjoying Zurich. When you see the Paulis tell them I am enjoying their house. I do not know whether Professor Siegel is still with you. We are trying to get word through the Department of State about Schneider and Eichler, but so far have been unsuccessful.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs. John D. Leary)

Professor Hermann Weyl
27 Bergstrasse
Zurich, Switzerland

Zurich, Dorfstr. 23

June 17, 1950.

Dear Mrs. Leary:

Here is my contribution for the present the permanent members of the Institute plan to give to Miss Blake on the occasion of her retirement. To me Miss Blake has always been a very pleasant and understanding collaborator!* —

Did you hear from Minakshisundaram? When his plans have realized, he should leave to-day and arrive in Princeton in a few days. I am sure that you will take good care of him!

Eckmann left here day before yesterday, and I took over

* I shall write her a letter.

his class. On his arrival he will spend a couple of days in Princeton. (De Rham and Kodaira will meet him at the boat.)

I am leading a very pleasant life in Zurich among old and new friends, the former including the Paulis and Siegel. Hoping you have an equally pleasant summer

with best regards

sincerely yours

Hermann Weyl

File
Weyl

May 8, 1950

Dear Mr. Chester:

I am sorry for the delay in coming in touch with you about the picture of Professor Hermann Weyl. I have checked all our records here; but we have none. Also, the Life Magazine runs that I have do not contain a picture. My only suggestion is that you get in touch with Professor Weyl's son, F. J. Weyl, Route 3, Fairfax, Virginia. It may very well be that he or his wife will have a suitable picture which they would send to you. I am sorry that I could not be of more help.

Sincerely yours,

Katherine Russell,
Secretary to the Director

Mr. K. Chester
Scientific American
24 W. 40th St.
New York, N. Y.

File re pension sent Leidesdorf, Strauss,
and Maass.

OK
for
Weyl

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

May 2, 1950

Dear Robert:

As I told you, I have accepted an invitation by Max von Laue to address the first post-war meeting of the Deutsche Naturforscher Versammlung in Munich. When I accepted I had understood that the meeting would take place the week after October 8, but it is now scheduled for the week beginning October 23. Under these circumstances I should like to ask for leave of absence until the end of October.

Sincerely yours,

Hermann Weyl

Hermann Weyl

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, Director
Institute for Advanced Study
HW:GB

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

For Weyl

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

April 24, 1950

Dear Professor Weyl:

At the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study on April 21, 1950, the Budget Committee reported on its consideration of your request for a clarification of the pension arrangements as they bear on a supplementary pension for your present wife. I regret to say that the Budget Committee reported, and the Board approved, a negative determination. The Board desired that I communicate this to you.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Hermann Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

Weyl

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

April 21, 1950

Memorandum re Professor Hermann Weyl

Contributions to annuity are 5% each from the Institute and self, annual total of	$1,500.00
Monthly income available at 65 under Regular Settlement	313.45

Weyl

Mrs. Ellen Baer

Mr. Hermann Weyl

take pleasure in announcing
their marriage

January 1950

Bergstrasse 27
Zurich

R. D. 3
Princeton
New Jersey

For Weyl

May 26, 1949

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that Professor Hermann Weyl is a member of the Faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study. Professor Weyl was appointed to a permanent position on our staff in December of 1933; and he has maintained continuous residence in Princeton since that date. Professor Weyl receives an annual salary of $15,000.00 per year from the Institute for Advanced Study.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer
Director

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 26th Day of May, 1949

_____
Notary Public of New Jersey

Jac Weyl

January 26, 1949

Dear Judge Hutchinson:

Professor Herman Weyl has told me of the summons he has received to serve as juror for the County of Mercer. I am writing to you in the hope that it may be possible to excuse Professor Weyl from this service. He himself has given an account of the professional reasons for asking that he be excused. His work at the Institute, both as a professor, and on behalf of the Department of the Navy, would be seriously interrupted; and many who depend on him would be unable to work effectively because of his absence. In addition to this, there are personal reasons which Professor Weyl did not mention, but which I would like to give to you. He has recently lost his wife; his health is none too good; and I believe that the burdon of jury duty would prove onerous to him, and damaging to his future work out of all proportions to the value of his services as a juror.

Respectfully yours,

Robert Oppenheimer,
Director

Hon. Charles P. Hutchinson
Court House
Trenton, N. J.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
Founded by Mr. Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

D. Coppenheimer

January 26, 1949

Hon. Charles P. Hutchinson
Court House
Trenton, N.J.

Sir,-

This morning I was served a summons to appear at the Court House in Trenton next Monday, January 31, as a petty juror for Mercer County. I beg to be excused because I shall have to lecture and conduct a seminar, and to supervise work done for the Office of Naval Research, in the Institute for Advanced Study during our spring term, which begins on the very day, January 31, for which I have been summoned.

Respectfully,

Hermann Weyl
Professor of Mathematics

HW:GB

Princeton, N.J.
Oct. 16, 1948.

Lieber Felix:

Es war mir schmerzlich, dass wir in der Zeit von Hellas Tod so lange ausser Kontakt waren. Ihr Gruss aus Carmel riehrte alte Erinnerungen in mir auf: denn ~~dorto~~ dort hatte ich mit Hella ein Sommer 29 ein paar besonders glückliche Wochen verlebt.

Die beiliegenden Blätter, dem Andenken Hellas gewidmet, werden Ihnen vielleicht willkommen sein. Über den Umfang der Bibliographie, die Rechenschaft gibt über ihre literarische Tätigkeit, war ich selber erstaunt als ich sie zusammenstellte.

Kommen Sie bald einmal herüber! Auch das Wiedersehen mit Michael und Margareta (samt ihrem Frösteling Per) wird sich lohnen für Sie!

Herzlich
Ihr
Hermann Weyl

I N M E M O R I A M

H E L E N E W E Y L

Eine Skizze, nicht so sehr von Hellas, als von unserem gemeinsamen Leben, niedergeschrieben Ende Juni 1948.

Hella, Friederike Bertha Helene Joseph, wurde 1893 in der kleinen mecklenburgischen Stadt Ribnitz an der Ostsee geboren. Ihr Vater war Arzt, ein sehr tüchtiger vielbeschäftigter Landarzt, seiner Weltanschauung nach ein entschiedener Positivist mit dem ganzen Aufklärungsoptimismus des 19. Jahrhunderts. Diese Gesinnung des Vaters brachte es mit sich, dass die Tochter in ihrer Kindheit ohne jede Beziehung zur Religion heranwuchs. Weder vom jüdischen Bekenntnis, dem ihre Eltern nominell angehörten, noch vom christlichen wusste sie etwas. Die religiösen Bilder und Vorstellungen, die die Meisten von uns sozusagen mit der Muttermilch einsaugen, wuchsen ihr erst später auf dem Wege über die bildende Kunst zu. Sie empfing die Taufe kurz vor unserer Heirat. Der Schritt war im Einklang mit ihren Anschauungen von den bildenden Kräften unserer Zivilisation; aber sie tat ihn doch in erster Linie meiner christlich frommen Mutter zuliebe.

Eine jüngere Schwester wuchs neben ihr heran, die noch jetzt in dem väterlichen Hause lebt als Frau eines Arztes, der später die väterliche Praxis übernahm. Hella war und blieb ihren Eltern, solange diese lebten, aufs tiefste verbunden. Alle Ereignisse ihres Lebens wurden in langen Briefen - sie war eine überaus glänzende Briefschreiberin - der Mutter berichtet. Als Kind fuhr sie oft mit dem Vater auf Praxis, sei es in seiner Kutsche oder im Schlitten über die schmalen schneeverwehten mecklenburgischen Landstrassen. Die Mutter entstammte einer alteingesessenen mecklenburgischen Familie, der Vater war aus Pommern zugewandert. Die Familie Joseph, insbesondere der Vater, erfreuten sich eines grossen Ansehens in der Gemeinde und im Lande, und sie stand mit vielen mecklenburgischen Familien, inklusive solchen des Landadels, in engen ja intimen Beziehungen. Die Schranken der Rasse und Konfession waren damals in Deutschland keineswegs undurchbrechbar.

Die Anlagen des Kindes bestimmten die Eltern frühzeitig, es zum Hochschulstudium ausbilden zu lassen. In Mecklenburg, dem rückständigsten der deutschen Länder, stand dazu der Weg noch nicht offen. So wurde Hella

schon mit 14 Jahren in eine Pension nach Berlin geschickt, wo sie auf einem der dortigen Realgymnasien, als eines von wenigen Mädchen unter lauter Knaben, die Schulbank drückte, bis sie 18jährig mit dem Reifezeugnis zur Universität entlassen wurde. In dieser Berliner Schülerzeit ergriff sie eine grosse Leidenschaft fürs Theater. Die bedeutende Schauspielerin Tilla Durieux hatte offenbar Freude an dem jungen schönen Geschöpf, und viele Stunden verbrachte Hella hinter den Kulissen im Zimmer der Durieux, wenn sie vielleicht hätte schlafen oder hinter den Schulbüchern sitzen sollen. Eine etwas gefährliche Jugendbeziehung, wenn man den Charakter der Durieux bedenkt; aber das junge Ding, ganz auf die Dichtung und ihre Darstellung gerichtet, war offenbar gefeit gegen alle Verführungen des Milieus. Hella blieb immer am Theater aufs intensivste interessiert. Hier in Princeton hat sie viel später an den Aufführungen der Community Players wiederholt mitgewirkt.

Das erste Semester ihres Studiums verbrachte sie auf der heimatlichen Universität Rostock, kaum eine Bahnstunde von Ribnitz entfernt. Sie hatte damals vor, sich der Germanistik oder Geschichte zuzuwenden. Aber in Rostock kam sie in Berührung mit dem Aestetiker Utitz, der ein Schüler und Anhänger von Husserl war und ihr Kunde brachte von der Phänomenologie. Der erste Artikel von Husserl, den sie las, schlug bei ihr ein wie ein Blitz. Was hier sich auftat, schien ihr die Wahrheit über die Welt zu sein. So kam sie nach Göttingen, wo Husserl damals, 1911, lehrte, und wurde Philosophie-Studentin mit Mathematik im Nebenfach. Die Phänomenologie blieb für sie immer die Grundlage ihres philosophischen Denkens. Sie folgte wohl der späteren Entwicklung Husserls zu einem metaphysisch gefärbten Idealismus, und viel verdankte sie auch Max Scheler, der die phänomenologische Grundhaltung mit einer philosophischen Anthropologie, mit ethischen und religiösen Ideen verband. Aber die Richtung auf das Metaphysische blieb ihr doch im ganzen fremd. Als ich sie zuerst traf, stand ich auf einer entschieden stärkeren naturwissenschaftlich-positivistischen Seite als sie; später war das Verhältnis umgekehrt. In Zürich gegen Ende des ersten Weltkrieges lasen wir in einem Freundeskreise einige Hauptschriften von Fichte; etwas später wurde ich von dem Mystiker

Meister Ekkehard mächtig ergriffen. Hella nahm daran lebhaften Anteil, sie liebte philosophische Gespräche. Aber in den der Transzendenz zugewandten Gedanken fand sie höchstens Fragen, aber keine Antworten. In späteren Jahren waren wir uns in unserer Grundanschauung einig, dass die Welt des vom Bewusstsein getragenen Daseins nicht in sich geschlossen und verständlich ist. Das Bild des rings von Dunkel umgebenen offenen Raumes, oder eines Hauses ohne Dach, bot sich an. Die Positivisten möchten den offenen Himmel leugnen und ihn durch ein aufgenageltes Dach ausschliessen, die dogmatische Theologie sucht durch den Einbau des Transzendenten einen Abschluss. Beides lehnten wir ab. Auch um die Existentialphilosophie, um Heidegger und Jaspers, haben wir uns später gemeinsam bemüht.

Schon in Hellas erstem Semester in Göttingen trafen wir uns, im Hause eines Göttinger Professors der Jurisprudenz, Lehmann, der Hellas Eltern von Rostock her bekannt war. Mit den Lehmann-Kindern, Karl und Eva, die ungefähr in Hellas Alter waren, wie auch mit dem jungen Gert Husserl, spann sich eine enge Freundschaft an. Auch diese Jugendfreunde sind später, als das Hitler-Schicksal über Deutschland hereinbrach, nach Amerika verschlagen. Eva, eine bedeutende Linguistin, ist vor einigen Jahren in Bryn Mawr verstorben. Ich sehe Hella noch vor mir an jenem ersten Abend, ihre langen schwarzen Zöpfe zu Schnecken aufgewunden. Sie war schön mit ihrem äusserst geschmeidigen Körper, dem hellen Geist, der ihr von der Stirn leuchtete, und ihrer ganz lichten Lebensfreude, die sie bis in die Fingerspitzen erfüllte. Sie behauptete später, dass ich ihr an jenem Abend von einem Scheunenbrand erzählte, dem ich gerade beigewohnt, und dass sie sich dabei sofort in mich verliebt habe. Wir sahen uns oft, insbesondere auch in den Pausen zwischen den Vorlesungen in dem Korridor des alten Göttinger Auditoriums. Ich war Privatdozent. Erich Hecke war um diese Zeit Hilberts Assistent, und wir freundeten uns an. Als Vierte im Bunde stiess bald eine junge angehende Mathematikerin dazu, Helga Unruh, die ich in der Sommerfrische getroffen hatte und die auf mein Zureden im ersten Semester ihres Studiums nach Göttingen kam. Wir vier bildeten bald ein unzertrennliches Kleeblatt. Helga Unruh wurde Helga Hecke. Die beiden Paare heirateten am gleichen Tag, und ich glaube, bis zum letzten Augenblick waren die Göttinger

Klatschmäuler im unklaren darüber, wie schliesslich die paarweise Zuordnung ausfallen würde. Aus Hellas Studentenzeit erinnere ich mich besonders lebhaft an eine Studentenfeier auf der alten Ruine Hardenberg, wo bei Fackellicht die Balkonszene aus Romeo und Julia inszeniert wurde. Hella spielte die Julia, und sie trug von daher für mehrere Jahre unter ihren Freunden den Namen Julia.

Zwischen unserer Verlobung und Hochzeit hatte ich das Glück, als Professor an die Technische Hochschule in Zürich berufen zu werden. Eine schönere Stadt hätten wir uns für den Anfang unseres Zusammenlebens gar nicht wünschen können. Aber noch ganz befangen in den Sitten und Gewohnheiten des kaiserlichen Deutschlands, fanden wir uns zunächst in der Schweiz nicht sehr gut zurecht. So eng war die Schweiz im zweiten Jahrzehnt dieses Jahrhunderts lange nicht mehr mit dem Deutschen Reich und der deutschen Kultur verbunden, als es uns in den Dichtungen Gottfried Kellers und Conrad Ferdinand Meyers geschienen hatte. Wir fanden uns viel mehr im Ausland als wir erwartet hatten. Der durchgehende demokratische und der sehr spürbare romanische Einschlag, Züge, die uns später so wert und anziehend wurden, wirkten zunächst befremdend. Es kam hinzu, dass sich damals zuerst bei mir über längere Zeiträume die Asthmaplage einstellte. Dennoch waren wir ein frohes junges Paar. Wir taten Alles gemeinsam, auch das shopping unten in der Stadt, zu Fuss und per Tram. Man behalf sich noch ohne Telefon, ohne refrigerator, ohne Wagen, und befand sich gut dabei. Die Haushaltsorgen waren gering; denn von Hause hatte Hella eine gute Köchin mitbekommen, die uns viele Jahre treu blieb.

Die ersten Weihnachtsferien verbrachten wir im Engadin; es war Hellas erste Begegnung mit dem Hochgebirge; sie fand es überwältigend bis zur Bedrückung. Schon vor unserer Verlobung hatten wir zusammen im Harz ein paar heimliche Ski-Ausflüge gemacht; das kam uns nun zustatten. Die Skifahrten im Engadin und seinen Seitentälern im Winter 13/14 sind mir in leuchtender Erinnerung geblieben. Doch haben wir's in der Kunst des Skifahrens nie sehr weit gebracht. In Zürich fuhr Hella fort, mathematische Vorlesungen zu hören. Während sie schon ihr erstes Kind erwartete, lasen wir miteinander Hilberts Zahlbericht. Weit sind wir freilich nicht mehr

damit gekommen. Denn nun begannen die Kindersorgen, und bald traten Ereignisse ein, die Hellas Interessen eine andere Richtung gaben. Im späteren Leben hörte sie wohl gern zu, wenn ich ihr in allgemeinen Zügen von meinen und anderen um uns herum lebendigen mathematischen Ideen erzählte; auf eigentlich mathematische Detaildarlegungen liess sie sich aber nicht mehr ein. Sie sagte manchmal, man würde nicht gern an ein Bauwerk erinnert, das verlassen wurde, nachdem es sich kaum aus den Fundamenten erhoben hätte und nun vom Regen zerwaschen wird und zerfällt.

Es war noch kein Jahr seit unserer Uebersiedlung nach Zürich verstrichen, da brach der Krieg aus. Auf der Rückfahrt von Göttingen, wo wir die ersten Tage der Sommerferien verbracht hatten, überraschte uns die Mobilisierung. Wir irrten eine Nacht am Rheine entlang, um eine Ueberfahrt in die Schweiz zu finden. Als wir in unserer Züricher Wohnung angelangt waren, erklangen, wie jeden Samstag Abend, alle Glocken der Stadt, sich zu einem schwellenden Geläute vereinend. Uns erschien es wie ein Gebet um Frieden. Aber am nächsten Morgen war die russisch-deutsche Kriegserklärung da. Im ersten Kriegsjahr wurde unser Sohn Joachim in Zürich geboren. Zwei Monate später wurde ich als gemeiner Soldat in die deutsche Armee eingezogen. Hella zog bald mit ihrem kleinen Kinde in das Ribnitzer Elternhaus. Aber als ich Monat nach Monat in der Garnison von Saarbrücken verblieb, ohne ins Feld geschickt zu werden, kam sie schliesslich dorthin. Nach einem Jahre wurde ich auf Ansuchen der Schweizerischen Regierung von den deutschen Militärbehorden nach Zürich entlassen. Ich kann mich kaum auf eine Stunde konzentrierterer Freude in unserm Leben besinnen denn die war, als wir an einem schönen Frühlingstag im Mai 1916 nach Passierung der Schweizer Grenze auf Zürich zu fuhren und dann den Gang durch die herrliche friedliche Stadt von unserer Wohnung an den See hinunter machten.

Es folgte für uns eine Zeit ausgedehnter Fusswanderungen. Automobile waren noch rar, und das Wandern über die Alpenpässe auf Schusters Rappen war ein grosser Genuss. Richtige Bergsteiger sind wir niemals gewesen. Erst viel später, in zwei Sommern während des zweiten Weltkrieges, fand Hella, unter der Führung von Reinhold Bär, Geschmack am eigentlichen Bergsteigen; dass war in den Rockies und nicht in den Alpen. Im Herbst

1917 wurde unser zweiter Sohn Michael geboren. Es muss kurze Zeit nachher gewesen sein, dass sie , von ihrer Theaterlust getrieben, als Statistin an einer Zürcher Aufführung von Werfels Adaption von Euripides' Troerinnen teilnahm. Dort traf Hella Yvonne, die ihr und mir zur nächsten Freundin geworden ist. Schon vorher, in einem philosophischen Seminar von Medicus, hatte sie Walter Dällenbach kennen gelernt, der von allen Schweizer Freunden uns bei weitem der Nächste wurde. Andere Bekanntschaften entwickelten sich aus der Berührung mit dem Theater, und für die nächsten zwei Jahre führten wir ein geselliges Leben mit leicht bohèmemässigem Anstrich, unter Literaten, Schauspielern und allerhand durch den Krieg in die Schweiz verschlagenen Intellektuellen. Elizabeth Bergner und William Dieterle in ihrer ersten Jugend waren damals häufige Gäste in unserm Haus. Nach Kriegsende zerstob das in alle Winde, und für uns folgten nun ein paar recht eingeschränkte Jahre.

Dann kamen viele Berufungen, die vor allem den Vorteil hatten, dass sie unserer finanziellen Misere aufhalfen. Im Jahre 22 wurde ich gleichzeitig nach Berlin und nach Göttingen berufen; in Göttingen harrte Felix Kleins Lehrstuhl der Neubesetzung. Ich fand es sehr schwer, den Ruf nach Göttingen auszuschlagen. Und ich erinnere mich noch, dass, als die Entscheidung nicht länger hinauszuschieben war, ich stundenlang mit Hella um einen Häuserblock in Zürich herumlief, das Für und Wider nochmal diskutierend, und schliesslich, ihr zurufend: Ich muss halt doch annehmen, auf die letzte Tram sprang, die zum nächtlichen See und dem dort gelegenen Telegraphenamt hinunterfuhr. Aber unten angekommen, so geht wenigstens die Sage, tat es mir das köstliche und üppige Leben an, das sich da an Sommerabenden am See entfaltet, und der Schrecken vor dem noch vom Krieg zerrütteten und von der Inflation bedrohten Deutschland packte mich so, dass ich statt der Zusage eine Ablehnung telegraphierte. Hella war natürlich bass erstaunt, als ich zurückkehrte. Aber es wurde bald nur zu klar, dass ich richtig entschieden hatte.

Ein neues Tor in die Welt öffnete sich für uns, als wir 1923 für drei Monate nach Spanien gingen, wo ich in Barcelona und Madrid zu Vorlesungen eingeladen war. Auf einem kleinen Dampfer von 1300 Tonnen fuhren

wir durch eine wahre Folge von Stürmen in 11 Tagen von Hamburg nach Malaga. Dort umfing uns beide zum ersten Mal mit aller Macht und einer schon fast afrikanischen Glut der Zauber südlicher Landschaft. Wir waren wie trunken. Wir lebten einen Monat lang, bevor meine Vorlesungen begannen, wie die gitanos in Malaga, Granada und Sevilla. In Spanien knüpften sich Beziehungen an, die für Hella von entscheidenden Folgen waren. Sie gewann Spanien so lieb, dass sie nun der Mathematik endgiltig Valet sagte und begann, sich intensiv mit romanischen Sprachen, insbesondere dem Spanischen zu beschäftigen. Bald trat sie mit dem spanischen Philosophen Ortega y Gasset in Verbindung und machte sich, heimgekehrt, daran, mehrere seiner Bücher ins Deutsche zu übertragen. Sie hat Spanien noch mehrere Male auf Monate hin besucht, ein paar Mal allein, nach unserm ersten Jahr am Institute, 1934, mit mir zusammen.

Die philosophische Gedankenwelt Ortegas, aber zugleich sein funkelnder Stil zogen sie an. Es reizte sie dafür die richtig abgetönte deutsche Version zu finden, eine Version, die den Mutwillen und die Eleganz des Originals wiedergab, ja das Spanish-fremde davon durchschimmern liess, ohne jedoch irgend gegen den deutschen Sprachgeist zu verstossen. Auch Bücher von Eddington und Jeans hat Hella aus dem Englischen ins Deutsche übersetzt, und in unserer Princetoner Zeit hat sie das Wagnis unternommen, verschiedene Sammlungen von Essays von Ortega, die sie auswählte, ins Englische zu übersetzen, obschon sie ja das Englische nicht so bis in alle feinsten Nuancen beherrschte wie das Deutsche. Bei solcher Arbeit half ihr neben ihrer Sprach-Sensibilität eine eiserne Arbeitsdisziplin.

Nachdem ich allen Versuchungen, Zürich zu verlassen, widerstanden hatte, folgten für uns ein paar besonders glückliche Jahre in der Schweiz. Von dem hoch am Zürichberg schwebenden Balkon unserer Wohnung hatten wir einen herrlichen Blick über den See, gegen das Gebirge. Besonders zauberhaft waren die sommerlichen Abendstunden, wenn ein waberndes Lichtermeer die Seeufer umkränzte. Mit den befreundeten Physiker-Familien der Schrödinger, Paul Scherrer und Edgar Meyer brachten wir sommers viele Stunden in dem neu eröffneten Strandbad zu, wir ruderten oder segelten auf dem See, machten fröhliche Ausflüge zu Fuss in die nähere und weitere Umge-

bung, oder gingen zu einem Tanztee auf die Terrasse des Grand Hotel Dolder. Damals wurde die Mathematikerin Lulu Hofmann, jetzt Lulu von Bechtolsheim, unsere nahe Freundin. Die Kinder wuchsen fröhlich und gesund heran. Es gibt Mütter, die zu ihren Kindern im zartesten Alter das innigste Verhältnis haben. So war Hella nicht. Die Kinder bedeuteten ihr mehr und mehr, je weiter sie sich zu selbständigen vernünftigen Wesen entwickelten. Den heranwachsenden Knaben und noch den Jünglingen, die sich schon vom Elternhause zu lösen im Begriffe waren, war sie eine Gefährtin, wie sie sich wohl keine freimütigere, liebevollere und teilnehmendere wünschen konnten.

Hella war ein der Welt und den Mitmenschen weit geöffnetes, durchaus positives Geschöpf. Sie hatte eine natürliche Liebenswürdigkeit Menschen gegenüber und sah an ihnen vor allem die guten Seiten. Nur einem Laster, der Dummheit, gegenüber liess sie es manchmal an der nötigen Geduld fehlen. Sie hatte keine Sympathie mit dem Vulgären. Vielleicht war manchmal an ihr ein Zug von intellektueller Hybris; das konnte wie ein helles Flämmchen einmal für einen Augenblick aus ihr herauszüngeln. Oft habe ich an ihr bewundert, wie sie es in der gleichgiltigsten Gesellschaft, auf einer cocktailparty etwa, wo die meisten nur ein paar Gemeinplätze miteinander wechseln, immer wieder fertig brachte, einen Menschen herauszufischen, der sie anzog und den sie dann im Gespräch dazu brachte, ihr von dem zu erzählen, was ihn wirklich im Innersten anging. Sie hatte die seltene Gabe des intelligenten Zuhörens. Ihr hätte es gelegen, ein Haus zu führen, in dem viele Menschen, ihr loser oder fester verbunden, aus- und eingingen. In dieser Hinsicht bin ich mit meiner Menschenscheu ihr immer ein Klotz am Bein gewesen. Mit vielen Freunden und Freundinnen führte sie einen intensiven Briefwechsel; sie war meisterhaft in der Schilderung von Landschaft oder menschlichen Begebenheiten, auch in der Charakterisierung von Menschen. Wenn die Umstände sie zwangen den Lebensplan zu ändern, packte sie die neuen Aufgaben resolut an, und bald war der Verlust, so sehr er sie am Anfang geschmerzt haben mag, ersetzt oder sogar mehr denn wettgemacht durch einen Gewinnst auf anderem Feld.

Von einem lebensvollen Geschöpf, wie sie es war, konnte man nicht erwarten, dass ihr alle Wirrnisse der Leidenschaft erspart blieben. Sie sind uns beiden nicht erspart geblieben. Dem Adel ihres Wesens wurde sie

niemals untreu; nur das konnte ihr Lebensfreude sein, was als ein reiner Quell hervorsprudelte. Ich glaube, wir haben immer, auch wenn wir einander weh tun mussten, genau darauf gehorcht, dass das Band, das uns einte, im Tiefsten nicht gestört und verletzt wurde. Ich weiss, wie sie mir einmal, in einer solchen Zeit der Wirrnis, sagte: Wenn du dich von mir abwendetest, dann möchte ich nicht mehr leben.

Ihre Seele war in einem wunderbaren Gleichgewicht. Self-control ist nicht das richtige Wort dafür, denn es war nicht gewollte Beherrschung (obschon ihr auch diese in hohem Grad zur Verfügung stand), sondern natürliche Ruhe, Stärke, Helle und Zuversicht. Wohl Jeder, der sie in der Zeit vor ihrer ersten Operation im Spital besuchte, war beeindruckt von ihrer Serenität, von der geradezu strahlenden Kraft und Gefasstheit, die sie ausströmte; und sie wusste damals sehr wohl, worum es ging.

Die guten Zürcher Jahre, in denen uns nun auch allmählich Freunde aus den alteingesessenen Schweizer Kreisen zufielen, gingen 1928 zu Ende. Damals kamen wir für ein Jahr nach Princeton an die Universität. Es fiel zusammen mit einer inneren Krise meines Verhältnisses zur Mathematik. Nach Zürich zurückgekehrt, befanden wir uns in einem Zwischenzustand, da ich wusste, dass der Ruf nach Göttingen auf den Lehrstuhl Hilberts bevorstand. Als er erfolgte, fand ich es nicht möglich das Angebot auszuschlagen. Selbst alle meine Schweizer Freunde rieten mir zu. Wenn irgendwelche von ihnen politische Bedenken hatten, so sahen sie höchstens eine kommunistische Gefahr in Deutschland voraus; die Nazis nahm keiner ernst. Aber bevor wir nach Göttingen übersiedelten, erfolgten im September 30 die Wahlen zum deutschen Reichstag, in denen die Zahl der Sitze der Nazipartei plötzlich von einer verschwindenden Ziffer auf 110 emporschnellte. Ich war aufs tiefste beunruhigt, und in Deutschland spürte ich von Anfang an die politischen Spannungen und fühlte mich fremd im eigenen Vaterland. Die 17 Jahre Schweiz hatten an uns ihr Erziehungswerk, auch in politischer Hinsicht, getan. Damals verloren wir auch unser kleines in der Schweiz angesammeltes Vermögen. Ich hatte es einer Stiftung Pro Familia anvertraut, die von einem bekannten Schweizer Philantropen geleitet wurde, der auch die heute noch segensreich wirkende Stiftung Pro Juventute ins Leben gerufen

hatte. Aber im Falle der Pro Familia gewann seine Schwärmerei über sein nüchternes Urteil die Oberhand, das Unternehmen wurde völlig durch den New Yorker Börsensturz vom Herbst 29 vernichtet. Die nun folgenden drei Jahre in Göttingen, zwischen 30 und 33, sind die zermürbendsten, die Hella und ich in unserem Leben durchgemacht haben.

Der Ruf ans Institute, der schon im März 32 erfolgte, schien mir einerseits den Weg ins Licht zu öffnen; anderseits fanden wir es unsäglich schwer, uns mit dem Gedanken abzufinden, dass wir uns fortan für die Kommunikation mit Menschen nicht mehr, oder nicht mehr in erster Linie, auf die Muttersprache würden stützen können. In den Tagen der Entscheidung starb Hellas Mutter, die Kinder und Hella selber kamen mit einer schweren Grippe nieder, und in der Verwirrung und Verdüsterung dieser Stunden widerrief ich meine schon erfolgte Annahme des Princetoner Rufes. Das war um die Jahreswende 32/33; einen Monat später wurde Hitler Reichskanzler. Ich erlitt über diesen inneren Kämpfen einen schweren nervösen Zusammenbruch. Ein Semester lang mussten wir dann noch unter den Nazis in Göttingen aushalten. Damals glaubten die Meisten, dass die üblen Auswüchse der Bewegung in wenigen Monaten überwunden sein würden. Ich gehörte nicht zu diesen Optimisten, ich witterte das furchtbare Unheil, das im Anzug war, und strebte nun mit allen Kräften hinaus. Hella war bereit, mir in jeden Entschluss hinein zu folgen; aber ich konnte mir nicht verhehlen, dass ihr Herz viel stärker an Deutschland hing als das meine. Der erneute Ruf ans Institute im Herbst traf mich bereits im Ausland; von Zürich aus legte ich mein Lehramt in Göttingen nieder.

Hella und ich verlebten dann eine lange glückliche Zeit in Princeton. Namentlich die ersten Jahre waren für uns eine Zeit neuer Lebensentfaltung. Viel Freundschaft wurde uns entgegengebracht. Wir hatten das Gefühl, dass wir nach einem Jahr Princeton hier von unserer Umwelt mit geringerem Vorbehalt akzeptiert waren als es uns nach 17 Jahren in der spröden Schweiz zuteil geworden war. Wir waren glücklich, an dem so intensiven mathematischen Leben, dass sich am Institute entfaltete, teilzunehmen, und manche wertvolle, dauernde oder vorübergehende, menschliche Beziehung knüpfte sich an. Wir waren glücklich, an einer Stelle zu sein, an der die

grösste Bereitschaft bestand, den Opfern des Nazismus unter den europäischen Wissenschaftlern Hilfe zu bringen. Dennoch is das Los des Immigranten, wenn auch die äusseren Bedingungen noch so günstig sein mögen, seelisch schwerer als vielleicht die meisten unserer amerikanischen Freunde realisieren. Nichts kann die Muttersprache ersetzen, in der sich zuerst die Umwelt für uns artikulierte und die alle unsere Erfahrungen von der frühesten Kindheit an begleitete. An uns konnte dieser Bruch nie mehr ganz heilen. Wir waren glücklich zu sehen, dass er in der nächsten Generation, an unsern Kindern geheilt ist.

Es erübrigt sich an diesem Ort von unsern Princetoner Jahren eingehender zu erzählen. Im Frühjar 38 zogen wir in unser neues, im wesentlichen nach Hellas Plänen gebaute Haus ein. Es war das erste Mal im Leben, dass wir ein Heim auf eigenem Grund und Boden hatten. Für Hella bedeutete das viel. Haus und Garten hielt sie immer im besten Stand, hauptsächlich durch ihrer eigenen Hände Müh' und Arbeit; der schöne Rahmen, den sie sich so schuf, erhöhte ihr eigenes Wohlbefinden.

Nach der schweren Operation, der sich Hella Anfang des vorigen Jahres unterziehen musste, war es uns noch vergönnt, einen Sommer in dem alten lieben Zürich und den vertrauten Schweizer Bergen zu verbringen. Wir wussten, dass Hellas Leben bedroht war. Um so intensiver genossen wir diese Wochen, das Wiedersehen mit den alten Freunden und die mannigfachen heiteren Lebensfreuden, zu denen die anmutige Kulturlandschaft des Zürichsees einlädt. Alle Spannungen schienen sich gelöst zu haben, wie auf einem Goldgrund leuchtete uns das Leben. Für Hella war es der Abschied.

Ein Wort drängt sich mir auf die Lippen, wennimmer ich an sie denke: Wolgeratenheit;sie war wohlgeraten an Leib, Seele und Geist.

Unser Dasein ist gespalten und gespannt zwischen Subject und Object, zwischen Sinn und Sein. Wenn das Licht des Bewusstseins seinen Ursprung in der Transzendenz Gottes hat, so ist ihm selbst doch dieser Ursprung verdeckt. Wir wissen darum auch nicht, wie sich ein individuelles Menschenleben in dem Sein des Ursprungs repräsentiert; und darum mag es eine Blasphemie sein, von einem Menschen zu sagen, dass der Segen Gottes auf ihm geruht habe. Aber das glaube ich von Hella sagen zu dürfen, dass ihr Leben

unter den Menschen ein Segen für die Anderen war; mancher, der ihr begegnete, mag von solcher Begegnung ein bischen Licht, Freudigkeit, Zuversicht, Lebens-Bejahung und Bereicherung in seiner Seele mit heimgenommen haben. Mir war sie unendlich viel mehr. Ihre Liebe strahlte über meinem Leben. Ich muss dankbar sein, dass ich sie so lange besass. Ich weiss nicht, was ich bin ohne sie.

Oswald Veblen at the Memorial Service for Hella, September 9, 1948.

The Weyls came to the Institute in its earliest days, and those of us who were old residents of Princeton looked forward to the advent of Mrs. Weyl almost as much as we did to that of her husband. For she was almost as celebrated for beauty, charm, and learning as he was for mathematical prowess. Nor were we disappointed, for the mother of two nearly grown-up sons was still the slender, well poised woman whose face sparkled in response to every new and interesting idea. We soon came to see that she was one of the most perfect flowers of the European culture. Now, as we tend more and more to think of that culture in the past tense, we see still more clearly how Hella Weyl personified its fragile beauty, its intellectual satisfactions and even its subtle defects. Perhaps it was just by so exquisitely personifying this old world culture that she made her greatest contribution to our young institute which was then struggling rather blindly to find its own true role.

The image of a plant in full bloom rudely removed from an old garden to a new one and miraculously putting out even brighter flowers, comes insistently to mind. But such a simile tells only part of the story. For Hella Weyl was a vigorous being and an active, even a redoubtable, element in any social group which she entered. One could admire her, as indeed we did, but one could also cross swords with her, provided one looked well to one's guard. I once tried to argue with her that Heine's poetry should be preferred to Goethe's!

Her literary gifts stood her in good stead in those first years while she was overcoming the difficulties of the English language. I remember well my admiration of the systematic way in which she and her hus-

band first got a complete control of the mechanics of the language and then proceeded to absorb the inner logic of its idioms. They were thus able to produce quite new constructions which one had nevertheless to recognize as correct and even as true to the genius of the language.

But why say more about the evidences of Hella Weyl's extraordinary abilities? Let us rather recall how this woman with an independent career of her own devoted herself to the interests of her husband and his career. On the purely material side we have all seen the home and garden that they brought into being, but most of her friends did not see the prodigies of hard work that went into it. Let us recall also how freely she gave her time and energies to the simple, homely devices by which the wives of our faculty managed to create something like an Institute family. There is a long story which could be told on this subject, but not here and now. The Institute had no physical facilities. No one knew whether it would ever have land and buildings. It was just a collection of strangers lost in a not too friendly community. These women, our wives, managed somehow to draw these strangers together into a social group which some of the older members of the present time look back on with nostalgia and sometimes reproach us with having lost among our present abundant facilities. Hella Weyl played a quite unique role in this phase of our life, always adding a touch of artistry whether it was in bringing in the Christmas tree from the woods or rearranging the flowers.

This period of happy improvisation ended, I suppose, approximately with the outbreak of the recent war. Our Sunday morning walks, at any rate, have not been continued. But those of us who participated in them will never forget the girlish, athletic figure that so often took the lead both

in striding along and in the conversation to which she lent a singular distinction.

In the last years, under the new conditions to which we are trying to adjust ourselves, I think that most of us will remember her chiefly as we saw her at luncheon at the Institute where she came with her husband and contrived in one way or another to get him home for his needed rest. But we frequently saw again the evidence of her eager study and appreciation of literature, philosophy, and art. And towards the end we began to understand the bravery that underlay it all.

Hella Weyl

Words of remembrance spoken on Thursday,
September 9, 1948, by R. Courant

During the last weeks all who loved Hella hoped that she would be spared long suffering. Perhaps we should have welcomed that the end was not long delayed. And yet, we felt deeply shaken and saddened as if the blow had been unexpected. To all of us who knew Hella's radiant youthfulness, which persisted until her last months, her death must appear so senselessly cruel. Among many people she was singled out by her indestructible vitality, by her unimpaired capacity for steady development which unfolded always new sides of her personality. Her life had not run its natural course.

Ever since I met Hella first when she was nineteen years old, I have been aware of her surprising evolution as a personality of her own and as a force in the lives of those near to her. Let me recall from memory some of my impressions.

Goettingen in the years before the first World War was an almost ideal place for young scholars searching for eternal values without taking themselves too seriously. The struggle for scientific and philosophical truth was tempered by healthy enjoyment of an unpretentious but meaningful social life based on real human contacts and on the beautiful surroundings of the town. Hella appeared on the scene as a student in the first year, a strikingly beautiful, brilliant, and intense young girl. Immediately she became a main center in the loosely knit crowd of young people. Certainly, she was an excellent student; I remember how proud I was to have her in the very first course I gave as a privatdozent in

the University. But studying did not restrain her from a vigorously gay life so intense that at the end of the year her sceptical father recalled her and ruled against her return to the dangerous spot Goettingen. I vividly remember the dismay of everybody when we learned about this threat on a long walk through the Goettingen woods. Immediately a petition was drawn up and signed by students, assistants, privatdozents, and even professors. It must have made some impression. Hella returned to Goettingen after the long vacation.

Then the decisive event in her life happened. Among her many admirers was Hermann Weyl. As a mathematician he had already shown the lion's claws. But somehow this shy and reticent young man did not quite belong to a particular clique of people who felt that they were the arbiters of mathematical life, including the personal sphere. For them it was an almost shocking surprise when one day, without previous warning, Hella and Hermann announced their engagement. Weyl was a most envied man; but only gradually did people realize how deeply right Hella had been in her decision, which was to have a profound effect on the amazing development of both of them.

Some of this effect I felt later, when after five years in the German Army I had all but lost my foothold in science and was brought back to mathematics by Weyl's book, Raum, Zeit und Materie, which would obviously not have been written in its inspiring form without the influence of Hella's personality.

Again years later when Hilbert retired, the problem arose whether Weyl could be persuaded to come back to Goettingen; he was the only one in his generation who could fill Hilbert's place and continue his tradition on a broad front. I remember many serious and frank discussions with Hella about the problem of leaving the haven

in Zurich. Although conditions for living and working were excellent in the pre-Nazi Germany and scientific life was flourishing, Hella felt keenly the danger underneath the surface. Still her energy, her love for the old tradition, and her optimism helped to make the decision for Weyl's return to Goettingen. During these few years in Goettingen, Hella took a most active part in the philosophical and literary life of the fruitful period.

Gradually it became clear that all of us who had hoped that our set of values would prevail over the dark forces of Naziism had not built on a solid foundation. For the Weyls, who had made their choice for Germany voluntarily and deliberately, this realization was a particularly disquieting disappointment. So deeply, however, were Hermann and Hella rooted in German tradition that for an almost too long period they resisted temptations to leave. I recall many episodes in their struggle for a decision in the early January days of 1933 whether to accept Flexner's invitation to Princeton. It was largely Hella's merit that the Weyls finally did come to Princeton.

The friends who have seen her in her daily life in Princeton are in a better position than I to say what she has done to provide the human basis indispensable for a fruitful scientific community. What, beyond this, she has accomplished on her own during these years by untiring labor and devotion has astonished all of us. But most important for her friends was that her personal contacts have become so much easier and more natural than in the earlier days. As she grew in stature and maturity, a process never ending with her, she became able to forget her armor of wit and brilliance, and her warm and essentially simple personality came to the surface. As a warm and loyal friend we shall keep her in our memory.

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(Abkürzungen: * = Bücher. NZZ = Neue Zürcher Zeitung. DV = Deutsche Verlagsanstalt Stuttgart-Berlin.)

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY
LONDON
September 14, 1948.

Dear Mrs. Leary:

Mr. Douglas has asked me to thank you very much for informing him of the death of Professor Weyl's wife.

He was indeed sorry to learn the news, but appreciates your writing him about it.

Very sincerely,

Lucien N. Olson

Secretary to the Ambassador.

Mrs. John D. Leary,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

Press release Tuesday and Wednesday, New York Time and New York HeraldTribune

"Weyl, Helene, in Princeton, New Jersey, September 5, 1948, wife of Hermann Weyl; private services will be held from her late residence. Please omit flowers."

From Mather Funeral home: Cremation Monday, September 6th 10:30 a.m.
Ewing ~~Crematory~~ Cemetery Crematorium, Scotch Rd., Trenton; Telephone Trenton 3-4029

Private memorial services from home, 270 Mercer St., Thursday, September 9th; by invitation only. 20 to 40 people expected. (died at noon)

Notification:

9/6 ✓Notice by mail to whole Board
✓Director, c/o Professor Niels Bohr
✓Faculty – wires sent; telephoned
✓Miss Blake BY WIRE Lake Pleasant, Hamilton County, New York
✓Mrs Aydelotte by phone 9/5/8 New London, Conn.

Economics and Politics

→ ✓Edward Meade Earle 9/7 – Mrs. Hart 3 –
✓Robert B. Warren Mrs. Warren by phone 9/5
Winfield W. Riefler Fed Res Board
→ ✓Walter W. Stewart phone 9/7 – Mrs Horton

Humanistic Studies

✓Benjamin D. Meritt Magnetawan, via Burk's Falls, Ontario, Canada
✓Homer A. Thompson Orono, Ontario, Canada
✓Erwin Panofsky Blake House, Castine Maine
✓Hetty Goldman 703-W by phone 9/5
✓E. A. Lowe Hotel Louvois, Square Louvois, Paris,

Mathematics

Albert Einstein to Miss Dukas by phone 9/5/ 1606
✓Marston Morse
→ ✓Carl L. Siegel
Oswald Veblen (Weyl said not to notify) – speaking at memorial service
✓John von Neumann – Los Alamos, c/o Mrs

Director
Weyl

THE HEMLOCKS
MAGNETAWAN, VIA BURKS FALLS
ONTARIO, CANADA

September 7, 1948

Dear Mrs Russell, —

Thank you very much for the telegram giving the sad news of Mrs Weyl's death. We are sorry not to be in Princeton, little as one can do to really help.

I hope that you have had a happy summer —

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours, Hermann Weyl

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

FULL RATE TELEGRAM		SERIAL	
DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT

1206

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate

FULL RATE		DEFERRED	
CODE		NIGHT LETTER	

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
				5:10

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

DAY LETTER
September 5, 1948

Professor and Mrs. Benjamin D. Meritt
Magnetawan, via Burk's Falls
Ontario, Canada

Regret to say Mrs. Weyl died Noon September 5th. Cremation 10:30 a.m. September 6th. Private memorial services from residence September 9th. Requested that no flowers be sent. News Release

K. Russell

Charge: School Mathematics

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

FULL RATE TELEGRAM		SERIAL	
DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT

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DEFERRED CABLE
September 5, 1948

Professor E. A. Lowe
Hotel Louvois
Square Louvois,
Paris, France

Regret to say Mrs. Weyl died noon September 5th. Cremation 10:30 a.m. September 6th. Private memorial services from residence September 9th. News release requests no flowers be sent.

Charge: ~~Institute~~ Math

K. Russell

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

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WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

DAY LETTER
September 5, 1948

Professor and Mrs. Homer A. Thompson
Orono,
Ontario, Canada

Regret to say Mrs. Weyl died noon September 5th. Cremation 10:30 a.m. September 6th. Private memorial services from residence September 9th. News release requests omit flowers.

Charge: School Mathematics

K. Russell

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

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DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

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NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

September 6, 1948

Radiogram

Marston Morse
S. S. Vulcania
American Export Line

Mrs. Weyl died September 5. Private memorial services residence September 9.

Leary

Charge: Institute - School of Mathematics

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

FULL RATE TELEGRAM		SERIAL	
DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

WESTERN UNION

1206

JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate

FULL RATE		DEFERRED	
CODE		NIGHT LETTER	

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
				5:10

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

DAY LETTER
September 5, 1948

Professor and Mrs. Erwin Panofsky
Blake House
Castine, Maine

Regret to say Mrs. Weyl died Noon September 5th. Cremation 10:30 a.m. September 6th. Private memorial services from residence September 9th. News release requests omit flowers.

Charge: School Mathematics

K. Russell

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

FULL RATE TELEGRAM		SERIAL	
DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT

1206

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate

FULL RATE		DEFERRED	
CODE		NIGHT LETTER	

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

DAY LETTER
September 7, 1948

Professor Carl Siegel
Hotel du Glacier
Saas-Fe, Switzerland

Regret to say Mrs. Weyl died noon September 5th. Cremation 10:30 a.m. September 6th. Private memorial services from residence September 9th. News release requests omit flowers.

K. Russell

Charge: School Mathematics

DOMESTIC SERVICE			
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram			
FULL RATE TELEGRAM		SERIAL	
DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

WESTERN UNION

1206

JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE			
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate			
FULL RATE		DEFERRED	
CODE		NIGHT LETTER	

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
				5:10

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

DAY LETTER
September 5, 1948

Professor John von Neumann
Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory
P. O. Box 1663
Los Alamos, New Mexico

Regret to say Mrs. Weyl died noon September 5th. Cremation 10:30 a.m. September 6th. Private memorial services from residence September 9th. News release Requests that no flowers be sent.

Charge: Mathematics

K. Russell

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

FULL RATE TELEGRAM		SERIAL	
DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT

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INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
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FULL RATE		DEFERRED	
CODE		NIGHT LETTER	

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
				4:15

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

DAY LETTER
September 5, 1948

Miss Gwen Blake
Lake Pleasant
Hamilton County, New York

Mrs. Weyl died noon September 5th. Cremation 10:30 a.m. September 6th. Private memorial services from residence September 9th. Requested that no flowers be sent.

K. Russell

Charge: School Mathematics

DOMESTIC SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

FULL RATE TELEGRAM		SERIAL	
DAY LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	

WESTERN UNION

1206

JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate

FULL RATE		DEFERRED	
CODE		NIGHT LETTER	

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
				4.27

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

DEFERRED CABLE
September 5, 1948

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Oppenheimer
care of Professor Niels Bohr
Univ. Inst. Teor. Fys.
Blegdamsvej 15
Copenhagen Ø, Denmark

Regret to say Mrs. Weyl died Noon September 5th. Cremation 10:30 a.m. September 6th. Private memorial services from residence September 9th. Requested no flowers be sent. We are doing everything possible for Professor Weyl.

Charge: Institute

Kay

TELEGR. PRINCETON NJER R123 55 5 1521 WU NORTHERN

DEN DANSKE STATSTELEGRAF

Tj. Bem.

udsendes snarest

- LC -

DR AND MRS ROBERT OPPENHIMER
CARE PROF NEILS BOH INSTITURE
FOR THEORITICAL PHYSICS
BLEGDAMSVEJ 15 KH -

Telegrafstation
Hovedtelegrafkontoret,
København
Dato: 5 SEP. 1948

Nr.

STATSTELEGRAFEN

Kl.	af	Lbnr.	til	den	Kl.
2358	W		VBY		

REGRET TO SAY MRS WEYL DIED NOON SEPTEMBER FIFTH
CREMATION TEN THIRDY AM SEPTEMBER SIXTH PRIVATE
MEMORIAL SERVICES FROM RESIDENCE SEPTEMBER NINTH

REQUESTED NO FLOWERS BE SENT WE ARE DOING EVERYTHING
POSSIBLE FOR PROFESSOR WEYL - KAY +

Medlelelse til: afleveres Niels Bohrs

Vedtagne Forkortelser: D Iltelegram. RP Svar betalt. TC Kollationering. Overt. Udleveres åbent. MP Udlev. egenhændigt. FS Eftersendes. PC Modtagelsesbevis. XP Bud betalt.

T. 4 (7.48 A 5)

dresbrling. HW

WEYL—Helene, in Princeton, N. J., on Sept. 5, 1948. Wife of Hermann Weyl. Private services will be held from her late residence. Please omit flowers.

Notes re
Mrs. Weyl's death
Sent 9/6/48
EWL

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Union Trust Bldg., Washington, D.C.

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Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J.

✓ Edgar S. Bamberger, Esq.
Hotel Suburban, East Orange, New Jersey

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Yale University School of Medicine
333 Cedar Street, New Haven 11, Connecticut

✓ John M. Hancock, Esq.
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820 Park Avenue, New York 21, N.Y.

✓ Samuel D. Leidesdorf, Esq.
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✓ Wilmarth S. Lewis, Esq.
Farmington, Connecticut

✓ Herbert H. Maas, Esq.
20 Exchange Place, New York 5, N.Y.

Cable 9/5 ✓ Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J.

✓ Michael Schaap, Esq.
Bloomingdale's, Lexington Ave. and 59th Str.
New York 22, N.Y.

✓ Rear Admiral Lewis L. Strauss
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D.C.

Professor Oswald Veblen
Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J.

✓ Dr. Lewis H. Weed
National Research Council
2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington 25, D.C.

The Rhodes Scholarship Trust.

OFFICE OF THE
AMERICAN SECRETARY.

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, N.J.

Waterford, Connecticut
September 8, 1948

Mrs. John D. Leary
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mrs. Leary:

I have your letter of September 6tn and hasten to say that I think you have done everything necessary in regard to Mrs. Weyl. I assume that Katherine Russell notified members of the Faculty as well as of the Board. I am going down tomorrow for the memorial service at Professor Weyl's house at five o'clock on Thursday afternoon and shall be in my office for a few hours on Friday morning.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Frank Aydelotte

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

August 28, 1948

To: Professor Weyl
From: Mrs. Leary

In writing to the Comptroller of Rockefeller should Miss Trinterud ask for the whole $2,000 for von Laue? The Institute $1,000. has been spent. I was not sure whether it is proper to ask for full amount because of their phrase "or as much thereof as may be necessary".

Faculty
Weyl

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

July 7, 1948

Dear Oppie:

It was very kind of you to send me a word of encouragement from Chicago after you had left, and now you and Mrs. Oppenheimer moved Hella deeply by sending her such a lovely basket of flowers. Many thanks.

Everything after the operation goes as well as one can expect. But the jaundice is still there and the doctors tell us that complete recovery is still a long way off. We have given up the idea of going to Europe this summer.

With all good wishes to you and Kitty,

Very sincerely yours,

Hermann Weyl

Hermann Weyl

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
1 Eagle Hill
Berkeley, California
HW:GB

Faculty
Weyl

April 8, 1948

Weyl, Hermann

Göttingen, Munich, Göttingen 1904-08
Dr.phil. 1908 Göttingen

Dr.phil.h.c. 1929 Oslo
Dr.ing.e.h. 1929 Stuttgart
Dr.d.Math.h.c. 1945 E.T.H., Zürich
D.Sc. 1940 Univ.Penn.

Born Nov. 9, 1885, Elmshorn, Germany
Citizenship - ~~Germany~~ Naturalized USA Apr.14/39
Married; 2 sons
Princeton home address - ~~220~~ 270 Mercer St. (Mail:Box 3-3,RFD 3) Telephone 2171
In case of emergency notify Mrs. Hermann Weyl, 270 Mercer Street, Princeton
Honors and societies:

Lobatschewski Prize (Kazan) 1925; hon.mem. Spanish (1923-) and Swiss (1913-) Math.Societies; For.Mem.Royal Soc. (London)(1936-); Amer.Phil.Soc. (1935-); AMS (1928-); NAS (1940-); Am.Acad.Arts and Sci. (1926-); Koninklijke Ak. van Wetenschappen (Amsterdam)(1935-); Gesellschaft d.Wissensch.Göttingen (1921-); Am.Asso.Univ.Profs. (1935-); Asso.Symb.Logic (1936-); London Math.Soc.(hon. mem. 1939-); Academia Sevillana de Buenas Letras (corresp.mem. 1922-); Acad.Nacional de Ciencias Exactas de Lima (Asso.Mem. 1944-); Indian Math.Soc. (hon.mem. 1946-); Zürcher Naturforschende Gesell. (corresp.mem. 1946-); Roy.Swedish Acad.Sci. (for.mem. 1946-); Cercle Mathematique,Tel-Aviv (1948-) AAAS (Fellow 1946-); Académie des Sciences (section de géométrie),Inst.de France (1947-)

Math.Ztsch.(mem.Council 1918-?); Am.J.Math.(co-editor 1941-45)

Positions held:

Univ.Göttingen - Privatdozent 1910-13; ord.Prof. and Director Math.Inst. 1930-33
E.T.H.,Zürich - ord.Prof. 1913-30
Princeton Univ. - Thos.D.Jones Res.Prof.Mathematical Phys. 1928-29
IAS - Prof. Dec.1933-

July 15, 1947

Dear Hermann:

I return this letter which I had no chance to deliver.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Hermann Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

May 17, 1947

Lt. Col. Damond
Theatre Chief of Claims
HQ USFET
APO 757
Care Postmaster, New York City

Dear Colonel Damond:

Professor Hermann Weyl of the Faculty of the School of Mathematics of the Institute for Advanced Study has just shown me his letter of May 16th to you on behalf of Dr. Robert König. It occurs to me that it might be useful to you to have a word about Professor Weyl.

I can vouch for Professor Weyl without reservation as one of the leading mathematicians of the world and as a man of the finest character. He has been a Professor at the Institute for over ten years, has become an American citizen and has shown himself to be not merely a scholar and scientist of distinction but also a man with a deep concern for the welfare of his former colleagues in Germany. You can take everything that Professor Weyl says about Dr. König as absolutely trustworthy.

Yours very sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte
Director

Copy to Prof. Weyl.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
Founded by Mr. Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

May 16, 1947

Lt. Col. Damond
Theatre Chief of Claims
HQ USFET
APO 757
Care Postmaster, New York City

Dear Sir:

This letter, whose writer is a naturalized American citizen and Professor of Mathematics at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J., concerns a claim submitted on August 24, 1946, by Dr. Robert König, age 62, formerly Professor at the University of Jena, now residing at Jäkleplatz 3, Heidenheim/Brenz, (14a) Württemberg, in the American Zone of Germany.

Professor König and his family were evacuated by our army from Thuringia, and then assigned residence in Heidenheim. This translocation brought about the loss of almost all his property, cost him his job as Professor of Mathematics in Jena, and seems to have seriously affected his health.

I have known Dr. König since 1908, when we studied together at the University of Göttingen, and was in continuous contact with him, at least by correspondence, from then until 1939. He is a creative mathematician of considerable rank, who has made a number of valuable contributions to mathematics and has worked with high idealism for the promotion of science and the welfare of the mathematical community. He is an Austrian by birth but acquired German citizenship by becoming a professor in a German university. However proud he is of the Austro-German cultural tradition, he has to the best of my knowledge never harbored any sympathy for the Nazis. As far as I can see from our correspondence, during the years 1933-1939, he fought a valiant battle against Nazi infiltration in his faculty at the University of Jena during this time. He has not contributed by his scientific work to the preparation or conduct of the war launched by the Nazis. He informs me that according to a decision of the Spruchkammer, Heidenheim, dated February 21, 1947, he is "politisch nicht belastet".

It seems to me that Dr. König's claims deserve a hearing, and I wish to recommend his case to your attention in the hope that after proper examination it will be found possible to compensate him, at least in some degree, for what he lost by his removal from Jena.

Very truly yours,

HW:GB

Hermann Weyl

March 12, 1947

Mrs. Ruth B. Shipley, Chief
Passport Division
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

I am writing to support very strongly the application of Professor Hermann Weyl of the Institute for Advanced Study and Mrs. Weyl for passports to enable them to visit Europe this summer. The Weyls are American citizens. He is a very eminent mathematician and aside from the scientific value of his giving lectures in Switzerland, I think it is very much to the interest of the United States that he should visit as many European countries as he can possibly manage to do.

I regret to say that Mrs. Weyl is ill at this moment and about to undergo an operation. She is, however, able to sign documents and I hope very much that her passport can be sent to her by mail.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte
Director

Copy to Professor Weyl

COPY FOR DR. AYDELOTTE

March 5, 1947

Mrs. Ruth B. Shipley, Chief
Passport Division
State Department
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Shipley:

This is to apply for passports and visas for the undersigned, Hermann Weyl, and my wife, Helene Weyl, to enable us to visit Europe this summer. We are both American citizens by naturalization: I was naturalized on April 14, 1939, at the District Court of the United States at Trenton, New Jersey (certificate No. 4602087); my wife was naturalized on April 5, 1940, at the same court (certificate No. 4865023). We are residing at 270 Mercer Street, Princeton, New Jersey. I am a Professor of Mathematics at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. We plan to leave in May and return in September.

I have been invited by the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule in Zürich, Switzerland, to give a course of lectures during their 1947 summer term. I wish to accept the invitation, first, for the general reason that it seems time now to resume the scientific relations disrupted by the war, but I also have my special reasons: for seventeen years, from 1913 to 1930, I served the Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft as Professor of Mathematics at that institution, and a year and a half ago the Technische Hochschule Zürich gave me an honorary degree. After my successor in Zürich, Professor Heinz Hopf, has been invited by Princeton University to lecture here during the second term of its Bicentennial year, and Professor Eckmann of Lausanne and Zürich has been made a member of our School of Mathematics for this term, it seems my turn now to go to Zürich.

The visa should include other European countries, especially Great Britain, Eire, France, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and, if possible, also Spain. Our sister institution, the Institute for Advanced Studies in Dublin, Eire, invited me during the war; I had to decline at that time, but promised to come over as soon as feasible. During the war the Royal Society in London made me a foreign member, and last year I was elected a member of the Royal Swedish Academy. Niels and Harald Bohr invited me to visit them in Copenhagen. The reason for including Spain is that Mrs. Weyl may want to see the Spanish philosopher, Ortega y Gasset, now back in Madrid after many years in exile, several of whose books and essays she translated into English.

I am pretty sure that, once it is known that I am in Switzerland, the question will arise as to whether I could visit some of the nearby German universities and Technische Hochschulen. My son, Lieutenant Michael Weyl, is stationed with our Occupational Army in

Stuttgart as Chief of Information Centers for Württemberg-Baden. If, however, extension of the passports for Germany and possibly Spain causes any difficulties, I would ask you not to let the decision of that question delay the granting of a passport for the other European countries.

Very truly yours,

Hermann Weyl

HWmw

Engineering Bldg. McGill University
Montreal, Canada

LE CONGRÈS CANADIEN DE MATHÉMATIQUES | THE CANADIAN CONGRESS OF MATHEMATICS

Dear Aydelotte, — Thank you very much for your prompt reply regarding Weyl. Yes, Brauer and I had agreed that he would write directly to Weyl and that I would write to you as Director of the Institute.

As we must as soon as possible make an announcement about the lectures at the Seminar this summer, we shall have to abandon the idea of having Weyl come, sorry as we are to do so. Perhaps he will find it possible to come some other summer.

Yours faithfully

W L G Williams

February 18, 1947

Dear Hermann:

I hesitate to trouble you at this moment about something which comes up only for the summer, but my friend Williams of McGill is most anxious that you should take part in the Canadian Mathematical Congress in August. Can you do it?

Yours sincerely,

FA:kr

Frank Aydelotte

Professor Hermann Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study

December 6, 1946

Dear Hermann:

I am not quite clear from the minutes just what the state of our correspondence is with Gelbart, Selberg, and Fleijel. Should I write to them or will you?

Yours sincerely,

Professor Hermann Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Faculty
Weyl

THE HEMLOCKS
MAGNETAWAN, VIA BURKS FALLS
ONTARIO, CANADA

September 7, 1948

Dear Mrs Russell, –

Thank you very much for the telegram giving the sad news of Mrs Weyl's death. We are sorry not to be in Princeton, little as one can do to really help.

I hope that you have had a happy summer –

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth K. Weyl