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31 August 1971

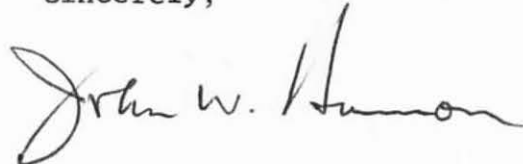
Miss Angela Wakeham  
Office of the Director  
Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Dear Miss Wakeham:

I am returning with enormous thanks your photograph of the Albert Einstein Award medallion, which you were so kind as to loan me two weeks ago. It is an excellent photograph, obviously the work of a professional, and it suited our purposes perfectly.

You were most kind to search through your files and kinder still to permit us to borrow the photograph. I appreciate your very generous help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John W. Hannon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent part.

John W. Hannon  
Science Editor

/k

Enclosure

Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York 20, N. Y.

March 9, 1951

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

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

Mr. Gardner thought that you might wish to have a few copies of this release so that you would be able to hand them out to anyone wishing specific information.

In case you should receive this tomorrow, however, please be sure to observe the release date, which is Monday, March 12.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Janet Molleson", followed by a horizontal line.

Janet Molleson  
Secretary to L.L. Strauss

Enc.

From: Rcom 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York 20, New York

Telephone: Circle 7-3700, Ext. 89

FOR RELEASE IN MORNING PAPERS, MONDAY, MARCH 12, 1951

The first Albert Einstein Award for achievement in the natural sciences has been won by Professor Julian Schwinger of Harvard University, a mathematical physicist, and Professor Kurt Godel, member of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, a mathematical logician.

The awards were made by a committee and announced today by Lewis L. Strauss, President of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study. Mr. Strauss established the award in memory of his parents, the late Lewis and Rosa Strauss, of Richmond, Virginia, who were interested in advancing the natural sciences.

Formal presentation of the award will take place at Princeton on Wednesday, March 14, on the occasion of Dr. Einstein's seventy-second birthday. Dr. Einstein and other noted scientists will be present.

The winners will divide the \$15,000 prize and will receive a medal which has been designed by Gilroy Roberts, Philadelphia, sculptor and engraver, who has done much medallion work for the United States mint.

The award committee consisted of Dr. Einstein, Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, director of the Institute for Advanced Study; Dr. John von Neumann and Dr. Hermann Weyl, both of the Institute for Advanced Study.

The committee said it has been "persuaded of the superlative qualifications" of Professor Schwinger and Professor Godel and, under

- 2 -

the circumstances, concluded the first Albert Einstein Award should be made to both candidates.

Professor Schwinger has done outstanding work in the field of atomic physics.

His most recent, and rated by many as his greatest, work has given science new understanding of the problem of interaction of light and matter and the properties of electrons and light. His calculations on the influence of self-energy on the hydrogen fine-structure and on the magnetic moment of the electron generally are regarded as a major advance in the understanding of quantum electrodynamics.

He developed new methods for the treatment of electro-magnetic waves. This formed the basis for much of the practical work with micro waves and had great civil and military significance. He originated new mathematical tools for the analysis of collisions, on which scientists depend heavily for understanding relations between elementary particles.

During World War II, at the radiation laboratory of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Schwinger developed new methods for the treatment of electro-magnetic waves. These methods furnished the basis for the investigations by a substantial part of the laboratory's theoretical group.

Early in his career he contributed many important suggestions about the structure of atomic nuclei and about many decisive experimental studies of nuclear interaction.

Dr. Godel's work in mathematical logic is regarded as one of the

- 3 -

greatest contributions to the sciences in recent times. He was able to prove the existence in a properly codified mathematical system of propositions inherently "undecidable."

Following a broad study of the logic of provable and disprovable propositions, he made further notable contributions to science by proving that two of the axioms generally used by mathematicians, although frequently doubted, namely the "axiom of choice" and the "cantor continuum hypothesis", are consistent with the other axioms of set theory if these axioms are consistent.

He has gone deeply into the history of logical and scientific ideas. Although he has not published much on the subject, he is an authority on Leibniz. It was part of Leibniz' program for science to work out a symbolic logic of the sort which is now being developed and of which Dr. Godel is a leading protagonist.

Dr. Schwinger was born in New York City, February 12, 1918 and received his AB and PhD at Columbia University. He has been a National Research Fellow at the University of California, instructor in physics at Purdue University and has lectured at the University of Michigan. He has been at Harvard since 1945 and Professor of Physics since 1947.

Dr. Godel was born in Brunn, Czechoslovakia, April 28, 1906. He received his PhD in 1930 at the University of Vienna and taught at the University of Vienna from 1933 to 1938, when he came to the United States. In this country, he has been connected with the Institute for Advanced Study, of which he has been a permanent member since 1946. He has taken out his first naturalization papers.

Remarks by Dr. John von Neumann, of the Institute for Advanced Study, at the presentation of the first Albert Einstein Award, at Princeton, March 14, 1951, to Dr. Kurt Godel, member of the Institute for Advanced Study.

Kurt Godel's achievement in modern logic is singular and monumental -- indeed it is more than a monument, it is a land mark which will remain visible far in space and time. Whether anything comparable to it has occurred in the logic of modern times may be debated. In any case, the conceivable proxima are very, very few. The subject of logic has certainly completely changed its nature and possibilities with Godel's achievement.

Godel's name is associated with many important achievements in detail, and with two absolutely decisive ones. The occasion is such that I think I should only talk about the two latter.

The nature of the first one is easy to indicate, although its exact technical character and execution escape an adequate characterization without the specialized and rather intricate techniques of formal logic.

Godel was the first man to demonstrate that certain mathematical theorems can neither be proved nor disproved with the accepted, rigorous methods of mathematics. In other words, he demonstrated the existence of undecidable mathematical propositions. He proved furthermore that a very important specific proposition belonged to this class of undecidable problems: The question, as to whether mathematics is free of inner contradictions. The result is remarkable in its quasi-paradoxical "self-denial": It will never be possible to acquire with mathematical means the certainty that mathematics does not contain contradictions. It must be emphasized that the important point is, that this is not a philosophical principle or a plausible intellectual attitude, but the result of a rigorous mathematical proof of an extremely sophisticated kind.

The formulation that I gave above has coarsened the result and obliterated some of the fine points of its rigorous formulation, but if one is to state the theorem without having recourse to the difficult technical language of formal logic this is, I think, the best approximation that one can achieve.

Godel actually proved this theorem, not with respect to mathematics only, but for all systems which permit a formalization, that is a rigorous and exhaustive description, in terms of modern logic: For no such system can its freedom from inner contradictions be demonstrated with the means of the system itself.

Godel's second decisive result can only be stated in the terminology of formal logic and of an important but rather abstruse modern mathematical discipline: Set theory. Two surmised theorems of set theory, or rather two principles, the so-called "Principle of Choice" and the so-called "Continuum Hypothesis" resisted for about 50 years all attempts of demonstration. Godel proved that neither of the two can be disproved with mathematical means. For one of them we know, that it can not be proved either, for the other the same seems likely, although it does not seem likely that a lesser man than Godel will be able to prove this.



- 2 -

I will not attempt a detailed evaluation of these achievements, I will limit myself to repeat: In the history of logic, they are entirely singular. No indemonstrability within mathematics proper had ever been rigorously established before Godel. The subject of logic will never again be the same.

# # #

Tables of 8

Table 1 - Mr. Strauss  
Mr. Schwinger  
Dr. Oppenheimer  
Dr. Rabi  
Dr. DuBridge  
Mr. Leidesdorf  
Dr. von Neumann  
Mr. Maass  
Dr. Gödel  
Prof. Einstein

Table 2 - Mrs. Strauss  
~~Mr.~~ Teller  
Prof. Veblen  
Mrs. Veblen  
Mrs. Maass  
Mrs. Gödel  
Dr. Bethe  
Mrs. Schwinger

Table 3 - Mrs. Rabi  
~~Prof. White~~  
Mrs. Weyl  
Prof. Weyl  
Dr. Pais  
~~Mrs. Oppenheimer~~  
Dr. Smyth  
Mrs. Smyth

*Mrs. + Mrs. Fleming*

Table 4 - Miss Goldman  
Mrs. Aydelotte  
Dr. Aydelotte  
Mrs. Wigner  
Mrs. von Neumann  
Mrs. Church  
Prof. Church

7

Table 5 - Miss Dukas  
Prof. Courant  
Mrs. Russell  
Prof. Lefschetz  
Mrs. Lefschetz  
Mrs. Thompson  
Prof. Thompson  
Mrs. Courant

Table 6 - Miss Einstein  
Mr. Lawrence  
Mrs. Lawrence  
Dr. Waterman  
Mrs. Waterman  
Dr. Warren Weaver  
Mrs. Warren Weaver

7

Table 7 - Dean Taylor  
Mrs. Taylor  
Dr. Yukawa  
Mrs. Yukawa  
Mrs. Cherniss  
Dr. Cherniss  
Mrs. Hamilton  
Dr. Hamilton

Table 8 - Prof. Lowe  
Mrs. Lowe  
Prof. Meritt  
Mrs. Meritt  
Prof. Morgenstern  
Mrs. Morgenstern  
Prof. Panofsky  
Mrs. Panofsky

Table 9 - Prof. Montgomery  
Mrs. Montgomery  
Prof. Morse  
Mrs. Morse  
Prof. Selberg  
Mrs. Selberg  
Prof. White  
Mrs. White

Table 10 - Press  
Local (~~Don Coyne~~)

*Beth A.P. Kunkin  
Kass Pool Men  
Volunteer Lipton - Hachet  
Allen Richards a P. M. H. H.*



66

51  
41 *min*  

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92

INVITED GUESTS — DR. EINSTEIN LUNCHEON

*Y* *Frank C. ...*  
*Y* *Mr. ...*  
Professor Hans Bethe

*No* Mrs. Hans Bethe

Professor Percy W. Bridgeman

*w* Mrs. Percy W. Bridgeman

President Detlev W. Bronk

*w* Mrs. Detlev W. Bronk

Dr. Vannevar Bush

*w* Mrs. Vannevar Bush

*Y* Professor Harold F. Cherniss

*Y* Mrs. Harold F. Cherniss

*Y* Professor Alonzo Church

*Y* Mrs. Alonzo Church

President James B. Conant

*w* Mrs. James B. Conant

*Y* *Mr. + Mrs. R. Courant*  
President Harold W. Dodds

*w* Mrs. Harold W. Dodds

*Y* President Lee A. du Bridge

*No* Mrs. Lee A. du Bridge

*Y* Miss Helen Dukas

Professor Edward Mead Earle

*w* Mrs. Edward Mead Earle

*Liederfeldt*  
*Kramer*  
*Strom*

11  
10 *min*

*Miss Mary Einstein*  
✓ Professor Albert Einstein  
✓ *Mary Einstein*  
✓ Professor Enrico Fermi

W Mrs. Enrico Fermi

✓ Dr. Kurt Gödel

✓ Mrs. Kurt Gödel

✓ Professor Hatty Goldman

Dr. Lawrence R. Hafstad

W Mrs. Lawrence R. Hafstad

✓ Professor Donald R. Hamilton

✓ Mrs. Donald R. Hamilton  
✓ *Prof. C. C. Lauritsen*  
✓ Professor Charles C. Lauritsen

✓ Professor S. Lefschetz

✓ Mrs. S. Lefschetz

✓ Mr. Samuel Leidesdorf

✓ Professor E. A. Lowe

✓ *Mr. H. H. Meass*  
✓ Mr. Herbert H. Meass

✓ Mrs. Herbert H. Meass

✓ Professor Benjamin D. Meritt

✓ Mrs. Benjamin D. Meritt

✓ Professor Deane Montgomery

✓ Mrs. Deane Montgomery

✓ Professor Marston Morse

✓ Mrs. Marston Morse

15  
9 wives

-3-

Professor Otto Oldenberg

W Mrs. Otto Oldenberg

Y Professor Robert Oppenheimer

Y Mrs. Robert Oppenheimer

Y Dr. Abraham Pais

Y Professor Erwin Panofsky

W Mrs. Erwin Panofsky

Professor Willard Van Orman Quine

W Mrs. Willard Van Orman Quine

Y Professor I. I. Rabi

W Mrs. I. I. Rabi

Y Mrs. Katherine Russell

Y Dr. Julian Schwinger

Y Mrs. Julian Schwinger

Y Professor Atle Selberg

Y Mrs. Atle Selberg

Professor H. M. Sheffer

W Mrs. H. M. Sheffer

Professor Carl L. Siegel

Y Dr. Henry de Wolf Smyth

Y Mrs. Henry de Wolf Smyth

Professor Walter W. Stewart

W Mrs. Walter W. Stewart

13

10 wives

-4-

Mr. Lewis H. Strauss

✓ Mrs. Lewis H. Strauss

✓ Mr. Lewis L. Strauss

✓ Mrs. Lewis L. Strauss

✓ Dean Hugh S. Taylor

✓ Mrs. Hugh S. Taylor

✓ Professor Homer A. Thompson

✓ Mrs. Homer A. Thompson

Dr. Merle A. Tuve

✓ Mrs. Merle A. Tuve

✓ Professor Oswald Veblen

✓ Mrs. Oswald Veblen

✓ Professor John von Neumann

✓ Mrs. John von Neumann

✓ Dr. Alan T. Waterman

✓ Mrs. Alan T. Waterman

✓ Dr. Warren Weaver

✓ Mrs. Warren Weaver

✓ Professor Hermann Weyl

✓ Mrs. Hermann Weyl

✓ Professor M. G. White

*E. Teller*

*(W) ✓ on V. Heib*

11

*10 wives*

-5-

*W* Professor Eugene Paul Wigner

*W* Mrs. Eugene Paul Wigner

*Y* Professor Hideki Yukawa

*Y* Mrs. Hideki Yukawa

2

2 wives

From: Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York 20, New York

Telephone: Circle 7-3700, Ext. 89

FOR RELEASE IN MORNING PAPERS, MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1951

The first Albert Einstein Award for achievement in the natural sciences has been won by Professor Julian Schwinger of Harvard University, a mathematical physicist, and Professor Kurt Gödel, member of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, a mathematical logician.

*math + phs*

The awards were made by a committee and announced today by Lewis L. Strauss, president of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study. Mr. Strauss established the award in memory of his parents, the late Lewis and Rosa Strauss, of Richmond, Virginia, who were interested in advancing the natural sciences.

Formal presentation of the award will take place at Princeton on March 14 on the occasion of Dr. Einstein's seventy-second birthday. Dr. Einstein and other noted scientists will be present.

The winners will divide the \$15,000 prize and will receive a medal which has been designed by Gilroy Roberts, Philadelphia, sculptor and engraver, who has done much medallion work for the United States Mint.

The award committee consisted of Dr. Einstein, Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, Director of the Institute for Advanced Study;



- 2 -

Dr. John von Neumann and Dr. Hermann Weyl, both of the Institute for Advanced Study.

The committee said it had been "persuaded of the superlative qualifications" of Professor Schwinger and Professor Gödel and, under the circumstances, concluded the first Albert Einstein Award should be made to both candidates.

During World War II, Professor Schwinger conducted research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology radiation laboratory and devised new methods of treating propagation problems connected with wave guides. These methods furnished the basis for the investigation of a substantial part of the laboratory's theoretical group. He also was engaged in wartime research at the Metallurgical Laboratory at Chicago.

More recently, he made calculations of the influence of self-energy on the hydrogen fine-structure and on the magnetic moment of the electron which are generally regarded as a major advance in the understanding of quantum electro-dynamics.

His early research was chiefly on the magnetic scattering of neutrons, and the scattering of neutrons by ortho and parahydrogen. Later he investigated neutron-proton interaction in relation to the quadruple moment of the deuteron and the tensor theory of nuclear forces.

He ~~has written~~ <sup>is the author of</sup> a number of papers ~~for~~ <sup>which have appeared in</sup> scientific publications.

Dr. Gödel's first great contribution to the sciences was in the formulation of mathematical propositions. He was able to prove the

existence in a properly codified mathematical system of propositions inherently "undecidable."

Following a broad study of the logic of provable and disprovable propositions, he made his most notable achievement several years ago by proving that two of the axioms generally used by mathematicians, although frequently doubted, namely the "axiom of choice" and the "Cantor continuum hypothesis", are consistent with the other axioms of set theory if these axioms are consistent.

~~He has gone deeply into the history of logical and scientific ideas. Although he has not published much on the subject, he is an authority on Leibniz. It was part of Leibniz' program for science to work out a symbolic logic of the sort which is now being developed and of which Dr. Godel is a leading protagonist.~~

Dr. Schwinger was born in New York City, February 12, 1918 and received his AB and PhD at Columbia University. He has been a National Research Fellow at the University of California, instructor in physics at Purdue University and has lectured at the University of Michigan. He has been at Harvard since 1945 and Professor of Physics since 1947.

Dr. Gödel was born in Brunn, Czechoslovakia, April 28, 1906. He received his PhD in 1930 at the University of Vienna and taught at the University of Vienna from 1933 to 1938, when he came to the United States. In this country, he has been connected with the Institute for Advanced Study, of which he has been a permanent member since 1946. He has taken out his first naturalization papers.

He has written extensively on mathematical topics and published many papers in European scientific journals and in proceedings of scientific bodies and journals in this country.

Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York 20, N. Y.

February 28, 1951

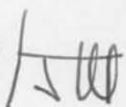
Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer  
The Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Robert:

Please be so good as to read the attached release which has been prepared in the Public Relations office here and have Mrs. Russell call Mr. Fred Gardner at Circle 7-3700 to correct bloomers or to say that it is in order.

I am leaving tonight for Washington and will not be back until Friday and would like to have this ready for the newspapers Friday.

Faithfully yours

Lewis L. Strauss /   
Lewis L. Strauss

LLS:JM

Enc.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

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NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

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1951 FEB 28 AM 7 25

PROFESSOR AND MRS ROBERT OPPENHEIMER

OLDEN LANE PRINCETON NJER=.

DR. EINSTEIN'S SEVENTYSECOND BIRTHDAY ON MARCH FOURTEENTH  
WILL BE THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST PRESENTATION OF THE ALBERT  
EINSTEIN AWARD. THE COMMITTEE ON AWARD HAS NOMINATED DR.  
JULIAN SCHWINGER AND DR. KURT GODEL TO RECEIVE THE PRIZES.  
IT WOULD GIVE ME A GREAT DEAL OF PLEASURE IF YOU WOULD BE  
MY GUESTS AT LUNCH ON MARCH FOURTEENTH AT TWELVETHIRTY AT  
THE PRINCETON INN, PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY WHEN THE  
PRESENTATIONS WILL BE MADE BY DR. EINSTEIN. KINDLY REPLY  
TO MRS. VERA B. GOELLER, ROOM FIFTYSIXHUNDRED, 30 ROCKEFELLER  
PLAZA, NEW YORK 20, NEW YORK=

LEWIS L STRAUSS= ..

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

March 1, 1951

Dear Mr. Strauss:

Enclosed is the best photograph  
of Dr. Gödel that we could find. I hope it  
is satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,

Katherine Russell,  
Secretary to the Director

Mr. Lewis L. Strauss  
Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, N. Y.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

February 28, 1951

Dear Mr. Strauss:

I am sending you herewith Dr.  
Oppenheimer's remarks on Professor Julian  
Schwinger.

As soon as I have been able to  
locate a picture of Dr. Gödel, I will send  
it along at once. I think I will have it  
early tomorrow morning.

Sincerely yours,

Katherine Russell,  
Secretary to the Direc

Mr. Lewis L. Strauss  
Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, N. Y.



Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York 20, N. Y.

February 23, 1951

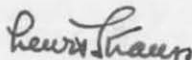
Mrs. Russell  
Secretary to Dr. J.R. Oppenheimer  
The Institute for Advanced Study  
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mrs. Russell:

With reference to the material which is being prepared here in connection with the presentation of the prizes to Gödel and Schwinger, it will be desirable to have photographs of the medalists for the initial announcement.

I understand Dr. Gödel is in the hospital and so it occurred to me you might be so kind as to obtain a photograph from Mrs. Gödel and send it to me here. I will write to Dr. Schwinger directly.

Sincerely yours



Lewis L. Strauss

LLS:JM

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

I have gotten the following informal information in my talk with Mrs. Goeller, Nelson Rockefeller's secretary.

Strauss has included Faculty in Historical Studies, and asked if there were any others he was missing. I mentioned Professors Emeriti, but leaving that entirely up to Strauss. I have sent a staff and members list to Mrs. Goeller. She plans to come down to Princeton in the near future to visit the Inn on arrangements and our office. The menu stands pretty much the same as Miss Little suggested, with special diet provided for Professor Einstein. Strauss prefers to start with a thin soup and thinks lamb chops okay. He has suggested ice cream for dessert, and I asked Mrs. Goeller to make the cheese tray available. A night letter is going out by Wednesday night the latest in the form of an invitation, including wives.

February 26, 1951

Dear Mrs. Goeller:

Enclosed is a copy of our staff and members list, which I hope will be of help to you.

I have checked with Princeton University, and can tell you that Hamilton, Taylor and Lefschetz are married and their wives are in Princeton. Our Professor Weyl's wife is also still in Princeton.

Home addresses: Donald R. Hamilton, Snowden Lane, Princeton, N. J.  
Dean H. S. Taylor, Wymann House, Princeton, N. J.  
S. Lefschetz, 129 Broadmead, Princeton, N. J.

We will look forward to your visit, and to whatever help we can give you.

Sincerely yours,

Katherine Russell,  
Secretary to the Director

Mrs. Frank Goeller  
Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, N. Y.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

February 23, 1951

Dear Mr. Strauss:

Dr. Oppenheimer has asked me to send you the enclosed information on Professors Schwinger and Gödel. Professor Veblen has today sent you a note that he has written about Professor Gödel.

Sincerely yours,

Katherine Russell,

Mr. Lewis L. Strauss  
Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, N. Y.

*See  
Gödel  
Gödel / Schwinger*

834 5th Ave

30 Rockefeller Plaza

New York 20, N. Y.

Room 5600

February 7, 1951

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

Dear Robert:

I had rather hoped that the first award might be to Dr. Einstein himself--for which there are distinguished precedents-- but I have no doubt that the decision of the Committee on the Award is a sound one and that Dr. Schwinger should be the first recipient.

March 14, I believe, is Dr. Einstein's birthday, which would be an appropriate occasion for presenting the award but I suppose there is no particular reason for attaching it to any set date. Where do you suggest that the presentation be made--in Princeton, New York, Washington, or Philadelphia? I mention the last as it might be arranged to have it take place in the premises of the American Philosophical Society, which is an honored milieu for such events. Of course, Princeton and New York, in that order, would probably be more convenient for Dr. Einstein, and I would certainly hope he would attend.

Should it be a luncheon or a dinner? How many should be asked to attend and who? These are all questions I should like to discuss with you. We have a scheduled meeting of the Executive Committee of the Institute on the twentieth but I think that is too far off to postpone consideration if the presentation is to be made in March. *Therefore I shall try to reach you on the telephone after you receive this.*

Is the selection of Dr. Schwinger sufficiently definite so I can have the engravers proceed with the reverse of the medal? I assume you have taken the necessary steps to ascertain that Dr. Schwinger is willing to accept the award and will assist us in honoring Dr. Einstein in the manner in which we conclude to present it.

Faithfully yours

*Reuven*

Lewis L. Strauss

LLS:JM

List called in and questions asked of Strauss' Secretary. I did not talk to him since it was inconvenient to disturb him. Miss Molleson told me that he is leaving tonight for Washington.

On the list, the only Scheffer or like name listed at Harvard is H. M. Sheffer in Philosophy. Is this the right man?

yes



THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Invitation List

President James B. Conant, Harvard University  
Professor Otto Oldenberg, Harvard University  
President Harold W. Dodds, Princeton University  
Dean Hugh S. Taylor, Graduate College, Princeton University  
Professor D. R. Hamilton, Princeton University  
Professor E. P. Wigner, Princeton University  
Professor I. I. Rabi, Columbia University  
Professor Hermann Weyl, Institute for Advanced Study  
Professor Albert Einstein, Institute for Advanced Study  
Professor John von Neumann, Institute for Advanced Study  
Professor Marston Morse, Institute for Advanced Study  
Professor Carl L. Siegel, Institute for Advanced Study  
President Lee A. DuBridge, California Institute of Technology  
President Detlev W. Bronk, Johns Hopkins University  
Professor Henry D. Smyth, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Director Robert Oppenheimer, Institute for Advanced Study  
Professor Oswald Veblen, Institute for Advanced Study  
Professor Percy Bridgman, Harvard University  
Professor Hideki Yukawa, Columbia University  
Professor Alonzo Church, Princeton University  
Professor S. Lefschetz, Princeton University  
Professor Willard Quine, Harvard University  
Professor H. M. Sheffer, Harvard University  
Professor Abraham Pais, Institute for Advanced Study  
Professor Atle Selberg, Institute for Advanced Study  
Professor Deane Montgomery, Institute for Advanced Study

Copy to Professor Einstein  
Prof. von Neumann  
Professor Weyl

February 15, 1951

Dear Mr. Strauss:

This is the formal notification of the recommendations of the Committee designated by the School of Mathematics of the Institute for Advanced Study to make recommendations on candidates for the Einstein Award. The Committee has been persuaded of the superlative qualifications of two candidates, a mathematical physicist, Professor Julian Schwinger of Harvard University, a mathematical logician, Professor Kurt Godel, Member of the Institute for Advanced Study. The Committee believes that under the circumstances, the first Einstein Award should be made to both candidates, and so recommends to you. From our many discussions, the Committee has understood that this procedure is acceptable to you.

Yours sincerely,

---

Albert Einstein

---

Robert Oppenheimer

---

John von Neumann

---

Hermann Weyl

Mr. Lewis L. Strauss  
Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, N. Y.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Miss Little of the Inn has suggested the following  
menu for the lunch

Tomato juice cocktail  
or fresh fruit compote

Thin soup

Lamb Chops

with Julienne potatoes

Green vegetable

Tossed salad

Dessert: Ice cream parfait and

they will pass the cheese tray

Coffee

Copy to Prof. Einstein  
Prof. von Neumann  
Prof. Weyl

*Einstein Prize*

January 25, 1951

Dear Lewis:

As you know, the Faculty of the School of Mathematics set up a committee to consider the merits of candidates for the Einstein award. This committee at present consists of Einstein himself, Hermann Weyl, John von Neumann and the Director.

We have considered possible candidates during the past months, and have reached a conclusion which I am now transmitting to you. The conclusion is that the award can properly now be made to a suitable candidate, and that our choice is Julian Schwinger, Professor of Physics at Harvard. In making this selection, the committee had in mind the appropriateness of naming as the first recipient a man whose field of work was close to that in which Einstein made his great contributions. Nevertheless, no mathematician, nor physical scientist who has recently made outstandingly great contributions has been rejected by the committee on this ground.

As you know, Schwinger has had a brilliant career in various branches of theoretical physics: in nuclear physics, in microwave problems, in the theory of mesons, and more recently in creating a consistent and at least very largely correct quantum electrodynamics on the basis of the foundations laid many years ago. When the time comes, I am sure that we will be able to write a satisfactory citation of whatever length seems to you appropriate. Schwinger's work is universally recognized among physicists. It is not the kind that attracts the newspapers and the ladies' clubs; but for intellectual distinction, for taste, and for achievement, it rates an A+. Schwinger is the youngest professor ever to be named at Harvard; he is a member of the National Academy of Sciences; and if there is anything to be said against him, it could only be that he likes to sleep late. He is married and has no children. I hope that one of these days he will come as a Professor to the Institute.

Cordially,

Robert Oppenheimer

Mr. Lewis L. Strauss  
Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, N. Y.

7  
Einstein Prize

January 22, 1951

Memorandum to Professor Einstein  
Professor von Neumann  
Professor Weyl

Early in this year we discussed possible candidates for the award of the Einstein Prize. From the subsequent discussion, I gather that Schwinger's work made a good impression. May I now ask which of the following courses you recommend:

- (1) That we nominate Schwinger for the Prize;
- (2) That we nominate some other candidate or candidates for the Prize;
- (3) That we advise that there is no suitable candidate for the Prize.

We can easily hold a meeting if we are not in complete agreement on the course to follow.

Robert Oppenheimer



October 11, 1950

Dear Lewis:

Thank you for your good note of September 28th. I am both grateful and happy that it has gone so well with the Einstein medal. You may remember that when we first discussed this, the Faculty of the School of Mathematics designated a committee--Einstein, Oppenheimer, von Neumann, Weyl--to consider candidates for the award. I think this is a good committee; and if it seems reasonable to you, as it does to me, I shall convene it in early November to begin our deliberations. I like your idea of making the first award next March; and if we have a candidate who is in all respects worthy, we will come up with a name well in advance.

Cordially,

Mr. Lewis L. Strauss  
Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York 20, N. Y.

Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York 20, N. Y.

28 September 1950

Dear Robert:

The sculptor, engraver, and die makers have completed the Einstein Medal, and it is a dignified and artistic object. I am assuming that the first award, together with \$15,000, will be made on Dr. Einstein's birthday next March. My understanding is that the faculty of the Institute will constitute a Board of Award and that you will inform me in due course of its recommendation in order that the name to be placed upon the Medal may be turned over to the die makers, etc.

Faithfully yours,

Lewis

Lewis L. Strauss

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



THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

On the occasion of the Seventieth Birthday of Albert Einstein, the trustees of the Lewis and Rosa Strauss Memorial Fund have established The Einstein Award to be administered by the Institute for Advanced Study, it was announced today by the Director. It is contemplated that a prize of \$15,000 will be awarded every three years to a scientist who has made an outstanding contribution to knowledge in the mathematical and physical sciences.

Released to the Press  
Monday, March 14, 1949

UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

11 March 1949

Dear Robert:

I am leaving here tomorrow for a vacation which I must take now or not at all. Accordingly, I will not be in Princeton, as I had hoped, on the occasion of the celebration of Dr. Einstein's seventieth birthday. If you wish to make any announcement concerning the award, I shall be perfectly content to have you do it. My present feeling is that a five-year interval between the awards is too long, and I am leaning to a biennial or triennial award which, in the first case, would be \$10,000 and in the second, \$15,000.

It is my thought that you might issue a statement somewhat to the effect that

"Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, Director of the Institute for Advanced Study, announced today on the occasion of the seventieth birthday of Dr. Albert Einstein that the trustees of the Lewis and Rosa Strauss Memorial Fund were establishing the Albert Einstein Award. A medal and an award of \$10,000 will be awarded (biennially) (triennially) to the scientist who, in the judgement of a committee of the faculties of Physics and Mathematics at the Institute for Advanced Study, has made the outstanding contribution to knowledge during the period."

by the IAS

in the field of Math & Physics

Faithfully yours,

Lewis

Lewis L. Strauss

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