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京都大学基礎物理学研究所 湯川記念館史料室

May 1, 1952

Professor N. F. Mott
H. H. Wills Physical Laboratory,
University of Bristol,
Royal Fort, Bristol 8,
England.

Masao Kotani
Department of Physics,
Faculty of Science,
University of Tokyo,
Tokyo, Japan.

Dear Professor Mott,

It was with complete surprise and deep grief that I heard yesterday the news of the passing of Professor H. A. Kramers. It was to him that I first asked the opinion about our project of holding an international colloquium on theoretical physics in Japan. His name and yours have always been on the top of our invitation list, and we have been eagerly looking forward to receiving him here in Tokyo in September 1953. All these expectations have been suddenly crossed. I cannot help expressing my grief, and I offer my deepest condolences on the passing of our late Retiring President.

Thank you very much for your kind advices which you gave me in your letter of April 9th and through Mr. Toru Hagiwara of our Overseas Agency at Paris.

In my letter to you of March 22 I wrote that we should be able to invite about thirty physicists as our most important guests, for whom we would provide their living and travelling expenses inside Japan. At present, however, the prospects are that we shall be able to increase the number of our guests to forty, including the members of the executive committee.

As to the schedule of the conference and the subjects of discussion several plans have been considered. Taking your suggestion into account, the following plan appears attractive to us (although the schedule has to be fixed in successive approximation, simultaneously with the names of our guests):

Masao Kotani
Department of Physics,
University of Tokyo,
Tokyo, Japan.



VIA AIR MAIL

Professor H. Yukawa,
501 West 121 Street,
New York 27, N. Y.,
U. S. A.

PAR AVION
航空郵便

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	Field Theory & Theory of Elementary Particles	Statistical Mechanics & Quantum Theory of Matter
Sept. 14	Members will meet at Tokyo.	Reception.
15	Tokyo to Kyoto	
16	Opening Session (9.00 - 12.00) Meeting of the Executive Committee (afternoon)	
17	Sessions (Field Theory in General)	Sessions (Molecules, Polymers)
18	" (Quantum Electrodyn.)	" (Magnetism, Dielectrics)
19	" (Meson)	free
20	Sunday Excursion	
21	" (Cosmic Ray, Nucleus)	free (morning) Session (Phase Transition)
22	free	Sessions (Quantum statistics, Superfluid)
23	free	" (Irreversible process, Transport phenomena)
24	Closing Session	

Small informal gatherings on a free talking basis, might be held on the days marked "free".

If symposia of 2 or 3 days on special subjects, e.g. on magnetism, semi-conductors, etc., are desirable, I have the idea of holding them before the main sessions, in Tokyo or in some cooler region, say, a mountain summer resort, in Japan.

The names of European (& Indian) physicists, to whom we should like to give our greatest preference as our invited guests, are as follows:

H. J. Bhabha,	J. de Boer,	N. Bohr,	W. Heisenberg,
N. F. Mott,	L. Neel,	W. Pauli,	A. B. Peierls,
J. Prigogine,	E. Rosenfeld.		

The names in the next list are of those whose participation is also warmly desired, but whom we have been unable to include in the first list, owing to the limitation of the total number of guests:

S. N. Bose, C. A. Coulson, H. Fröhlich
C. J. Gorter, H. S. Green, L. Landau,
F. Perrin, J. Yvon.

Younger physicists, such as mentioned in your letter, are very welcome indeed; but since we are not quite well acquainted with their works, we should like to leave to you the selection of participants to our colloquium. Besides, we desire to accord the following twenty American physicists our highest preference as guests to be invited:

(Field Theory) H. A. Bethe, F. J. Dyson, E. Fermi,
R. P. Feynman, R. E. Marshak, J. R. Oppenheimer,
I. I. Rabi, J. Schwinger, R. Serber, J. A. Wheeler.

(Statistical Mechanics & Quantum Theory of Matter)
N. Bloembergen, F. Bloch, P. Debye or P. J. Flory,
J. G. Kirkwood, F. London, J. Mayer, R. S. Mulliken,
L. Onsager, J. C. Slater, J. H. Van Vleck.

Of course these lists are subject to change, according to the opinions of you and Prof. Slater, and also to convenience of the persons concerned. Even on our side the names and the schedule have not yet been finally approved by our national committee.

The next meeting of our national committee will be held probably on May fifteenth, after which I hope to be able to let you know of our plans more formally and definitely. We should of course be very happy if you would proceed, without waiting further communication from us, with contacting the individual scientists in our list whom you agree with us as to their desirability.

With my very best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely

Masao Kotani

COPY

April 28, 1952

Professor J. C. Slater
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology,
Cambridge, Mass.,
U. S. A.

Masao Kotani
Department of Physics,
Faculty of Science,
University of Tokyo,
Tokyo, Japan.

Dear Professor Slater,

Professor N. F. Mott has advised us in his recent letter to send you a list of American physicists whom we should like to have at our Kyoto conference of September 1953, and to request your favour of contacting the individual persons to ask their convenience of attending the conference. Further, I have learnt through the copy of a letter of Prof. Wheeler to Dr. Auger, which the former has kindly sent to me, that a meeting of the United States national committee will be held on May third, so that I think I had better to show you the list of our guests of whom the participation is eagerly desired by us, as well as our provisional programme, although they are not yet formally approved by our national committee.

In my letter of March 1 to Professor Wheeler I wrote that we should be able to invite about thirty physicists as our most important guests, of whom about the half are expected from America. At present, however, we expect that we shall be able to increase the number of our guests to forty, including the members of the executive committee. Under these circumstances we sincerely hope to have the pleasure of inviting twenty physicists from America as our guests, expecting that their travel expenses from America to Japan will be provided by NSF or other sources in the United States. Their hotel and travel expenses inside Japan will be supplied by Japanese sources.

Our (provisional) list of twenty American physicists whom we give our greatest preference in inviting as guests, is as follows

(Field Theory) H. A. Bethe, F. J. Dyson, E. Fermi,
R. P. Feynman, R. E. Marshak, J. R. Oppenheimer,
I. I. Rabi, J. Schwinger, R. Serber, J. A. Wheeler

(Statistical Mechanics & Quantum Theory of Matter)
N. Bloembergen, F. Bloch, P. Debye or P. Flory,
J. G. Kirkwood, F. London, J. Mayer, R. S. Mulliken,
L. Onsager, J. C. Slater, J. H. Van Vleck

Further, I am going to write the following list, to Professor Mott, of our guests from Europe and India, to ask for his opinion

H. J. Bhabha, J. de Boer, N. Bohr, W. Heisenberg,
H. A. Kramers, N. F. Mott, L. Neel, W. Paulie,
A. B. Peierls, J. Prigogine, E. Rosenfeld

As to the schedule of the confernece, several plans
have been discussed. One of them, which appears attrac-
tive to us, is as follows:

	Field Theory & Theory of Elementary Particles	Statistical Mechanics Quantum Theory of Matter
Sept. 14	Members will meet at Tokyo. Reception.	
15	Tokyo to Kyoto	
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18	" (Quantum Electrodyn.)	" (Magnetism, Dielectrics)
19	" (Mesons)	free
20	Sunday Excursion	
21	Sessions (Cosmic Ray, Nucleus)	free
22	free	Session (Quantumstatistics)
23	free	" (Irreversible process, Transport phenomena)
24	Closing Session	

After the conference several tour will be arranged, for
visiting universities in different Parts of Japan, as
well as for sight-seeing.

About these ideas of our on the organization of the
conference, I hope that I shall be able to hear from you
and Professor Wheeler kind advice and suggestions, which
will be highly appreciated. The next meeting of our natio-
nal committee will be held probably on May fifteenth, and
then I shall be able to write to you our plan in the next
approximation, which, I hope, will be close to the conver-
gent limit.

With my very best wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely

Masao Kotani