

Poona

30.9.34

My dear Krishnan,

I returned to Poona on the 28th after my tour. Believing that a reconciliation has been effected between the Indian Academy and ^{the} National Institute, let me congratulate you on the result. Now, what about joining the National Institute? I saw the papers only day before yesterday; except for the fact that joining so many Associations means removing big chunks of money which may be more usefully employed, I am afraid that we have to join the Nat. Institute. Even if we may not be able to do any good, we may at least be able to prevent some mischief on occasions. I cannot really see what the Academy (Nat. Inst.) wants to do in the immediate future. ~~I am sending you the form filled ⁱⁿ which you may please send over to Prof. Agarwal, if you~~

(2)

~~inside knowledge, you do not think there~~
~~is any harm in doing so~~ Personally,
I have a feeling that we should wait
till the meeting of the Indian Sc. Congress
has ratified the proposal. I am writing
to that effect to Prof. Agarkar.

Now about the Physical Society.
Its main object is obviously to run
another journal. We all honestly
know that there is not yet room in
India for another Journal of Physics.
Multiplying journals without corresponding
output would necessarily deteriorate the
quality. We cannot therefore be a party
to starting another journal of Physics.
But supposing the Physical Society
approaches you with the request that
the Indian Journal of Physics be run
as ~~at~~ the Journal of the Indian Physical
Society without change of the present name
and without superposing an editorial
Board. I dare say you will have no
objection ~~in that case~~. But one can

easily see That an Editorial Board will
 be put on and although you may
 continue to be the most active worker,
 your freedom ~~will~~ ^{will} be hampered in many
 ways. There is ^{however} the corresponding advantage
 that we may be able to concentrate
 all Indian work in the Indian Journal
 of Physics and the Proc. Ind. Academy.
 Would not ^{Mr.} Shyamra Prasad Mukherjee
 take up the cause of the Indian Journal
 of Physics and ~~work~~ ^{aspire} for its continuance
 without losing its individuality but
 absorbing other workers?

Do there any desire to appreciate the
 strength of your position and to build
 on established foundations?

With kind regards,

Yours affectionately
 X Mananathan

Pl. remember
 me to Dr. Venkatesh
 & M.S.K.

DR. K. R. RAMANATHAN,
OBSERVATORY.

Poona

Dated 26.1.1935

My dear Krishnan,

You remember your
at Bangalore
passing over to me, Swaminji's Com-
mission for a report on the progress
of Physics. I have somehow managed
to make up one and am sending
it to you for criticism, additions
and ~~some~~ alterations and early
return. Please don't forget it in the
pressure of other duties. It has
been a hard task, especially
because it is about ~~cont~~ contem-
porary workers ^{in your own country} that you have to
write about. Would you kindly
see if I have omitted anything
of importance or misrepresented
anything?

Queries —

- a) Shd we mention H. E. Watson & Co's work on ~~the~~ dielectric coeffs and electric moments of molecules?
- b) Badami's work to be included where & how?
- c) Anything about N. R. Sen?
- d) Nizamiah Observatory & Bhasikara Sastri?
- e) Any ^{further} mention of names desirable in meteorological work?
- f) Peroration at the end?

~~It~~ I learnt with pleasure from Ramesh that you will stay here for a fortnight in February. Please write when you start. Kosambi enquires often

about you
Kind regards to D.S.
Venkateswara
& M.S.K.

Yours
K. M. Anantha

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

18th August 1936

My Dear Krishnayyapa,

We came here yesterday after
a couple of days' stay at Ranchi
and a very pleasant and cheering
interview with Col. Berkeley Hill
He would like to see Venkatraman ^{once}
either at Calcutta or at Ranchi
~~once~~ before he takes up active work
again.

MADE IN SWEDEN

Chandrasekhar left for Madras
last night. I had a few pleasant
hours with him yesterday. He is
going to spend 3 or 4 days at
Calcutta and another 3 or 4 days at
Nagpur. I understand that both
the Cambridge people (Bernal
& Co) and the Royal Inst. people
(Sidw. Bragg.)

would be glad to have you with
them for courses of lectures. Dr.
Chandrasekhar will no doubt
discuss the whole thing with you
when you meet. It is heartening
to hear of the enthusiasm which
your work has evoked in distant
places.

I hope to see more of Chandra-
sekhar when he comes back
here in October

With kind regards to
Venkateswaran & yourself

Yours affectionately

R Ramanathan

How is the
Hospital? ; hope.
All o.k.,

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

18/10/36

My dear Krishnan,

I handed over
your telegram to Chandra-
sekhar D. & Mrs Chandra-
sekhar left yesterday ~~morning~~
morning by 'Conte Rossa' I am
looking forward to the time
when they will be back in
India

Chandrasekhar must
have written to you about
Professor's visit to Simla.
We cannot say anything
more than that he has
been able to present his
case. It is not possible
even to guess the result.

The Registrar of the University
does not anticipate any
difficulty about the
registration of a non-Bombay
B.Sc for the M.Sc of
this University.

Please let me know
if you hear from Cambridge
or Roy. Inst.

Yours affectionately
K R Ramanathan

Extracts from Ramoo's letter.

"~~The~~ Today there is an advertisement in the Statesman . . . for the post of a Research Asst for Melaiology (Microbiology) in the All-India Institute of Hygiene, Calcutta on a salary of 150-250. . . . etc.

You know that my present post is only for another year & a half and after that I may have to revert to my old post. Our scheme is up to 1942 for the present, and even if it becomes permanent, I am afraid I may have to start again on Rs 100/- There is also not much scope for work under my boss. Considering all this I think it is better I get into some permanent job as early as possible."

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE
ROBINSON

MANITAMA
OFFICE
METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

Reason

likelihood of a post in Entomology -
in the ~~the~~ Inst. 150-250. Permanent: class
of under his. Entom. ^{Knowledge of} medical insects of med.
importance:

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

1/11/36

My dear Krishnarajamgar,

I was very glad to receive your letter and see that as expected, you have had an enthusiastic reply from Lord Rutherford. Please drop a line when you hear from Sir W. Bragg.

I shall meet D^r. M. S. Krishnan when he arrives. He ^{has} also written to me from Berlin after he knew from you that I was here.

How about Narayanaswami? There won't be any difficulty about the Bombay University. I have again written to Ramesh.

Have you any idea of going to Hyderabad this year? D^r. Mahadevan

expects us all there. In view
of your European trip, you may
have to conserve your resources,
but if you do come, we
shall of course all be happy.

Yours affectionately
K R Ramanathan

The quantity bus is all
right. How much did you
pay for it? Could you
send me the bill? I can
buy it for myself if
as you say, the cost is
~~small~~ not large.
Kind regards
Venkateshwar

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

9/12/36

My dear Krishnarajapuram,

Your letter of 1st 3rd

It would certainly be good if we could
run up to Bangalore. I am coming
to Hyderabad - Shall we go to Bangalore
before or after the Sc. Congress? Perhaps after
the Sc. Congress, we may lose the benefit
of the concessions. My only idea was —
I would like to run up for a day or
two to Salem for Bangalore if that is
possible. Anyhow, that need not worry
us and if you think that before January
is better, we shall go as you have proposed.

Please drop a line as to your final
decision

Koambi says that T.V. was to
sail for San Francisco on 18.12.36. Any

news? Is he coming to Bombay or
direct to Calcutta?

With kindest regards,

Yours affectionately

K. Mamanathan

Any news from Chandrasekhar?

When do you go home to have
your wife & children? Or do they
remain at Calcutta? Perhaps so
as Thiruvadi is there.

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

20. 12. 36

My dear Krishnaiyengar,

Your letter of 17/12/36.

I agree that we may decide
about going to Bangalore
after we meet at Hyderabad.
Perhaps it is as well to go.
You might ^{have} seen the report
of a Gymkhana meeting
in which there was a row
apparently created by Chakra-
deo and Co. May be this is
a really minor affair but
may be utilised by interested
people.

T. P. Bhaskara Sastri had
written asking me to stay with

him, Perhaps he has written
to you also. I wrote back
saying that Mahadevan had
also written, that we wd
all be going and place
ourselves entirely at their
disposal.

Yours affectionately

K. Ramanathan

Any news for Vij?

I suppose Dr. M. S. K. will
be coming to Hyderabad.

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

25th Dec 1936

My dear Krishnan,

Your letter. By the
time this reaches you, you would have
seen Nature's article on the Institute
Not unnaturally, Nature has repeated
the Irvine report. It is a pity that
Professor's reply to the report was not
published. I do not know what stood
in the way of its publication. Those who
~~are~~ have been running down Professor
~~to~~ are having their hearts' content. I
hope that this is the last of the
attacks and that his reputation will yet
emerge untarnished when this temp. smoke-
cloud passes away. Rest in person at
Hyderabad.

Yours affectionately
K. Ramanathan

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

12/2/37

My dear Krishnairangar,

I had been to the
shops in Bombay likely to have
suitable articles for presentation.
I found that the Mysore Emporium
has a few good things in
Sandalwood or rosewood + ivory.
When you come, we can
select. The Travancore Emporium
or other places have not any
good things. I shall be glad
to know when Rao Bahadur
Venkateswami has to say.

If Professor presides over
the Phys & Maths Section, it
is good you take up the

Recorder's work.

Hope to meet you
on the 19th at V. T.

Col. G. D. of the London
Met. Office is also travelling
with his wife & daughter on
the same boat. He is a
nice and knowing fellow
& will perhaps make good
company in the boat.

Yours affly,

K. Ramaswami

Are you going to talk
before Mata Prasad's
Society on the 19th?

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

5/3/37

My dear Krishnangungar,

Your letter of 23/2/37 written from the boat. I received the acknowledgment from Mr. Venkatesachar in due time. You will be sorry to learn that Ramdas's father Dewan Bahadur L. K. A. Aiyer passed away suddenly a few days ago owing to heart failure. Ramdas is now at Palghat.

I had a letter from Rao Bahadur Venkathraman in which he says that although he went to Banpalou, he could not induce Professor to accept the Presidency of the Maths & Physics Section next year.

(2)

I do not know what later events have caused this - Anyhow, if Professor is out of the picture, I wonder if you would care to remain Recorder. Please do what is needful

I am glad that you had good company on board the ship by the time ~~the~~ this letter reaches you, you must have met Mrs Londdale and the Royal Institution people. I do hope that you are having a really enjoyable and instructive time. Please send a letter at your convenience

Yours affectionately
K R Ramanathan

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

25/3/37

My dear Krishnan,

Very glad to receive
your letter of the 3rd March
I hope that by this time,
you have breathed more of
the British air, seen and
made friends with more
people and given a few lectures
at the Royal Institution and
in Cambridge. Please do write
about your experiences.

Dr. Royds has left India
for good and they will soon
advertise for an Asst. Director
for Kodai, Dr. A. L. N. being
Director. I think that Dr.
Chandrasekhar should apply
and I am writing him
accordingly.

I think I wrote to you in
my last letter about the
passing away of Raman's
father. Active young man
throughout his life!

My father also is gradually
getting weaker.

Have you heard anything
about the prospective visitor's
studies for the Encyclopaedia
Science Congress?

Yours affectionately

K Ramanathan

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

1574/37

My dear Krishnan,

I haven't heard from you
for ~~some~~ long. I hope you are having
a really good time. Please do write
about how they received your calls.

About 20 days ago, my father
passed away and I have been rather
busy with the rites.

D^r. R^d has retired and D^r
at Kodai.
Narayana has been appointed Director.
The P. Services Commission have advertised
for the place of Asst. Director. As I
wrote before, I think that Chandrasella
should apply. I am writing to him.

I have not yet had an oppor-
tunity of meeting Professor again. I
understand that he has reversed his

Connection with the Science Congress.

Yours affectionately

K. M. Manathan

At what stage is your part V?
Sent in?

You must be hearing about ^{the} political situation in India. C. R. is fighting quiet.

16/4/37

I have since received your letter of ~~16/4/37~~ 30/3/37 and am glad that you are enjoying your ^{stay in Europe} ^{desirability} of it. I shall write to you about "Bonus writing to Natives" KM

No.

Colaba Observatory, Bombay,

9 - 7 - 379 .

My dear Krishnan,

I am sending herewith an application for Mr. Kamath who is desirous of working under you. He is an M. Sc of Bombay and has worked under Dr. S. K. Banerji on atmospheric electricity. From what I have seen of him, he is enthusiastic and energetic. I cannot say ~~anything~~ ^{anything} about his knowledge, as ~~I know so little of him~~. The great point ^{is}, he does not require any scholarship, for he will be getting one for here. If, considering the position there, you can take him as a Research Student, I believe that he will turn out to be fairly good. His ambition is to work for Ph. D of Bombay.

If he can't secure admission
there, he wants to join the Royal
Institute to work on Spectroscopy.

The latest date for applying here is
21. 7. 37. So please reply ^{yes or no.} in time.

The reply may be addressed to
Mr Kamath or myself.

Hope you had a good journey
and everything is OK at Calcutta.

You must have seen that
Nagendranath has been given an
Empire Exhibit Scholarship for work
in Britain.

I understand that Anantha.
Krishnan has been appointed as an
Asst. Met. in our Department.

Yours affectionately
K R Ramaswami

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

While at Poona, Prof. Kosambi
was speaking to me about the
possibility of your going to Allahabad.
For the time being, I understand
that Saligram Bhargava has been
appointed. ~~But~~ With the present-day
provincial tendencies, it is possible
that Dr. Kothari may be selected
for the Chair after Dr. Bhargava -
But do you know anything about
the matter & what are your
chances and ~~inclinations~~ inclinations?

KR

III

Copy of letter from Dr. Ramanathan to Professor,
dated Poona 27. 2. '38.

My dear Professor,

I came up to Poona yesterday and Ramdas, Sreenivasappa and myself have very carefully gone through all the papers. It is very clear that the Council of the Institute, guided by a few members have done you a great injustice without thinking about the future of the Institute; at what is really good for the future of the Institute; at the same time, it must be admitted that the printed records show some kind of consistency on their side and it seems to us that making references to them in public would not be helpful to our cause. There are two questions to be considered.

(1) What should be your future plan of action.
and (2) What should be done by your real well-wishers in order to counteract the systematic propaganda that has been and is going on against you.

It is difficult to offer advice to one who has made us all, but in a crisis like this, I hope you will kindly pardon us if we express our thoughts. It seems to us necessary that your actions should show the fearless sacrifice and independence characteristic of your career. We know that the main consideration which has weighed with you when you accepted the present unsatisfactory position was your desire to continue to work in Physics in a place which you had created with such effort and against such great odds, but if you find that you cannot work there in mental peace and with dignity, it is essential that you should give up the place on some question of fundamental policy regarding the study of Physics in the Institute. A question on which you may perhaps make such a decision will be the so-called re-organisation of the Physics Department. If the shift of the laboratory to the work-shop shed is

insisted on and it is clear that you cannot expect
 no fair play, it would be necessary to resign the
 present position in protest, making quite clear
 the circumstances leading to your resignation and
 stating clearly how you desire to continue your work
 in Physics made you accept conditions which in
 your heart you really knew to be unfair and
 degrading. It is important that during the
 discussions that are likely to arise on this question
 you should keep yourself perfectly calm and take
 care not to commit any minor technical faults
 which your enemies will be sure to use against
 you. There is no need to say that the crisis
 should not be precipitated in such a way as
 to create any difficulty or delay in securing
 your due allowances and leave.

Regarding the question of
 counter-propaganda ~~on similar lines to this~~
 it seems to me that propaganda on similar
 lines to this will only fan the flames of
 controversy and defeat the our main object,
 viz, undoing the ~~bad~~ injury that has been
 done to your great name. We think that you
 should cease to take a personal interest in
 the Institute if the Institute does not give you
 respect. A dignified exit with the avowed object
 of working unhampered in a wholesome atmosphere
 will make a great popular appeal and do much
 more good to your cause than any partisan
 propaganda by others. Some sort of gesture showing
 a bold indifference to financial considerations is
 essential in the present state of public opinion
 in the country.

If you give up the present plan

there is the question whether you should go out of the Country or remain in India. In our opinion, the better course will be to start a new Institute. This is certainly necessary at some stage if South India is to go forward in Science. The financial outlook will have to be on Congress lines; this cannot be helped for some years. If you will only give the lead, we your students are ready to do all we can to forward the Cause. We may have to start ~~it~~ in a humble way, but an Institute started on idealistic lines under your inspiring guidance is sure to gain strength from day to day and endure as a monument of your good work for the Cause of Indian Science.

If you still think that propaganda is essential we shall gladly come up to Bangalore to consider in what way this can be done in a really effective manner.

Yours affly

Sd. R-R-R

Confidential

Bombay

8.3.38

My dear Krishnan,

The enclosed letters from Ramdas are self-explanatory - The draft letter which Mr Paramaswami has sent to Ramdas is not to my liking. It is difficult for many students of Professor to sign a public letter which is in very questionable taste and ~~whose only~~ ^{main} effect will be to raise a huge storm of criticism which contains statements which cannot be supported by ^{known} facts. Insinuation will cut no ice; ~~except~~ it will only discredit the writers - Moreover, it wouldn't do us any good if some of Professor's students get into trouble on their own account.

I am not sure if Professor will send any reply to my letter from Poona. As far as I understand the position, nothing has been fixed up about the Continental affair. and Professor is now in an unsettled frame of mind. My father's anniversary is coming on the 17th March; otherwise, I would run up

(2)

to Bangalore.

Anyhow, it is good that you know the position. Please write if either of you think that anything useful can ^{or should} be done now.

Yours affly

K R Ramanathan

Bombay

29. 5. 38

My dear Krishnan,

You must have been expecting to hear something more from me about what we did with the draft. As you must have seen, we did not publish anything in the papers. We sent a modified copy of it signed by Mahajan, Prof Kumar, ~~Dr~~ Bhejavantam & Ramamathi to the Council of the Institute for consideration. I am not certain of the wisdom of our action, but the draft was not such that it can do any harm. If you are ^{not} too busy and if you can afford to take a short holiday, I would ask you to come up here — say next week. Bhejavantam says he is free now & will be free till 15/6/38. We shall consider if we can do something to show that there are still people in the country who have a high regard for Professor — perhaps start the nucleus of a fund for an

Institute and offer it to him as a birthday
on his 50th birthday. I feel we ought
to do something to cheer him up & make
him get back some of his old enthusiasm.
Kindly let me know if you can come.
Below is Bhagwantan's address -

Yours affectionately
K. Ananthan

S. Bhagwantan
near Theosophical Lodge
Arendelpet
Sunkur

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

4/8/38

My dear Kishore,

I have not written to you for long. You might have heard from Bhagavantam that I had been to Bangalore on my way back from the South and that he also had been there for three days. Dr. Taylor ~~had~~ has sent in his report about the possibility of shifting the Phys. Lab. and Professor is appa-

rently very dissatisfied with it. Taylor ~~had~~ had suggested making alterations in the Phys. Lab. costing about Rs. 35,000. I have no information as to what the Council did on this question at their last meeting. Perhaps nothing -

I had been to Poona ^{last week} for the
meeting of the Nat. Inst. & the Depart-
mental Conference - Mr. Bhaskara Sastri
had also come there. He has promised
Rs 500/- for the proposed Institute.

You must have received the
Circular letter which I sent out
some time ago asking for Contributions
to a symposium on the Nature of
the liquid state. Kindly send
me the title of the subject you
will speak on. I have to give
the Secretaries some information
by the beginning of September.

Yours affectionately
R Ramanathan

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

26/8/38

My dear Krishnan,

receiving your letter of 9/8/38.

I think I shall be able
to write a popular article
on the ~~Night~~ Light for the
Night Sky and Polar Areas
for Fr. Sequeira's journal;
I shall try to do it next
month.

I heard from Bangalore —
did I write to you about it?
that the question of ~~deciding~~
the shift ^{of the} Physics ^{laboratories} ~~dept~~
has been postponed for consideration
~~at~~ at the next Council meeting
in December and that in
the meantime, the Regr

is 5ft - fresh estimates
regarding the carrying out
of Prof Taylor's suggestion
of altering the workshop
so as to make it suitable
for a Lab and the alter-
native suggestion of Prof.
Venkatesachar — whatever it
is.

Yours affectionately
K. Ramanathan

P. S.

Do you wish me to
propose your name for the
Ex. Committee of the Sc. Campus?
If so, I shall do so & get it
recorded. Or, any other
name?

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

3/10/38

My dear Krishnan,
News has trickled down

that you have changed your residence
from Bowbazar (Premchand Bungal St) to
South Calcutta and that you recently
suffered ~~some~~ loss of some jewellery by
burglary. How much was the loss
and has ^{any} part of it been recovered?

The National Institute show represented
by the President and the smiling
Secretary came here, enquired and
maintained

Dr. R. S. Krishnan was here on his
way to England. I understand that
for the time being, there is some
respite ~~at~~ in the ^{machinations} about
the laboratory, ^{at Bangalore,} but trouble is brewing

regarding publications. It appears that
the Senate ^{wants that they} should ^{individually} pass
the papers for publication.

I am sorry that I have not yet
written the article for your friend
I shall do so before long.

How about your paper (or title
of talk) for discussion in the
Science Congress? Wheeler had
promised to speak, but I understand
that he is leaving India for good
(as the Congress Govt requires to pay
him more than Rs 500 or 1000) - if
you and Bhagavantam default, I
shall have to give up the discussion.
Please do let me have a title and
a short abstract.

How are the children? Much
worried about the loss of jewellery?

I hope that your work is
going on satisfactorily.

Yours affectionately
K. Ramanathan

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Observatory,
Colaba, Bombay.

11-10-38

My dear Krishnan,

Your letter from Naptur
dated the 9th - I heard yesterday
that I have been transferred to
Pune ~~that I have to be there~~
~~within a week~~. I hope to be ^{there} ~~at~~
~~from~~ on the ~~15th~~ 17th. They have
created three new posts of Superintending
Meteorologists and have appointed
Dr. S. K. Banerji, Mr. Chatterji and
myself to the new posts. That means
we absorb a little more of the
taxpayer's money.

If you can manage it, please
send me immediately abstracts
of your papers for the general section.
The abstract for the symposium can

wait till you get back to
Calcutta

A good number of papers have
come in and we may have
a fairly busy time at Lahore.

With kind regards,

Yours affectionately

X Ramanathan

K. R. Ramanathan, D. Sc.,
Meteorologist,

Met. Office
Poona ~~Observatory,~~
~~Colaba, Bombay.~~

30. 10. 38

My dear Krishnagyan,

I was happy to receive the abstracts of the papers and notes on topics which you can take up for discussion at The Symposium - Bhagavantam wrote to me that he will speak on "The Raman Effect in Liquids and the light it throws on the nature of the Liquid State" I have not received ^{any} ~~the~~ abstracts from him but I shall remind him immediately. Dr Raman Krishna Rao said that he would talk on 'Association in Liquids' - ~~the~~ He has also so far not sent the abstracts. Wheeler had told me that he would

as
speak, but ~~since~~ he has gone out of
India, ~~there is no use worrying about~~
we have to leave him out. I have
written to Dr. A. K. Datta of the Bose
Research Institute who has been doing
some work on Ultrasonics under
Prof. Debye asking him to participate.

He has not yet replied.

Dr. H. R. Sarma of Hoshiarpur (who ~~apparently~~
worked in London under Andrade)
has sent me a paper on the "Dielectric
Constants of Certain Liquids with
special reference to dispersion at audio
frequencies" - I think that this ^{paper} may
also be included in the discussion.

Your suggestion regarding the circulation
of abstracts ^{of all the} ~~of~~ ^{gullbunt papers} to all those who will participate
in the discussion is very good and I
shall see if that can be arranged.
First of all, I have to get the abstracts
with kindest regards,
Yours affectionately
X M. Srinivasan

Poona

3-11-38

My dear Krishnan,

I enclose extract from a letter from Professor which was received yesterday - In view of the definite expression of his wish to start an Institute at Madras, we should give all the help we can and if possible, collect the amount he requires for a start. Can we present him with, say, a third of the amount promised, at the Madras meeting of the Academy on 19-12-38? You may also get subscriptions from those of our friends in Calcutta who have the fullest sympathy with the idea.

If you do make a start in this direction, kindly let me know periodically about the progress made. The promises so far come only to Rs 700/- about, I shall let you know if there is any substantial progress. We are writing to Sheshavaram also.

Yours affectionately
Kalam anathan

P. T. O

Ramos & I have talked over the possible effects
of premature ^{public} announcement of the idea - It
may jeopardize Professor's position in the Institute
It is possible that he realizes this, but for
caution's sake, I am also writing to him.

The public were informed in a statement issued by the Council of the Indian Institute of Science ^{in July 1937} that Sir C. V. Raman had relinquished his post of Director of the Institute but would continue there as Professor of Physics. The considerations which led Sir C. V. Raman to agree to accept the above position at the Institute are not fully known to the public, but ~~there is no doubt~~ ^{we are sure} that the main factors responsible for ~~this~~ ^{his} decision were his love for Physics and his reluctance to give up work in a place where ^{a good} he had built up ~~his~~ laboratory and created an active school of research in Physics against extraordinary difficulties. The rapid growth and the high quality of research in Physics at the Institute ~~have been such as to win~~ ^{have won} the admiration of the ~~whole~~ scientific world. It has also to be remembered that all this development of Physics took place when he was battling most of the time against strong and organised opposition to many of his schemes for improving the scientific status of the Institute. The forces against Sir C. V. Raman have for the time being proved too strong for him, but it was hoped that though they had succeeded in preventing him from influencing the policy of the Institute as a whole the department of Physics at any rate would be ~~saved~~. It now appears, however, that even this hope may not be realised. For ~~it~~ it has

in the face of
extraordinary
difficulties

allowed to develop
under his
inspiring
direction

been stated publicly ~~2~~ without contradiction ~~2~~ that the authorities of the Institute are contemplating shifting the Physics Department to a shed once used for housing a workshop. A good part of work in Physics is of such a nature as to require precision instruments housed in solidly built laboratories free from large variations of temperature. The present Physics Laboratory at the Institute has been set up by Sir, C.V.Raman with great care and it would be wasteful of time, ~~not~~ energy and money, to dislocate the work at this stage. More than all, such an action will naturally ~~affect~~ ^{hurt} the just sentiments of Sir C. V. Raman and ~~will save our~~ ^{savour of} vindictiveness. The authorities of the Institute will ~~be well advised~~ ^{of the situation} ~~to have a correct perspective with regard to the~~ ^{wise} ~~future of the Institute and adopt a reasonable~~ attitude. A scientific genius like Raman ^{is a unique personality} ~~appears but rarely,~~ ~~in~~ and when we have the good fortune to have him amongst us eager to do work and serve the nation, it is ~~extremely~~ ^{not only} ~~unwise~~ ^{work} to discourage or hamper him in his ~~work~~ as an investigator and teacher. We regard this question as one of national importance and would appeal to ^{all concerned} ~~the powers that~~ to see that nothing is done ^{in any way} now to hamper the scientific work of Raman.

it is hoped, take

is a unique personality

but definitely short sighted

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER DATED 31-10-38

".....
Every day, something or other is being done at this Institute to hamper me in my scientific work, and generally to prevent me from achieving my aims. How long this sort of thing will go on, whether it will ultimately result in forcing me out of the Institute is more than I can say at present. It is clear, however, that the scientific opportunities here are diminishing and that something has to be done as a set-off against this loss. The idea of an Institute at Madras with a few picked workers in it under my general guidance appeals to me very much. I would be prepared to set apart 40 grounds of land worth about Rs. 25,000/- for the purpose ~~of~~ and make a gift of my entire private library worth ~~another~~ another Rs. 25,000/- to give the Institute a start. The minimum additional capital expenditure that would be necessary is ~~Rs. 25,000~~ Rs. 25,000/- for a building and Rs. 25,000/- for initial equipment. I feel it would be well worth while making a start even on this modest basis.

With kind regards ,

Yours sincerely,

Sd. C.V.Raman.

DR. K.R.Ramanathan.

I met Dr M. S. Krishnan yesterday and I had some discussion with him. It seems you have invited Mr Satyamurti to stay with you during his forthcoming visit to Calcutta just to have an opportunity to discuss with him about the asylum, otherwise called the Indian Inst of Science. I consider it quite useful at this moment. We have been doing something to improve matters at the Institute. Failing in our attempts to get the newspapers like the Hindu to become interested in the affair, we have brought the matter to the Legislative Assembly through the kindness of one of our friends. This is the only mode of approach for the cure of many ills. So far (during the last session) questions were asked about the Institute on four days and the questions themselves as framed runs to about 30 pages. From this you can have an idea of the wealth of materials we have on hand. In addition to these we have got plenty of confidential information. We could not make use of this during the last session for various reasons. Professor knows about these, though he does not know anything about the nature of the questions. Since Mr Satyamurti and he are good friends, he was anxious that the former should not ask any questions in the Assembly, lest the Government and others should think that he is responsible for them. So Mr C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliar, President of the Tamil Nadu Congress framed all the questions and also tabled a resolution to appoint an expert committee to examine the academic matters ~~of the~~ pertaining to the Institute, to examine the various committees' reports, find out the common points of agreement and to evolve a ten year plan so as to make the Institute ~~make~~ compete successfully with the western world of Science as a producer of new knowledge. (to quote the words of the Pope Committee). When, ~~xxx~~ later, Professor came to know of the terms of the resolution he was greatly pleased and expected that something good will turn out from a resolution of that nature. ~~Unfortunately,~~
~~the resolution was not balloted~~

For the committee, we had proposed the name of 26 scientists of wide international reputation, in fact all Nobel Laureates without exception. We suggested 26 names just see that the Government does not ~~fix~~ stumble upon Irvins and Bhatnagars. Unfortunately, the resolution was not balloted on the first day (for resolution) ~~and~~ ^{or EVEN} on the second day. On the third and the last day, some five or six people of the Congress party tabled the same resolution and George Joseph balloted the same. But the first resolution for the day, namely that on the Constituent Assembly took the whole of that day and it has not been finished yet. Thus the resolution on the Institute didnot come up at all. Though the agitation started immediately after the first of June, I think that it is good that the resolution did not come up during the last session, for the simple reason that we could not make use of all the available information at our disposal.

The next session will ~~ix~~ be the most appropriate for ~~doing~~ taking a strong action. Firstly, the term of the present Council of the Institute ends by December. The Br Resident, who has been responsible for a lot of mischief, retires from December.

Before informing you what exactly must be done, I shall let you know the present ~~unpleasant~~ ~~ix~~ ~~x~~ unsatisfactory state of affairs at the Institute. All the staff ~~with~~ ~~ix~~ who really count for anything, want to see that ~~either~~ Professor is removed from the Institute or ~~curtail~~ if that is not possible, to curtail his activities. For this, the Senate has ample powers. For instance, they have passed a resolution that no student should be given apparatus and chemicals worth more than Rs150/- at a time, that no student should remain in the Institute for more than three years, that no ~~publication~~ paper should be sent abroad for publication without the permission of the Senate and that all the

papers should be published in the Institute Journal, etc. Many of the Professor's rooms have been taken away, etc. In the Senate meetings, Dr Subrahmanyam ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~is~~ (I suppose you know he called Khan Bahadur by the students and public of Bangalore in recognition of his treachery) used to start with a preamble comparing the status of Senate Meetings before July 19, 1937 with the status now, just to insult and humiliate Professor. Once Ashton (Elec. Tech) declared that he had lost the trend of the discussions, but that he was pledged to vote with Khan Bahadur. Another occasion, he was so ~~provocative~~ provocative that the Registrar asked him to withdraw some of his remarks. On his failure to do so and on his insisting that he " must call a spade a spade ; the Registrar burst out, " You are not calling a spade a spade. On the other hand, you are calling a spade a bloody shovel ." On a number of occasions, the Registrar has pulled him. He treats all these hooligans with contempt and he never sees them himself in their ~~rooms~~ offices, but sends for them. He has got respect for Professor. That will give you some ~~pi~~ idea of the Institute today.

If no good has turned out so far, it is because, the present ~~council~~ council are interested in keeping on the hooligans ~~on~~ on the staff of the Institute, since they were responsible in helping them to get rid of Professor from the Directorship.

Now I shall state what exactly should be done in the near future. Sir Bajpai visited the Institute two or three days back and the visit, I am sure, is due to the questions in the Assembly. So more questions must be asked. The Resolution must be brought in again. If the results of these are unsatisfactory, Adjournment Motion must be brought in to condemn the waste of 15 million rupees for the last 25 years on the Institute. Cut motions must be given withdrawing the Grants. All these must be done.

in the next session of the Assembly, after which it will be too late.

But the ~~immediate~~ things that must be immediately attended to ~~ix~~ are the following :-

1. I have gone through all the rules and regulations pertaining to the founding of the Institute, and nowhere is there any definite clause to the effect that the British Resident should be a member of the Council and that too a representative of the Government of India. His presence leads to a lot of political machinations and wire pulling and his presence exerts tremendous influence on the other members of the council, who naturally like to please him (including even the Govt of Mysore). Efforts should be made to remove him from the Council. This is the most opportune moment for this. The present Resident retires from December and the new Council is to be constituted in January next. Most of the trouble at the Institute is due to Lt Col Plowden, the Resident through the machinations of Lady Forster and others. These Residents, being mere soldiers, cannot understand the ~~Resident's~~, ~~being mere soldiers~~, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XX X~~ fundamental requirements of Science and as such, the tax payer's money is being wasted by the Government by sending incompetent and ignorant representatives exerting their mischievous political influence. As a matter of fact, Plowden was dead against Professor for attempting to bring German Professors.

2. If the Institute is to improve, Shyamaprasad Mukerjee must go and there is only one way of making him clear out. Please refer to

Sewell Committee Report page 12 para 25

Irvine Committee Report page 16 para 44.

You will find that as early as 1930, the Sewell committee were not satisfied with the Universities' representation on the Council of the Institute. While some of the Groups have six or seven ^{UNIVERSITIES} grouped together and sending one representative, the Eastern Group consists of only two Universities, namely, Bengal and Dacca. The same defect has been pointed out by the Irvine committee, who suggested a more equitable distribution. But the present council, evidently through the efforts of Mukerjee has turned down this proposal of the Irvine committee. Evidently it is the intention of Mr Mukerjee to see that he is elected to the Council by Bengal and Dacca alternately. This can be prevented by insisting upon the acceptance of the Sewell and the Irvine committee recommendations that there must be more equitable distribution of the University grouping and a system by which each University will be enabled ~~to send their representatives~~, by rotation, to send its representatives. It is rather unfortunate that the University of Bengal and Dacca should have this privilege of constantly sending their representatives, while there are other universities which have not had even a single chance of representation so far, more so when other Governments pay contribution to the Institute funds, while the Bengal Govt does not pay even a single pie. This must be thoroughly discussed.

3. All these years, the representative of the Assembly on the Council of the Institute has taken no interest whatsoever in the interests of the Institute. The reason is not far to seek. They have been residents in places far removed from the Institute, and as such they could

not understand matters pertaining to the Institute. Invariably, they rush to the council meeting thrice a year and as suddenly disappear. This must be changed. It is highly desirable that Mr Satyamurti or (if he is too busy) Mr C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliar must be induced to get into the council. I have spoken to Mr Mudaliar about it and if Mr Satyamurti is not in a position to get into the council, he must induce Mr Mudaliar to get in. A strong Assembly Member in the Council could do a lot of good from within the council. Professor also thinks that one of these within the council will be in a position to cleanse the Augean stables. Since Mr Satyamurti and Professor are good friends, it would be better if the former is behind the scenes and does active help.

4. According to the terms of the Irvine Committee report, all the existing staff of the Institute are to be confirmed. The council are merely referring their papers to their own professors, so that ~~the~~ verdict might be favourable to them. This must be avoided at all costs by throwing the Irvine committee recommendations to the W.P.B. Already questions were sent - I do not know whether they were tabled yet - asking ~~xxx~~ the Govt to release all criticisms on the Irvine committee report for publication and naturally the Professor's Memorandum will ~~be ready for publication~~ also be placed on the table. This will result in the fresh examination of the whole matter.

Professor told me two months back that Mr Satyamurti knows only some of the points re the Institute, not all, so that it is necessary to tell him everything. Since you are so far away, you may not be in possession of as much information as I do have, especially when I touch with a number of people in Bangalore. It is absolutely necessary that I should get into touch with ~~xxxxx~~ Satyamurti. I do not wish to approach him without any introduction. I can easily get an introduction from Professor, but I am not willing to ask him, since that will give the idea that he is at the back of the whole affair. So please induce Mr Satyamurti to get into touch with me. I am staying also in Mambalam, about half a mile from his house and I can call on him at any time convenient to him. I am very particular that he should be posted with all the information at my disposal and all the printed documents with me. If we ~~xxxxx~~ work for any end, let the action we take be united, so that I would request you to let me know all your plans and ideas. SEE Please that Mr

Satyamurti takes proper interest in the whole affair. We have thought out a well planned line of attack and if the Institute cannot be mended, it must be ended and only Mr Satyamurti can do it. As Deputy Leader, he can do a lot ~~more~~ during the next session. All his supplementary questions were very excellent and if only he had more information, it would have been more effective.

Once again I have to impress upon you the fact that the situation is ver critical. One of my friends told me that Professor once exclaimed to him, " I cannot bear this humiliation any longer." He has himself told me that the hooligans are troubling him endlessly and Mr Mukerjee and others contemplate sending him out at the next meeting of the Council in December next. It would be better if Mr Satyamurti could write a letter to Bajpai drawing his attention to the mode of grouping of the Universities, to the defects in the Irvine Committee Report, the means by which the present men were appointed as professors as a measure of expediency etc etc, and ~~tellin~~ telling him ~~plain~~ plainly what, if the Government fail to take any action, he will be compelled to ~~take~~ discuss the matter on the floor of the house. We must also see that the " Social Chemist " is barred from all committees. I have collected materials enough for this.

Common people, who have no knowledge of Science ~~x~~ ask why Professor alone should be on one side, while all the other scientists ar ~~organising~~ organising the National Institute and the Science Congress. Why dont you get out of both. Prominent men must come forth and ~~xpreak~~ take proper action. I believe that the ensuing science congress will give you an opportunity to do something in the matter. I think that the Academy must be strengthened. You might have known that the hooligans in the Institute are trying to smother it. If Venkatesachar comes there, have a broomstick ready I would request you to keep them at a distance and not give

Poona

22/1/39

My dear Krishnan,

Your letter of the 18th Ramdas + I have discussed the points raised in your letter. It would no doubt be noble of Bisbel to resign his Presidency on the score of the Science Congress's misbehaviour towards Professor ~~during~~ ^{at the time of} Jubilee Session. But it may not be wise for him to do so. Certain events have happened and the Committee cannot make amends for the past. It is very unlikely that they will raise any objection ^{now} to Sahu's inviting Professor.

It is best that Professor is left alone. The less he is talked about except on

account of his work, the better.

If ~~the~~ Professor really feels like it, he may even run up to Madras.

He has no animus against the Science Congress as such — he has told me so personally and ~~at~~ even ~~was~~ this year, would have run up to Lahore, but for the necessity of asking the Council or Director for permission etc.

As President, Birbal Sahni may be able to exert valuable influence in altering the constitution of Committees, and procedures, and so on and the delivery of the Presidential address will give him ~~an~~ a splendid opportunity for ~~criticising~~ pointing out our shortcomings and general behaviour towards our great men and the need for ~~a~~ utilising their talents to the

greatest advantage.

Kindly keep us informed about
the developments.

Yours affectionately
X Mamanathan

Birbal's resignation will be of some use
only if he issues a public statement
at the time of his resignation. But
this will bring in ~~in~~ some names
including that of Professor. An action like
~~that~~ this may to some extent satisfy
our conscience, but I am afraid
will not do ~~much~~ ^{any} good to Professor.

Poona

29/3/39

My dear Krishnan,

I was very glad to hear that you have been invited to participate in the Symposium on Magnetism at Strasbourg and ~~in~~ that on Magneto-Chemie at Danzig and that you will be leaving for Europe in the last week of April. We look forward to seeing you here before you leave.

You must know all about the Directorship of the Ind. Institute - People who speak about Technical Science ~~and~~ and Planning have the country with them - at least a certain fraction of the country.

Yours affectionately
K. R. Srinivasan