

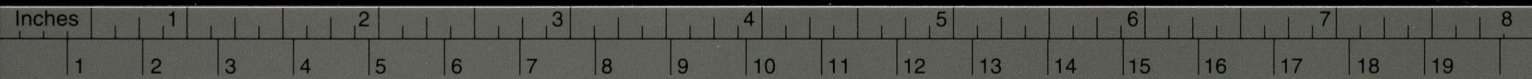
Athens, Greece - Oct. 24, 1954

Dear Professor Madhava Rao, -

Your letter of September 15 was forwarded to me here, where I received it on October 18 or thereabouts. I believe that your original letter of February 26 must have followed me to Africa, where I spent about $3\frac{1}{2}$ months last winter, and then have gone astray. I am very sorry indeed that it, along with certain other letters in which I had a special interest, failed to catch up with me at the time.

I hope that your plan for a trip to America will be made possible. You would certainly find it both interesting and enjoyable. It is unfortunate that you cannot count on some support from the government, as that would make everything very much easier. I feel sure you would be very welcome as a visitor at any institution in America where you may wish to pursue your investigations, and that you would find all the facilities needed for your work. It is not so easy now as it was two or three years ago to find temporary appointments of the kind which would free you from dependence upon the support of your own university while you are on leave. To speak specifically of Chicago, I have to say that I am no longer chairman, having relinquished the office to my colleague Professor Saunders Mac Lane*. As he has to make all the decisions about requests from foreign visitors, I am sending him your letters and you should carry on official correspondence with him. It is, I think, unlikely that we shall have any leading appointments open as the University of Chicago is less liberal in this respect now than it was two or three years back. However, if you could manage some kind of help from your university that together with the assistance of the Fulbright Committee for India might solve the financial side of the question, with the result that we could probably provide you with facilities

* I am, of course, sending your letters at once to him with a good word on your behalf.

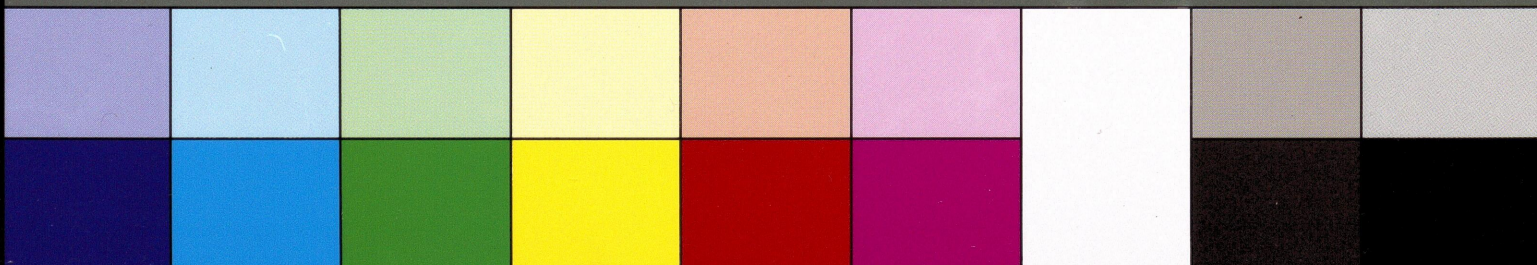


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for your work - office space, library privileges, and the general courtesies of the University. There are several professors at Chicago interested in the mathematical aspects of the quantum theory with whom you would find consultations profitable.

While you certainly overestimate my influence, I shall certainly do what I can to further your plans. In particular I shall presently write about them to the Institute for Advanced Study. It will probably be better for me to do that a little later when you have thought further about the various features of the situation.

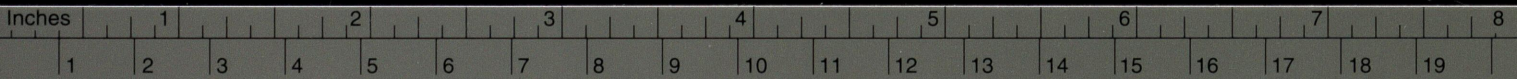
If you need to write me before I return to Chicago on January 1, I can be addressed in care of Amleco Tours, P.O. Box 1429, Beirut, Lebanon, till about December 1, then in care of American Express Company, 11 rue Souley, Paris, France till about December 15.

As you may have heard I expect to spend several months in India in 1955-56 on sabbatical leave. If you are not then abroad, I shall hope to see you in Bangalore. While I shall be engaged mostly on my own research, I do not want to miss the opportunity to travel and to see many of my numerous friends in India.

With best regards and remembrances, Tom

Sincerely yours,

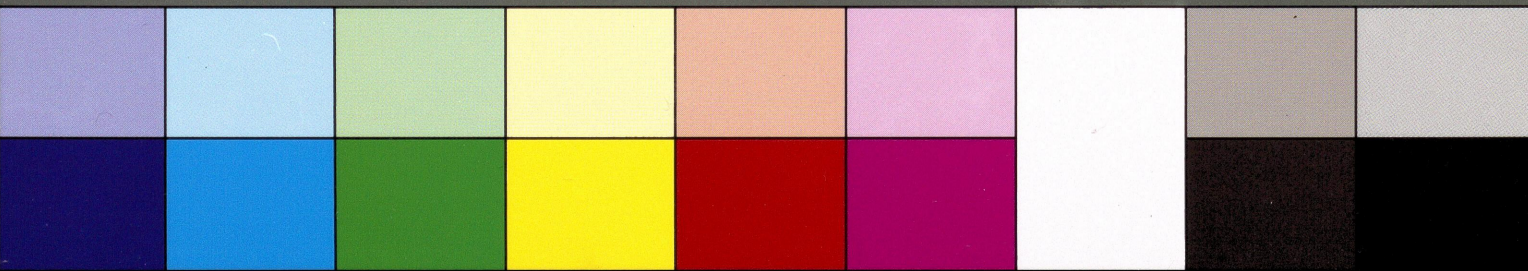
Marshall H. Stone



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Dr. B.S.Madhava Rao

Principal

26th February 4

Dear Professor Stone,

It is more than four years now since I had the pleasure of meeting you when you last visited Bangalore. During this period, I have been promoted as the Principal of my college, and this has resulted in my being saddled with an enormous amount of administrative work. I am left with very little time to devote to teaching and research, and I have been thinking in the last few months of taking a year's leave and going abroad.

I am therefore approaching with the request to help me in securing a visiting Professorship in the U.S. in September 1954. I am keen on working if possible for six months at Chicago, and six months at the Institute of Advanced Study in Princeton. I propose to work (i) on Lie Algebra with an eye on applications to relativistic wave equations of elementary particles of nature, and (ii) on an attempt to develop the foundations of quantum mechanics on the methods of Gibbsian statistics. While you were here, I showed you some correspondence I had with Professor N. Jacobson of Yale on the first topic, and now I have further ideas about the same which I want to examine carefully. I may also call your kind attention to the recent book by E.M. Corson on "Tensors, Spinors, and relativistic wave equations" wherein he speaks of an algebra related to elementary particles as the "Madhavarao Algebra" and this subject can be extended in other directions too. As regards (ii) the recent conversations I had with Prof. Norbert Wiener of M.I.T. during his recent visit to Bangalore confirms me in the belief that this is a line of enquiry likely to yield fruitful results.

Sent again
on 15/9/54

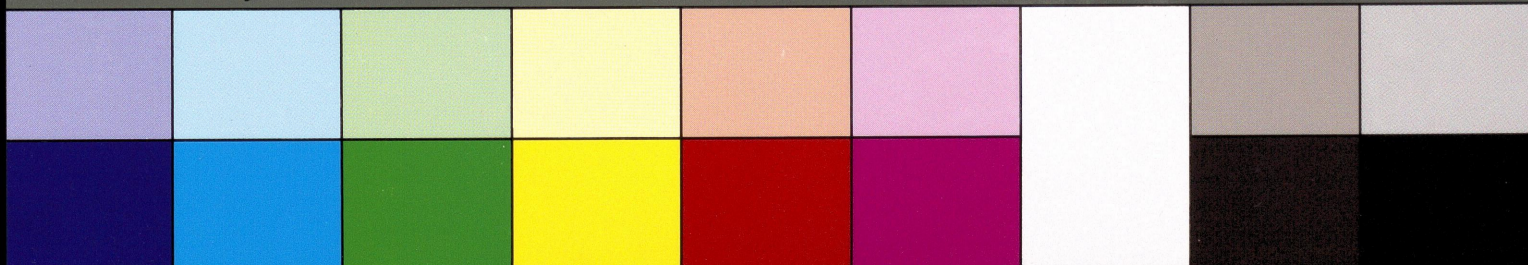
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It is unlikely that my Government will give me any allowances during the period of leave which I intend taking, so that it is essential that I should secure a Visiting Professorship with a reasonable pay at either of the two centres I have mentioned above. I have no doubt that with your unrivalled influence and unique position in mathematical circles in America, a recommendation from you will secure this for me. An intimation to the effect that I am able to obtain such an assignment will make it easy for me to get a Fulbright Travel Grant from the U.S. Educational Foundation in this country.

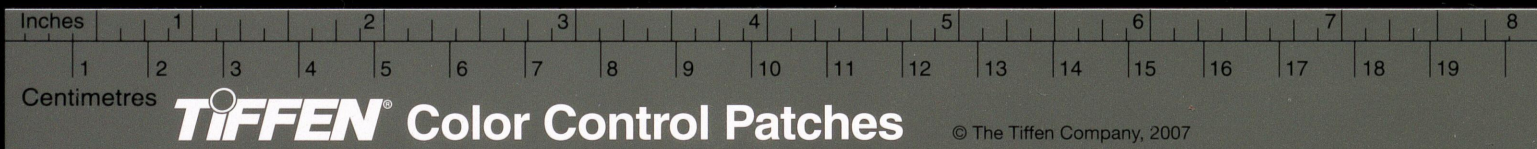
Prof. T. Vijayaraghavan informs me that you were kind enough to make enquiries after me, and I am very thankful to you for the same. I shall be grateful for whatever help you can render me in this direction.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

B.S. Madhava Rao

Prof. M.H. Stone,
Head of the Department of Mathematics,
University of Chicago.



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