

California Institute of Technology Pasadena, California

December 2, 1947

To the Family of Professor Dr. Max Planck Merkelstrasse 12 Göttingen, Germany

Dear Friends:

I am just now in receipt of your announcement of the death of Professor Dr. Max Planck, and I wish you to know that I not only join with you in your sorrow because of his passing, but in admiration for his character and satisfaction in his wonderful life.

I have always regarded it as particularly fortunate that I was able to be not only his pupil in 1895, but his friend in later years, especially in the year 1912 when he was exceedingly kind to me in inviting me to his home during the months which in that summer I passed so pleasantly and profitably in Berlin. I could see at that time that his home life reflected the fineness of his character quite as well as did his public writings as Rector of the University of Berlin, and as one of the foremost of the world's theoretical physicists. I wish, also, to recognize the inspiration which I got from him which started me on some of the researches which I myself was able to bring to a successful conclusion.

It was given to him, as to very few men of our generation, to make the world very much richer because of his presence among us.

Expressing herewith my sympathy to his family and to those who were nearest and dearest to him, I remain

Very cordially yours,

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