



Letter from Max Bredig to Georg Bredig, Marianne Homburger and Viktor Homburger, May 30, 1938

Bredig, Max Albert. "Letter from Max Bredig to Georg Bredig, Marianne Homburger and Viktor Homburger, May 30, 1938," May 30, 1938. Papers of Georg and Max Bredig, Box 1, Folder 22. Science History Institute. Philadelphia. <https://digital.sciencehistory.org/works/cg155eq>.

Courtesy of the Science History Institute, prepared July 17, 2025 13:40 UTC

Translated by Jocelyn R. McDaniel

English Translation

Image 1

Ann Arbor, Michigan, May 30, 1938

1517 Montclair Street

Dear Father, Anndel, and Viktor,

Thank you all very much for your letters Mx 63 and A9! I am glad that you all are doing well. I can probably say the same for myself. At the moment, it's sometimes a bit warm here, but for the time being still bearable. The unpleasant climate only arrives in July and August. Yesterday, I drove Lore and her mother in my car to the small lakes nearby. It is a delightful landscape and for the time being not spoiled by "mosquitoes." We were on the road for about 4 hours. I already feel very comfortable driving.

There is a lot to do in the laboratory. I have now made a series of microphotographs of my steel pieces, which are heated and cooled at different temperatures. I will now move on to

the X-ray part and perhaps construct a heating camera, which strangely enough they do not yet have here. The prospects of a position are minimal because the Depression currently overshadows all the previous ones! Maybe Mr.Helfmann will extend my scholarship for another year? He recently inquired in detail with the Dean of the College about me and the progress of my work. This idea should have been suggested to him at this meeting, but I I do not know anything more about it yet.

I heard from Liselotte that she wants to come to this country permanently, but at first without any connection to me. That will be decided at a later time. If you want to invite her to Karlsruhe beforehand and if it is possible for her to accept the invitation, I will be happy. The Fajans, Marxes, Thomassens, and many others still speak very enthusiastically about her here. The Fajans recommended her to their friends, the Kleins, in Berlin. They wrote here that they were very pleased with her visit. She has certainly already told you about me in writing.

As far as Professor Badger's visit is concerned, it would be extremely valuable for me if he would be interested in me in any way. Although he is no longer a professor here and I have not become acquainted with him as a result, he is in close contact with the nearby Dow Chemical Company, which has a wonderful X-ray laboratory. They allegedly lost one of their X-ray employees to an accident recently and I plan to apply there. If you, Father, cannot speak to him personally, it would be very helpful if El. or Eb. or anyone else could talk to him! I will send you the directory of lecturers another time. I regularly receive the Journal of Electrochemistry.

Image 2

(page 2)

I sleep in my beds! (How much bed linen did I actually receive? I can figure that out from my records.) I might need 2-3 sets of pajamas and socks. Where do I think I can find out about the current value of blocked marks? I can see this because of the payments from the tax office payments to my blocked account.

I haven't heard anything from Siebenmann yet. I also haven't received the copy of your letter to him, along with the one to McBain. The latter kindly confirmed the receipt of my resume and passed it on to a great industrialist. However, he warned me not to be too optimistic given the current situation.

I now have to write more letters for this purpose. Warm regards to everyone, including Aunt Vally, all our friends, the boys, and Mrs. Cotiaux.

Yours,
Max