us. But often this is not so unfortunate at all. [7]

Therefore I entreat you not to make any decisions now but to wait, to see how our country looks in the autumn. [8] Maybe we will have been able to discuss this personally by then, I would find that splendid.

With best wishes in gratitude yours truly [Werner Heisenberg]

23 Carl Bosch: Letter to Fritz Haber [June 16, 1933]

Esteemed Privy Councillor,

I heard with great regret in Berlin how very oppressed you feel personally by the present circumstances. [1] You might know that I myself have tried everything possible in order to make the measures against scientists somewhat bearable; [2] and I do not need to assure you that the personal side of the whole movement affects me extremely deeply. It is certainly hard on the nerves; [3] and I can understand that at your advanced age, and above all with your impaired state of health, your inner struggle is not easy. If I can be of any assistance to you somehow, then I am naturally gladly at your disposal.

Assuring you of my sincere esteem and with best regards

Yours very truly

C. Bosch.

24 Fritz Haber: Letter to Carl Bosch, June 22, 1933

Heisenberg is referring to the rift between the advocates of modern physics (e.g., the Sommerfeld and Bohr schools) on the one hand and the conservative camp led by P. → Lenard and J. → Stark on the other: See the Introduction, sec. 5.3.

This letter reveals that Heisenberg shared the widespread belief that the political situation would stabilize quickly and perhaps even that it was only a matter of months before the National Socialist government would be replaced.

Cf. Fritz → Haber’s letter of resignation as director of the → KWIPC (doc. 15), which was transformed into one of the most politically streamlined institutes of the → KWG. See also Stoltzenberg [1994], chap. 13, for a detailed account of the tragic situation in which the political events had placed Haber in 1933.

Carl → Bosch was head of → I.G. Farben and → BASF at the time and also member of several commissions of the Kaiser Wilhelm Society.

The word ‘hard’ is inserted by hand, changing the meaning from ‘a trial on the nerves’ (eine Aufgabe der Nerven).

K. Hentschel (ed.), Physics and National Socialism
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Esteemed Privy Councillor,

I have gratefully received your friendly note of the 16th of June.\footnote{This letter is in reply to the preceding document.} Yours is the only voice to reach me from the \textit{I.G. Farbenindustrie} and Nitrogen Syndicate communities.\footnote{The \textit{I.G. Farben} (Interest Community of the Dye Industry) was a trust of the major chemical and pharmaceutical companies in Germany founded on Dec. 2, 1925 through a merger between the companies \textit{BASF}, \textit{Bayer}, \textit{Hoechst}, \textit{Agfa}, \textit{Griesheim} and \textit{Weiler-ter Meer}. Between 1925 and 1945 it was Europe’s largest private trust; and it made huge profits by cooperating with the Nazi government in creating a national autarky as laid out in the Four-Year Plan (\textit{Vierjahresplan}). It had a major involvement in up-scaling the weapons industry and explosives supplies, etc. After World War II the trust was split again into several independent companies by the Allied forces in the new Federal Republic of Germany, or nationalized in the German Democratic Republic. Hayes [1987] is a history of this trust headed by Carl Bosch and Karl Krauch; see also Borkin [1978] on the numerous crimes against humanity committed in labor camps at \textit{I.G. Farben} production sites. The Nitrogen Syndicate (\textit{Stickstoffsyndikat G.m.b.H}) was an industry-wide association of nitrogen producers located in Berlin; see Bruno Waeser, \textit{Stickstoffindustrie}, Dresden & Leipzig, 1924.} Presumably from my point of view matters seem to be different to how they appear from your standpoint. Please understand that personally I perceive the appropriate minister’s granting of my retirement petition, a transcript of which is enclosed, not as a hardship but rather as a relief.\footnote{On his resignation as director of the \textit{KWIPC} on April 30, 1933, see doc. 15, footnote 7; cf. Stoltzenberg [1994], sec. 13.1.} Regarding the general effect of the Civil Service Law\footnote{See doc. 7.} on people in science in Germany, I am acquainted with and respect your readiness to help, which you have generously exercised both personally and through your reputation; but I am coming more and more under the impression that all countries abroad are starting to move and are offering care and assistance to those among the affected who had won honor and recognition here in this country,\footnote{In 1933 several organizations were founded to help absorb the many thousands of immigrants caused by the systematic expulsion of Jewish, liberal and left-wing scholars in Germany. Among the most important of these were the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced German Scholars, founded by Felix M. Warburg and Alfred E. Cohn in the U.S.A., the \textit{Notgemeinschaft Deutscher Wissenschaftler im Ausland}, founded by Philip Schwartz, Fritz Demuth and others in Switzerland, and the Academic Assistance Council (called from 1935 on, Society for the Protection of Science and Learning), founded in England by Lord Rutherford and William Beveridge. Cf., e.g., K. Düwell in: Strauss et al.(Eds.) [1987], pp. viii–x, and here sec. 4.6.} similarly to how the other German states outside of Hanover supported the scholars who had left Göttingen nearly 100 years ago and who remain in academic history under the name of the Göttingen Seven.\footnote{The ‘Göttingen Seven’ were professor renowned for lodging a protest on Nov. 18, 1837, against the revocation of the liberal constitution of 1833 by King Ernest Augustus of Hanover. The king responded on Dec. 14, 1837, by dismissing them from the university. The seven were: Wilhelm Eduard Albrecht (1880–1876), a jurist who advocated a historically oriented liberalism following the English model, appointed professor of German national law in Göttingen in 1829; (Georg) Heinrich [von] Ewald (1803–1875), a Protestant theologian, orientalist, politician, and} Our country’s cultivation of science will suffer more permanent damage,