

THE UNIVERSITY OF
 PENNSYLVANIA CLUB
 OF NEW YORK CITY
~~36 EAST 36TH STREET~~
 XXXXX
 XXXXX
 37 East 36th St.

Mar. 16th, 1936

Dear Friedman:

Your card arrived this morning. I am delighted that Barbara shows signs of improvement, and shall not fail to inform Dr. Bernheim, who, I am sure, will be much pleased. By the way, she will be in Washington at the Willard on the 25th for a Physiological (?) congress. You will, however, be away then. I hope you have a fine trip. Please let me know without delay whether you will be in Washington on the 3rd of April. I should like to see you then and return the books. I am coming through on my way back on April 14th, and may stop over for the day. A railroad trip always dulls my brain, such as it is, especially if I have to get up early in the morning; but perhaps the difference won't be noticeable.

Progress? Well, a lot of labor expended so far. I made the mistake of beginning with 18470 instead of 13040, which is a cleaner book in every way. I have alphabetized all the pages of 18470, but many cannot be done. I have spent as much as half an hour on some pages - and often to write a question-mark at the end. I have not studied the results yet, except for glances - of which a further mention anon.

Meantime I have gone over to doing the same job on 13040. I have done 120 of the 192 pages. There are almost no missing blocks or mix-ups here, and I am going to put some study on these before I go further.

In your letter of Feb 20th you suggest

- 1) that there is a limited number of rearrangements
- 2) that there is system behind the rearrangements
- 3) that 18470 and 13040 were produced by cipher tables from an alphabetical code - XX and YY. (There never was a difference of opinion concerning the other codes of either family)
- 4) that the order and system you see would be pointless if your theory were not correct.

1), I am convinced, is an error. I have arranged my 120 pages of 13040, and found ~~two~~ repetitions - i. e. 118 different arrangements in 120 pages.

2) is just as certainly correct. I remembered your letter as saying "there is a system behind the rearrangements." I had intended to cross out "a" and say I would put it that way, but I see you have already done that. There are very striking things. As I said, I have not yet really begun to dig, but in one case I predicted the order on an entire page. Whether we have one system or several - and what, I am, of course, not yet prepared to say.

4) in the case of the Germans, would not trouble me much. They use system when it is a positive detriment. Look at the systematic rearrangement of the XX pages in making 18470 (this does not affect the question of whether tables were used). Look at the humble Dreinummerheft. Unless I can see a positive advantage in a German system (Of course I admit that the saving of the printing of a disarranged code would be one) I prefer to think that

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we have what your friends in the Telepsychological Department of Duke University call "the orderly avoidance of order."

But that, of course, remains to be seen, and that is why I have skipped your 3). - I see I have neglected to say that signs of system are also apparent in 18470 even without detailed study. My main reliance there will have to be the numerals, which I have now proved (I had only thought so, you know) come alphabetically 5th and 10th on each page. I have revised my notion of the stops, and have been amazed to find how comparatively few were used. I doubt whether a stop ending in 1 and one ending in 2 ever really occur on the same page - one is used in one alphabetical position on even-numbered pages, and the other in a different alphabetical position on the odd-numbered pages - more oblations to System.

I must return to my mutton. Greetings to you and your family. Don't forget to let me know promptly whether you will be in Washington on the afternoon of April 3rd (Friday).

Cordially

C/lu.
 f.

* or is it telepathological?"