

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

February 16, 1947

Mr. Henry M. Paynter
Assistant in Civil Engineering
Mass. Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I thank you very much that you have called my attention to a mistake in my book. Furthermore, I am sending you my last two papers. I have exchanged many letters about them with Schroedinger which may have induced him to his latest attempt. You are quite right in your guess concerning his Hamiltonian. I do not approve this method which I have abandoned long ago. Applied to the special case of pure gravitation it does not yield the equation $R_{ik} = 0$ but the equation $R_{ik} = L g_{ik}$ where L has to be different from 0 and must be very small (Cosmological Constant). The simplest possible space, namely "flat" space is thus excluded as a solution. That seems to me quite unacceptable. Besides the introduction of this cosmological term Schroedinger's equations are the same as those developed in my last paper.

Sincerely yours,

A. Einstein

Albert Einstein.