

Alfred Baber Fonds

Correspondence

Baber, Roger
1993-1994

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
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Dr. Alfred Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

August 2, 1994

Dr. Roger W. Alder
School of Chemistry
University of Bristol
Cantock's Close
Bristol BS8 1TS
England

Dear Roger:

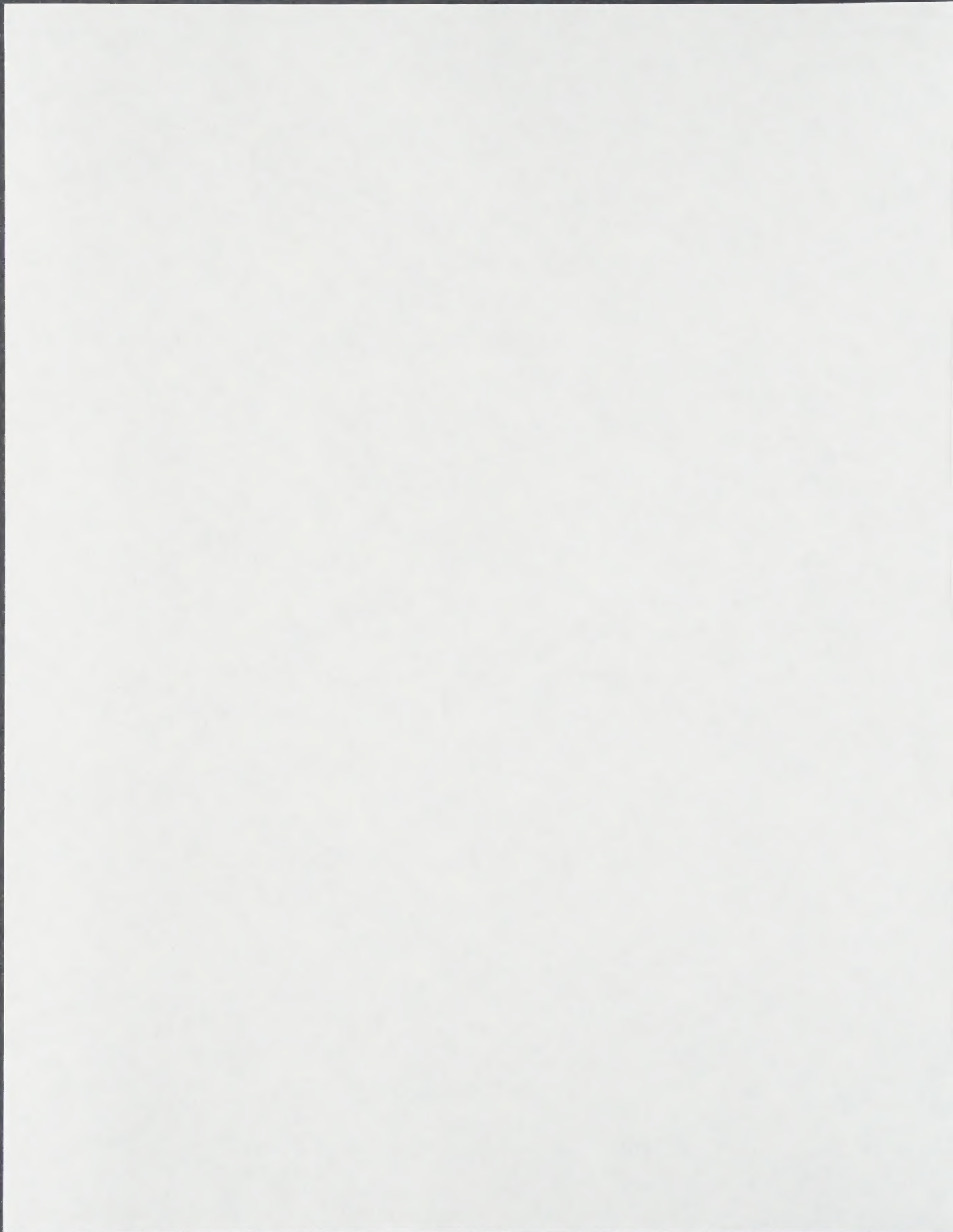
Just a note to remind you that the *Aldrichimica Acta* would very much like to publish your paper.

Please do send the manuscript to Dr. Stephen Branca at Aldrich, and please do not mention my name in the text. I am sure that you will understand the problem: all of the good chemists at Aldrich have remained my good friends, only the head of the company isn't.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

c: Dr. Stephen Branca



Dr. Alfred Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

July 11, 1994

Dr. Roger W. Alder
School of Chemistry
University of Bristol
Cantock's Close
Bristol BS8 1TS
England

Dear Roger:

I am sorry that a long trip has to Europe has delayed my thanking you for your kind letter of June 10th.

Of course I am delighted that you won the Bader Award, and I know that my friends at Aldrich would be happy to receive your article. Please send it to the editor of the *Aldrichimica Acta*, Dr. Stephen Branca, but do not say in the text that you have received the Bader Award. All of the chemists at Aldrich have remained my good friends, but if Dr. Tom Cori, my successor, learned that you paper is related to the award, he might well forbid its publication.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

c: Dr. Stephen Branca





BET

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

Dr. Roger W. Alder
Reader in Organic Chemistry
Telephone : 0272 303676
FAX: 0272 298611
E-Mail: Rog.Alder@bristol.ac.uk

School of Chemistry
Cantock's Close
Bristol
England BS8 1TS
June 10, 1994

Dr. Alfred R. Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee
Wisconsin 53211
U. S. A

Dear Alfred

I was delighted to read in C&EN that ACS has honoured you with the 1995 Parsons Award. That's most appropriate and very well deserved. The article was a nice one too, and I look forward to seeing that autobiography!

The RSC recently held its annual awards ceremony at which I, and Andrew Holmes (for 1994) collected our Bader Awards. I was also very pleased to find that Jeremy Saunders had been awarded the Loschmidt Award for 1994; both Andrew and Jeremy are worthy winners.

I have to admit that I have not yet written the article for Aldrichimica Acta, but I will start it very soon.

Best wishes
Yours Sincerely

Roger

Dr. Alfred R. Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

August 17, 1993

Dr. Roger W. Alder
Department of Chemistry
University of Bristol
Bristol, England

Dear Roger:

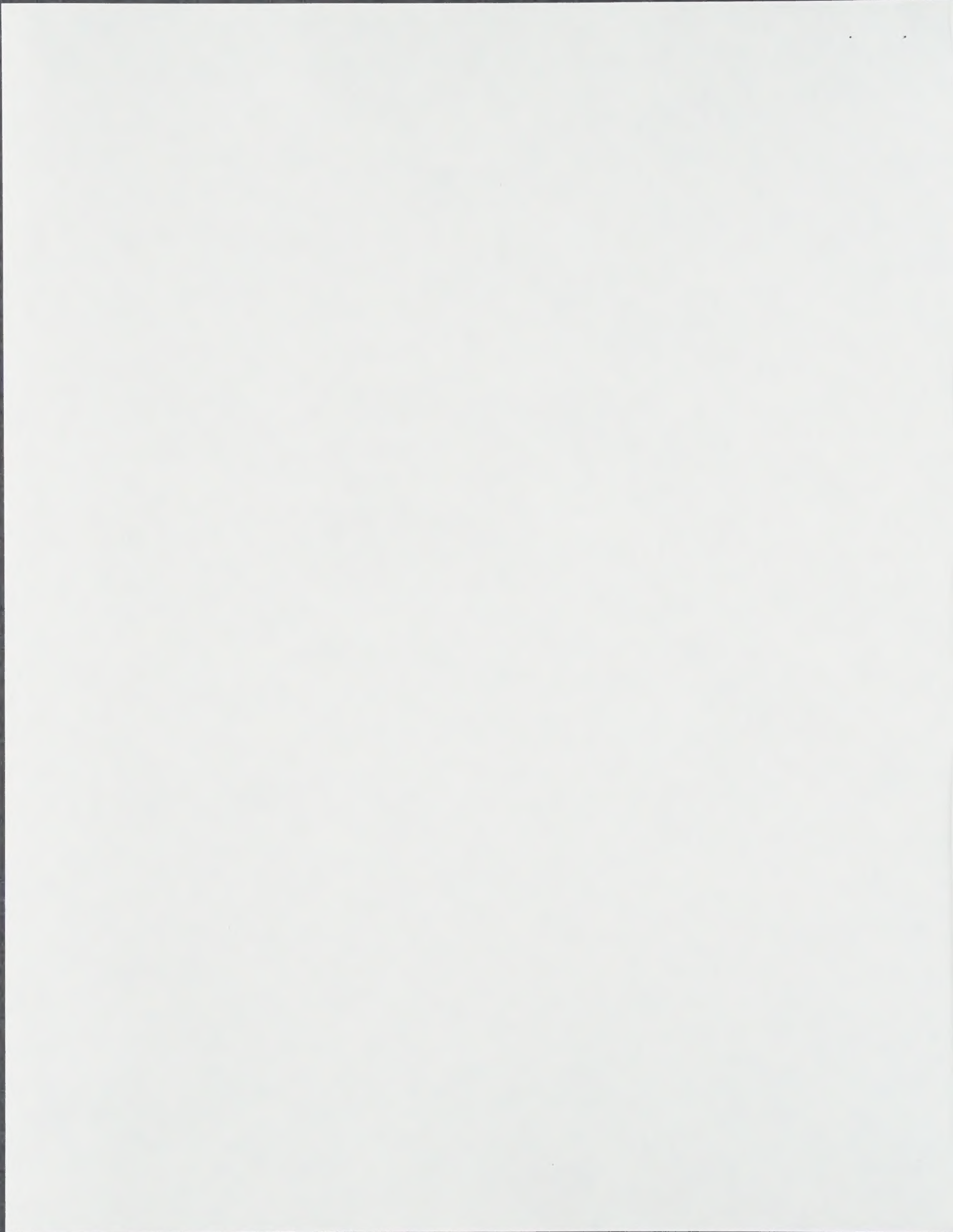
I have just heard that you are the winner of the Bader Award. I couldn't happen to a greater chemist! Please accept my heartiest congratulations.

It would be great if you could submit a paper on your work to the Aldrichimica Acta, but I would like to ask you that in the paper you do not mention my name. As you know, I have been dismissed from Sigma-Aldrich under horrible circumstances, but this is the work of only one man in St. Louis and the chemists at Aldrich have remained my good friends.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

c: Dr. Stephen Branca



Dr. Alfred Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

August 31, 1993

Dr. Roger W. Alder
School of Chemistry
University of Bristol
Cantock's Close
Bristol BS8 1TS, England

Dear Roger:

Thank you so much for your gracious letter of August 24th.

I still remember my last visit with you early in December of 1991, just a couple of weeks after Tom Cori, the CEO of Sigma-Aldrich, told me of my dismissal. At that point I still hoped that I could change the board of directors' mind, but as you know was unsuccessful. Of course, that threat didn't make my visits to British universities any easier, and yet, as always, I remember my visit to Bristol, and specifically with you, with great pleasure.

Please keep in mind that all of this came from only one man, Tom Cori in St. Louis, and all of the people at Aldrich in Milwaukee--really, with no exception, have remained my good friends.

Of course my dismissal has had many silver linings as you can see from the enclosed article in The Independent, and as will be detailed in an article in Chemistry in Britain which will appear soon.

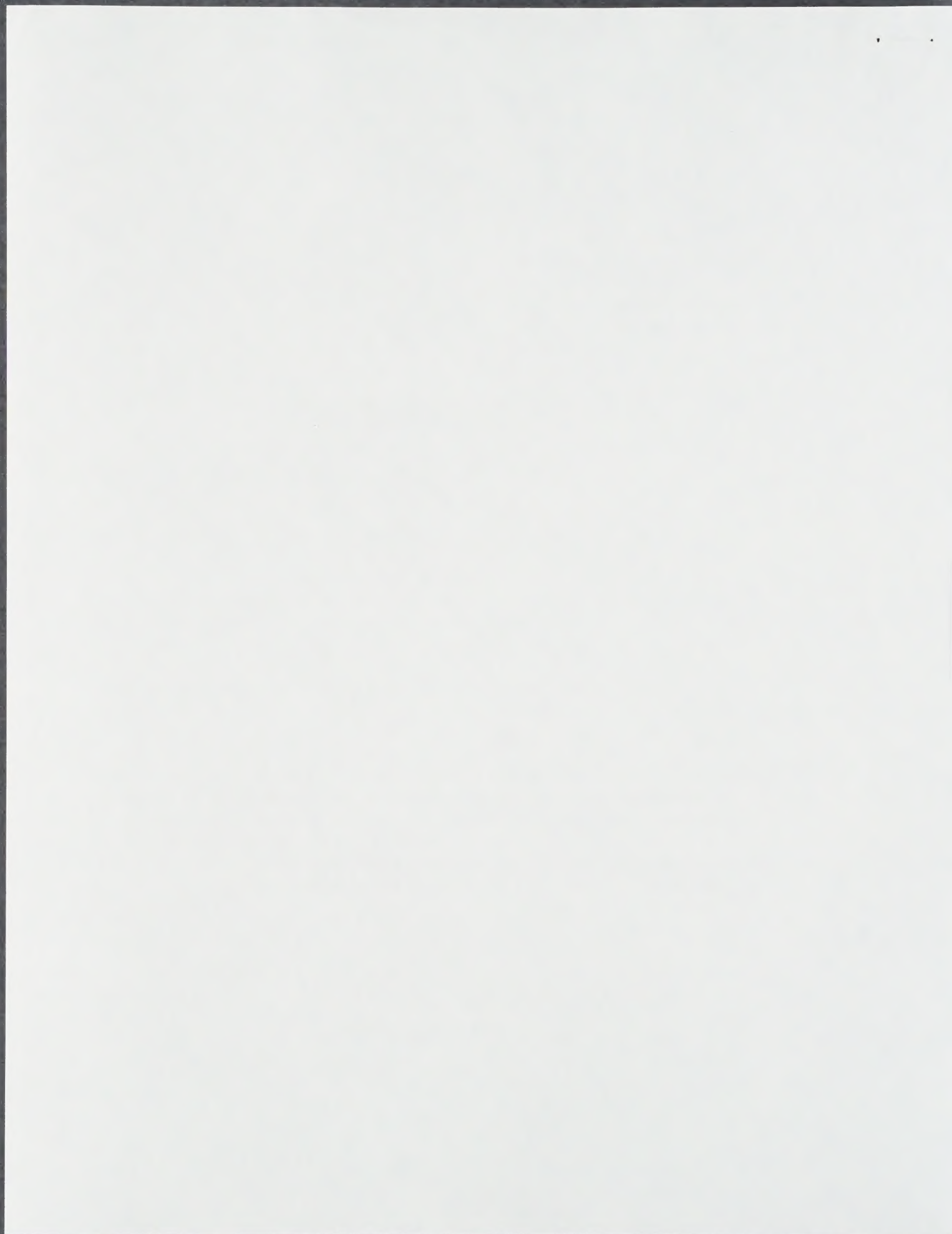
Your article is wonderfully well titled, "Bridgeheads, Bicycles, and Bonding" and will undoubtedly be enjoyed by many of the over 200,000 scientists who receive the Aldrichimica Acta. Please send your manuscript to Dr. Stephen Branca at Aldrich in Milwaukee. Please don't thank me in any way, although I think that the curriculum vitae can say safely that you won the Alfred Bader Award. But if that should cause difficulty, leave it to Stephen Branca to delete it.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

Enclosure

c: Dr. Stephen Branca





UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

Dr. Roger W. Alder
Reader in Organic Chemistry
Telephone (Direct Line): 0272 303676
FAX: 0272 251295
E-Mail: Rog.Alder@uk.ac.bristol

School of Chemistry
Cantock's Close
Bristol
England BS8 1TS
August 24, 1993

Dr. Alfred R. Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee
Wisconsin 53211
U. S. A.

Dear Alfred

Thank you for your kind letter. Of course I was absolutely delighted to get the Bader Award for 1993. As I said in my letter to Charles Rees, the President of the RSC "I'm particularly pleased to be given an award associated with Dr. Alfred Bader, who I have known for over twenty years, and who has been a good friend to chemistry in Bristol and to my own group in particular."

Of course I read about your horrible dismissal from Sigma-Aldrich; it must have been extremely galling for you. I imagine you wouldn't want to discuss it, but I couldn't help thinking, as I read about it in "Chemistry in Britain", that it must all have been happening about the time you were last in Bristol.

I will be delighted to write an article for *Adrichimica Acta*. I shall have to think rather carefully however about what I should cover, because I have reviewed my major contribution over the last ten years fairly recently in a *Tetrahedron* report (*Tetrahedron*, **1990**, *46*, 683). We have recently been extending this work on "intrabridgehead chemistry" to other elements, in particular, to phosphorus, but I had promised Neil Burford I would cover these developments in an article for *Coordination Chemistry Reviews*. The topic of proton sponges has also been fairly heavily reviewed, both by myself (Strain Effects on Amine Basicities. R. W. Alder, *Chem. Rev.*, **1989**, *89*, 1215-1223.) and by Staab.

We are presently getting into making some novel polymers, in which the major interest is in new ways of controlling the conformations of acyclic compounds. This is an exciting and almost unexplored area, closely related to that discussed by Reinhard Hoffmann in *Angew. Chem. Intl. Ed. In Eng.* **1992**, *31*, 1124. However, our own work has hardly progressed far enough for a review.

At present my best suggestion is that I should cover the intrabridgehead story, but perhaps from a fresh angle, say "Bridgeheads, Bicycles, and Bonding", where I could perhaps bring out the way in which studies of reactions and properties of functional groups at bridgeheads has contributed to our understanding of chemistry.

I'm afraid I've whittered on about this long enough, but I'm not entirely satisfied with this last suggestion and I will consider matters a little more. I would of course welcome you comments!

Best wishes
Yours Sincerely

