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Beech, Joseph 1916-1919

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REV. JOSEPH BEECH, D. D.

Rev. Joseph Beech, D. D.

Born October 3, 1867,

Joined Methodist Episcopal Church 1879.

Graduated Union Missionary Training Institute 1892.

Graduated Wesleyan University 1899; D. D. 1911.

Sailed for China October 4, 1879 and was first stationed in Chungking in the province of Szechwan. Later, being sent to Chengtu in the same province, to start college work for the American Methodist Mission, he joined in 1910 with the American Baptists, the English Friends and the Canadian Methodists (who later became a part of the United Church of Canada) in forming the West China Union University. The Church Missionary Society of England became a participating member of the University in 1918. Dr. Beech was president of the University from 1914 to 1927, then again from October 1928, after a political uprising until June 1930, when he was succeeded by a Chinese president, Dr. Lincoln Dsang, Dr. Beech thereafter was Chancellor of the University from December 1931 to September 1933. He retired in 1940, at which time the president of China delivered a farewell address and conferred on Dr. Beech the decoration of the Order of Brilliant Jade. On his eightieth birthday, October 3, 1947, a portrait bust of Dr. Beech was unveiled at West China Union University.

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Submitted by:

JAMES M. YARD,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N. Y.

AN AMERICAN ON THE RIM OF THE WORLD.

By

James M. Yard.

Dr. Joseph Beech is an American citizen by special act of the Congress of the United States. Only three men in history, of whom he is one, have ever persuaded that august body to pass such an act.

It happened this way. "Joe" Beech had never questioned his American citizenship. He had voted, and had always been known as a real American. But he was in the States on behalf of his college (he is president of West China Union University), during the war and wanted a passport to return to China. He could not get a passport!

He had always supposed that his father was an American citizen, but he could not find his naturalization papers, nor any record of them. When Joe Beech first went to China in 1899, no passports were required, so he had never bothered to secure one. But in 1917 all regulations were tightened up. He knew that he himself, had been born in England, but supposed that his father had taken out his citizenship papers, and that since he himself, came over when he was about six years old, his father's citizenship would cover him. However, he could prove nothing and the passport office would have nothing to do with him.

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But a man who had pioneered American education on the very edge of the map was not to be deprived of a passport when he needed one. From New York he went directly to the headquarters of the United States Government in Washington and interviewed senators, state department officials, bishops - in fact he saw everybody in the Capitol excepting the President. First he went to the Methodist Bishop resident in Washington and sought his aid. The Bishop said: "I think you are on a hopeless quest. If your father was not a citizen, there is nothing for you to do but to take out your papers and live in America the required length of time." But Beech was booked to sail within less than a month. He intended to sail.

The Bishop agreed to go with him to visit some United States senators of the Methodist persuasion. They agreed that it would be possible to have him made a citizen by special act of Congress, but they said that it would be difficult and might take a long time. With that ray of light he then visited other senators and representatives. The bill was introduced and in less than ten days from the time he arrived in Washington, he had been declared an American citizen by a special act of the Congress of the United States.

Joe Beech is calm, patient and blessed with the dogged determination of his British Ancestors. He never gives up. If he needs a passport he gets it. If he must be the architect and construction engineer for a new building, he leaves the President's office for a bit and goes at it.

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Nothing disturbs him. You cannot hurry nor confuse him. He takes his time. He is often late for engagements and for his meals. One day he asked his little son ten years old, "Bobbie, if your father should be taken away what could you do to take is place?" The youngster who is as keen as his father and somewhat of a wit smiled and said, "I could read the paper at the table and come late to my meals."

He is a real American, almost a New Yorker. Coming to America at the age of five, he was brought up in Elizabeth, N. J., and Brooklyn. He was educated at Hackettstown, N. J., and at Wesleyan University.

In West China twenty years ago he was one of a small group of educators who dreamed of establishing a real university. At that time the Chinese Government offered no kind of modern education outside of the large Cities in Eastern China.

He is a born promotor and once he tackles anything he never leaves it until he wins. He is a Methodist but he did not want a Methodist College. He wanted a Union University. Finally in 1909 several missions got together and drew up articles of union and established The West China Union University. This university has recently been incorporated under the Regents of the State of New York. Its degrees, therefore, have the same academic standing as those of Columbia. Its graduates who have come to America for study have proven their ability in places like Leland, Stanford and the University of Chicago.

When a president for the university was to be chosen, all turned at once to Joe Beech. They knew he could build the university

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in West China and secure friends for it in England and America. This he has done.

Chengtu, the seat of the university, is truly on the rim of the world - 12,000 miles away, it is on New York's farthest horizon line. But Chengtu is no mean city. It is the capital of China's largest province, - a province larger than France. Chengtu itself is a city of 500,000 and according to Marco Polo, it was in his day, as fine as any city in the world.

Dr. Beech came home ten years ago to raise funds and went back with money for more land and buildings. He badly needed it, for real estate values were rising rapidly and it was economical to buy early. He also had money for the administration building, library, educational building, biology building and school of religion. The administration building was almost completed when he got back to the field. Upon his arrival the superintendent of construction went home on furlough and there was no one to go on with the building program. There was money in the bank. The buildings were urgently needed, but there was no builder. That did not stop Joe Beech. He had had some experience in building, had read a dozen books on engineering construction and constantly read architects magazines and before his colleagues knew it besides carrying all his work as President, he had begun the building program.

Here one needs to say that it is no simple matter to erect a large building in West China. There are no contracting firms, no trained men to supervise the job. Beech bought his brick, lime, timber and nails. He hired men with ancient cross cut saws to work out beams, rafters and flooring. He hired masons and carpenters to do

the details and was himself the head carpenter, head mason and paymaster.

Being a born pioneer he is very much interested in the phase of the university work that is carried on by the West China Border Research Society. That society is made up of members of the faculty and other scientists resident in Chengtu. Living as they do on the very edge of Thibet, these scholars have vast laboratories at their very door. There are many tribes of Aborigines with strange social and religious customs. There is territory that has never been mapped; snow capped mountains that have never been surveyed (these West China Scientists last summer measured a mountain more than 27,000 ft. above seal level, which is not found on any map). From the campus of West China Union University one can see more than 100 miles of snow peaks, the glistening summits of the Himalyas of more than 15,000 ft. above the sea.

There is a vast flora to investigate: all sorts of vegetables, fruits and medicinal herbs and giant trees on the Thibetan border. One example is that of the eidelweis on the mountains just West of Chengtu. There are eleven varieties of this beautiful flower compared to just one in Switzerland and many of them are much more beautiful than their Swiss relative.

There are unknown tribes with strange customs near at hand; there are little known rivers to be explored and countless studies to be made in geology, anthropology, education and agriculture.

It was such pioneering possibilities that lured Joe Beech from New York to the Rim of the world.

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THE INVESTITURE OF DR. BEECH

1940

On Saturday, March 30th, Dr. Joseph Beech, Chancellor of West China Union University, was invested with the Jade Medal conferred upon him in February by the Chinese Government in recognition of his services to education in West China. The investiture was performed on behalf of the National Government by Dr. H. H. K'ung in the presence of high government officials, Dr. Lincoln Dsang, the President of W. C. U. U., and a number of friends. The ceremony was performed in the new Chung Shan room of the Chialing House, the decoration of which had just been finished in time for the occasion. It was a fitting farewell for one who had given his life for Christian higher education in West China.

The Chialing House stands high on the cliff overlooking the Chialing river, one of the four streams from which Szechwan gets its name. A little before 12:30 the first guests arrived to be welcomed by Marshal Feng Yu-hsiang, the Vice-Chairman of the Military Council, attired as usual with extreme simplicity, Mr. Chang Chia-ngau, the Minister of Communications and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the W. C. U. U., and Mr. Ch'en Li-fu, the Minister of Education, the two latter being the hosts of this occasion. Representing the W. C. U. U., there were present on this occasion in addition to Dr. Lincoln Dsang, the President, Mr. H. D. Robertson, the Vice-Chancellor, and several of the Board of Directors, Mr. C. H. Yang, Bishop C. T. Song, Mr. S. C. Yang, Rev. G. W. Sparling, Rev. Olin Stockwell, and the Rev. A. F. Lutley. While government officials and guests were arriving, those who had already arrived chatted together in groups on the wide verandah, from where there is a splendid view up and down the river. One by one the government officials attending the ceremony arrived - Dr. H. H. Kung, the Vice-Premier and Minister of Finance, Mr. Ong, the Minister of Economics, General Chang Ch'un, the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Council and a director of the W. C. U. U., Dr. Hsu Mo, the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Hollington Tong, the Vice-Minister of Publicity, Mr. Lu Tso-fu, the Vice-Minister of Communications, Mr. Kiang, head of the Political Department of the Executive Yuan, Dr. Lo Chia-lun, President of the National Central University, and other government officials. The American Ambassador, Mr. Nelson T. Johnson, and Mr. Peck, the Counsellor of the U. S. Embassy, were also present. It was a beautiful day with bright warm sunshine, and taking advantage of this fact, Mr. McCurdy and Mr. Lutley at intervals drew away from the chatting groups to take some movies of them, while Dr. Beech took a color film of those present.

When all the officials and guests had come, about 35 sat down to dinner. After the dinner, Mr. Chang Chia-hgau gave a brief account of the present condition of the West China Union University, emphasizing that Dr. Beech's vision and perseverance had been a very large factor in the university's reaching its present position in the cultural life of China. "Dr. Beech," he said, "had worked for Christ and sacrificed himself for education for forty years." Mr. Chen Li-fu, the Minister of Education, followed with a brief speech in which he expressed the appreciation of the Ministry to Dr. Beech and the West China Union University for what they had done for education. The W. C. U. U. had been the first university to be established in West China, and this he remarked was largely due to Dr. Beech. Dr. H. H. K'ung, the Vice-Premier, then rose to make the presentation. In his speech before the investi-

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ture Dr. K'ung said that the Chinese government would never forget Dr. Beech's services, which had been of incalculable value to China. From a very small beginning he and his colleagues had built a university which had made and would continue to make a big contribution to the cultural life of China. Dr. K'ung then expressed the hope that just as Dr. Beech had helped to interpret the West to China, so now as he went home he would interpret China in her "struggle for righteousness and world peace" to America, that the Pacific might again be pacific in reality and not merely in name.

Dr. K'ung then invested Dr. Beech with the Jade Medal that had been conferred on him by the National Government, and a flashlight photo was taken of the ceremony.

Dr. Beech in his reply said that there were three things he had hoped for in his work in China: an opportunity to do his very best for China, the co-operation of his colleagues, and the approbation of God; and as he looked back on his life he was thankful that he had been given his opportunity to serve in a capacity in which he could give all he had; that he had enjoyed the loyal cooperation of his colleagues, without which his work would have been impossible; and he was thankful, too, to have had definite indications of God's approval and blessing. He said he was fortunate to have two countries, that of which he was proud to be a citizen, and that for which he had worked for forty years, and which he loved deeply; and because he loved China and felt she deserved the best kind of Christian college that was possible, he had worked these thirty years to that end. And now that this honor had come to him, he felt it was an honor to all who through these years had worked to make the university what it was to-day.

When Dr. Beech had finished speaking the American Ambassador said a few brief words in the course of which he remarked that "the ambassadors that leave the deepest mark on the countries to which they are accredited are those who, like Dr. Beech, have endeared themselves to the people."

After the investiture the whole group again adjourned to the verandah, where, while groups chatted together, further movies were taken. Then one by one busy Government officials said goodbye and returned to their offices, but by their presence and their words they had shown their appreciation of what the West China Union University was doing for the youth of West China, and their gratitude to the one to whom in large measure the university owed its inception, and to whom its present development and splendid equipment are in no small measure due.

Nov. 17 1916

LACKAWANNA RAILROAD

THE ROAD OF ANTHRACITE

Lackawanna  
Railroad

TRANSFER

EN ROUTE-THE CHICAGO LIMITED

Delaware Water Gap  
en route Chicago  
Nov 16/16

My dear Mr. Vaux:-

Very many thanks

for your message

received at Newark

just prior to starting

on this journey I thank

you very much & wish of

course abide by spirit

& letters of advice

0918

MAR 16 1916

Regret could not find out  
re Dr. North. He was in  
N.Y. yesterday and  
I do not expect he  
will leave so soon  
after the stress of  
the Annual Board Meeting.

This journey, which will  
of course cut out my  
intended trip to Phila  
is due to a telegram  
this am. stating that  
Mrs. Beech's father  
had died suddenly  
last night

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Again many thanks  
for your kind  
message

with all good wishes

Most cordially

Joseph Reed

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OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
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Bryn Brant, Jr.  
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299 QUEEN ST., TORONTO, CAN.  
SECRETARIES

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

REV. JOSEPH BEECH, D. D. PRESIDENT  
10 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

November 11, 1916.

FOUNDED BY  
THE AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN  
MISSION SOCIETY  
THE FRIENDS FOREIGN MISSION ASSOCIATION,  
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND  
THE GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE  
METHODIST CHURCH, CANADA  
THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Vaux:-

Twice I called, but failed to connect. Had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Vaux and left a message with her which of course you have.

Since coming here I have had it brought to my notice that if I could get the word to the Methodist and Baptist Boards, which have their annual meetings this week, that the Middle School was to be given it would help materially in the University matters before them.

I have written a letter to Mrs. S. stating this fact, but have on further consideration decided not to send it lest it might seem to be hurrying matters. As an alternative I write you with this suggestion.

Henry stated to me that he had told you of the meeting with me; a question as to that meeting might bring out the fact of what it accomplished and might then open the way to suggest that a telegram to me, if the matter was settled in their minds, would be of especial value just now for the foregoing reason. If he agreed with that it would be forthcoming, otherwise it would do no harm as a direct letter from me might do.

If the opportunity is offered to do this with perfect propriety and ~~xxxx~~ is acceptable to you, I will be thankful if you can do it.

I shall remember the days with you for a long time, and count the interest and help of yourself and Mrs. Vaux as one of the bright spots in the difficult task that I have.

With every good wish and remembrances to you all,  
Very cordially,

Joseph Beech

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Nov 13/16

My dear Mr Vaux:-



Mrs Vaux said that she would try to plan for another gathering if I would let her know when

I will get to Philadelphia Saturday or Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> and leave for Glens Falls N.Y. not later than Friday. I will be subject to your order for Sunday or any other evening

Awaiting reply with best wishes

Cordially

Mission Rooms  
150 - 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
New York.

Jo Buch

0922

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CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

REV. JOSEPH BEECH, D. D. PRESIDENT  
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

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METHODIST CHURCH, CANADA  
THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Glen Falls N.Y. Dec 4-16.

TRANSFER

Mr George Vaux Jr.  
Phila  
Pa.

My dear Mr. Vaux:-

Through the treasurer of the W.C. Board I have sent you \$100 and \$10. I send it in this fashion as they wish their checks to get credit in the Conference reports for the amount and it must pass through the Board Treasurer - hence this indirect route to you.

Had a visit with Mr Ricker while in middle West and left him much easier in mind on some of the questions that were troubling him - This may make your way easier also.

Hope you have the books - by this time the "keys" likewise - I am promised to be in Phila in near future and will be glad to go over any questions that you may wish to take up.

Had a fine day yesterday in this great crowd here in Glen Falls - show pictures Tuesday - Out of the manifest interest I hope something of help may come -

With kindest remembrance & all good wishes to you, Mr Vaux and the boys very cordially  
Joseph Beech

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12-7-1916.

TRANSFER

Dr. Joseph Beech,  
150 5th Avenue,  
New York City.

My dear Dr. Beech:

I am very much obliged by your letter  
of the 4th instant.

We sympathize with you and Mrs. Beech  
deeply in your being called to the west sud-  
denly as you were, and I should have written to  
you immediately therehad I known what your  
address was.

I have not yet received any of the books  
and papers of the University and have no promise  
as to any date in the future when it is prob-  
able that the transfer will be made. Dr. North  
did send me, however, \$2000. so that I have opened  
a bank account and been able to get started that  
far.

I am glad that you saw Mr. Ricker and  
had the talk with him of which you tell me. I  
had wished much to see him but that seemed to be  
impracticable.

When you are coming to Philadelphia let  
me know as we shall certainly want to see you; and  
if it is not too much in the holiday season per-  
haps we can arrange them for the additional parlor  
meeting of which we spoke when you were here last.

Mrs. Vaux joins me in kind remembrance.

Sincerely yours,

GV/AMG

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WEST  
CHINA

TRANSFER  
1-15-1917.

Dr. Joseph Beech .  
150 5th Avenue,  
New York City.

Dear Dr. Beech:

Are you likely soon to be in this part of the world, if so I should be glad to see you as I think there will be advantage as well as help to me in going over with you some matters of the University accounts, the books and papers for which are now in my hands. I find that there is a good deal of confusion growing out of the insufficient entries made particularly during Dr. Barbour's incumbency; and I think you will be able to throw light on some phases of the matter.

I have received in cash \$17500~~0~~? on account of the donation for the middle school building and have invested temporarily \$10,000 of this sum and given an order for \$5000. more which has not yet been filled owing to the broker not being able to secure the bond.

I have also received from the Methodist Episcopal Board \$6000. on account of their capital subscription. This places the Treasury largely in funds. It seems to me that this latter sum might in a large measure be invested also. What is your view with regard to this?

With high regards

Sincerely yours,

T

Treasurer.

GV/AMG

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299 QUEEN ST., TORONTO, CAN.  
SECRETARIES

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
CHENGTU, WEST CHINA

REV. JOSEPH BEECH, D. D. PRESIDENT  
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Dixon, Ill. Feb. 16/17.

FOUNDED BY  
THE AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN  
MISSION SOCIETY  
THE FRIENDS FOREIGN MISSION ASSOCIATION,  
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND  
THE GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE  
METHODIST CHURCH, CANADA  
THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



My dear Mr. Vaux:-

If this reaches you before your departure for the West it might be well to make a remittance on my salary, allowance for children, and rent account. The checks have come as usual from the Treasurer of the M.E. Board the first of each month in advance as is their custom. It would simplify your end of it if you send them the amount on this account once a quarter as follows; 1/4 salary of \$1200 = \$300, 1/4 childrens allowance of \$600 = \$150, 1/4 of allowance on rent of \$180 = \$45, total for the quarter \$495. Send to Dr. Geo. M. Fowles Treasurer, 150, 5th., Ave., N.Y. to credit my personal account.

From Indianapolis I made a trip to Farmer City, Ill. where I tho't I might get a thousand dollars from a friend there, but found the car shortage had made a like condition in cash.

Telegram from Washington today informs me that both Houses of Congress had passed my special act. Remembrances and good wishes for the journey, Very Cordially,

*Joseph Beech*

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CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES  
S. EARL TAYLOR  
FRANK MASON NORTH

Board of Foreign Missions  
Of the METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

150 Fifth Avenue  
NEW YORK CITY

CABLE ADDRESS, MISSIONS    PHONE, 2130 CHELSEA

PRESIDENT  
BISHOP LUTHER B. WILSON  
TREASURER  
GEORGE M. FOWLES



April 2nd, 1917.

Mr. George Vaux, Jr., Treas.,  
Gulph Road,  
Bryn Maur, Penn.

My dear Mr. Vaux:-

A check for \$6000 will be sent you from the Board of Foreign Missions of the M. E. Church. This is a credit to the building fund largely from members of the Methodist Episcopal Churches at Montclair and Cobleskill, N. Y. This money has reverted to the Board of Foreign Missions by consent of the donors in order that one of the Methodist buildings which was erected by this money, might be taken over as a memorial by a party who desired to give the entire amount.

Very truly yours,

J B  
G H

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REV. J. F. GOUCHER, LL. D., BALTIMORE, MD.  
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299 QUEEN ST. TORONTO, CAN.  
SECRETARIES

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

REV. JOSEPH BEECH, D. D. PRESIDENT  
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

April 30, 1917.

FOUNDED BY  
THE AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN  
MISSION SOCIETY  
THE FRIENDS FOREIGN MISSION ASSOCIATION,  
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND  
THE GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE  
METHODIST CHURCH, CANADA  
THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

My dear Mr. Vaux:-

I wrote you some time ago re the order for certificates  
~~for~~ givers to University. I enclose the contract and have requested  
them to send the certificates and bill for same to you, which latter  
I trust you will honor.

I have filled out the certificate for Mr. Fred L. Rosemond,  
and sent it on to Dr. Endicott for signature, it will come to you  
from Dr. Goucher and will require your signature. Will you please send  
on to him <sup>F.L.R.</sup> with an added word of appreciation. Owing to failure to get  
these forms before there has been long delay in getting the certifi-  
cate to him. Mr. Rosemond is a lawyer, a well known layman of the Meth-  
odist Church and a member of the Board of Trustees of Ohio Wesleyan  
University.

Through a gift of \$6000 for one of the Methodist Buildings  
already erected, I secured the transfer of former gifts to the M.E.  
Board to the University. This I believe has been sent on to you from  
said Board, Hope to be in Philadelphia soon. With respect, Yours,

Joseph Beech

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GOUCHER COLLEGE,  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

~~April~~ 5th. 1917.  
May

Mr. George Vaux Jr.  
Gulph Road, Bryn Mawr,  
Pennsylvania.

My dear Mr. Vaux;

This morning I received the enclosed document from Dr. Endicott with the request that I sign and forward to you without delay. I have signed my name, as Chairman of the Board of Governors, and after you have signed your name as Treasurer, will you kindly forward the document to Mr. Rosemond.

I may say that Dr. Beach is anxious that there should be no delay in regard to the forwarding of this document, inasmuch as Mr. Rosemond has asked for it more than once.

Cordially yours,

*Wm. Goucher.*



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0929

CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES  
S. EARL TAYLOR  
FRANK MASON NORTH

Board of Foreign Missions  
Of the METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

150 Fifth Avenue  
NEW YORK CITY

CABLE ADDRESS, MISSIONS      PHONE. 2130 CHELSEA

PRESIDENT  
BISHOP LUTHER B. WILSON  
TREASURER  
GEORGE M. FOWLES

June  
Twenty-second  
Nineteen Seventeen.



Mr. George Vaux, Jr.,  
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

My dear Mr. Vaux:

Last year we ordered 4000 copies of the "World Outlook" which were devoted to our University project but they were not all used. I present herewith a bill from World Outlook for the balance of that order, which was included in my publicity accounts provided for last year. I would be very much pleased if you will forward check for same to World Outlook, 150 Fifth Avenue, Mr. E. M. Willis, Manager.

I am looking forward to being in Philadelphia some day or days, next week. I hope I shall have the pleasure of meeting you at that time. If you are not to be in the city, I would be obliged if you would drop me a card to that effect at 150 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Very truly yours,

*Joseph Beech*

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0930

oaeR

My dear Mr. Paup

Very many thanks for two checks,  
which I have sent on to World  
Outlook & Bd of Foreign Missions  
150 Fifth Ave. N.Y.

I enclose herewith check  
of \$50 from Dr. Cole which  
please hold to the request  
of Dr. W. R. Morse, a member  
of our medical faculty who is  
now in Boston, Mass., for the  
purchase of medical books  
for the University.

Dr. Morse wished some books  
and I secured this gift to -

0931

JUL 4 1917.

want them, instead of sending  
direct to him send to you  
for him.

I wrote you sometime ago  
re \$6000 gifts to University which  
would be sent you through the  
Board of Missions 150 Fifth Ave.  
N.Y. This was in addition to  
& should not be mistaken for  
\$6000 which was to come from  
the Board on their own account.  
The \$6000 gifts are from Methodist  
friends in Montclair N.J.  
& Cobleskill N.Y. too num-  
erous to receipt - to in person  
due to the Board of Missions. enough.

283449

JUL 4 1917

I am sure Dr J. Ackerman Coles  
~~37~~<sup>17</sup> W. 39<sup>th</sup> St. New York will  
appreciate a word from you  
in receipt of this \$50. He is  
a great friend of the University  
& I wish you might know him.

New York, instead of Philadelphia,  
got my time last week. I plan  
another visit later on, however,  
& may be able to run up  
to your summer place with my  
slides as you suggest.  
Do you have your lantern there?  
Should I come it will be in  
August.

0933

With the best of wishes for a fine  
summer & with remembrance  
to Mrs Vaux

Yours truly

Joseph Beech

Dixon, Illinois  
July 4 / 17

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
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150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK  
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CHAIRMAN OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
HENRY T. HODGKIN, M.A., M.B.  
15 DEVONSHIRE STREET, LONDON, E.C., ENG.  
JAMES ENDICOTT, D. D.  
299 QUEEN ST., TORONTO, CAN.  
SECRETARIES

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
CHENGTU, WEST CHINA

REV. JOSEPH BEECH, D. D. PRESIDENT  
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

FOUNDED BY  
THE AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN  
MISSION SOCIETY  
THE FRIENDS FOREIGN MISSION ASSOCIATION,  
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND  
THE GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE  
METHODIST CHURCH, CANADA  
THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

August  
Seventh  
Nineteen Seventeen.



TRANSFER

Mr. George Vaux, Jr.,  
Pocono Manor, Pa.

My dear Mr. Vaux:

I expect to get to Philadelphia next week and shall endeavor to see you. Will you kindly let me know whether you are to be at Pocono Manor or in Philadelphia, say Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

I have made inquiry of the bookkeeper here at the Board of Foreign Missions and he informs me that there were two \$6000 remittances made for the university, one from the Board as a direct appropriation to their credit on promises made some three years ago, that the first \$6000 was to apply on that agreement; the second \$6000, which was sent to you in April, was \$6000 that I secured from givers. It should be credited in the Methodist column but in the same way as other gifts. It was given for building purposes at the designation of the Board.

When you write me, will you please state if you have received any further communication from Mr. Lamont of Aberdeen, S. Dak. Will you also let me know if you have received a gift from Mr. Le Roy Barnes of Colfax, Ill.

If you prefer, some of these questions might wait until I see you. I expect to attend the Board meeting in Boston.

Trusting that you are having a fine vacation and that you and the family are in the best of health, I remain

Yours very truly

*Joseph Beech*

JB-ER

\* If at the latter place shall I bring my pictures? Do you have lantern outfit?

% Oregan Corwell  
Blair Gardner,  
W. F.

0935

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
REV. J. F. GOUCHER, LL. D., BALTIMORE, MD.  
CHAIRMAN BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
N. W. ROWELL, K.C., M.P.P., TORONTO, CAN.  
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CHENGTU, WEST CHINA

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150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

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METHODIST CHURCH, CANADA  
THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Sept. 14th, 1917.

TRANSFER

Mr. Geo. Vaux, Jr.,  
Pocono Manor, Pa.

My Dear Mr. Vaux:--

I am sending you by registered mail the budget presented of the University. I am also sending you a copy of a letter which I have written to Dr. Endicott, in explanation thereof.

There is a slight change among the items I reported at the Board meeting, because I had the salaries of the personal teachers included among my figures. Dr. Endicott stated that they should be provided, and I did not have the opportunity to make the correction. It is, however, only an item of about Two hundred dollars Mex., and can be ignored. I simply mention it to show that the difference with our original figures may be plain to you. I have made this correction in the minutes, which I have forwarded to Dr. Endicott. I have also deducted the \$52. from the capitol account, class #2 in order to make even hundreds. This is according to our conversation at Concord, because too much was charged on two items, the typewriter and one other, which I do not recall, making just about that sum, therefore the amount that is chargable directly to your capitol budget is \$2,500. The other items are all explained in the letter to Dr. Endicott.

I will be leaving here next Tuesday; it is therefore not likely that I shall see you again until I return from China, or you come there. I have enjoyed, very much, our brief acquaintance and friendship, and shall not readily forget the hospitality and friendship of your home. I would deem it a favor, if you will send me, as soon as possible, the amount in the two statements for travel, that I left with you at Pocono Manor. I want to also thank you for the amount voted in the present budget, and I am sending you, herewith, a statement of my expenses from the time of the last statement up to my return home. I have been compelled, of course, to estimate my expenses from here to Dixon. If it is an over-estimate, I will return it to you with the statement. In booking my passage, and making all other preliminary arrangements, I will need all of Uncle Sam's money that I can lay hold of and that quite early. I will not be in N.Y. So please address me at Dixon, Ill.

For your book-keeping, I am sending you a receipted bill of Austin & Conable.

A cablegram from Mr. Simkin was awaiting me here, reading "Participate inform Constituents", which means "The Senate would welcome the participation of American Friends or Haverford College in the work of the University, subject of course to subsequent full consideration of the condition of entrance, and to the approval by the Board of Governors and by each of the organizations already

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SEP 14 1917

Mr. G. Vaux, #2

WEST  
CHINA

participating, as provided in the constitution (Article III). "Inform  
Constituency" would of course be clear to you. May I ask you to carry  
out this part of the request. You will understand, of course, that the  
consent of the Senate carried with it the consent of the members of the  
Friends Mission on the Field. I feel certain that was so, otherwise the  
Senate would not have passed the action. I will write Dr. Hodgkin.  
Could we have known of the above action, we might properly have taken  
more definite action at the Board of Governors Meeting. That, however,  
can be attended to later; in the meantime, if you can forward the pro-  
ject, I believe you will be doing a very fine piece of work, both for  
the University, Mr. Simkin and the Friends at Philadelphia & London.

Kindly remember me, once more to Mrs. Vaux, Georgie,  
and Henry, and tell the farmer that I hope he can make that P. B. Club  
a missionary organization.

Very cordially yours,

Joseph Beech

JB  
EB

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0937

over  
Acct. West China Union University with J. Beech.

Received from Mr George Vaux Jr.  
Treasurer.



Bal 1916 Travel expense  
Sixon. Ill. Sept 29-17

Joseph Beech.

TRANSFER

Received from Mr George Vaux Jr.  
Treasurer.

Seven Hundred Dollars acct. return expenses  
to Chengta and Chinese Secretary.  
(Statement follows later)

Check 47 -

Checks 48, 49, 50, 51, ~~52~~ Certified S.P. Co.

\$300.<sup>00</sup>  
400.<sup>00</sup>  
\$700.<sup>00</sup>

Sixon - Ill. Sept 29-17.

Joseph Beech.

My dear Mr Vaux:

Very many thanks for your favor, & the speed thereof.  
A letter that had been wrecked enroute - from Mr Wallace added  
some items re the Szechuen trouble. He added that the  
battle in July, beginning July 6, lasted for twelve days  
that 1/6 of city was destroyed by fire, that the Imperial city -  
the section occupied by Government was shelled constantly, that  
the University - was under shell fire for 3 hrs. No damage  
to life or buildings on our grounds however. The trouble  
was between Kuichow & Szechuen Troops. Information from  
other sources indicate that Kuichow & Yunnan troops continue  
to come into the province & that they have been success-

0938

ful against the Pyechuen troops sent to meet them 3 days  
 journey from Chungking. Troops from Shensi are enroute  
 Pyechuen also. This looks as tho it was a struggle  
 between north & south elements for control of Pyechuen  
 with the Pyechuen troops against Yunnan & Kweichow  
 which represent the South. They have chosen the time  
 of year when they can feed armies enroute for the  
 summer. It looks like a bad winter ahead  
 for the people. Again good bye - but will take  
 occasion to write you enroute. Send me the  
 initials of Mrs James please -  
 Ruy hif.

Joseph Becht.

Mail points:

- Oct 10. Los Angeles Cal. Care of Dunham Southwestern Ave. Apartment 1  
 Oct 13. San Francisco Cal. Passages T. K. K. - S. S. Shinyo Maru, Sailing Oct 13  
 Nov. 5. Shanghai China, Care of W. H. Lacy, 10 Wossing Road,  
 " 20. Chungking China - Mail via Vancouver might reach me after my sailing  
 See 5-10 Chengtu W. " - Care M. E. Mission.  
 At ~~harvest~~ - I hope.

IMPROVED FARMS  
PRAIRIE LANDS  
CITY PROPERTY, INSURANCE  
EXCHANGES  
RENTALS, LOANS

*over*  
**SQUIRE LAND AND LOAN CO.**

**ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA**

201-203 VAN SLYKE BLOCK

M. SQUIRE  
J. W. EYESTONE  
J. P. SQUIRE  
K. P. SQUIRE

WEST  
CHINA

TRANSFER

Oct 5 - 1917

My dear Mr. Vaux:-

Profiting by a wait to go to lunch to write you re  
the Letcher gift. Mrs. Matilda Mason died leaving her estate worth  
about \$5000 in the care of Mr. W.C. Botkin, Cochise (Arizona  
Letcher P.D.  
Bank), who had attended to her business matters, with instructions  
that it go to China Missions. He promised same to me some  
time ago. All legal difficulties now over and he is prepared  
to pay it over - He had hoped the lawyer would be  
at Letcher yesterday to meet me - but he was called  
away - Other wise he would have paid it over yesterday. After  
consultation or informing the lawyer about us he is  
ready to pay the money between ~~\$~~4500 - ~~\$~~5000.

Will you not write to him please & open the door

0940

of acquaintances + thus make it easy for him to do  
do. You may state that you write at my request telling  
him how to make the payment etc + that I had  
assumed you Mr Botkin was ready now to affect the  
transfer of estate to us. I have talked with him  
about the way to which it is best suggesting  
two, but will write him further re that.  
Address Mr. W.C. Botkin, Cashier Citizens Bank,  
Letcher South Dakota.

Just a hint - Mr Botkin I have found a poor correspondent.  
He is kept busy + let's letters wait, but do not let him  
forget we can make full use of the gift.

Very truly yours  
Joseph Beech

COPY



October 6, 1917.

TRANSFER

Dr. Joseph Beech,  
Passenger T. K. K. S. S.  
Shinzo Maru,  
Sailing Oct. 13, San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Dr. Beech:-

I had hoped to write to you before this, but have not accomplished it, and so this must be my good-bye letter to you and before you sail.

I trust that you will have a safe and prosperous passage and that the complication of affairs in China will not seriously interfere either with your travel or with the work in which you are engaged.

I received the embroidery for Mrs. Scattergood, and shall try and place it personally in her hands. I believe she has just returned to the city.

I have had one or two interviews with William E. Cadbury respecting the Simkin matter and he has also had from England a letter from Dr. Hodgkin and also the minutes of the Committee there. They are very much opposed to the change which the Simkins wish and in some of the correspondence there has come to the surface indication that personal feeling has a good deal to do with the present complication. It seems to me that this should not be allowed to enter into so important a matter at all. After giving the matter ~~as much consideration~~ as I have been able, it seems to be inadvisable to pursue the proposed changes at the present time. Whatever may come up in the future, just now the conditions are certainly inopportune both here and in England. The whole question of another and heretofore unprovided for component organization raises many considerations which I do not see how any of us are in the best position to take up at present, in view of world conditions. Will you not, when you get back to China and have the opportunity to size up the real situation, write me fully and frankly as to how far the idea of personal antagonisms to which I have above referred have been a factor. Some of the letters refer to "painful occurrences" and that sort of thing, which none of us here understand.

The fall in the price of silver is certainly encouraging and it has been so marked that it would look to me that a part of the former high price was the result of a manipulation.

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OCT 6  
1917

Dr. Joseph Beech - 2.

However, this may be, it is certainly all to our benefit.

Again wishing you a most comfortable voyage,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

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over



TRANSFER

PALACE HOTEL  
SAN FRANCISCO

Oct 12 '17

My dear Mr. Vaux:

Very glad to get your  
good long letter before the long voyage  
begins. Will you not write Mr. W.C.  
Botkin Letcher S.D. he has the  
Matilda <sup>Mason</sup> request of about \$4500 ready  
to turn over to you. Make the way  
smooth for him to do so especially  
asking if he has any suggestions  
re use & stating promise of better  
exchange & benefit of having money  
available when it touches bottom.

I have done a fine job at Los Angeles.  
Had it a week & think I might have  
good news from that quarter - Will hope  
to get it by mail later on, however.

Will bear in mind your question re

283449

0944

10-12-17

Similar, The  
The matter does not require haste, I judge,  
so I will not write until I am quite  
sure what is best for all.

Mr. Lamont is ready any time to  
turn over the entire \$15000. A sug-  
gestion nicely put for you that you  
would like to invest same with his  
advice that interest might add  
to principal sufficient to go at  
least part less of exchange & loss  
in purchasing power due to war-  
might not be amiss. He favors  
putting up the entire building - our judg-  
ment as to time - and leaving a  
wing unfinished, if need be. Personally  
I think that means he will see it  
through. He is many times able &  
plans to visit Chicago at the Dedication  
with his wife.

Again let me refer to the kindness  
received at the hands of Mrs. Hank  
& yourself - for the hospitality of your  
home - good wishes & good deeds  
with appreciation & good bye  
Very cordially Joseph Beal

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
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HENRY F. HODGKIN, M.A., M.B.  
15 DEVONSHIRE STREET, LONDON, E.C., ENG.  
JAMES ENDICOTT, D. D.  
299 QUEEN ST., TORONTO, CAN.  
SECRETARIES

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
CHENG TU, WEST CHINA



FOUNDED BY

THE AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY  
THE FRIENDS FOREIGN MISSION ASSOCIATION, GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND  
THE GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH, CANADA  
THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

REV. JOSEPH BEECH, D. D. PRESIDENT  
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Chengtu, December 18, 1917

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Vaux:-

I arrived in Chengtu on the 15th, Dr. Endicott having gone on ahead the last stages of the journey arrived on the 13th. We had the good fortune to get the Standard Oil Steamer up river, all others being used for transportation of troops by government at Peking, and so passed the two fleets of missionary boats some of whom left the States in August. Dr. Morse, who you will remember left the Board Meeting to start on his journey was in the party about 400 miles below Chungking. That party was turned back about 250 miles up because of the retreat of the Northern troops down river and I understand Dr. Morse is planning to come overland from Wanshien, a 15 day trip to Chengtu. This will hasten his arrival, but will be costly and trying, and beset with dangers.

We found heavy fighting at Chungking between the Southern troops and Northerners. Szechuen being neutral in part and the rest sympathetic to <sup>North or</sup> South. The Yunnanese were badly defeated and many slaughtered at Luchow, four days above Chungking, by Szechuenese. Meantime the roads were beset with danger to travellers for disorganized troops are too often robbers. Mr. Rudd was badly handled in his efforts to get from Chungking to Chengtu via Luchow. You will see that Dr. Endicott and I were favored.

We found evidences of a growing concern here, all of which another time, and a story from the Dr. when he gets back.

I send herewith statement of account for travel. It includes a journey to Chicago and trips to S. Dakota that were on University business, but not in my Outcoming properly, I put the items here for convenience in settlement. It makes me a little shorter on an already short balance as you will see. One item is estimated \$15 forwarding baggage etc, It will not be less than this and may be a long time before I get the goods if I ever get them, tho I am sure to get the charge for shipment some time before many weeks. I will arrange the difference in my next account if not provided otherwise. I had sufficient in the H. & S Bank in Shanghai to meet my bills so returned your certified to U.S. and charged against my <sup>own</sup> account the current

rate that Dr. Endicott and I got on arrival, \$1.38.

kindest remembrances to Mrs Vaux and the children,

Very truly,  
*Joseph Beech*

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COPY.

Chengt u,  
February, 23, 1918.

TRANSFER

Mr. Mornay Williams,  
Englewood, N.J.

My dear Mr. Williams,

You will see that I am a poor typist from the enclosed list and that my machine sympathizes with the operator. I have been long enough in getting this to you, but thought it better to delay it till I could follow it up with personal letters to the parties to whom the report will go. I have made trouble enough for myself and everybody else to keep them and my self busy about night and day. Our whole curriculum is being overhauled to make it more in touch with the life and demand of the conditions here and to bring it within the possibility to carry it forward without additional workers, at least for the war, and at the same time no less efficiency so long as our classes are not too large to handle in single groups. This has taken every minute of time I could get for it for some time for it demanded study of the conditions. The building propositions have been to the front also, and I hope that we will have something to report on these problems now in a few days, or as soon as the Canadians, who have been attending the Annual Conference, return.

Political situations are far from settled. Fighting has been going on about here for the past two months, but not near enough to Chengtu to bother us, except that it prevented our students returning for the new term. Now the Southerners have gotten the city and we are besieged by the poor distracted people to help protect them. All the Churches are full up and many are here in the half finished buildings on the campus. The wounded soldiers of the Northern Szechuan army, for Szechuenese are on both sides, are in bad shape in the city. They could not leave with the others, and they despair of their lives. I hear the military doctors have deserted them, that the Southerners have robbed them of beds and bedding, and show them no consideration. I am just now starting in with the doctors to see if our medical school can be of assistance medically and perhaps save them from slaughter as well.

I will write you more in the near future. With kindest remembrances,

Sincerely,

(signed) J. Beech.

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COPY.

Chengtu, February 25th, 1918.

Mr. Mornay Williams,  
Chairman of Executive  
Committee of the Board of Governors,  
Englewood, N.J.



TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Williams,

Lest cables go not through I am writing you about money for the Administration Building, cable for which may have reached you before this gets far on the way.

I am cabling at the expressed wish of the Senate that the Botkin gift of about four thousand five hundred dollars be used for the Administration Building. The action was necessary because the money for building is about exhausted and it is certain that this and quite a sum in addition will be required to complete the building. I prefer to wait till the estimate has been carefully drawn up before saying about how much it will be. It does not seem right to wait till that time to ask for a sum sufficient to keep the work going forward, however, and so I suggested to the Senate that the Botkin gift might be secured. It was to be paid to the Treasurer shortly following my visit. I suppose therefore that the money is now with Mr. Vaux. I am writing you as Chairman in the absence of Dr. Endicott that you may take whatever action seems advisable to secure the gift being drawn if action has not already taken place. We wish permission to draw the amount by cable message to that effect.

-----  
If the money is given for this purpose it has been suggested that it be applied to the completion of the central upstairs hall as a memorial to Mrs. Mason, whose money was left to Mr. Botkin with the instruction that he use it for China Missions. Mr. Botkin was therefore only the agent. I mentioned the possibility of its use in this Hall, so it will be agreeable to him.

While I must wait for a more complete study of expenditure in this building before going into a statement in regard to it, I think I ought to say that in my opinion it is inadvisable to order the erection of another building or the drawing of plans till the reason for the expenditure on this one is explained, if it can be, in order that future buildings may not repeat the delays in construction and excessive cost above estimated that this one has. No part of the building is yet ready for occupancy, tho we expect one wing before long. The original estimate for its erection was tenthousand, later it was thought fifteen would suffice. The ten thousand first given, an additional eleven thousand was added later, twenty thous-

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Chengtu, February 25th, 1918.

Mr. Mornay Williams,  
 Chairman of Executive  
 Committee of the Board of Governors,  
 Englewood, N.J.



TRANSFER

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-----  
 If the money is given for this purpose it has been suggested that it be applied to the completion of the central upstairs hall as a memorial to Mrs. Mason, whose money was left to Mr. Botkin with the instruction that he use it for China Missions. Mr. Botkin was therefore only the agent. I mentioned the possibility of its use in this Hall, so it will be agreeable to him.

While I must wait for a more complete study of expenditure in this building before going into a statement in regard to it, I think I ought to say that in my opinion it is inadvisable to order the erection of another building or the drawing of plans till the reason for the expenditure on this one is explained, if it can be, in order that future buildings may not repeat the delays in construction and excessive cost above estimated that this one has. No part of the building is yet ready for occupancy, tho we expect one wing before long. The original estimate for its erection was ten thousand, later it was thought fifteen would suffice. The ten thousand first given, an additional eleven thousand was added later, twenty thousand dollars Mexican was borrowed from the land account, (\$5000 gold toward the re payment of same was voted in Boston) has been used in this building, except some adjustments to be made in stock account. Ten thousand dollars gold will certainly be required to finish it and perhaps considerably above that figure, when furnishing is concluded. I think you will agree on this brief statement of the main items of expense that we ought to learn what the next is likely to cost before proceeding with it. I am more anxious, perhaps, than anyone else to go ahead with the buildings as my word is involved, but if we run beyond estimates in money and time as in this one we will be without defense.

TRANSFER

The building is very beautiful and some express the opinion that it is worth all it costs, but that aside, we ought to come nearer the estimate and must do so since we are erecting memorial buildings in the next two. The present plan evidently does not guarantee or give assurance needed, hence the suggestion that you 'make haste slowly', contracting for more buildings.

I will write you later on as to the final estimate, and I hope that I may have some suggestions as to procedure in the future. Exchange and war are now added reasons for uncertainties, they should not however deter us from going ahead if we can only determine the right method of procedure in so doing.

The Southerners are now in full possession of the city. Chengtu is more like an armed camp than a city. Large numbers of refugees are here at the University and at the hospitals, churches and Christian schools in the city. Proclamations are out calling on the soldiers to protect the churches and the soldiers are freely entering homes and running off with bedding. Many think this is the beginning of worse things and so we are besieged for protection, especially by girls and women. We do not know what will happen, but there seems no indication that we will suffer any harm. Strangers as well as citizens show us respect and this gives us our day of opportunity. "Surely this is God's doing," we can say without fear of missing the truth.

I will also write Mr. Vaux re the Botkin gift, so that there may be no misunderstanding in regard to it. I hope that you will endeavor to get the money authorized if that is required for we will be out of funds soon.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

(signed) Joseph Beech.

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# West China Union University

WEST  
CHINA

ESTABLISHED BY

AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY,  
FRIENDS FOREIGN MISSION ASSOCIATION, GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,  
GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH, CANADA,  
THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, U.S.A.

CHENG TU,



WEST CHINA

Chengtu, March 9, 1918.

Mr. George Vaux JR.  
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

5 Mo. 8 1918

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Vaux:

I have decided to write you this letter instead of writing to Toronto, with the request that you will pass it on to the Chairman of the Executive, Mr. Mornay Williams when you have read it with whatever information you have from MR. Lamont regarding his gift for the Library Building. I was under the impression that I wrote you the few facts I had as the result of my visit there enroute to China. From the report of the Executive in New York I judge I failed to do this, so will endeavor to recall the conversation for your information now.

I did not deem wise to ask Mr. Lamont bluntly if he would increase the amount of his subscription to meet the losses in exchange and increase in cost of construction for two reasons, first I preferred to permit him to make the suggestion after I had stated the fact in a general way, and second, because there were so many doubts in my own mind as to just where the cost above estimate would probably be. He did not take up the suggestion and I did not press it preferring to come at it more tactfully after we had come to decisions from the present building experience and had decided whether we would wait for a better exchange before going on with his building.

I did however get from him the statement that he preferred that we should put up the entire building, rather than a wing and central section, and then the inside could be finished later if desired. That is he thought it would be more economical to build the walls and roof it, door and window the exterior and finish a wing and central section or even less. This he thought the better plan and it agrees with my judgment. Mr. Lamont plans to visit West China when the building is dedicated and I believe he will not allow the building to remain unfinished if the situation pleases him. It would not please him to have half the building erected I am sure. I will be sending him some photos of the present Administration Building in a few days and will mention the difficulty in the way of making certain estimates both as to exchange and materials. If he is willing to assume the added expense we ought to go on at once, as soon as we can get another basis in regard to architect and builder, the present arrangement in my opinion ought not to be continued unless we are prepared to lose by it.

In regard to this building would it be possible to make arrangements, if Mr. Rountree furnishes the plan to considerably reduce the price of the drawing, for the building to be erected is almost a direct counterpart of the Administration Building. In fact, with his consent we could put up this building here from the former plans, I believe, with such modifications as are called for. I pass on this thought without knowing the professional courtesies involved, which I may be transgressing. We hope to settle the Middle School problems at the next Senate. It is a long story so will reserve that for another letter.

With all good wishes, Very truly,

*Joseph Beach*

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P.S. Will you please let me know if Mr. Lamont and Mr. Botkin have not paid their subscriptions, and oblige.

## West China Union University



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CHENG TU,



WEST CHINA

Chengtu, March, 9, 1918.

Mr. George Vaux Jr.  
Bryn Mawr, Penn'a.

5 Mo. 8 1918

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Vaux:

I recently wrote, and sent forward to Shanghai to be cabled from there a message re the Botkin gift being used for the Administration Building. The letter was sent to Mr. Williams and the cable was sent to the Methodist office in Toronto. Mail and telegraph are both uncertain and it may be that this message to you will arrive first, at all events I desire to write you regarding it.

Mr. Botkin was appointed administrator of Mrs. Mason's estate, which amounted to something like five thousand dollars. I wrote you re this before leaving America stating that he had promised to send you the money in a few days after my visit. I am assuming that he has done this, if he has not I trust you will make this message to you the occasion for a letter to him stating our urgency.

I stated to Mr. Botkin that we could use the gift to dedicate the large Hall in the Administration Building in Memory of Mrs. Mason. He seemed pleased with this suggestion, though he expressed no preference. Our suggestion in asking for the money is to use it in this manner if you are agreed.

We ask permission to draw on you for the amount or that you send it to the United Mission Treasurers, Rev. W.A. Main, or Mr. Stafford, 9 Hankow Road, Shanghai, who are instructed to wire us to draw on them, upon receipt of word from you. We of course desire you to cable to us or U.M.T. Office.

The reason for the haste is that we have reached the end of our resources in the Administration Building. We were compelled to adopt this course or stop work awaiting the action of the Board of Governors placing more money at our disposal. This is not a satisfactory method of doing business and I hope that the right manner of doing it may be arrived at before we begin on other buildings. It is a problem beset with difficulties and I shall hope that before I leave we can devise a better way.

I expect to start back to the United States to be there by the beginning of 1919. I will start from here in October as I have stops to make enroute to interest certain persons in the University. I will not ask that my travel be included in the budget nor my campaign expenses for next year as at this distance I am too uncertain as to details. I will try to write you by the time of the Board Meeting re this item. My travel will be something about \$500. I will secure the money from this end and will settle with you on arrival. An approximate amount ought to be voted to meet it during the early part of 1919, however.

Am enjoying my stay here and find much to cheer and rejoice in. Politically the situation is far from secure, but there is a lull just now. It does not directly concern us except to give us about three hundred refugees here. Kindest remembrance to Mrs. Vaux and the children, Very truly,  
*Jos. Buch*

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CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES  
S. EARL TAYLOR  
FRANK MASON NORTH

Board of Foreign Missions  
Of the METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

150 Fifth Avenue  
NEW YORK CITY

CABLE ADDRESS, MISSIONS    PHONE, 2130 CHELSEA



TRANSFER

March 28th,  
1919.

Mr. George Vaux, Jr.,  
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

My dear Mr. Vaux:-

You perhaps have an umbrella in your office as evidence at least that I have been in your vicinity. I will be in Baltimore a week from today and will drop in to see you, either on my way down or back.

I have sent on to you \$500. from Mr. Morrell, and a \$50. bond from William Ronk, and perhaps you have received a gift from Mr. Miller of Baltimore, for the separate student scholarship; all of these I will speak of when I see you again.

Yes, Mr. Gro<sup>ver</sup>ner very kindly invited me to lecture before the National Geographic Society in either February or March, but I could not see my way clear to do it. I would have enjoyed both the \$250.00 honorarium and the opportunity to put the University before that great audience of 2500, but I had plans out in the far west which I felt were too important to set aside.

I did not procure the consent of Mr. Lamont to increase his gift sufficiently to meet the added cost of the library. I have discovered that lawyers and their fees had taken more than the expected share of the Botkin gift and so you have received the total of that sum, \$3,000 instead of \$4,000.

I presume that you have heard that our next Board meeting will likely be in London. If it should be there, I hope you will not forget to pack your traveling bag for England about that time.

We had a very good meeting of the Simkin committee. There seems to be no difficulty in the way of joining the Haverford-Simkin movement up to the American Friends. Dr. Hodgkins' letter to Mr. Simkin states that this is the very natural thing to be done. You may be in a position to forward Mr. Simkins' interest and I am sure in so doing, you will ultimately contribute to missionary interest among the Friends and to increase the friends of the University.

With kindest remembrances to Mrs. Vaux, and with best wishes to you all, I am,

Very truly yours,

JB:VAE

Joseph Beech

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CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

REV. JOSEPH BEECH, D.D., PRESIDENT  
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

WEST  
CHINA

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METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
LONDON, ENGLAND 1918

Dixon, Ill, June 11, 1919

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Vaux:

Since writing you I have found the items on my last years report and enclose herewith the statement of balance on that account.

Errand boy 10 months and travel (\$5)	\$65.00
University Day Feast for publicity	90.00
Reception to students	40.00
Entertainment of Guests	12.00
Postage , 2.2.1. 3. 2 . 2 , 1.	13.00
Printing	2.50
Chairs for visits etc.	6.95.
Mexican	\$229.45

consider = U.S. \$163.57  
and balances the \$700 advanced  
on travel and University  
uses last year.

The charge on the last statement was Mex \$225.73 the equivalent of U.S. \$163.57 at the rate then quoted. Please consider the enclosed just equals that " " and balances the account.

Very truly yours,

*Joseph Beech*

LYBRAND, ROSS BROS.  
AP  
& MONTGOMERY

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0954

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THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
LONDON, ENGLAND 1918

Dixon Ill. July 28/19

My dear Mr. Vaux:

TRANSFER

Regret delay in answering  
your letter of 6/21. Columbus Celebration  
with its ever end less thousands of folks  
obscured everything for a time and came  
near obliterating me. I was what you call  
in this land "about all in" meaning "all out." Am  
disappointed that you cannot get to London.  
It is a time when much depends on international  
good will and our visit will further this. I hope,  
as well as the interests of the University. Wish  
you might add your presence. Dr. Goucher & I plan  
to sail on the 20 Aug. from N.Y. Perhaps I can see  
you before I sail - if you cannot go. Will endeavor  
so to do. Will get my travel & expense acct to  
you soon - making it my next duty.

Trust your family having fun time at U.S. with affectional remembrance  
Joe Beech

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 METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
 THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
 LONDON, ENGLAND 1918

Dixon, Illinois, July 29th, 1919.

My dear Mr. Vaux:

Herewith the account of expenses since I ended with my former statement at the Executive Meeting in New York City last January to date. Unfortunately I do not have a sister residing at Newark now as formerly and so I am compelled to make hotels an item while in that vicinity, which is not a little as New York is the center from which I come and go about as much as my home.

Over against these charges you may be interested to know that we have a few assets in the form of promises, which since you may not be in London I ought to pass on to you in advance.

James Keen has increased his amount from \$2000 to <sup>5</sup> \$3000	-----	<sup>3</sup> \$ 3000.	(3)
I think Mr. Lamont will do the same but have not yet the final word.			
The Atherton estate will give up to 12,500 or \$15000 for a biological building. I expect certainly the latter amount realized		15000	
Mr. J.H. Morris Mithcell S.D.		1000	
Mr. J.E. Johnson Waterloo Ia		5000	
M.E. Church, Wessington Spgs \$500 for 5 years		2500	
Mr. Ed Moore, Elizabeth \$2000 for 5 years		10000	
Mr. Jos B. Morrell Administration Building.		25000	

And I have been tentatively promises \$10000 for a hospital at the University for the foreign community of the province which I think will be in form by the time we get to London. Hope you can add it in the column soon.

Most of this comes through the Centenary giving and will come to you through the treasurer of the M.E. Board, but I have been responsible directly in getting it pledged to the University. The payments in most cases will also be spread over five years in accordance with the terms of the Centenary giving. As it is hoped to have these Centenary gifts continued after the five years there is also hope that some of these will continue as regular gifts yearly after the five years.

<sup>London</sup> When I see you on my way East I will be pleased if you will advance on my trip there. The cost is considerable or will be before I get back from the other side and I am not in position to advance it myself just now. My expenses far outrun my income from the University, compelling me to draw on my reserve, but I don't wish to do violence to that account. Will thank you for the amount of the enclosed statement whenever convenient to you, \$376.41. <sup>377.51</sup>

Will you let me know where you are likely to be on or about the 16-18 Aug? If you are at Pocono I will go East via D.L&W and stop there a train, otherwise may run to Philadelphia from N.Y.

With best wishes and kindest to your estimable family circle,  
 I remain,

Very truly yours

Joseph Beech

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Statement of Travel Account of Joseph Beech  
from America to Chengtu.

To R.R. Ticket Dixon to San Francisco	\$46.
" S.S. " S.F. to Shanghai	196.
" extra trunk straps	1.65
" trip to Chicago and return from Dixon re Mr. Brn	5.70
" Baggage from Dixon	.50
" Sleeper to Sioux City and Meal trains	3.00
" Baggage transfer "	40.
" R.R. fare Sioux City - Letcher %.	3.85
" " Letcher- Aberdeen and Sleeper	5.10
" " Lunch on trains	1.45
" " Aberdeen- Sioux City	6.66
" Baggage storage Sioux City	.80
" Sleeper to Denver and Meals	4.50
" Denver Hotel	2.15
\$ Sleeper Denver - Salt Lake	3.20
" Train Meals to "	3.95
" Transfer carfare	.15
" Telegrams to Dr. Endicott and Mr. Thompson	2.00
" Sleeper Salt Lake - <del>Los Angeles</del> to S.F.	6.00
" Carfare and stamps at Los Angeles	1.30
" Hotel San Francisco	3.75
" Baggage transfer and car fare S.F.	1.70
" Meals at S.F.	1.25
" Pass port charge	2.00
" Shipboard expense, laundry, tips	4.00
" Train and Hotel bill overland Japan trip	8.75
" Transfer and stopover at Nagasaki, steamer tips chair etc, baggage and boat hire	5.65
" Hotel stopover at Nagasaki	5.00
" Cable Home from Shanghai Mex.	\$10.80
" Evans Hotel Shanghai	14.60
" Steamer and R.R. Ticket to Hankow	36.00
" Luggage and tips Shanghai	1.40
" Telegrams <del>and</del> boat connections and Chengtu	3.34
" Cards printed in Chinese	1.00
" China Inland Mission Travel outfit,	8.46
" Hankow baggage and transfer, telegrams	1.90
" Meals on Steamer	4.00
" Steamer ticket to Ichang	36.00
" Ichang telegrams, baggage transfers, etc	3.78
" Meals on steamer and tips	7.75
" Steamer ticket to Chungking	80.00
" " meals "	13.00
" Baggage boatman, tips "	2.03
" Baggage to Country forwarding point	1.60
" Road Lantern	1.20
" Boy on Road as helper \$2 up exp \$2, down \$2	6.00
" Chairmento Chengtu and carriers	36.50
" Road expense to Chengtu	3.40
" Stationery and stamps	2.00
" Baggage to Chengtu by boat and overland	15.00
" Charge for baskets for carrying etc	

At \$1.38 Total Mexican dollars 289.76 = \$209.97 U.S.

Total amount --- \$536.43 "

Total Received from Treasurer of Board of Governors \$700

Amount expended as above 536.43

Balance on hand \$163.57 @ 1.38 = \$225.73 Mex



TRANSFER

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12/18/17

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 METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
 THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
 LONDON, ENGLAND 1918

Dixon Ill. Aug 12<sup>th</sup> 1919

Mr George Vaux Jr  
Morris Building  
Chestnut St.  
Phila

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Vaux

This is just to say that I will pass through Phila, arriving next Sunday Am in the early hours. I will stop long enough to phone you at your home to ascertain if you are there. I would like to see you if possible and talk over matter of finance re the London meeting and get your judgment on one or two matters.

Should I fail to see you will be obliged if you will send me the amount of my last statement - for expense in U.S. \$ 377.<sup>50</sup> to Room 500, 150 Fifth Ave N.Y. I sail on the morning of 20<sup>th</sup> on the White Star Line, "The Baltic"

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in company with Dr Goucher. No difficulty what-  
ever with Passports authorities has been met  
with.

Saturday Morn.  
I will stop enroute at Richmond, Indiana  
and see the Secy of the Friends Board of  
Foreign Missions Mr. Ross & Hadley re Mr.  
Ainslie's affairs. Wish something satisfactory  
to Mr Ainslie could be arrived at. Doubt if  
there is time to write him before I see him,  
but as their Board may take some action  
before the London Meeting I would appreciate  
any helpful word you might care to add.

Trust Mr Peano has been as beautiful  
as ever & that your family have been able  
to enjoy it. With kindest remembrance  
to them all  
Very truly yours  
Joseph Beest

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THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
LONDON, ENGLAND 1918

My dear Mr Vaux:

My many thanks for yours to hand en-  
closing check.  
You will learn officially that London  
has been changed to Toronto on the place  
of meeting Sept. 10-12. Transportation

difficulties especially incidentally about getting  
return passage prevented all representatives of  
Board going except Mr. Williams. This just  
to let you know that you need not send  
the promised report to me here. I will  
return home to go via Phila in all proba-  
bility - I may be able to see you for a  
short time. I wish also to see Mr. Cadbury  
if I can as I am to meet Mr. Ross  
a Hadley as I go West.

With appreciation,  
Yours truly,  
Joseph Beech

My Aug 16/19

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WEST  
CHINA

*Copy* To be sent to Mr. Vaux with your statements of accounts.

Dixon, Ill. Aug. 29, 1919

*Joseph Beas*

Miss Agnes Shaw,  
Lantern Slide Dept.,  
394 Broadway,  
New York City.

TRANSFER

My dear Miss Shaw:

The slides packed in travelling and outside shipping case arrived yesterday and I find all as per your letter. I am mailing you sixteen slides which I do not want, either because they do not show up well on the screen or because I have duplicates of the subject which are better. You will credit me with these slides please. Your list included <sup>106</sup>~~107~~ and one panoram. I am retaining <sup>90</sup>~~91~~ and the pan ram. Will you kindly send bill in duplicate, one copy to me here and one to Mr. George Vaux Jr. Treasurer of the University, Bryn Mawr, Pa. Please enclose with the slide account the charge for the slide case and the shipping case. If you do not handle this latter account please get it also in duplicate from the lantern department 111 - 5th Ave and enclose with your account. This should be done at once as Mr. Vaux will be closing his accounts for the year and may wish to include this in this year's accounts. *I am requesting him to make payment to you*

In all probability I will keep the 91 slides and the panoram, but would like to reserve the right to return or exchange if on a more thorough examination I find they are such as I would not care to retain.

I send also one slide which should be touched up as indicated on the paper enclosing it and returned to me as soon as it is finished.

Thanking you for this order and trusting that you will send on the account without the least delay, I am,

Yours very truly,

*Joseph Beas*

*Copy* Numbers returned are. 24610, 25385, <sup>27572</sup>27527, 25385, 55085, 55080, 26914, 298, 3729, 19015, <sup>43291</sup>43219, 1991, 12054, No. No., <sup>25383</sup>25386, 597, and 64936 to be retouched and returned to me.

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
CENTU METHODIST EPISCOPAL COLLEGE

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WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

REV. JOSEPH BEECH, D.D., PRESIDENT  
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

WEST CHINA  
FOUNDED 1908 BY  
THE AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN  
MISSION SOCIETY  
THE FRIENDS FOREIGN MISSION ASSOCIATION,  
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND  
THE GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE  
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METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
LONDON, ENGLAND 1918

New York, N.Y.  
September 27th,  
1919.

TRANSFER

Mr. George Vaux, Jr.,  
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

My dear Mr. Vaux:

It is my expectation to pass through Philadelphia in a few days, but lest I do not see you I write this note.

Authorization, as voted by the Board, ought to be made to the treasurer on the field to pay the moving, house rent, and allowance to Dr. Elliott, charging the same against our general undesignated funds until such time as the action of the C.M.S. looking to his support can be ascertained. Will you please authorize the treasurer to do this? Mr. Davison is at present in Shanghai on business. I think it would be well, therefore, for you to address the communication to the Rev. Charles Carscallen, secretary, who will give it to the person whom Mr. Davison has authorized to act in his absence.

I left your report on the 1920 budget with Miss Milloy in order that she might make a copy of the same for the Minutes. I marked it for return to you and requested her to do so as soon as she had finished with it.

I have already informed two of the Mission Boards' secretaries that I am not inclined to accept the \$1250.00 voted as incidental expense for the president. My account, therefore, will come as heretofore, but I shall feel free, after what was said at the Board meeting, to charge items of expense which occur in connection with my work more completely than in the past to the University.

I was very glad of the opportunity to visit with you in the days at Toronto and I believe they were very much worth-while days.

Hoping to see you as I pass through Philadelphia, I remain,

Very truly yours,

J B  
VAE

Joseph Beech

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My dear Mr. Taux:

Dixon Ill. Oct 2/19



Dr. Kelly sends me some items which ought to have been in the budget. He desires to make the purchases here or in Japan. I suggest that you send him \$75.00 and charge to the current budget with adjustment to be made on the field for goods as follows.

1. Myers Calorimeter	\$10
2. Stems & Chemicals	15
3. Glass ware - Japan	50
	<hr/>
	\$75

I believe this will be agreeable to all concerned. Dr. Kelly has been doing special work here and these items he will need on arrival to begin his work. They cannot await till he arrives on the field as you

0963

10-2-19

will see.

Please send him the amt. if  
you can at once requesting his  
receipt on itemized statement,  
copy of which he will give the  
treasurer for record of purchases there.

His address is

Dr C. B. Kelly  
to ~~Oct 7~~ / Delhi St.  
Guelph, Ont.  
Canada.

Oct 10 20 106 N. Madison Av.  
La Grange  
Ill.

He sails Oct 30 - pm Vancouver. Express Russia

Thanking you.

Very truly yours

Joseph Becht

PS

Have just arrived in Dixon. I leave here on the  
17<sup>th</sup> and sail for London on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Will  
write you in a few days JB

0964