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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

WCUU
Corres.
Rao, John 1939-1942

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0247

ASSOCIATED BOARDS
FOR
CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA
150 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

File 7 11

September 15, 1939

Memo: to Mr. Parker

Mr. John Kao is scheduled to arrive in Victoria on the "Empress of Japan" on September 19th.

It is our understanding that he is coming alone. This is a source of considerable unhappiness to him, and of worry to his friends in Chengtu, inasmuch as Mrs. Kao was born a Korean and has been persecuted by certain ultra-patriotic individuals in Chengtu because of her Japanese connections. The friends of the Kao's in West China had originally hoped that it would be possible for both of them to come to America, not only for the reason given above but because of Mrs. Kao's outstanding abilities and splendid character.

As far as I know, the only support which Mr. Kao has at present is a $600 fellowship for tuition in M.I.T., which was awarded him through the interest of President Compton. It is our understanding that his transportation is being provided by the University, but I am not sure of this. He was granted a special allowance of $50 from one of the funds held by the University in Chengtu. Presumably his salary will be continued to provide for his family. Otherwise, he may try to live on his probably meagre savings. The ideal solution of the problem would be to bring Mrs. Kao to this country and enable the family to live here until both have completed their graduate studies. Such an investment should be of great value to the University.

O.J.Caldwell

OJC:cs

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0248

aek 9/28/39 $75.00
enc. ck.

Sept. 27th 1939

Dear Mr Evans:

It was a great pleasure to me when I called on you last Monday. I felt very happy to know you and the others who are at the present working so hard for the C Chistain Education in China.

I was very grateful for your kindness of taking my case in your hand, and I felt so much released.

Following your instruction I got to Dr Decker's office that afternoon. I think, ~~xkxxkk~~, this city was very systematically designed.

Dr Decker was very kind to introduce Mr David Toong to me. Mr Toongwas in charge of Chinese YMCA Boston for the past two years and now is the secretary of Committee of Friend Relation among Foreign Students.

Mr Toong gave me most of the information about Boston and M. I. T. after I talk over with Mr T. K. Shen I shall be able to give you information in detial.

Since the registration will be started on 29th at M I T do you think it will be alright for me to have seventy-five dollars by then so I shall be able to pay for the registration besides the tuition? Will you please forward the money to Mr T. K. Chen (1,Cleveland St Cambridge Maas).

Order
Mrs Chen
Advance
Paid 9/28/39
No. 3152

I am leaving here for Boston by 12 o'clock train.

Sincerely yours

John Y. C. Kao

2881
4531
0249

October 27, 1939

aek 11/2/39

Mr. John Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Kao:

Word has just been received from Mr. Robertson in a letter dated September 18th which should have come to hand more promptly as it was sent by air mail.

This letter deals with your problem and requests us to cooperate with you as is necessary, and advise us as to what is the minimum requirement for your work at M. I. T. We have paid a bill for a portion of your expenses, but I am asking that you give us some idea as to what you will need for the entire year's work. That will allow us to present your budget to the field treasurer.

I sincerely trust that you are getting on well with your work, and that you are enjoying the contacts you are making. In some respects we regret that you are not near us, as the distance prohibits our having more frequent contacts with you.

For your convenience, I am enclosing a stamped envelope and await your reply.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B
ENC.

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0250

Nov. 5th 1939
524A. Graduate House
M. I. T. Cambridge
Mass.

F

Dear Mrs Macmillan,

Many thanks for your kind invitation on Nov. 30th at the college club. I suppose we will have a holiday on Thanksgiving so I accept with great pleasure.

I shall be looking forward to see you and some other friends.

Sincerely yours.

John Y. L. Kao

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0251

Ack 11/14/39
enc. $75.00

8 Bond St.

11-12-39

Graduate House
M. I. T. Cambridge
Mass. (11/12/39)

Dear Mr Evans,

Many thanks for your two letters and a cheque of $75.00.

I ought to answer you as early as I should get it seemed that I had not a single minute free for doing what I intended to.

I am so glad that W.C.U.U. finally wrote you about my case. I was a little worrying too.

Regarding to my expenses I wrote to mr T. K. Cheng for his advice, as I am only a stranger. Herewith I'm enclosing his letter in here.

Besides the expenses for the maintenance I'm in great need of a winter overcoat as it has been snowing one morning, and a typewriter because reports & papers have to be the required type form, or not accepted.

Regarding to the $100.00 I received from you herewith I submit a rough statement of the necessary ~~buys~~ buying I have made, including food & laundry, & miscellaneous for 46 days (Sept 27 – Nov. 11). At the present I'm living on the money I have saved from the trip but that will be finished very soon, so will you please kindly send some more money as soon as you can.

2 8 8
4 5 3 1
0252

11-12-39

I learned that Mrs Macmillan will be coming to Boston at the end of this month. If it is possible for you to get a typewriter for me in New York, perhaps Mrs Macmillan will be kindly enough to bring it here.

I believe it will be cheaper to buy in New York than here. As repairing costs money I would like to have a rather good one.

I had such a pleasure to meet Dr & Mrs Morse, Dr Yates & Mr Wood, I felt so much cheered & encouraged to have so many friends around me.

Thanks also for your Kindness to pay my rental for this semester.

Hope to hear from you soon.

gratefully yours.

J. Y. Kuo

UNIVERSITIES
NOV 14 1939
POST OFFICE

0253

Original of this letter returned to Mr. Kao 11/14/39

C
O
P
Y

37 Mellen Street
Cambridge
Oct. 9th, 1939

Dear Mr. Kao,

Thanks for your note. I am very glad to hear that you have got yourself started nicely at Tech. Of course, the first few weeks will be rather hard for any new comers.

I am surprised to learn that Roy Spooner did not give you any information about the expenses at Tech. He was there for a whole year; he would be in the best position to give you the advice. My experience here at Harvard is that barring the tuition paid directly from the Harvard-Yenching office I need at least $70 for my monthly expenses. The budget may be given as follows:

Room.....	$22.00	
Books and stationary.....	6.00	
Meals.....	30.00	
Postage, laundry, etc.,.....	7.00	
Miscellaneous.....	5.00	
Total		$70.00

The Tech. boys used to tell me that tell me that they have to spend more than those at Harvard. Be sure that you make arrangement with the University's office at New York to furnish you with enough money. You are here to study and not to worry every cent you have to spend. I would advice that you ask Mr. Evans, our treasurer to make all the arrangement for you.

Hope you are enjoying your work and I believe that you will make an excellent record here.

Sincerely,

/S/ Cheng Te-K'un

(Cheng Te-K'un)

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
524A Graduate House
M. I. T.

2 8 8

4 5 3 1

0254

Received		Paid	
Cheque No. 3150	25-00	Ticket (N.Y. to Boston)	6-00
" " 3152	75-00	luggage (from B station to M.I.T.)	50
	$100 00	Books:-	
		Chem. Eng. thermodynamics	325
		Corrosion - Causes & Prevention	700
		Webster Eng. dictionary	350
		Chem. Engineering	550
		Chem. Stoicheometry	250
		Steam tables	275
		Electrical Engineering	250
		Differential Equation	175
		Slide rule	1250
		Pencils 2	200
		Fountain pen	100
		Watch	200
		Curve ruler	100
		Room key deposit	100
		Note-paper, stationary, inkstand	400
		Note paper loose sheet clamp	100
		Ear treatment medical bill	500
		Shoes 1 pair	350
		Stockings	140
		Membership fee M.I.T.C. Student's Club, Boston Yeuching Club	100
		Contribution to Tech Christian Assn.	100
			$70.65

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0255

1 year
1 year

November 14, 1939

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Kao:

Your good letter of November 12th came to hand this morning together with a letter from Mr. T. K. Cheng, and your itemized expense account covering the advance of $100.00.

We note your need for an overcoat and also a typewriter. From the weather in New York this morning the former is the greater need, together, of course, the need of proper food. We have paid your room rent for the first semester and together with this check we are enclosing, you should get along pretty well through the next month. Meanwhile, we will try to work out a plan whereby you will not be worried over your immediate needs.

Good overcoats may be purchased here in New York anywhere from $18 to $25, although one can spend any amount of money in clothing if it is available. For your needs the more reasonably priced ones is all that is necessary.

Regarding the typewriter -- I have communicated with the Royal Typewriter Company and hope to have one delivered through their office in Boston shortly. This will be much better than having Mrs. Macmillan deliver it, and I am quite sure will prove equally satisfactory to you.

We are keeping a copy of Mr. Cheng's letter and return you the original. Check for $75.00 is enclosed and we will pay for the typewriter from this end.

With sincerest best wishes to you, I am

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B
ENCS.

P. S. Will write you later regarding the typewriter.
C. A. E.

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0256

File #8

Graduate House M. I. T.
Cambridge, Mass.
Dec. 23rd 1939

Dear Mr Caldwell:

I hope you will excuse me for my not being able to write you for such a long time. It was very kind of you to write an introduction letter for me to president Compton when I first came here. Without your letter and the letter which Dr Stuart had written long before I came I would have been refused for the registration as there was ~~any~~ not Kao in the list of application for admission.

Many thanks for your kind letter. It was very nice of you to remind me like that. No, I am not working too hard. I am doing what I think I ought to. You know very well how I feel when I compare the well organized, prosperous, rich, with everything in order, powerful and yet peaceful country with my own nation especially at the present. I am all togather stimulated.

I realize it very well the chance is very rare for me so I ahve to take the full advantage out of it, especialy ~~is~~ my wife is so kind to take up the responsiblity of earning her living by running full teaching schedule at Chengtu where the living standard is abnormally high now. Internally and externally I am Under high tension.

This institue is the best in chemical engineering but also the highest standard. Since I change my major from chemistry to chemical engineering it means my undergraduate work is more connected than my post wrok in Yenching. You have been to Chengtu and know something about our university so I need not to mention anything in detail, but you can imagine what you have seen about W. C. U. U. was already better than ten to fiften years ago when I was in undergraduate class. Besides most courses of mathematics I have taken about thirteen years were almost completely forgotten. It is true that the American boys are walking smoothly on the flat level while I have to go forward and climing at the same time. I thought I was hopeless at the beginning that I could never catch up but it seems that it may not be so as I am not below the class average yet.

This semester I take some make up courses in order to fulfill their requirement. According to the information I collected from the Chinese students here I need to spend four years for my doctor degree as they are doing now. But four years are too long especially the university is only giving twenty dollars allowence per month to my home, and it will not be fair to my wife to let her face the situation for such long time. So I am thinking of taking a master in chemical engineering practice for which two years will be enough.

The competetion for scholarships is very keen here so I have no idea about the possibility of the renewal. I hope you will kindly help me to make the arrangement if possible.

It is a grand thing to have a few days free from class work so I can go to bed before one and get up after eight and also I can have time to write letters.

Time goes quick it is Christmas again and will be New Year soon. I wish the real meaning of Christmas will bring us new hopes to find someway to stop the druel, killing and murdering war in this world so every human being can enjoy his life instead of bitterness and pain.

My best wishes for Merry Christmas and Successful New Year.

Most sincerely yours

John G. C. Kao

0257

wrote to Robertson 1/9/40

Jan 6th 1940
Graduate House
Cambridge, Mass.

ack 1/9/40 ens. ck #100.00

Dear Mr Evans:

Please kindly excuse me for my not being able to write you for such a long time. I intended to write letters during the holidays but the piled up work for the term papers somehow made it impossible.

It was very kind of you to order such nice machine for me. With the typewriter I have all the papers done without paying a single cent so in a long run I beleive it might be more economical to won a typewriter.

I received your cheque of $75.00 with thanks. When I was planning to buy overcoat I received information from a freindthat his freind died recently and the wife is thinking of getting rid of his belonging so he might be able to convince her for a big reduction or make it very cheap, and he asked me to wait. But after I waited for a long time he told me that he failed to do so. By that time the money left in my hand was not enough for buying overcoat so I decided not to have overcoat for the time being so I spent all the money for my living from the middle of Novenber to now.

It might be a great mistake not to have an overcoat especially the last three weeks,however,my freind had a very good intention to help me to be economical. Mathematicaly speaking it was just the probability of the chances of getting a good one without paying so much. His failure was not his fault even I had to suffer with cold.

Will you please kindly send me some more money for my living and AN OVERCOAT.

I am very glad to know from home that the university has been granted five chair from the Boxer fund. Among the five one in chemistry is still in university of Cincinatti but it seems that the university did not even inform him about his being granted a chair in U.U. I beleive he would be happy and encouraged to know however, the authorities in West China may have a wiser opinion for not informing him. From the letters I received from this man in Cincinnatti quite many institutions wanted to pull him over and I hope it is not late yet for the U. U. to get him for this chair,as I knew that we submitted this man's name in for the appliaation for granting the chair.

Time goes quick, it will be final examination after two weeks. Life is too short to know even a very small fraction of the truth of the universe.

With my best wishes for a very happy new year.

Sincerely

John Y. C. Yao

$100.00 P.C.C.

1939
9/25 - advance 25.00
" 75.00
28 95.00
10/4 - Rent 1st Term 75.00
11/4 - advance 34.00
12/20 - Typewriter 304.00
1/9 advance 100.00 Vo. #3190

2881
4531
0258

January 9, 1940

Mr. John Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Kao:

I am glad to receive your letter of January 6th. I have been waiting for some time to receive word from you as to your progress and condition. Therefore, this communication is very welcome.

I knew you would like the typewriter and feel confident that it will give your splendid service.

So, you ate up the overcoat. It is all right to follow the advice of your good friend provided it does not endanger your health, and I commend both you and your friend for your effort to save money. What we are doing, therefore, is to send you a check for $100.00 with the admonition that you purchase a coat at once, which might be done fairly reasonably as there are sales of winter stock being advertised constantly. Suppose I make it a point to send you $60.00 the middle of next month, and of March, April, and May. Will this amount each month answer for your immediate needs? If not kindly let me know.

I am very much interested in what you say regarding the scholarship from the Boxer Indemnity Fund. Apparently you have had some correspondence with the individual at Cincinnati and I am wondering if it would not be a good idea for you to frame some sort of a letter which we could forward to China in relation to this situation. Undoubtedly your recommendation would be valuable and if you could get this into my hands before next Monday, we could get it into the air mail for China, which would take about two or three weeks for transmittal. Surely if there is an opportunity of securing a good man, the chance should not be sacrificed.

Yes, life is too short for one individual to comprehend the vastness of the universe. We can narrow the subject down considerably and still see how futile it is for man to grasp the full knowledge of any one subject. As a matter of fact human life itself is a subject possessing a scope without limitations.

2881
4531
0259

I wish I could see more of you. I feel I could benefit a great deal with more frequent personal contact. Meanwhile, please do not hesitate to write me about your needs.

Most sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B
ENC.

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0260

File
Kao re Ashdown

10 January 1940

Dear Professor Ashdown:

There has been many an occasion to remember your kindness when I visited Boston in November and consulted you about the problems of our West China student, Kao Yo-lin. In the weeks which have passed since my call, you will have had additional opportunity to judge of Mr. Kao's ability to do work of high standing in his courses and of his adjustment to conditions of life and work at M.I.T. If you have time to let me know how he is getting on as he approaches his mid-year examinations, it will be of help to us to hear from you.

If you think it best to wait until his mid-year grades are in, we shall understand any delay that may occur in hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. T. D. Macmillan

EBM:T

Professor Avery A. Ashdown
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0261

INDEXED

Jan 11th 1940
Graduate House
Cambridge, Mass.

ack 1/13/40

Dear Mr Evans:

Many thanks for your kindness of sending the cheque. You can be certain that I will have an overcoat this time.

I do think your proposal of sending $60.00 by the middle of each month is a very good arrangement provided you agree to pay my rent for room as you did at the beginning of this term. If I have to pay the rent out of the $60.00 the rest will not be enough.

Herewith I enclosed a drift to the cabinate. I wish they will take quick action toward this matter, and I hope you will kindly write a few words to convince the authorities over there to be keen on seizing the chances like this.

Sincerely

John Y. Li Kao

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0262

Copies sent to Mr. H. D. Robertson 1/15/40

Jan 11th 1940
Graduate House
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sirs:

Regarding to the five chairs granted by the British Boxer Fund I am perticularly interested in what is the present arrangement for Dr Chang Chun.

So far I understood that Dr Chang is still in Cincinnati for further research on tanning problems. From what I overheard that quite many institutions wanted to have him either as director or professor especially the National Industrial Cooperation and National Peking Univ. Embassay Hu is trying his best to convince Dr Chang to join National Peking university where tanning project had been properly developed by the late Dean Liu who passed away a few years ago. Dr H. H. Kong is also trying to have Dr Chang for the tanning project over at San Hsi.

Even though it is up to Dr Chang to make his own choice yet I beleive you have taken the earilest measure and procedure to reserve the chair during the period when Dr Chang was contracted with the A. L. R. A. for some special type of research, and also keep in close touch with Dr Chang. I know secretary Han of British Fund is also a good freind of Dr Chang. I wish that Han had agreed to Chang's late coming for taking up the pfofessorship due to previous engagement.

Even I have not heard from you that you have imformed him about the honour of being granted a chair and professorship in U. U. and our absolute need of him for the tanning work, and our warm welcome I, without doubt, that you have kindly done so for saving the tanning project of the department of chemistry from falling and also helping the departemnt of chemistry to get on the right track for it's future. I can imagine how Dr. Chang had enjoyed your imformation, and how he had weighed this news in his mind. I beleive your imformation had shaken his hesitation for making his final decision. I think Dr Chang must have been very thankful and grateful to you for your kindness of getting the chair for him and also the cheers and encouragements from you. I seem to be sure that you have actually convinced him to come, and I am sure about his coming.

Since Dr Chang is the only person who has gone far enough to be an expert in leather tanning whith his past expereinces and present train ing the departemtn of chemistry can not offord to lose him. Since also the department needs badly some full time professor for such industrial project, the department can not offord to lose this chair from the British Boxer Fund. For these two reasons May I suggest that First, please do not shift this chair around to the other department or to somebody else as Han and Changs freindship might have some influence on this chair grant. Second Please kindly issue Chang's Contract for full time professor for next year immediately and his salary being indemnified by the British Indemnity Fund.

Please observe there is no time to lose. No such bright well known person would sit down and wait for job or contract.

I guess after he receives the contract he will certainly come to consult with me. I think I may be able to do something by then if you think I can be of help.

May I hear from you as soon as possible regarding to this matter?

My best wishes for a very successful New Year for His service.

Sincerely yours, John Y. Gilles

0263

January 13, 1940

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Kao:

I feel greatly relieved that you have decided to buy an overcoat as I know how cold it can be in Boston having spent one of the coldest days of my life in that City.

My intention was to have you send us the bill for your room rent and we will take care of it. This will leave the $60.00 per month free for your maintenance which may or may not be enough.

I am grateful for the draft of the letter for the Cabinet, and a communication will go forward in Monday's Clipper Mail. I will let you know as soon as any reply comes through to our office. It is possible a letter will be sent directly to you.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0264

February 20, 1940

Mr. John Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Kao:

We have been hearing good news about you in spite of all of the handicaps which seem to have emerged from various sources, and which might have retarded even one accustomed to Occidental ways. It is to be expected, of course, that it would take time to work into the routine, but from all appearances you have done this admirably. You have also been studying in a place where they mean business, and success in securing your scholarship at M. I. T. will be of correspondingly greater value to you. Likewise this will be of equally great importance to West China Union University.

I hope you have so adjusted yourself that you are getting ample rest and nourishment, which are very important to one carrying the work which you are doing.

It would seem to be time for an application to be made to M. I. T. for a scholarship for 1940-41. We, of course, will help in any way possible, but naturally an application should be filed by yourself. Why not attend to this within the next few days, and when you make the application send us a copy of it so that we can follow same through using such channels as seems best in which to work.

With assurance of our deep and continued interest in you and your welfare, and with appreciation for the way you have stuck to the task, I am

Most sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

2 8 8
4 5 3 1
0265

UNBOXED

March 8, 1940

Mr. John Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Kao:

A request has come from West China Union University over the pen of Roy C. Spooner asking us to get in touch with you and authorize you to select certain books which you actually need in your work and let us have the titles. Upon receipt of same, we will make purchases up to the amount of US$50.00, with the understanding that the books are for the Chemistry Department at West China Union University and are temporarily loaned to you.

With that in view, you will, of course, take them to China with you on your return where they will become a part of the library.

Mr. Spooner is requesting that we give him a list of these books so that they will not be duplicated. As soon as convenient, therefore, will you not let us have such a list so that we can immediately place the orders.

From various sources, we keep informed of your progress, and we are gratified to learn that there is no cause for undue apprehension. You have our very deep interest and prayers, and I am sure you will be sustained to carry on in this very excellent manner.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0266

April 2, 1940

Mr. John Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear John:

Indirectly it has been intimated that there is some question about your scholarship at M. I. T. for next year. The thought has been further expressed that you desire to transfer to some other school, intimating that we are in a position to arrange scholarships for such transfers.

I wish that we had at hand complete information covering the application and action which has been taken up to date, which would give us a more intelligent picture and more intelligent conception of the situation. Securing a scholarship requires time and study, as well as a knowledge of the channel through which approaches are to be made. It sometimes happens that special funds are made available outside of the regular scholarship budgets.

From all we have heard you have done everything that could be expected from anyone undertaking a task such as you began. We have nothing but praise for the effort that you have made and what you have accomplished, and feel that you have done remarkably well. It would be just too bad for you to be compelled to leave M. I. T., and every effort will be made to keep you there unless there are reasons fully beyond our control.

For the purpose of giving us all of the facts, will you not write us at once giving the information regarding the approaches you have made for a scholarship and what the result has been -- giving us a copy of the letter or letting us have the letter, if you received a notification in this manner.

Please do not hesitate or delay writing as immediate steps must be taken to do something. Mr. Caldwell will be in town the latter part of this week and we will take the matter up with him at that time for further consideration.

Very truly yours,

CAE/B·

C. A. EVANS

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0267

ack 4/5/40

INDEXED

Copy of this letter sent to Dr. A.C. Burt 4/5/40

April 3rd. 1940
Graduate House
M.I.T. Cambridge

Dear Mr Evans:

First of all, I wish to apologize for my not being able to a answer your kind letters for such a long time. I beleive you will kindly excuse me after you go through this letter.

Heartily I am deeply grateful to you and some others, like Dr Yates, for your kindness of care about my personal matter and trust ing me that I am constantly paying full attention to my work. It is such kind of influence and friendship which cheers me up and encourage me to push when I feel the whole world is so blue.

I am very much obliged to Mr Spooner's suggestion of spending abbut fifty dollars worth for books which I need for my work, on condition that they are the properties of the Department of Chemistry but as a temporary loan to me during my student life here.

In fact I have listed out the books which fit my need as well as the Department of Chemistry. However I delayed to mail them to you because there are some other things to be concerned.

Ever since I stepped into the school I could feel the general atomsphere and standard of the world famous M.I.T. After a few weeks I began to doubt the possibility of the renewal of the tuition scholorship for the next acadamic year. Since this worrying hangs in my head and never gets out I have to make plans for first, how to save the situation and second to get myself ready to face the new situation, in case it fails even with my best effort.

There is no doubt that I give constant push, however M.I.T. is full of smart boys from all over the world with sound undergraduate engineering training and technique of tricky tricks of mathematics which are essentials for most of the work in this institute. At the same time I made calculations that I should try my best to get through the work for master degree within this year so that my work here can be put into an end if financially I have to leave this institute for good because of the failure of the renewal of the tuition scholarship. In doing so I am carrying a very heavy load which covers the making up courses for the under graduate work and the required courses for the degree so I leave just twenty odd units for thesis which can be pushed through -I hope- during the summer vacation.

With your instruction I sent in a formal application for the renewal of tuition scholarship hoping that they might consider some other qualifications besides the grade for the compitition.

When the assistant in the president office called me for a talk and informed that the institute is in short of money so is not able to grant me any scholarship for next year I knew that was final. However he was talking for the president because my tuition scholarship was arranged directly with the president.

While I was waiting for the answer from the committee controlling the scholarship I went through the cotalogue of the other universities to find out the charge for tuition and the courses in theis fields with the hope that you, gentlemen, in New York would allow me to transfer and pay the tuition for me if it is not large in amount. Among the universities, University of Michigan and Pennslvania seem to be the cheap and second best schools.

The reason for me to delay to mail the list of books to you lies here. Since I do not know which school am I to join next year, naturally I do not know whether the books listed out will be of any direct value. Moreover, if I use them for buying the necessary books for the class work I shall not need so much money for books so this amount can be sheifted for paying the tuition. I was calculating, by doing so, the situation could be made easier.

0268

4-3-40

As I have expected, the committee gave the final anouncement at the beginning of April, but to my surprise, they neither refuse my application flatly nor grant me a full tuition scholarship. Actually they grant me a half tuition scholarship. Frankly I have never prepared for that, so I do not know what to do.

Personally I have no choice whether to continue my work here or transfer to other university. In any case I am ready to get my master degree at the end of summer vacation.

May I submit this case to you and will you please kindly advice me to the final decision.

Soon as the final decision is fixed and the major factors are cleared I hope I shall be able to get rid of worrying. It is worrying which makes people to grow old and dull, and set the nerve all the time under such terrific tension.

Very sincerely yours

John Y. C. Kao

P.S. The official notification is enclosed here — Returned to John Kao 4/5/40 a copy retained for our files.

2881
4531
0269

C
O
P
Y

Original of this returned to Mr. Kao & a copy sent to Dr. A.E. Best 4/5/40

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Cambridge

B. A. THRESHER, Director of Admissions
R. M. KIMBALL, Assistant Director

April 1, 1940

Mr. John Kao
Graduate House
M. I. T.

Dear Mr. Kao:

I am pleased to inform you that the Committee on the Graduate School has awarded you a graduate scholarship of $300 covering half-tuition for the year 1940-41. This grant will be credited towards your tuition, $150 at the beginning of each term, with the understanding that you are registered as a full-time graduate student.

Please let me know not later than April 15 whether you accept the above award subject to the conditions under which all graduate scholarships are made.

Very truly yours,

/S/ B. A. Thresher

B. A. Thresher, Secretary
Committee on the Graduate School

CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AWARDED

Graduate scholarships are credited by the Bursar towards tuition and are not payable directly to the recipient unless the award exceeds the regular tuition, six hundred dollars, in which case the excess is payable to the recipient in equal installments at the beginning of each of the two regular terms. Grants are not made unreservedly, but their continuance from term to term is dependent upon the maintenance by the recipient of a satisfactory standard of scholarship.

The recipient of a scholarship grant is expected to complete the period of study for which he has received the grant. In case he discontinues his work before the end of such period he will be expected to repay to the Institute the amount received from the grant unless released therefrom for satisfactory reasons by the Committee on the Graduate School.

3-38-500 G27.

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0270

INDEXED

April 5, 1940

Ack
4/18/40

Mr. John Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear John:

Thank you greatly for your letter of the 3rd. inst. It explains a lot of things, but we would like to have had a line or two to relieve our worries somewhat regarding your condition.

I am repeating myself when I say that we are more than satisfied with what you have done this past year. We could not expect more, and I admire you for your courage and tenacity in carrying on.

A question remains which is not completely answered as yet, and that is regarding your academic standing for next year, provided you secure your M.A. Degree. Let me put it another way - if you are able to cover the twenty units for your M. A. thesis and secure same before next September, will you, on this basis and the standard which you attain, be able to go on at M. I. T. and work for your doctorate?

Further than that, is the work you are contemplating doing next year at M. I. T. the kind that will best fit into your needs out at West China? Is it the finishing of a M. A. Degree, is it securing a Doctors Degree, or is it special research work along particular lines best available at M. I. T., which will give you the best efficiency at West China?

Dr. A. E. Best is to be in Boston next week, and I am sure will see you. He has been in the office and has reviewed the correspondence, and so has a fairly good knowledge of the situation. I am sending him a copy of this letter, also the ones which you have forwarded to me.

I am keeping a copy of the letter granting a scholarship allowance, and am returning the original herewith.

In closing permit me to say that I do not think it is possible for you

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to get any scholarship comparable to this in any other university in America, especially at this late date. I note that your acceptance must be made not later than the 15th of April.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B
ENC.

cc: Dr. A. E. Best
West Side U. M. C. A.
5 West 63rd Street
New York City

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0272

INDEXED

April 18th 1940
Graduate House
M.I.T. Cambridge

ack 4/22/40

Dear Mr Evans:

Many thanks for your kind letter. In answering your letter I am listing out the situation in detail.

1. When I was in China I was taking pure chemistry but here I have changed my major into chemical engineering for which M.I.T. is the best in the world.
2. The reason I take chemical engineering is because from the teaching of the war and the present developement in China and especially West China the faculty of the dept of chemistry concluded that for the future professional and practical and productive work will serve China best and help U U to serve Chinese society more and better.
3. The reason I found it hard for me is because a. I have not had any engineering training, b. I lack most of the foundamental courses in my undergraduate work so I am taking those foundamental courses and graduate courses togather. c. The training based on the actual chemical engineering problems they have handled for so many years for the improvement of American chemical industry,and put them as the daily home problems to illustrate the principles ~~they~~ or rules they have worked out. For these problems one must be good in applied mathematics such as applied calculus and differential eqaution and the very skillful tricks for the solution. Since there is not much chemistry one is always dealing with min. diameter of pipe, Max velocity,of the fluid flowing in the pipe, or the min of cost for the maintainance or for the power comsumption etc. In other words my postgraduate in chemistry has nothing to do with my present work but my undergraduate work is considered to be more important. For my undergraduate work in U.U. I had my calculus and differential equation fourteen years ago. Moreover they were mathematical calculus and differential equations but nothing was for the applied.

   It is a joke but it is truth. When I was attending the class of chemical engineering thermodynamics the professor was lecturing on internal combustion machine which is the thing making the motro car go. Instead of going into detail he said to the class that everyone of us played with the motor car since ~~your~~ boyhood and we know the construction of a motor car so well that ~~he dont~~ I don't want to waste our valuable time. I said to myself in my heart that I wish I know the construction of motor car so well as the professor expected.

4. The regulations for the graduate school

   Students having grade ratio below 3.5 will be officially notified to discontinu his work.

   Students having grade ratio above 3.5 are subject to all the previllage for working towards any kind of degree they wish to.

   There is no general regulation for the scholarships. Any one whose grade ratio above 3.5 is qualified to apply for it Since there is a very keen competition usually scholarships are granted to those whose grade ratio are above 4.5.

   In Chemical engineering there are three kind of advanced degrees. pure chemical engineering M.S.; pure chemical engineering D.Sc. and practical chemical engineering M.S.

   For pure chemical engineering master one has to,of course has a grade ratio above 3.5 and also ninty six unit of graduate course plus the thesis.

   For practical chemical engineering master besides what is nedded for a master degree for pure chemical engineering

Copies of this sent to Mr. V. D. Rockefeller & Dr. A. C. Burton in Toronto 4/22/40

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4-18-40.

one must also attend the practice school for six months in three practice stations actually working in the factories.

For the doctorate in pure chemical engineering things are different.

First, one has to finish at least twelve graduate course with a grade ratio above 3.5.

second, one has to pass a. the written examination of the undergraduate courses.

third, one has to pass the graduate written examination which covers twelve different courses.

Fourth one has to pass the oral examinations besides the written examination.

Fifth, one has to pass the written examination of both German and French.

Sixth one has to pass the oral examination on the thesis he is working on.

usually, it takes four years for one to finish the doctorate, provided he is able to pass all the exminations.

5. At the present I am registered in the practical chemical engineering division. so I am going to the practice station in July and come back to school at Christmas time.
6. If I am able to push my thesis through the experimental part before July I shall be able to take three to four graduate courses in the spring of 1941. Then I shall be able to consider the application for the general written examinations which is going to take place in May 1941.
7. At the present I have no idea whether I should work toward the doctorate degree or utilize the time for German and French and the doctor thesis which pratically has nothing to do with Chinese problems at all, for some special training in two or three kinds of chemical industries especially in the operatin technique and control. I shall be very glad to know what is your advice.

As to what you have suggested I have officially accpted the half tuition scholarship. I certainly dont know what to do with the other half. I hope you will kindly help me to find some way out.

Last semester my grade ratio was 3.8 but I hope I am able to get it to 4.0 but more than 4.0 is beyond my control, I guess.

I heard Dr Beech will be arriving very soon. I hope to see him at the end of May when the school ends.

I had wonderful time with Dr. Best here, I am certainly happy to know that he is going back to West China very soon. I am sure there are plenty of work for him to do and many students are so anxiouse for his return.

Very sinderely yours

Joseph C. Kao

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

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INDEXED

April 22, 1940

Mr. John Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear John:

I am exceedingly grateful for your letter of April 18th giving us details of your experience and anticipated plans.

I have also received a letter from Dr. Best, which in part is appreciation for the work you have done, while at the same time recognizing the difficulties with which you have been faced. Anyway, you have attained the grade ratio, more than necessary for your purpose, with the possibility of increasing it slightly as you suggest.

As you have definitely accepted the scholarship, it remains to be seen how the balance can be provided. We are giving this matter careful thought, and same will be taken up at the Board meeting in May. By all means you should go ahead.

I am giving further thought to the answer to paragraph seven of your letter, and will write you on that point later on.

Again I want to thank you for this communication, which brings new light on the issues involved.

Most cordially yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

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INDEXED

May 3, 1940

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Graduate House
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear John:

I am writing you further regarding your letter of April 18th in which you raise some very pertinent questions.

I have discussed this situation with a number of people, all very sympathetic with our Colleges, and we have presented your case in the most favorable light.

As it now stands you must make some decision as to what course you are to pursue in the future. Several factors are to be considered as outstanding in governing that situation, which are as follows but not in order of their importance:

(a) The possibility of securing sufficient funds to continue carrying your extra expenses while at M. I. T. It is now obvious that you cannot expect more than they have granted for next year, which will mean a considerable amount to be carried by either the Associated Boards or West China. In deference to the other Colleges, we can hardly be expected to include you in the budget beyond another year, and as West China is bearing the brunt of the expenses this year, and will, of necessity, be compelled to share in the cost for 1940-41, it seems apparent that you work must be crowded into next year.

(b) What are you working for? Is it a name or practical principles which may be adapted to the life of your own people?

(c) Will a Doctor's Degree make you more effective were you able to devote the time to securing it?

Paragraph four of your letter almost answers the whole situation. It does not appear at all possible that West China and the Associated Boards can provide funds for a total period of three years -- to say nothing of four. That practically bars the Doctor's Degree.

The requirements of a Doctor's Degree calls for spending much

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0276

time on subjects which will be of no practical benefit to you in your work. As a matter of fact, the preparation and securing of a Doctor's Degree all too often narrows the scope of vision and practical usefulness of an individual. I have in mind a man holding two M. A. Degrees and two Ph. D. Degrees who was considering going to the Orient. At a luncheon meeting one day he told me that his Doctor's Degree had in reality narrowed his vision and taken a couple of years out of his life, and he is now teaching in a position where they are of no value whatever.

The whole thought of our universities in providing channels for the improvement of teaching capacity of the faculty is for the purpose of gaining education information, technical skill and methods of teaching. Fundamentally it is for the practical benefit and improvement of the Chinese people and the building up of their enterprises and industries.

With these things in mind, isn't your situation pretty clearly defined? To be explicit and concrete, may we say it is our opinion that time utilized for language and other work necessary for a Doctor's Degree be spent in special training in those fields where they will be of the most practical benefit to you.

I trust we have been of some help to you, and with kindest regards, I am

Most cordially yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

cc: Dr. A. E. Best

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

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INDEXED

May 24, 1940

Mr. John Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Kao:

We have been trying to find funds with which to supplement the scholarship which has been given you at M.I.T. for next year, so that you will be assured of the continuance of your work there.

We are now able to report that our Committee on Scholarships have allocated $300.00 from our small fund for the year 1940-41, to be used in bringing your funds to the figure which was available this last year.

I presume that the payment of this amount will be needed in the fall when school opens, and we will plan to have this amount whenever needed about that time.

Sincerely yours,

JIP.A

Secretary.

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INDEXED

July 10, 1940

Mr. John Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Inst. of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Kao:

Periodically we run head on with a requisition from China authorizing us to spend US$50.00 for books which you may select and use in your course. You were rather undecided in the spring as to what the future would hold, and naturally were not in a position to compile this list. However, as you are to continue at M.I.T. this coming year, we should begin thinking about this list. Remember they are publications you can use in your work. Possibly during the summertime they could be of use to you. Why not give it consideration now?

You will be gratified to know that a letter from West China evidenced very sincere pleasure on your work during the past year. As a matter of fact, a request was made that we pass on to you the good wishes of all the members of the faculty, at the same time expressing the hope that you will be favored with good health during the coming year.

Most cordially yours,

CAE:RC

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

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INDEXED

July 20th 1940
159 College Street
Buffalo N. Y.

Dear Mr Evans:

Many thanks for your kind letter reminding me about the list of books that i can suggest for the department of chemistry of U. U. A separate copy of the list of books is here attached. Regarding to my work in the spring semester I have fought through successfully with a grade ratio of 4.52 and five honors out of seven courses. Itseems that after one is accustomed to the new life and takes a certain amount of time to regain some of the knowledge which one has taken thirteen or fourteen year ago,one is able to gon on smoothly. So I am very much afraid that it would be a great mistake if one judges one's ability simply by the work of the first few months especially when one is engaged in a new life and new field of knowledge. I wonder if one would regret for making such mistake. I hope you would kindly report my progress to U.U. and assure them that after all they did not make any mistake for sending me to this country especially to study in Tech. because I knew they were rather disappointed by getting reports from some other sources about my work in the first few months or reading my personal and rather confidential letter that I addressed to some freinds.

During the last month I worked on my thesis and then I left Boston for Buffalo on the 7th of July as the Practical School opened on the 8th. At the present I am working in the Bethlehem Steel Company with a big group of students from Tech. The steel factory occupies more than ten square miles and turns out about five thousand tons of steel per day. It is such a nice and well equiped plant for me to visit and an ideal plant for me to learn almost every thing including the location, communication manufacturing processes and chemical control and engineering manipulations etc. After all I think I have made the wise choice. I feel this is the right kind of training and knowledge I need and seek for.

According to the schedule of the school we should work in this factory until the beginning of September, and then spend two months in a nitrocellulose or smoke powder factory somewhere sixty miles from New York and then two more months in a paper factory in Main till Christmas and then all the groups of students will come back to Cambridge for one more month in chemical design work.

Unfortunately because of the international situation no Chinese students are allowed to take up the pratical work in the powder (gun) factory so I shall return to Cambridge in the beginning of September and continue my thesis till end of October and then rejoin this group for Main.

By taking up the Practical School work I have to make some round trips for each station and also from the lodging place to the factory every day,so I have to spend more money than my allowance can carry every month.

Before I left Boston I left words to the office of Graduate House for forwarding all my mails to my present address

2881
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7-20-40

I got quite few mails since I arrived here but I was very much surprised that I did not received my monthly allowence yet. Of course, I trust that your office has sent out the cheque on the 15th of July as they usaually did but on the other hand I beleive also that the office of Gradua e House is under very strict control. So will you please kindly make enquires through your office and at the same time I will write to the manager of the Graduate house about this matter.

OKE sent to John Kao 7/24/40

Meanwhile please kindly pay for my room rent for eight weeks at the rate five dollars per week by issuing a cheque for forty dollars payable to" Estate of Clara W. Frink" and also my monthly allowence as soon as possible because I am living on loan from the boys in this group.

Paid 7/23/40 Vo. 3371

Regarding to my monthly allowence I wish it can be increased so as to cover the expenses for the round trips from Boston to each station and also the daily trips to the factory. However please do not bother if you think definitely there is no money for such an increase because I absolutely hate to put the Board in the position financially tighter than I am.

The sudden change of the international situation in Europe seems to put China in a very unfavorable positon. The closing of French Indo-China and British Bu rma certainly will affect China's export of Her raw materials and import of munition for the war. It has become the graet worry among the Chinese students of what will be the future of China and how can they get back for their service?

The whole world is exposing the utmost and extreme selfishness and pushing for might and money. It seems war is the tonic for humanbeing and relegion the most fatal poison. I won- if it is the time for us to reconsider our philosophy for life, and reweigh the value of relegion.

With best wishes and regards,

Very sincerely yours

John Y. C. Kao

60.00 Paid 7/18/40 - Vo. 3347
16.00 " 6/24/40 - 3341 - 4 weeks rent
150.00 " 7/18/40 3350 - Tuition

2884 5311 0281

CTE approved
this expenditure on
phone call from Utica
Ack 8/16 (2 mos.) 8/23

Aug. 16th 1940
159 College Street
Buffalo N. Y.

Dear Mr Evans:

Many thanks for your kind note for letting me know about my family. I received a letter from them at the same day. It seems that from now on mails from China will have to take longer time to reach this country.

Herewith, I am sending to you the receipt for my rent from the landlady who stays in the same house on the first floor. I wish you would kindly consider your cheque for my rent was properly forwarded.

Regarding to the figure for the extra expenses for the trips I have to make from station to station and from this house to the plant every day I figured out according to what I have paid out during the last month as following:

17.80 ×2 = 35.60

From Boston to Buffalo		
Railway ticket	$10.00	
Luggage	1.00	
Taxi	.80	
	$11.80 ✓	
Daily trip to the plant and back	6.00	per month
Total	$17.80 ✓	

For staying for two months and back trip to Boston the above figure has to be doubled.

The plant here is quite up to standard and the work is very interesting so I am planing to stay on for the next two month before I go to Maine, however, the Institute in Cambridge has the authority to decide.

35.60 Paid 8/26/40 West China Vo. 3388

Very sincerely yours

John Y. C. Kao

Receipt attached ($40.00) (to a/c Office)

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
AUG 21 1940
JOINT OFFICE

0282

18 First Street
Bangor, Maine
October 29, 1940

ack 10/31/40

Dear Mr. Evans:

My work in the steel plant was practically through at the end of last week, so I left Buffalo for Boston to get my winter coat an d came here last night.

The work here is to investigate the contolling operations of paper industry in two famous paper mills. I think I shall enjoy the work as I beleive this is the right kind of chemical industry China needs badly.

Paid 10/30/40
No. 3438

The romm rent for eight weeks is $40.00 as it has been charged at Buffalo Station. Will you please kindly issue a cheque of $40.00 addressing Mrs M. E. Donham for my room rent. Thank you. OK cmz

Regarding to my work here I felt that the first year was spent for the making-up courses which I have never had during my undergraduate days in West China Union University, and this year I seem to begin to touch something which actually belongs to chemical engineering line, so personally I feel it would be a great pity if I have to retun to China next summer when I should take something much advanced in order to complete my education along this line regardless to doctor degree so long as I have worked for a master of practical chemical engineering. Would you be kind enough to make my third year fellowship possible. It seems it is very necessary for me to know this possibility before the end of January of 1941 so I shall be able to make the other arrangement if necessary.

With best regards.

Very sincerely,

John Y. C. Kao

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0283

over

October 30, 1940

AeK
10/31/40

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
18 First Street
Bangor, Maine

Dear John:

Your letter of October 29th came to hand this morning and I am hastening to reply. At the same time I am enclosing check for $40.00 made to the order of Mrs. M. E. Dunham representing room rent. We sincerely trust you will like the work as much as you anticipate.

I am writing immediately with the hope that this will get to you by return mail as you bring to an issue the question which must be given immediate attention. We have been fully aware of the difficulties you have encountered in your work at M. I. T., but have had confident assurance that you would be equal to the situation. This faith has been confirmed. In view of the time required, however, to secure your Masters Degree it was conceded by all of us that major emphasis should be placed upon this as a goal. Aside from the funds which were voted by the Associated Boards and the scholarship of $300.00 from M. I. T. your expenses are being charged to the West China Treasurer at Chengtu.

There is a strong desire on the part of many of us that you should go on and finish your course, but the means to do this is a serious problem. In the first place, those returning from West China ask questions as to your progress and letters are filtering through — the trend being questions regarding your work and future. If one is to judge from information secured through these channels it must be said in all honesty that there is serious resentment because you have not written to China and kept the field informed of what you are doing. A letter now and then - even though it might be brief - telling of your experiences would be of immense value. In fact, it is imperative if you intend to remain in America. I am fully conscious of all of the time required to carry on your regular work, but it does not take much time to sit down and type off a short letter. I, for one, to be frank would not advocate your staying in America another year if you could not rectify this situation. This may sound severe, but it is only said for the purpose of producing results. You simply must write to the University and tell them how you are getting on. It is true that I have written, but that does not make up for individual neglect.

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0284

So, two things must be done. One is to get a letter off on the next boat for China, and there is one sailing about the 8th of November, but the mail closes in New York on the 3rd of November. I trust you will write me indicating your willingness to get off such a letter in ample time to make this boat.

The second thing to be done, if you desire any assistance for next year, is to write us a letter by return mail, and this should be in hand by Friday the 1st. In this letter you should state your reasons for desiring assistance for next year and request the Associated Boards to continue the appropriation which was made last year for your expenses during this current year. We certainly will do all is possible to get some assistance, but you must do your part as well. As a matter of fact, this application should come from the President of the University in Chengtu and bear his endorsement. This does not need to be a lengthy letter but a mere statement of fact and, above all things, speed is required as all of these applications should be in hand by November 1st.

Immediately thereafter, so that we can receive the letter by the first of next week, we are asking that you let us know the possibilities of getting further assistance from M. I. T. Have you any idea that the present scholarship can be repeated? If there are prospects, what are the steps to be taken?

All of the foregoing is in answer to your inquiry, and it is essential that these various steps be taken at once in order to set in motion such plans as are necessary to definitely answer your question.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B
ENC. (check)

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
NOV 1 1940
JOINT OFFICE

0285

18 First Street
Bangor, Maine
October, 31, 1940

Dear Mr. Evans:

Many thanks for your kind letter and the cheque for my room rent. herewith I enclose the receipt from Mrs. Donham.

In Spite of the urgent necessity of putting most of this evening forthe preparation of the speech on the new methods for paper manufacturing tomorrow morning, in great haste, I am trying to get this letter off.

As matter of fact I am very grateful to my friends who have just returned from China and made enquires about my work and future. One should be very proud of having such personal friends.

Very regretfully that I have not had good chance to write to the university for almost one year but should that make any difference to any one whom I have associated for more than twenty years sine I began my high school life on the university campus.

Being a student it seems that there is not any thing special to write besides working hard for getting the home work through, attending the quizzs, taking the examinations as sort of routine universally for any student. So I dont think the university, having been engaged in such busy life at the wartime, should be very much pleased for getting or sparing time to read such annoying routine information, so far as my work is concerned.

Regarding to my future I assumed there was some kind of understadning about my returning to the university after my education is fully completed. Should they make any necessary change or prefer me to look for some other kind of future I wish they would be kind enough to let me know as early as possible. So I did not find any convincing reason to write them about any future.

When I wrote you on the 29th inst. I was thinking that since Tech seemed to grant only half tuition scholarship to Chinese students(three of us) in the past year it would be unwise to dream about full tuition scholarship for next year. Since three hundred dollars would mean everything to me as a foreignor in this country I would be very glad if the Board could find some way to help me through.

So far I can remember that the university cabinet has passed a minute some time in Feburary 1939 that I was going to take my post graduate in States for three years. If they do value the complete education in chemical engineering for me will be very beneficial to the university in the future they will certainly be faithful to the minute. Besides I can not imagine at all that they will ask me to quit my study just half way toward the completion. Since the third year is only a continuation of second year according to the minute of the cabinet is there any real necessity for me to send some sort of application from the president of the university bearing his endorsement. Please kindly understand that I do not desire any special treatment. If the university has authorized you that the minutes were subject to change and I can only stay for two years it would be a different story. It would be through you gentlemen's kindness I am seeking for assistance and naturally some kind of statement is necessary but I still can not see any reason for the need of the president application and endorsement. Nevertheless, personally, I am quite willing to give a statement for the necessity of my staying for the third year so in the spparate letter I am sending this statement to the Board.

Regarding to writing to China it is not whether I am willing or not but it is whether I have something interesting or worthwhile. I guess I would be able to send a letter off to China but it may be very short one as I have to spend lot of time to get myself familiar with the steam line water line and different operations in these few days before I am able to start any work.

Very truly,

John Y. C. Kao

0286

Ack.
11/8/40
J&P

M.I.T. Practice School
18 First Street
Bangor, Maine
October 31, 1940

Associated Boards for Christain Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sirs:

In veiw of lacking of general engineering training pre-required for the degree of master of science in practical chemical engineering, I have spent the year 1939-1940 for the making up courses in different engineering courses other than chemical engineering.

It is only the current year that I begin to take some chemical engineering courses which, for the present, are the practice school training.

Since the work of this year is not enough to meet the requirement for the said degree it is very necessary for me to stay for another year 1941-1942 in order to complete the degree.

I shall be very grateful if you would kindly make it financially possible for my third year as you are doing now for the current year.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Very truly yours

John Y. L. Kao

(John Y. L. Kao)

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0287

November 2, 1940

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
18 First Street
Bangor, Maine

Dear John:

Thank you for your letter of application for presentation to the Associated Boards which I am turning over to Mr. Parker for consideration of the Committee.

Personally I do not see how you could stay away from the West China campus for a year without writing back home. It is true that we have passed on information such as we have received from you, but that in no way answers for personal contacts of your own. The question of your official relationship with the University has never been raised -- the reference being to your future work here in the United States. I regret that you secured the wrong interpretation.

Action 1500 in the minutes of Cabinet Bulletin No. 34 dated February 15, 1939 reads as follows:-

"1500 Scholarship for Kao Yoh-lin.

The following cablegram was received from New York:

"Special six hundred dollar scholarship granted John Kao Massachusetts Institute Technology next September condition travel living otherwise provided confer Decker reply within fortnight stop If Kao unavailable nominate another scientist Huata or Cooperating Universities may mean future support."

A letter was received from Mr. Sewell outlining plans for carrying on the work of the Chemistry Department during the absence of Mr. Kao and of Mr. Sewell (while on furlough) and until Mr. Spooner's return. Discussion took place concerning ways of securing the necessary funds to make possible Mr. Kao's acceptance of this scholarship.

RESOLVED to reply by cable accepting this scholarship for Kao Yoh-lin, and to request the President to secure the necessary funds for Mr. Kao's travel and living expenses."

0288

You will note that the scholarship was for one year and the cable definitely refers to the possibility of "future support." You are, therefore, under your second year's grant from M. I. T. and, while there is no obligation on the part of the University, the Board of Governors or the Associated Boards to continue for the third year, yet everyone wishes you to secure your Ph. D. To that end it would only seem wise for you to submit to us a statement covering your standing up to date which may be from records which you have received or through one of your professors. This would be of infinite assistance to us, and to the Committee in taking action. From letters which I have received from China I can see that individually they are also anxious for you to secure this degree.

I should have taken more time when writing my last letter to inform you of the process of securing scholarship funds from the Associated Boards. They are only given from year to year and as the money becomes available. They are acted upon by a Special Committee, and every year we write to the field asking that applicants be endorsed by the governing body on the field, and that the president make the application. Only by this process can we secure the full cooperation of the field, and at the same time have sufficient weight accompanying the application when presented to the Committee.

Thank you for returning the receipt from Mrs. Donham.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
NOV 6 1940
JOINT OFFICE

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0289

Ack 12/24

M.I.T. Graduate House
Cambridge, Mass.
December 20, 1940

noted H.E.K.

Dear Mr. Evans:

Being a leader ofthe group for the work in Bangor I have been kept so busy that I had practically no time for even writing letters. Now the work in the practice school is through and I have returned to Boston yeaterday.

When I was in Bangor the reply from the Department of Justice in Washington for my application for extension came. When I left China the American Council in Hongkong insisted on classifying me as visitor and my visa was good for only one year. In June I applied for the extension for two more year. To my great surprise They granted me only one year from 1940 - 1941. Since I have no idea whether I can apply for further extension for my third year or not I really do not know exactly how to make my plan. I shall be glad to know anything you would like to suggest.

The extra bill I have paid in Bangor is as the follwoing:

Railway tickets and taxi	$11.0
Daily trips to plant	12.0
Total	$23.0

Please

As I ahve not yet received my December allowence will you please kindly forward them togather to my present address as soon as possible. Thank you.

My best wishes for Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,

John G. H. Kao

$60.00
Paid
12/16/40

to 18 - 1st Street
Bangor, Maine

2 8 8

4 5 3 1

0290

M.I.T. Graduate House
Cambridge, Mass.
Dec. 28, 1940

ack 12/30/40

Dear Mr. Evans:

Many thanks for your kind letter and the cheque. The cheque for my December allowence has been forwarded from Bangor. I am sorry that I have mentioned some thing about the cheque in my last letter. However, I was financially very much tightened up by that time.

When I was in Bangor I wrote to Mr Robertson a short letter as you have instructed. I supposed it would naturally take some time to reach their hand. I would be glad to write them something about my life in this country in detail if I know definitely they would be interested in or it would bear some fruit in the promotiom of christain education in China. However I certainly have no time to make a report about my daily expenses such as five cents for caffee and fifteen cents for eggs as they have requested me to do. So I assume they will be kind enough to forgive me for my keeping silence for such a long period.

The training in Practice School was more or less on the engineering side. Even though we were sllowed to go around the plants and look around the operations but we were not allowed to conrolled the operation actually due to the precaustion of preventing the production being interupted. However, One got to be familiar with quite many things and practical experiences one can never wish to know in China.

Regarding to the extension of my visa I wish it could be changed into students visa since I am actually a student.

Returned to Rao M. 12/30/40

Herewith I am enclosing the reply from the Department of Justice Washington for my application of extension of my visa. Anything you can do for either changing into student visa or making it possible for further renewing I shall be very grateful. May I hear from you as soon as possible. Thanks.

Best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,

John Y. E. Kao

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0291

December 30, 1940

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Graduate House
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear John:

I am acknowledging your letter of December 28th enclosing communication from the U. S. Department of Justice dated November 22, 1940. We are communicating with the Department with the hope of gaining further information as to the possibility of changing your standing. We cannot promise that this will be done, but at least we can try.

We are glad that you received checks to relieve the financial situation. I am sorry if you obtained the impression that you were to make a detailed report of expenditures to West China Union University, as this impression was never intended to be given. Of course, I do not know what communications you have received from China, but on reviewing our correspondence I cannot find where we made such recommendations. Our recommendations were that you write to the field in general, telling of your progress, giving a general report on conditions and keeping the field informed of what you are doing. We can make all the financial reports that are necessary if you will take the time to write occasionally stating how you are getting on.

I am glad that you wrote to Mr. Robertson and trust that at intervals you will keep in touch with him and your family, and let people know that you are at least alive and struggling.

With every good wish for the New Year, I am

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

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Ack.
4/3/41
JGP

Graduate House M.I.T.
Cambridge, Mass.
April 1, 1941

Dear Mr. Parker:

Many thanks for your kind letter of March 17. It was very kind of you and your committee to grant me $300.00 for my tuition for the coming academic year.

As usual I have applied for a tuition scholar - ship from the Graduate School of M.I.T., but I was to be notified officially on April,1. Since I was waiting for the official answer I thought perhaps it would be uncessary to answer you before then.

I am so glad to inform you that I was again granted a half tuition scholarship for 1941-42.

So with the $300.00 grant from your committee I think, at least,my tuition for next year is very nicely fixed.

Herewith I am ~~here~~ eclosing the official notification from the Graduate School. Will you please kindly return it to me as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours

John G. F. Kao

2881
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Graduate House, M.I.T.
Cambridge, Mass.
June 10, 1941

ack 6/13/41

Dear Mr. Evans:

Many thanks for the telegram and the letter. I appreciate very much for their kindness of making it possible for me to stay for another year in order to be able to finish all the necessary requirements for the doctorate degree.

It is very kind of you to write such an inpressive and effective letter to Dr. Sherwood. I have been awarded for an additional scholarship of $300.00 to cover the tuition for the academic year.last Thursday.

I was planning to take my language this summer 2 courses in German and 2 courses in French, but I was quite scared to pay $180.00 for those two languages and also an additional charge of $50.00 for thesis work because I know there will be quite many expensive items to be paid for the thesis itself soon as I start to work. So instead of taking any courses of language I have modified my plan by reading my German only during the summer vacation and register as listner for French when the school opens in the Fall. I do not know how this will work out but I expect that I shall be able to take the German examination in October and French examination in February 1942. It is risky but one has to take chance and save money.

For my thesis I need quite a few books whichare listed in a separate copy. Will you please kindly order them for me immediately and pay for me out of my thesis allowence. I beleive the book company offers10% discount for the order through your office.

I received a letter from Mr Chen who is now spending his time indefinitely in Sanfransisco on account of the boat canceled it's sailing to east. What is going to come and what will be the situation by the time when I shall be ready to return to China? Heaven knows.

Sincerely yours,

John Y. T. Kao

Taylor + Brown
Athens
Bob ordered Bar

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4511
0294

ack- 7-141
d.g.c. for C.A.E.

Graduate House, M.I.T.
Cambridge, Mass.
June 24, 1941

Dear Mr. Evans;

Many thanks for your kind letters, one on June 13, and the other on the 23 inst.

Regarding to my scholarship herewith I am enclosing the two official letters from the Graduate school, one for the additional and the other for the summer session. To my understanding I am not paying any tuition for my summer work on my thesis and also I shall be free from the tuition for the coming academic year.

Very unfortunately that there is any French course in the summer session so I thought that I better concentrate on my thesis not only save money but also economical because I seem to be able to get along with my German with the help from some Chinese boys who have had this course very recently.

As I do realize that the university in Chengtu needs money very badly I should try my best to be economical whenever I can. Since thesis work is money comsuming business I am trying to get my professor to pay for the most expensive items with the hope of limiting the expenses within the $300.00 from the grant sheifted from the tuition from the Associated Board, or not far beyond this limit. When school opens in the Fall I can join the classes of German for some polsining and French for a real good start without paying a cent. Since I am not planing to take any more courses than thesis and language I think I will have time to do the job.

I am very grateful for your kindness of placing the order so promptly. Regarding to the copy of "German Prose Composition" it was recommended by the professor. If the book company can not find it we better just let it go as I think I shall be able to get a second hand one when the school opens.

I received all the books including Noble's "Latex in Industy". I suppose those two books published in London will take some time to get across the Atlantic, since I am still in the preliminary stage of building apparatus it will be alright to wait for a few weeks.

One Chinese boy left for China and gave me two French books Williams "Techical and Scientific French" and Fraser, Squair and Carnahan "Standard French Grammar" yesterday. I wonder if these two books can be returned to the book company as they are in their original perfect shape.

I am having a hard time on my thesis as it is an original work and practically no references could be traced. However, I think I have figured out the mehtods of attack and I hope my preliminary runs will be sucessful to support my idea and I shall be able to secure at least one third of the necessary data during the coming three months. As the work goes along I am afraid that I shall have to place some more orders of books.

Sincerely yours,

John Y. H. Chao

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0295

Graduate House, Cambridge, Mass.
September. 10, 1941

ack 9/13/41

Dear Mr. Evans:

Before I can hardly realize summer vacation has passed away, and it will soon be the beginning of next acadamic year.

During the past three months I kept myself very busy for the literature survey, building apparatus, the preliminary runs and reading German. So far as my thesis is concerned I am expecting to start regular runs very soon, and I hope, after the difficulties have been encountered, and the stage of routine is reached, the work can then be accelerated. By that time I think I shall be able to remain in my room in the evenings for my German instead of rushing to the laboratory as I am doing now.

I have received letters from Messers Sewell and Spooner in August. I am very glad to know that the new chemicstry building was quite ready for service after two years construction. I am sure the staff members of the chemistry department and the students who take chemistry are enjoying at least the "space" and at the same time they are very grateful for the genrosity of the American people and the kindness of all of you associated with the university for making it possible. Needless to say they are planning to fill up the "space" with all possible facilities both adequate qualified staff and instruments and apparatus for education and research. When such a request is submitted to your office I wish you will be kind enough to see them to the end in order to help them to turn out students having adequate knowledge, intellegence and technique in harmony with their christain beleif, not only useful to China but also able to rebuild China after the war.

I am very much pleased to know the present activities of the university and the science college. I assume that you have read the report of the chemistry department from Spooner. It sounds very interesting and encouraging as far as the progesses and developments areconcerned, but I simply can not see how they are able to overcome the financial difficulty unless you and others in New York are able to give more help. It is very hard for them without enough money to carry out what they ought to but it is equal or more hard for you to give more help. However if it is His will to keep that institute alive let us all pray for the miracle.

Paid 9/12/41
To 3701
June 15 to Sept 20th

The casher's office just informed me that the bill they sent to your office at the beginning of August for my room rent and laboratory fee for the summer session has not been paid yet. Since their office has had full confidence in your office and myself for more then two years I do not wish to give them any bad impression so may I beg your kindness of seeing to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

John Y. H. Kao

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RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
SEP 15 1941
JOINT OFFICE

September 13, 1941

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Kao:

I am grateful for your letter of September 10th and for the evident interest you have in the progress of work in Chengtu. Truly they are working under tremendous handicaps but with a noble spirit. Probably you have been receiving word from various sources which tells of the keen appreciation for such improvements as are granted them. It is pathetic in some instances to read of how over-whelmingly grateful these good people are for a few feet of extra space for classroom or consultation work.

Truly this war is doing things to people and it means that many must face circumstances and conditions which people before never encountered. Out of it all may grow a new system of living which will permit peace and prosperity to reign. Let us pray to that end at once.

The invoice for the summer semester came to hand yesterday morning and a check was sent last night. It was not held up in our office and apparently through some over-sight at M. I. T. it appeared that we had been forwarded a statement. I am sure you will find that the money is now in hand.

With every good wish, I am

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

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0297

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
NOV 26 1941
JOINT OFFICE

Graduate House, M.I.T.
Cambridge, Mass.
November 24, 1941

ack 11/26/41

Dear Mr. Evans:

It was very kind of you to spemd some of your valuable time last Saturday when I visited your office. I am very grateful for your readiness of understanding my feeling toward the university and I am als o very thankful for your kindness of considering the case I brought up to you during my visit.

Since I have been associated with that unviersity alm ost twenty years I trust my past observations were not incorrect. With the experirences and difficulties I ran into during the past two years I have more evidences to prove that I was and am not wrong. Trust my loyality to that institute and my confidence to the valuable contributions that university can and will give under proper conduction and my respect to the noble purpose that university can function but also please mark my words that that university can only go either f orward or backward but definitely there is not a single chance for itself to stand still. Please also be sympathetic and try to understand the tremendous pressure upon ourselves especially during the war with Japan when we were able to trace out so many shortcomings. We need progress with acceleration and spped. We need educated young men and women with clear noble life philosophy through the christain eduaation but also with adequate training of science and arts or whatever is necessary for them to earning their living while working serving an d rebuilding. Since both are necessary and essential for one's life I would incline to think that it is very necessary for the university to function both simultaneously and parallelly, or in equal weight.

If I am not wrong to my understanding of the function of the university it seems that the university is rather under obligation to march on time and if possible give up the so called "better than none " policy. It is not yet late for the university to look out for the swift political social industrial and educational changes in China especial after the war and seize the chance to modify our educational system to train our students to meet their demand for real good service, grab every possible opportunity to join any activity in order to gain a public and wide sympathy both from the government and the society, strengthen our staff to undertake any new project and service and also a better and thorough training of the students. If we are able to do so then we can expect both moral and FINANCIAL support either from the government or the public, not because they have no way to shake us off but because of necessity. Besides we have to realize tat that quite a few hundred young men and womens life, future and success and happiness are relying on whether our education actually gi ves them the right kind of wise, substantial and solid training or not. That university has a wonderful future if it does not miss the boat.

The pioneers and the founders of that university have done every thing possible to have that university eastablished and run for thirty years or so it seems it is our responsibility to glorify and keep up, and enlarge and extent it's function and service instead of the other way around.

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11-24-41

May be I bid too high a goal for the university but Yenching and Nanking were very successful though, probably through the same channal I ,therefore, do not quite see why could not we follow the same route. I ahve been considering and thinking about this problem quite often this semster because the time for my returning is drawing very near. However, to find enough people to talk the same language is extremly difficulty thing I am afraid I shall have to keep myself quiet and inert as the past two years in order to make my life easier but I can assure you that I will always have the lifebelt with me and be ready to land when the ship is unavoidablly to sink. Whether you prove my idea or my feeling toward the university or not I do not desire to let people in Chengtu know anything at all because I do not wish to have any misunderstanding.

Regarding to the qualification of the man I mentioned to you the other day I got a complete copy from him. He told me he is quite willing to consider this opportunity when you are able to give me a definite word. I sincerely hope that you are able to find out a way for his salary and engage him because he is really good. However, if there is no possibility at all to work through your office I wish you will just forget about it and please do not write to Chengtu at all about him with the same simple reason.

Very sincerely yours,

John Y. T. Kao

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RE
UNIVERSITY
DEC 4 1941
JOINT OFFICE

November 26, 1941

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Kao:

I am grateful for your good letter of November 24th enclosing the transcript of Mr. Bruynes' record and a brief biographical sketch.

With the background of our conversation in mind, and your further discussion in your letter of this situation, I am approaching the major co-operating boards for assistance in securing the services of this very competent young man.

I thoroughly agree with you in all the fundamental representations you make regarding the future of the University. West China seems to have come into being for a definite purpose and, at the present time, it is serving the cause of education in China in a remarkable way. It must not allow these opportunities to pass by unchallenged and unimproved. Whether or not means will be available to take advantage of this particular opportunity is a question, but upon the general grounds which you state, I am in thorough accord.

I shall let you know as soon as possible of the results of my investigation.

Incidentally, we have had two requests for the use of the West China catalog which I trust is now in the mail on the way back to us.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

2 8 8 4 5 3 1
0300

January 13, 1942

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
Graduate House,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear John:

I have had occasion to follow through more carefully in connection with your desire to have Henry Bruynes going to West China Union University.

I have discussed the matter with several board members connected with West China and find a fundamental question is raised in every discussion. That applies to the ability of the University to give regular support and whether or not there will be continuing income to care for such support. This naturally reverts to the consideration of the budget which originates in China and, quite naturally, the heads of the Department of West China must pass judgment upon the items of expenditure.

With this in mind, I am asking if there is any object in informing the field of this opportunity and requesting judgment to be rendered.

It is quite possible that the Japanese have answered this question and that the main consideration, until the end of the war, will be the more fundamental question of keeping the Colleges in existence.

If you are in agreement with my suggestion, I should be glad to forward the data to Chengtu.

I was most grateful to have an opportunity to meet Mr. Bruynes and I am glad that he could come to New York.

Most sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0301

Ack 2-27-42
OJC for CAC

Graduate House, M. I. T.
Cambridge Mass.
January 14, 1942

Dear Mr Evans:

Many thanks for your two letters. When I received your letter informing about an interview with Mr. Bruynes I could not figure out what did you really mean. The interview arranged by Bruynes was certainly not my idea. When he came to my room and told me about coming to see you I took that you have directly written him and arranged the interview and the only thing I could tell him at that time was to wish him the best luck. I would not send him to see you unless I received words about the possibility of his salary and your wish to see him.

I should have answered your letter by that time if I was not so busy with my thesis and preperation of French. On top of those necessary daily work I have now quite a few undergraduate and graduate thesis under my direction. By the way, after so many years teaching expereince I found out the best way to teach and direct research is to let the boys scratch their heads and run into trouble instead of telling them what was my idea and how did I come to such conclusion or what kind of results and data or curves I have expected. It seemed to me that unless they have scratched hard enough and done enough thinking they apparently could not absorb the essential points of the work and consequently they did not know what they were doing and what for. I consider this is a valuable gain to my expereince.

Regarding to you letter of January 13 I am 100% with you. It is very obvious that the second world war has completely changed the whole picture of the globe. To keep the university going and functioning in the coming years during the war will be a task much hard than ever before. Naturly we should do everything possible to encourage them and simplify the problems for them. It would not be fair for us to bring some more burden on them at a situation like this.

Moreover, Mr Bruynes has applied the first paper from the government and his name is in the draft list of both U. S. A. and Dutch governments. In other words, I have enough doublt that he will be able to postpone his draft or finish his degree here in the nearest future.

On the other side, during this long war period, if you wish, I may look around, Havard University for instance, for some able young Chinese to fit this picture. At any rate, there is no hurry at all since no one is able to get across the Pacific in a year or two. Therefore I would like to suggest this matter being closed at least for the time being. If you like you can inform Mr. Bruynes that we regret that the war has affected our financial situation so bad that we fear very much that the chance of his going to West China will not be able to turn out as we would like to.

At the present I am concentrating on my work without bothering too much about what am I going to do next fall. However, very soon I am going to face this situation without any possible doublt. I wonder if you would like to give me some advice and kindly let me know about it.

Sincerely John Y. H. Kao

2 8 8 4 5 3 1
0302

February 27, 1942

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Kao:

Thank you for your letter of January 14. I have been delayed in answering it because of the pressure of business, much of which is a result of wartime conditions.

It now seems unlikely that Mr. Bruynes will be able to go to China, and I feel that we must suspend any further consideration of his application. I agree with you that it would be a good idea to keep a sharp lookout for a qualified Chinese chemist who might join our staff in Chengtu. I shall be happy to hear from you concerning any such contacts you may make.

You are wise to concentrate all your attention on your work, because worry would not profit you at this time.

With best wishes for your success,

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE:JP

2 8 8 4 5 3 1

0303

Sept 8. 12-95 - Lab 50 25 Paid - 60 per month
Lab fees 25 82.52 per semester for rent

Graduate House, M. I. T.
Cambridge, Mass.
March 10, 1942

Dear Mr. Evans:

Many thanks for your kind letter of Feb. 27. I am very sorry for Mr. Bruynes that we have to suspend any further consideration of his application, but it seems that is all we can do at least for the war duration.

I intended to come to New Yrok and have a talk with you, but to be frank to you, financially I can not even spare a few dollars for this trip on account of the increased living cost in the past several months. Instead I am writing to you and hoping that you would give prompt considerations and kindly let me have your reactions immediately.

1. Thesis work

Since Sept 8. 1941
rent 8 - 70
82.50
82.50
lab 25
25
allowance 60 per month

It is a great releif and joy that under accelerated pushing and n nonstop operation I was able to finish the experimental part at the end of last week. I have made a bout fourteen runs and got about 60 curves. The data and result have evidently proofed my theory and revealed the actual mechanism of the Vultex Industry.

After a few days rest I shall start to write the first draft. I hope that I shall be able to finish the writing at the end of April and take the oral examination at the beginning of May.

Regarding to the breakage the total bill is far more than $500.00 Moreover this bill includes only the orders from the Institute Stock Room but excludes the orders from the outside companies I have paid in cash.

I remembered that I have mention to you that there was a fair ~~good~~ chance for me to convince the professor to pay for me. Well, I was not very wrong. As matter of fact, he was so much amazed to see my dashing and running in the past f few months and he was very much pleased to find out that my result has not only explained all I wanted but also opened a wide field for further research. As I have expected when I appealed to him for the breakage he promised to pay without any hesitation. I am very grateful for his generousity but I think I have earned that much by working so hard.

Academic year 10 months

300
600
50
165
70
1185

Of course it is very nice to get rid of the breakage bill but there are plenty expenses as to be paid yet. For the copies of thesis, the curves blue pringtings, photographs and the typist etc. For the publication all the curves have to be drawn by the skill men at the rate of $3.00 each. For the graduation excercise the cap, gown the hood and a decent suit for such a special occasion. Besides I have paid out in cash to the glass blower and for the copper connectors, elbows etc from my monthly allowence during the course of investigation.

Oscar

Since there is only about one month time left for me to get every thing through may I ask your favor of sending the $300.00 which has been granted to me by the Associated Board as scholarship for this academic year in lump sum so I shall be able to get started and get through in due time.

2. The possibility of going back home and the chance of getting a job here.

In my last letter I have asked your kind advice toward this matter. apparently you were too busy to spare any time for the consideration. Ever since Dec. 7, the whole situation looked very different and things were getting worse in these several months after the Japs were able to occupy so many important islands. I have no information whatever about the possibility of going back to China, whether there are still ships sailing across the Pacific ocean or are they allowed to take passengers or whether is it safe to board such a ship. I have been away from my home and my duty almost three years. I would like very much to go back to rejoin my family and reassume my duty but at the same time I dont want to take any risk of my safty.

If all the odds are against my going back home the following two items have to be considered.

a. It seems to me that my name is still in the list of the faculty of W. C. U. U. I suppose they are rather expecting my return soon as I finish the work here. If under the present condition I am unable to return and reassume my duty do you think it would be much better if I resign officially so that they have a better reason to appeal to the government for extra help and would be much better off to use such extra help for hiring somebody at hand and taking up the job immediately and effectively instead of waiting for my return. Of course I am only thinking of

0304

3-10-42

their interest and trying to see to their points. I know they would be very much disappointed when they learn that I shall not be able to return but this is some thing no one can help very much .

b. By staying here I have to find out a way to earn my living ot get a job. It seems it is perticularly difficultfor us chemical engineers to be hired. The reasons I have gathered can be summarized as following. First there is still existing the traditional prejudice against Chinese. Second the chemical industries are rather afraid of our learning their trade secrets and also they consider a big loss to them to offer us temporary jobs because they pay rather heavily to get us well trained and they dont like the idea of walking out from them when the war is over when we eventually have to return to China. The Institute was exceptionally kind to arrange some interviews for the Chinese students in the Institute but so far only quite a few master men were definitly hired because their salary scale is much lower than doctors men. I have managed to have an interniew with the Goodyear Rubber Co. The answer was though not definitely hopless but not encouraging at all.

However this does not mean that I will be out of job because my professor has asked me many times if I would like to work under him in the coming year.on some rubber reclaiming problems as research assistant. I have not given him any definitely answer yet because the payment is very low especially in M. I. T. for any alien on a temporary positon. Perhaps you dont know that I was seriosly in debt because the Univeristy pays monthly only twenty dollars Chinese currency to my family which consists of my wife and two children during these three years. especially when everything is shooting the price up to the sky. Of course I am not complaining that the University is paying far too little for my family to live on but I would be satisfied if I dont find that my family are not like those skeltons of the Polish children very recently printed in Life. Very often I lie down without going to sleep and wonder how they can get along and how am I going to pay my debt if I am going to accept a job which would pay me barely enough for me to live on.

Since Goodyear failed to give me a definitely and satisfactory answer I am afraid that I am not in the position to make any choice. Do you suggest that I should take the research assistant position even though the payment is only something about $125-150 per month? By taking this job I am allowed to take two courses each semester especially the ceramics engineering and the textile fiber engineering which would make my specialized field more specifc and tie closer to my previous knoweldge of chemistry and present knowledge of chemical engineering. However, the job starts only from October when the next academic year begins. If I accept this job would that be possible for me to extend my monthly allowence three months more to cover up July, August and September.

As you know I came to this country with a visitor visa with the understanding that I shall never accept any job during my staying. But when the situation truns out to be like this do you think there is any possiblity of changing my present visa into a working one so I shall be free from this restriction and save lot of trouble in finding a job. I remembered you have told me that your office has had very close contact with the State Department do you think with the influence of your office such kind of possibility can be worked out without too much trouble. I am very anxious to get a job so that my daily expenses wil not fall on the University any longer because I know they are in great need of money. But it will be absolutely against my will if I can not hold this job simply because I have no way to get rid of the restriction. Wont you be kind enough to lend a hand?

Since the time for the final decision for almost everything has come nearly to critical margin I wish you would kind give careful consideration and answer me as soon as you possibly can.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

John Y. H. Kao

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March 13, 1942

Mr. John Y. L. Kao
Graduate House
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Kao:

We too were sorry that we could not give further thought to the possibility of securing anybody on the West China staff outside of those authorized by the Board of Managers in China.

I note with pleasure the success you have achieved in convincing your Professor of your sincerity and industry and that it has been the means of making adjustments on your breakage bill.

As the Associated Boards' Committee on Scholarships voted you $300.00 and, in view of your application, we are enclosing same herewith less the purchases which you authorized and for which we are enclosing bill. This makes a net of $270.14 due you.

I am very much interested in your statement regarding the possibility of returning to China. It did not occur to me that you would desire to stay on in the United States in view of the fact that West China has quite definitely made a considerable investment in your behalf. The total payments as we figure them will amount to $1,185.00 for this year.

The chances of your being able to get back to China are not so remote as may appear. Dr. Agnew was able to secure passage and is now en route to Calcutta on the same boat Mr. Fuller of the Methodist Board has passage and will fly in to Chengtu from India. It needs, of course, the backing of all of our groups in making an application to the Government, but I feel confident that this can be done. Things may be worse before they are better, but it is my conviction as well as that with whom we all come in contact that there are limits to this aggressor situation.

I am greatly interested in the last sentence of the ninth paragraph of your letter which is simply an impossible utterance. To be alive today is a risk. Whether you realize it or not, I do not know, but it is a fact that more people died by the influenza plague in 1917 than were actually killed in the world war at that time. It does not need me to tell you that over a long period of years death from automobiles topped the list of accidents in the United States - but, in spite of that, according to statistics of insurance companies there is a larger risk of accident in a man's own home than any other place on the face of the earth.

There is another consideration which we must have in mind which has been a

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universal rule in all of our Colleges in China and it applies to the American staff as well as to the Chinese members, and that is any advances made of expenses or allowances are to be adjusted in case a staff member does not return according to agreement. At the present time, we are collecting in one university account on $1,200.00 advanced to American staff members who have not carried through on their contacts and the bill is more than two-thirds paid. So, you can see it is a readily recognizable liability on the part of the person accepting such assistance from the university.

I am raising a very serious question regarding the status of your family. I have had three direct reports that they are being accorded better fare than you indicate in your letter. Mind you, I am deeply concerned over the status of your family, as well as other Chinese suffering because of these very unusual circumstances at the present time. As a matter of fact, I have been greatly distressed also at the reports of the lack of correspondence between yourself and your family. I say this as every letter which came to hand from China, written by your best friends, urging you to correspond with the field, also had reference to the non-receipt of letters to your family from you.

My own conclusions are that with this deep concern for your family, as expressed in your last letter, it would seem that every effort should be made to get back to China. I am inclined to think that, therefore, our first approach should be an effort to get you back to where you can be most effectively of use, both to your family and to China. An approach to the State Department, at the present time, for your continued stay in America would require the action of the West China Board and the cooperation of the Foreign Missions Conference of America. I am ready to make any approaches necessary, but I desire to be sure that we are doing the proper thing.

Your letter raises some very pertinent questions and I have answered you very frankly. I have done so because these issues must be a part of your consideration in laying any plans for the future.

With sincerest best regards to you, I am

Most cordially yours,

C. A. EVANS

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