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Gibb, J M 1923 Mar-May

PEKING

March 1, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb, Jr.,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

Dr. Eric North has raised with me the question contained in your letter of January 30th to him with regard to the funds which Dr. T. T. Lew thinks should be available for the Department of Theology. I may say that on July 17, 1922 Dr.North sent the following memorandum to Mr.Krause:

> I have written to President Stuart concerning a special gift of $600 made here by Dr.Henry Coffin for the work of the Theological School at the discretion of President Stuart.
>
> This item may be drawin upon by the field outside of tht approved budget for the current year but the trustees will not guarantee loss in exchange upon this item, it is distinctly an extra.

This should successfully dispose of the item of $600. On January 10, 1923 I wrote to Mr. Krause stating that Dr. William Adams Browne had given $250.00 toward his total subscription of $500 for the Publication Fund for the School of Theology, and that Mr. Krause was at liberty to draw the amount at any time. I also wrote Dr. Lew on the same day to the same effect. This was probably not in their hands when your letter was written, but should have been shortly afterwards. We note by your letter that you had ordered 100 tons of steel from Belgium, but since your cablegram was dated several days later we infer that you were unable to secure delivery of the steel so ordered. We are doing our best to get bids on this steel and get it off as early as possible. It is a terribly slow process, accomplishing that thing; although we have every hopes of making shipment speedily.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

北大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU

47 Yang Jou Hutung
March 2, 1927

My dear Dr. North:

Mr. Bocker several days ago showed me rather hurriedly portions of a letter you had written to him in regard to the budget brought home by Dr. Stuart. Apparently Dr. Stuart did not bring a sheet which was worked out to prepare that budget and which showed definitely what the item $12515 for foreign salaries included. Mr. Bocker and I have been trying to find time to get together and see what can be done to get some more information to you by the last of March. Unfortunately we have not had time to meet. As I had to write you in regard to the Grounds and Building committee meeting, I have worked out the enclosed sheet, which may explain the points which you wish cleared up.

You will note the first two columns on the left hand explain the figures which appear in the budget of November 17th, while the last six columns show the salaries and allowances as they would work out if the Trustees pass the salary schedule as passed by the Managers in their meeting of January 27th. I have not worked out what the amount of the increase will be, but it will be considerable.

Mr. Bocker's and Mr. Harris' name appear below the line of totals, as when the budget was made November 17th it was thought that they were directly under some Mission. Over against the amount set down in the last six columns for them may be written additional income items which were not included in the November 17th budget.

The American Presbyterian Mission is now paying us $500 for two vacancies in their quota, and I believe the Methodist Mission is paying a similar amount, while we are figuring on G. $2,000 or Mex. $3800 from the University of Southern California.

I am sorry that the extended budget as per the sample sheet by yourself last year has not been prepared. We have been working on it. One difficulty in the way is that a number of the members of the faculty have never answered the inquiries sent them preparatory to filling up the figures needed opposite their names. We will continue to work, and where exact figures are not possible will send you our own estimate.

We are also enclosing a copy of the minutes of the Grounds and Building committee meeting of yesterday. The one item which needs early attention on the part of the Trustees is the grant of $1000 voted by the committee from Construction Bureau funds to in a measure reimburse Mr. Hill for his loss in the fire which I reported in my last letter. I have handed Mr. Hill a check for $500 as first payment of this grant, feeling sure the Trustees would approve this action. Should the Trustees not approve would you be so good as to send me a cable.

I would also call attention to the report in regard to the purchase of cement which I hope will finally result in getting a more equitable rate for the University.

Mr. Lund has been inquiring again as to whether the University has been able to secure the services of the honorary consulting engineer about which we wrote some months ago. At our committee meeting yesterday the question of the heat and power plant and sewage disposal was again up for discussion. It seems to me to be very necessary that every effort should be made to get this equipment decided upon and under way.

Very sincerely yours,

G/M

3/29/23

Minutes of the Grounds and Building Committee

The Construction Bureau Offices. Thursday afternoon, March 1, 1923.
Present Messrs. Tayler, Galt, Corbett, Gibb and Mrs. Frame.

Mr. Gibb reported the purchase by Mr. Huang of the property belonging to the elder Liu of about eight and a half mou of land, Mr. Huang having used money from the sale of cement barrels and bags to pay for half of this, the other half of the purchase price being an advance from University funds, but this to be repaid when the sale of further bags and barrels permits. The possibility of buying the land belonging to the younger brother at $80 a mou was also reported.

The arrival of a cable authorizing the purchase of material for the two Science buildings was reported; also that the New York office was purchasing for immediate shipment 100 tons of steel.

Mr. Gibb reviewed the situation with regard to the purchase of cement and reported that he had written to the headquarters of the Tong Shan cement works offering to contract for 20,000 bags at $3.00, or to agree to purchase all the cement that the University would need during the next five years if the cement works would make a flat rate of $2.50 per bag. It is estimated that for the six buildings now authorized 20,000 bags would be sufficient; while for the ten buildings needed to move the University to the site an additional 15,000 bags would be needed; during the five years immediately before us 30,000. more.

Mr. Tayler reported on the state of negotiations of a part of the old summer palace grounds that, while no progress had actually been made, still every possible lead was being followed up.

Mrs. Frame reported receiving a letter saying that a gift of G.$20,000 had been made to build the residence for the Dean of the Women's College.

The question of grading for the Women's College dormitories was discussed at some length, and it was decided to locate some levels on stakes driven in the ground to assist the members of the committee to understand the problem.

Mr. Gibb reported on the loss by Mr. Hill of his entire architectural library, cameras, clothing, furniture, and all keepsakes in the fire which occurred early Monday morning in the house of Dr. Candlin when that property was completely destroyed. It was voted to extend the sympathy of the committee to Mr. Hill in this loss, and to make a grant of G. $1,000 to in a measure reimburse him for the loss, this grant being subject to the approval of the Trustees.

It was voted to approve the expenditure of upwards of $500 by Mr. Harris for repairs and furnishings for the house on Ch'ou T'i Hutung, and to ask Mr. Harris to send in a complete inventory of furniture bought and owned by the University.

Committee adjourned.

(Signed) John McGregor Gibb, Jr.

Chairman

PEKING

March 7, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

Enclosed you will find a copy of some notes of a conference held by Mr. and Mrs. Luce and Mr. Porter, on two of the residence plans which have been sent over here. Dr. North asks that I send these to you.

Dr. North also suggests that I write saying that if you are going to buy the China Medical Board surplus material, which is what Mr. Roger Greene is assuming that you are going to do, Mr. Greene would appreciate it very much if you did this right away; and if you do buy this material, please be sure to send us a cable advising us in advance of the amount that you are drawing for it.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

March 9, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of one of the final drafts of the contract which the university signed with Murphy, McGill & Hamlin. We are unable to locate the contract anywhere in our files over here, as it appears in some way to have entirely disappeared. Dr. North thinks that you undoubtedly have a copy out there, and I am enclosing this draft in order that you may make on it any corrections, so as to make it conform to the contract as finally signed. It is exceedingly embarrassing to us not to be able to state definitely what the terms of the contract are, and we dislike very much to have to resort to this sort of a scheme, but it seems to be the most expeditious way of providing us with the necessary facts. We will be very grateful to you indeed if you can return this to us just as soon as possible.

Cordially yours,

Enclosure

燕京大學
PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA
CONSTRUCTION BUREAU

L B Moss
For action necessary
Yenching Coll
BLG
Mrs. Roy Chuan

47 Yang Jou Hutung
March 13, 1923

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. North:

I am in receipt of your letter of February 5th, the minutes of the Yenching College Building Committee, also yours of February 6th and the report of the firm of Murphy, McGill & Hamlin in regard to the Construction Bureau's plans for the Women's College, also the minutes of the Building Committee of Yenching College dated Tuesday, January 30th, and a letter from Mr. Leslie B. Moss dated February 2nd.

I have had a talk with Mrs. Frame over the suggestions made by the Building Committee and have put the suggested changes up to Mr. Hill. I have done this without telling him that any other architectural firm was called into the reckoning, though he remarked that he felt sure some other firm had been conferred with, to which I replied that I understood from your letter to him and to me that the Women's Committee had reserved that right.

As I remarked in my letter of last Sunday, it will keep matters going more smoothly here if the reports from home can in as large a measure as possible be made up without mentioning the name of any other architect. I can then show these reports to Mr. Hill and I am sure he will be glad to try to corporate any changes suggested from home in any work which he does for the University. I have not been able to show him any of this correspondence because in several places the names of other architects have been used.

The suggested changes can all be worked into the buildings, and I feel that the buildings will not suffer thereby, though it is still Mr. Hill's feeling that the slightly narrow eaves are more typical of the class of building that we planned.

The size of the room has always been an open question in my mind, but I have felt that it would always be easy to make suceeding units slightly larger and that we had better with these first units get as much for our money as possible. Then if we needed more space per room incorporate that in future units.

Report to YC Coll

I note that the first quadrangles to be built are the ones at the northern end of the dormitory space, two on either side of the athletic field. This brings one of them in conflict with the large semi-circular grave mound on the east side of the playing field. The local official told me last spring that our deed for this piece of property should say this grave was not to be moved. The dead is not so made out, but on the other hand the deed has

never yet gone through the official stamping process. I have no doubt at all that the grave can be removed, but in order to make things go smoothly I would prefer that the removal of it should be delayed until sometime after the University has moved out on to the site. The place is really a historic landmark, and it may be decided after living alongside of it for a longer or shorter time that it had better be kept.

I am, therefore, suggesting that we build the two northernmost dormitories on the west side of the playing field and the central two on the east side of the playing field, leaving the grave as an architectural feature on the east side for the time being. The maps that you have will not show this grave very much in the way of the dormitory. Unfortunately the survey made by Corberly two years ago was inaccurate at this point, and the grave conflicts more than was thought.

We are starting the two dormitories on the west side of the playing field first. As soon as the foundation of those are up to what would be the ground level, the earth from the excavation of the first and then the second dormitories on the west side can be moved over to fill in around these foundations. That means that there will be ample time for your committee to instruct us to move the grave if you think it important that the northernmost dormitory on the west side be constructed at this time.

C. The individuality clause appeals to Mr. Hill who, I am sure, will have a very good time making different kinds of gates, etc. as you suggest.

D. Our planning has always been with the same amount of fireproof construction as in the other buildings.

E. Ridges will be designed as per your instructions.

F. We do not believe that the dormitory roof can be lowered very much but will do everything in that line possible.

G. The size of the rooms I have already mentioned. The question of the location of the bath rooms is under discussion. As they are now located they are more centrally convenient, the plumbing is more centralized and, therefore, will be less expensive, the outfit will be in a more protected part of the building and so freer from danger of freezing, and the dormitory room which might be put in place of the bath would certainly not be quite as desirable so far as sunlight and view goes as one which would be placed at the end of the dormitory wing. Against this should be weighed the question of saving of a little space by putting the bath at the extreme end.

H. Our name "Tubercular Room" was unfortunate. In all China schools we find there are a number of students who have what we might call tendency toward tuberculosis, and it has been the policy of the schools to provide special spaces for these students. When I built the Methodist Women's Hospital in 1914 they provided a large sleeping porch on the fourth floor, southeast corner, to give to nurses or other students who might have tendency toward tuberculosis. In our Peking Academy, Durban Hall, there was a room or two which had practically no heat and which have for years been occupied by students who needed special fresh air treatment.

Our judgment coincides with that of the committee that one floor of one wing of a special quadrangle may serve as a temporary general infirmary, that in case of an epidemic two or more floors may be temporarily turned over for that purpose. It is our hope that at some early date an infirmary for the whole student body may be built at which time one wing should certainly be provided for women students and one for men.

We do not think, however, that the large room marked "tuberculosis room" on your plans should be done away with, but should be kept for the purposes as shown above. It is not the policy of the University to keep students with tuberculosis in the institution.

I note the request of the committee for the definite recommendations in regard to health matters on the new site. An infirmary was called for in the original scheme and this has been tentatively placed in the building at the south end of the athletic field on the main campus. Dr. Stuckey, former medical officer, and Dr. Pai, present medical officer, were given opportunity to express their opinions and desires which call for one or two rooms for infectious cases or suspected infectious cases, two wards of say ten beds each for students, a dispensary for students which also may be thrown open for people of the nearby villages, kitchens, waiting rooms, examination rooms, housing for nurses and doctors. Such a plant would cost about G.$25,000.

Dr. Stuart before leaving spoke very definitely about having connected with the University a foreign physician; and if he could be procured and consulted, it would help very much in making these plans. It is my personal opinion that a foreign physician will be a necessity if the families of the staff are going to be content to live out in the suburbs, and it would be better to have a man of some years experience than a man fresh out from home.

This brings us down to point "I" which will be done as suggested.

J. I hope the committee is urging the use of full round and pan tile on these buildings, realizing that this means a water-proof roof underneath the tile which then can be laid in cement and cinder fill. I talked the matter over hurriedly with Mr. Gernow yesterday. He had opportunity to examine the roofs of the Imperial City and assures me that there was absolute evidence that the tile had never been made water-tight and that water penetrated regularly several inches below the tile. Of course, those roofs have a very thick layer of mud and lime, and the presumption is that the water never got through this thick coat. If we have to put on such a thick layer, it means making the walls and building in general very much heavier than we had originally planned.

One point brought out in the report of Murphy, McGill & Hamlin amuses me, as it is a proof that when folks are asked to criticize they feel that they must find something to criticize. They ask about the size of the kitchen. My figures are that the kitchen and pantry in the Women's College building measure up slightly over three hundred feet which is the space allotted to provide for fifty-six girls, while in the dormitory and refectory buildings as designed at

home in 1921, a kitchen which was provided for 276 boys had slightly over 600 square feet area. It would appear, therefore, that there was enough area in the Women's College kitchen.

A point they raise in regard to provision for storage of staples is beside the point, as storage means ice to keep the things stored. We have always found it best to have materials delivered daily as they are needed, rather than attempting to buy less frequently and store larger quantities. This does not materially increase the price as we are able to contract for the quantities needed over a period, but have the deliveries made in smaller quantities. And in a country where labor is as plentiful as in China a more frequent delivery does not mean any material increase in price.

Mr. Moss's letter included a copy of the one from Mr. Green to you. The plans which we sent you a few days ago are much more up-to-date than the ones which you originally showed to Mr. Green. You will note that the class room which he mentions under his first heading was then changed so that the light would come over the left hand of the students. The Chinese student when he comes to class does not remove any outside clothing. It will, therefore, not be necessary to provide locker rooms.

Point 3 is very well taken, and we shall certainly provide a receiving room in one if not both of the buildings. This will probably be in a basement lighted by an areaway.

Point 4. You will find that the Laboratories are worked out in much greater detail in the recent drawings. These plans have been back and forth between this office and the teachers in both the Union Medical College and our own institution, so that I do not think anything worth while is being left out. I think the tendency in all institutions at present is to do away with large laboratories, getting the rooms down to a size where a class taken care of by one teacher can easily work.

Point 5. I will again call the attention of the Biology Department to their rooms and ask if they believe they are going to be too crowded.

We made trips to the site on Thursday and Saturday of last week, and I have been out there again today. The contractors now have quite a large force of men on the place, and they are putting in the partitions in the first dormitories and preparing the timbers of the roofs of the dormitory and School of Religion so as to have it ready to put in place as soon as we can cast the top floors, which will be next week, I believe, always supposing we can get the cement. I have been holding off on the cement question from week to week hoping that my efforts of getting the price down would be successful. I have sent off a careful letter today to try to speed up the cement company's answer. My feeling has been that if I appear too anxious they will not come down to a price which I feel is reasonable.

Yesterday I was shown a piece of property a stone's throw from the University, which included fifteen or so "chien" of very good Chinese buildings and quite a little garden that the owner is anxious to sell. He has not named a price, and I have said that there was very

little likelihood of the University buying. If, however, his price is very cheap and some land for faculty residences does not become available very soon, it might be adviseable to purchase this place as a beginning of separate plots for faculty residence purposes. I think I told you in my letter of last Sunday that I had purchased the second half of the Liu brothers land.

I am now very tentatively inquiring about the gardens which mark the extreme southeast corner of the women's dormitory plot. I told somebody on the site today that there would be very little likelihood of the University's needing those places for twenty odd years to come, saying this in the hope that the news will be carried to the owners that they might be ready to accept a more reasonable price in order to get their money at an earlier date.

Word is in today that the three large timbers necessary for the trusses in the School of Religion chapel are on their way up the coast from Shanghai.

I hope very soon to have definite word from you in regard to one hundred tons of steel which we will be looking for anxiously in six weeks time.

I shall spend all day Thursday on the site and will probably move out at the first part of next week.

Very sincerely yours,

G/M

京大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU

47 Yang Jou Hutung
March 16, 1923

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. North:

Further detailing of the construction plans of the two Science buildings developes that we will need thirty tons more steel in these buildings than was at first estimated. When we received your cable saying you were sending us one hundred tons, we figured that we would have had within twenty-eight tons of enough to build the Women's Administration, two Science buildings and three dormitories. Recent correspondence makes it uncertain whether we are to do three dormitories or four, and we are not quite clear whether the construction of the Science buildings is entirely authorized.

Be that as it may, we will need 58 tons as a minimum to carry on the work that we are thinking of now; and I would suggest that you order for immediate shipment not less than 100 tons in addition to what we hope will be here very soon. These should be all structural steel round bars of standard strength, and we would like 60 tons of 1", half of which should be 40' long and the other half could be 30',

20 tons of 7/8"
10 tons of 3/4"
10 tons of 3/8"

If before this letter arrives there are further authorizations possible, we would feel happier if this order could be made 200 tons, in which case the second hundred should be

15 tons of 1"
15 tons of 7/8"
10 tons of 3/4"
10 tons of 5/8"
15 tons of 1/2"
25 tons of 3/8"
10 tons of 1/4"

Our feelings out here rise and fall between the possibility of getting the University out on the new site in the fall of 1924, and the impossibility of doing that. It is certain that unless before the end of April we have authorizations to build the power plant, one refectory and at least two more dormitories for the Men's College, we must give up that hope.

We spent the entire day on the site yesterday laying out Women's College dormitories, making arrangements for the moving of the carpenter yard away from where these dormitories will have to go up, to the piece of land adjacent to the main road and South of the water which

is marked on the plot plan. This is the place nearest most of the construction work, nearest to the road over which the material will arrive, and has the disadvantage of putting this carpenter's shop right in the front so that everybody coming out to the site from Peking will come to that first.

The mud wall shown on the plan has been demolished, as out barbed wire fence follows the line of the old stone road, and I have ordered a small gate keepers lodge built near the corner stone marked No. 1. It seems that for a long time to come there will probably be some kind of an entrance to the site there. It may even work out to be the permanent entrance to the women's portion; and as it is the first place that visitors will see, we had better have something artistic there rather than some temporary building which would never be pleasing. This is to be made of as much old material as can be gathered from buildings which are being demolished and, therefore, should not cost a great deal.

We still have no news of the Ford truck and are wondering whether you are going to buy that for us from that end or whether we should take care of it from here.

Very sincerely yours,

Jerome Greene Gibbs

G/M

March 17, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

We have been considering in the last few days the question of roofing and color for the buildings at Peking in a more or less strenuous fashion. I have secured some information which the Finance Committee have requested that I pass on to you. I strongly suspect that you discovered most of this while you were in this country, but on the chance that you did not, I am writing to you to let you have the benefit of all that we are able to give you.

A few days ago Dr. Eric North and I went to call on Mr. Todd, who is a friend of Dr. North's and a high engineering authority here in New York, primarily for the purpose of asking him to become consulting engineer for the university. In the course of our conversation with Mr. Todd he called into his office two or three men associated with him, and got the benefit of their wisdom, - among other things on the question of coloring tile. The company which has done the most with that matter, in New York at least, appears to be the Solry Tile Company. They, however, do not make roofing tile but interior tile, specializing in a non-slip flooring material made of cement. I went to call on the manager of the company and had quite a conversation with him on the question of color. He represents a firm in Chicago which makes coloring matter for cement according to specialized processes of their own, and we could secure from them whatever color we wanted of what they have. He tells me that it is impossible to secure a green that is in any way reliable. They manufacture a green color which they would be willing to sell us, but absolutely refuse to guarantee in any respect. They also manufacture a black coloring which would produce a gray of very close approximateion of what you are trying to secure, I think, which can be bought here for about $15 a barrel. One barrel will color four barrels of cement.

They use for water-proofing purposes a substance known as Vitriflux, which is manufactured by a concern here in New York. I have not yet been able to talk with these people, but Mr. Taylor of the Solry Tile Company, who is somewhat connected with the concern, says that one gallon of this liquid will

render one bag of cement impervious to water. The vitriflux costs in the neighborhood of 38¢ a gallon, and comes in 55-gallon drums. We might perhaps be able to shade this price somewhat if we decided to buy it. We have been trying to find out what the thought of the cement people is with regard to using a cement tile without adding some water-proofing material, but have not yet succeeded in getting any definite information.

I have written to the company in Chicago which Mr. Taylor tells me manufactures the coloring material, asking them for definite prices, and if we could secure samples which we could send to you by mail so that we might experiment with them.

Mr. Taylor gave me some suggestions with regard to the mixing of the cement and color, which he suggested I might pass on to you. Perhaps you have this information already. For the best results first mix the coloring material and the cement; then add the aggregates to make up the compound, and finally spray the water onto the whole mixture and mix it in gradually. Mr. Taylor says that if you are not provided with any apparatus by means of which you can mix the coloring matter into the cement by a grinding process that they may be mixed together by sifting three or four times through a fairly fine seive. If this information is of any value to you I am glad to be able to pass it along.

There was a further suggestion from Mr. Todd which we are now investigating but on which as yet we have no light: That was, that in order to secure a green roof such as recommended by Murphy, McGill & Hamlin, we resort to the use of copper roofing. Mr. Todd felt that we could probably approach the head officials in some one of the large copper companies and secure a very material reduction in the cost, if we represented the splendid opportunity that this would provide them for introducing their product into the China market. This we have not as yet followed up.

I had a long talk the other day with President Edmunds of Canton Christian College with regard to the use of the Canton green tile. I told him that you had written to Canton several times trying to secure information as to cost and character and had been able to secure any response. He sent me yesterday a copy of a letter which he has written to Mr. James Henry at the college, requesting him to forward you at once information with regard to those tiles. President Edmonds believes that the tile are too light weight to stand the rigor of the Peking weather in the first place, and that the breakage in shipping them from Canton to Peking would be so great as to outweigh any possible advantage in trying to get them. He informs me that the green tile are not uniform in color, but vary from a rather yellowish color on one side to a somewhat blueish tinge on the other, producing a rather varieg ted appearance on the roof. For their purposes in Canton, however, he feels that they have been extremely satisfactory. He was unable to give me accurate prices on them, but thought that the

tile, which are approximately six inches wide and nine inches in length, would cost in the neighborhood of six to eight cents a piece.

We have already ordered for shipment in April, 300 long tons of steel. This will be shipped from some point in the South, presumably Atlanta. I am expecting to cable you about this as soon as we can get information on some short lengths of Belgian steel that are at present enroute to Yokohama on a speculative deal. The representative here in New York has radiographed the Yokohama office, and as soon as he finds out whether the steel has been sold or not we can place an order for fifteen or twenty tons, which could reach you probably two months sooner than the main consignment. As soon as we have definite information on this point I will cable you. If there is nothing in the cable about this small advance consignment you may assume that we were unable to secure it.

We are placing the order for the electrical piping with the Western Electric Company. The best we can do is to secure twelve weeks' delivery, but they state that they believe they can give it to us in eight weeks. We feel that since the dealings with this firm in this country have proved uniformly satisfactory and that they keep their promises, it would be better to place the order with them than with another concern that might promise an earlier delivery but would probably not fulfill its promises.

I will be writing to you in a few days to let you know what conclusions we have come to with regard to the consulting engineer problem. Mr. Todd declined our invitation to serve in this capacity, and expressed his very strong feeling that if we were to secure the kind of service that we really needed and wanted we sould have some engineer who would not serve in an honorary capacity, butmight be willing perhaps to charge us at a reduced rate for the time which he would spend on our business. We are planning to see Mr. Clyde R. Place on next Tuesday to find out whether he can be secured on some such basis or not, and to work out with him the necessary details if he consents. Mr. Place, you will remember, is the head of the firm who prepared the information with regard to the heating installation.

There are some other actions of the Finance Committee which was held three or four days ago that I will be sending forward to you very shortly.

With best wishes, I am,

Cordially yours,

PEKING

March 21, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

In your letter to Dr. Eric North dated February 7th you discussed the question of shipping instructions for various shipments which we may make to you on the field. I have talked over with our shipping department the problems involved in this, and am enclosing herewith a duplicate copy of their bill of lading for one of the shipments made to you just recently covering plumbing supplies, etc. The shipping department informs me that this consignment was billed through to Peking and charges paid on that basis. According to the agreement stamped on this bill of lading, the Barber Steamship Company hold themselves responsible for delivering this shipment in Peking, all charges paid. If any one makes an attempt to assess any further charges on you for it the matter should be taken up with the representatives of the Barber Steamship Lines in Tientsin. If they will not do anything about it the matter should be referred to us here, and we will make collection at this end.

Your experience on this matter may lead you to desire to make some alterations in the shipping instructions which you have given us. Until we have further notice from you, we are making shipments to

The Construction Bureau of Peking University,
Care of Grimes Forwarding Agency,
Tientsin, China.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

燕京大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU

PEKING

Haitien
March 26, 1923

My dear Dr. North:

I have to acknowledge a cable received yesterday, also letters from Mr. Moss dated February 16th and 17th, also one from yourself dated February 19th, a letter from Mr. Moss dated February 23rd and a copy of a letter from yourself to Mrs. Frame dated February 20th and minutes of the Finance Committee of the Trustees of February 15th.

The cable is quite clear in all its details except one. We have translated it to mean that the purchase of 300 tons of steel has been completed, and it will go forward during the last half of April and will cost in the neighborhood of G.$25,000 after all charges are paid. We are to reduce our drawings from you by that much. Furthermore, we are to suspend the production of tile pending further advice from you.

Then comes a phrase, "Do not complete contract at present" and we are unable to tell whether this goes with the tile production or whether it belongs with the last part of the telegram which we read to mean to fix no plans for water, light, heat or sewage until we have further instructions from you at home.

We at first considered asking for an explanation for the phrase, "Do not complete contract at present", but on further consideration we think it is unnecessary to do so, as suspending the production of tile will clear up the tile situation until we hear from you, and have had no thought of fixing any contract for either water, light heat or sewage, so there is no need to hold up any contract there.

We are sorry for the loss of approximately G.$10,000 on the steel business, for we could have purchased for G.$15,000 last November. We may cable you within the next day or two asking if possible that there be included in this 300 tons some 50 tons of 1" size. This size is needed because of the extreme width of the Science buildings, and it will be necessary either to get 1" stuff or put in the larger sizes we have in greater number. I have not had time to discuss this matter with the engineers but mention it as a warning if the cable has to be sent.

I find at least one mention of tile in the letters received and suggestions that our roofs be made in some cases all green, and in other cases with green trimmings. A number of weeks ago we made some green tile, and they are at present on the roof of one of our buildings here being tested as to their weather proof qualities. So if the Trustees wish us to use green it is quite possible that we can make them.

We have written to Canton several times to try to get in touch with the tile makers down there. I have a letter of December 12th from

Mr. Cotta of the Christian College of Canton in which he promised to send samples of their tile. He says Canton tile are similar in every detail except size to the tile used in roofs in Peking, Canton tile being smaller than those in Peking. Studying his letter further, I am afraid that they do not go into the details of shapes and sizes in Canton like the tile-makers do in Peking which if we come to use Canton tile will make our buildings different in appearance than we had formally hoped.

Since this letter from Mr. Cotta we have had no further word. I will write him again asking for the samples he so long promised for for prices.

The last part of your cable in regard to water, light and heat is somewhat of a puzzle to us as we have sent you all of our thoughts on the matter and are now simple waiting for instructions. It may be that some quotations we have asked for have been sent in to you which have caused you to think we are pushing too fast. It is certainly not our intention to do anything until we have authorization from New York.

A little hope comes to mind that perhaps you are going to make a radical change, say away from hot water under pressure and back to the gas plant scheme of which I spoke when home nearly two years ago. This scheme keeps coming up both in correspondence with England and in various pieces of literature which we see, and we have never gotten completely away from the feeling that in the long run it would be the best thing for the University. But I will not press this here.

With regard to the letter from Mr. Moss dated February 10th. The two cables mentioned were received and, I think, acknowledged. We are glad that you are getting us the electrical equipment. I amafraid we will need it long before it arrives.

We are also glad for the authorization to go ahead with the construction of the two Science buildings.

Unfortunately we have still no information as to whether these buildings are to be put on either side of the main court or on either side of the southern court. We are safe, however, in beginning the foundations of the one on the south side of the main court which will keep us busy for a short time, and we hope that further correspondence will clear this up, though if it does not we will be sending you a cable asking for the information we need. I note that we are to draw funds equally from Chicago and from New York for these two buildings.

In regard to Mr. Moss's letter of February 17th, I note that he wishes more definite recommendations from this end in regard to residences, and we will push as fast as we can to get this ready to send you.

I also note the question of using ready-made houses. North China is extremely hard on all wood construction, as we usually have ten months of extremely dry weather which shrinks all wood work to the last fraction of an inch, and then we have two months of extremely damp weather which swells it beyond all semblance of its former size.

In answer to your letter of February 19th, the first thing which comes to my mind is whether I am to continue to correspond with you or with Mr. Moss. My own feeling is that I had better continue to write you and let you at your discretion pass over to him all such matters as he would naturally take care of. I am afraid that in writing to two offices the correspondence will either become needlessly duplicated or there will be serious omissions. I do not think we have criticized you on the infrequency of your letters, though we would have been glad to receive more of them. The various duties that you carry on make it impossible for you to give as much time to the University as we out here would wish.

Taking up Mr. Hill's position with the University, I have seen very little of him for the last week or more, as he is still in the city and I am at last moved back on the site and was out here every day last week and most days of the week before. I speak very feelingly on the moving question, as we have eight cart loads of household goods on the road now, and it has been raining for the last three hours. We never expect rain in North China this time of year. The situation may be more serious than that even, as in trying to get cement on the site I agreed with the cement people to take the risk of having it sent in open cars if they would ship before the end of last week. Transportation difficulties have not cleared up entirely and they say it is difficult to get the cars to send from the cement works all the way to our nearest railroad station, as it means cars leaving one system and coming on to a second.

We have practically completed an agreement with them in accord with the action of the Grounds and Building committee, promising to take 75,000 bags, or all the University will need during the next five years, and they on their part give us a price of $3.00 per bag.

But to go back to Mr. Hill. He seems to have quite settled down to wait for Mr. Warner's arrival, and I think is in a frame of mind to believe that Mr. Warner is going to clear up the matter so that he, Mr. Hill, will be able to stay on. I will transmit to him the portions of these letters which will be of interest to him and will help to keep him happy.

Residence

Your question as to the types of residences. Our committee here is unanimous in not desiring Chinese exteriors to faculty residences unless that is going to make the raising of the money very much easier than a foreign style house design would.

We do believe there will be needed a great number of Chinese residences, that is, one story courtyard buildings which will embody some western conveniences such as board floors, bath rooms and perhaps more communication than the Chinese house ordinarily would have. As to the numbers of each, I shall have to wait until the committee meet again.

I note with great pleasure your judgment that the faculty should not be allowed to select a house for themselves before it is constructed and try to take part in the designing of it. That was Dr. Stuart's feeling before he left for America, and I think he still feels that way. I have been told within the last day or so that

there have been two or three members of the faculty spending considerable periods of time with Mr. Hill explaining such points as this: "Now my daughter in four years will be twelve years old, and we will then need such and such space and conveniences." and a great many other points have been brought up.

I am surprised to learn this. These visits must have taken place when I have been out on the site or very busy at some business in my own office, because I rarely knew of any member of the faculty visiting the drafting rooms. As reported to me these visits seemed to have consumed a great deal of Mr. Hill's time.

I note your explanation of the cable in regard to the land purchases, and I think you will realize that the purchases have worked out about as we both wished they would. Last week I was taken to see five or six plots in the northeast corner where our land is not four-square, and have received offers for these. The offers are too high to make them worth transmitting to you, but should the Trustees think seriously of purchasing this corner, we would be glad to have an over-all figure which would help us in our dickering with the owners. Personally I do not think there is any great need of purchasing here.

I note the result of your conversation in regard to electric wiring. Twenty-three volt alternating is what is used very frequently in city systems, and we will consider whether the advantages will cover the disadvantages, and at the same time will warrant the cost or not.

Your comments in regard to the budget are noted and will be answered by our letters of two weeks ago.

Also your remarks in regard to the accounts for the various buildings. We will make these up as rapidly as possible and keep you informed as to progress of them.

Taking up Mr. Moss's letter of February 23rd and going back to the tile question, my own feeling is that as the Rockefeller buildings have green tile, and as ours will be the next most conspicuous group in or near Peking, we could do very well to leave the green out of our color scheme. The other possible colors commonly in use by the Chinese are yellow, which has the Imperial meaning linked with it and blue and black. The gray tile of which we have enough to cover two or possibly three buildings on hand are a very dark gray approaching the black.

It is our hope to have the Dormitory under roof within the next five weeks, and if that can be accomplished Mr. Warner will have an opportunity to see exactly what we are driving at and we will certainly send you photographs as soon as possible. The labor for the making of these tiles is included in the contract for each building. We will, however, stop the work as per your cable, but shall hope for cable in permission to continue as soon as you are able to send it.

I think I have given complete information in regard to the method of laying Chinese tile as compared with the laying of the cement tile we are making. Plain gray local made clay tile of the size smaller than the ordinary palace tile will cost approximately what our cement tile are costing; while the roof construction which goes underneath

will be more expensive for the Chinese tile. I believe the water-proof qualities of the cement tile are far ahead of the best we can hope for with Chinese clay. I do not believe it will be possible to use a mixer of Chinese clay tile either glazed or unglazed without cement tile.

As rapidly as we can get definite figures we will forward them to you.

We have already considered Mr. Green's suggestions in regard to the Science buildings and have sent you our reactions to the same. We hope to hear very soon of a successful arrangement with an honorary consulting engineer.

We note in your letter to Mrs. Frame that three dormitories, an administration building and two science buildings will keep us busy. There is no doubt about being busy, but if we are to get the University moved out here in the fall of next year, we should also begin a power plant, a refectory for the Men's College and three more dormitories for the men.

It seems to me that it would be well for the Trustees to instruct us here as to whether there is any thought of our moving out in 1924 or not. It is very difficult to plan not only our construction work, but also the class work with these questions unsettled.

Last week we completed the slab for the third floor of the dormitory, and the School of Religion third floor would have been completed today had not the rain interferred. Unless my efforts to get cement bring some results within the next forty-eight hours we will be tied up for lack of that commodity.

As your cable puts the arrival of the steel off until June, I am afraid we will be waiting for that some time before it arrives. Is there any use of asking for an appropriation to be used in doing grading and filling on the site? We are in a position to know where there will have to be a considerable amount of this work done. Some offensive pools in the extreme east I have ordered filled up, this for a sum of about $300.

I have received shipping papers for the hardware and for additional plumbing for which please accept our thanks. Will you kindly pay the enclosed bill for $65.53 from Keuffel & Esser Company?

Very sincerely yours,

John McGregor Gibb, Jr.

G/M

4/24/23

PEKING

March 28, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter recently received from the DeSmet Quartz Tile Company, which I think will have considerable interest for you in the problems you are facing in trying to secure proper cement tile. I do not know that it will assist you a great deal in your problem, or that it will add anything especially to your knowledge, but I pass it on to you for what it is worth. The sample of green tile that they produce has been forwarded to us, and it makes a very good appearance, although it does not seem to be a particular Chinese green. I think with their color we would have little difficulty in getting the gray that we wish.

I sent you a cable the other day as follows:

"300 tons (2240) steel purchase has been completed Will go forward in next shipment during last half of April Amount is not yet ascertained exactly, but will probably be about G25,000 inclusive of all charges It is necessary to reduce amount drawn by this much Suspend production (of) tile pending further advice Do not complete contract at present Fix no plans water, light, heat, sewage, pending further instructions."

We had considerable difficulty in securing the steel. The difficulty arose from the fact apparently that all the mills were sold out until some time in July, and we finally had to pick up what we got from one of the jobbers. It will be shipped from some southern port, very likely Atlanta, and I think should reach you under normal conditions some time in June. This was the best that we were able to do. We had to pay on an average of $2.92-1/2 a hundred. The price was sky-rocketing for several weeks and we did finally secure this amount before it got to the peak. We are shipping it to Tientsin, care of the Grimes Forwarding Agency, as you instructed us. Including the shipping charges, the bill will run to very close to $25,000, and as you note by the cable above, we are asking that you reduce the amount that you are authorized to draw by this much.

In my last letter to you I mentioned the possibility of securing some short lengths of Belgian steel which were on the way to Yokohama, and which we were investigating at that time. We have not yet been able to get any word from them, so we are not sure that we can get it even now.

I indicated in my letter that if no word of it was contained in the cablegram that we sent you, you might take it for granted that we could not secure it. If we are able to secure it later on we will cable you further about it. So far, we have not been able to get an answer from the agent in Yokohama as to its availability. Our thought was that this perhaps could get to you earlier than the other shipment, and would help to tide you over until that arrived.

We asked that you suspend the production of tile because we understood from Dr. Stuart that you were going ahead with the making of it right along. We are not satisfied here entirely either as regards the cost or the color, or the water-shedding qualities. I have already written you that we would like to have from you a comparative statement of the costs of the various types of roofing which you have inquired into. We have recently found out that there is some possibility of securing a copper roofing which might not be much more expensive than the cement tiles which you are making; certainly it would be far more durable, if it were feasible. Will you let us know as soon as possible what the cost of the tile that you are making is per square foot of area, and the approximate area of each tile, with its cost. This will help us to approach the copper people here and find out what they can do for us.

With regard to the last part of the cablegram, we ask that you do not complete any contracts at present or fix any plans for the installation of the water, light, heat or sewage systems. We have been working rather actively on the question of securing an engineer who will be able to pass on these questions for us and give us the kind of assistance that we need at this end. I may say that the trustees are exceedingly anxious that these installations should be absolutely correct, in order to provide the systems that will be the most economical as well as the most efficient in operation. We have some very good leads in the direction of securing assistance, but it has not yet progressed to the point where we are able to give you any final word on the matter. We hope that no contracts for materials or machines or installations will be closed and that no definite plans will be made until further advice can come from here on the matter.

In answering your letter of February 20th regarding the stipend of Lund & Gernow, this was apparently due to a misunderstanding of your letter by Dr. North. The Finance Committee at its meeting held yesterday voted to approve of the arrangement whereby Lund & Gernow are receiving $600 Mexican per month. This I think will straighten out this question.

Just before the meeting of the committee yesterday your letter of February 26th and Mr. Hill's letter of the same date, came to hand. We were very sorry indeed to hear of Mr. Hill's very serious loss through the fire. The committee took an action expressing their sympathy and regret for Mr. Hill in his loss, and authorizing the Grounds and Buildings Committee to take what steps were necessary to meet Mr. Hill's immediate needs, with the understanding that any recommendations which the Grounds & Buildings Committee may have to make concerning any further adjustment with Mr. Hill will be sympathetically considered by the trustees.

Reverting again to your letter of February 20th with regard to Mr. Hill's situation, the committee did not feel that they were able to take the action requested by you in sending the cable with the message, - "Confirm the agreement." The attitude of the committee at the present time I think is that of unwillingness to go any further until Mr. Warner arrives in Peking and can take up the matter with you.

We noted in your letter of February 7th that Mr. Lund feels the need of some committee in Peking recognized by the Trustees which will have authority to settle questions with regard to mechanical installations, so that when the final position is reached on the general type of work the details can be worked out on the field. It is not quite clear to us what kind of a committee would be feasible, other than the present Grounds & Buildings Committee, which so far as our understanding goes, represents the trustees in the matter of questions needing immediate consideration on the field. Did Mr. Lund have in mind some committee of technical advisors, or would not a Grounds and Buildings Committee be sufficient for the needs which he feels?

In your letter of February 15th you spoke of the order for hardware that you sent in some months ago, saying that you did not know whether the letter had been acknowledged or not. I think the bulk of this order, if not all of it, was made in a shipment which left here on the DACRE CASTLE, which sailed February 17th, so that you should be receiving it not long after you get this letter, if it has not already come to hand.

With best wishes, I am,

Cordially yours,

Enclosure

PEKING

March 29, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

I am writing you today to transmit the action which was taken at the meeting of the Finance Committee the other day:

> "F-1463 VOTED that in view of the great volume of construction now in prospect for the immediate future, it is our judgment that our organization for building construction is not adequate, and we instruct the Secretary to secure from Mr. Gibb recommendations as to what help should be added."

The Finance Committee had a feeling that with the probable development of building construction, your Construction Bureau staff would have more to do than it could handle adequately, and they thought that the best procedure would be for you to make recommendations as to what help should be added. The committee I think feel that the work is important enough so that we cannot afford to skimp on the adequate and proper supervision of the construction that goes on, and they would like to have you perfectly frankly make a statement as to what additional help you feel will be needed there.

Very sincerely yours,

FUKIEN CONSTRUCTION BUREAU

PEKING

Copy for Mr. Moss

From L. F. Beck.

April 1, 1933.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University Construction Bureau,
Peking,
China.

Dear Gibb :

There is some portion of your requisition for plumbing materials that we were unable to place through the regular jobbing houses, and for which we are just now getting down to place the order. It is for the toilet room fixtures and we shall proceed immediately to buy all but the last three (3) items. The other twelve (12) items appear to be thoroughly understandable and our only variation is in substituting 1 1/8" tubing, instead of the 1 1/4 " which you specify.

I have not tried to check back this bill of materials against the blue prints made by Murphy, McGill and Hamlin, partly because it seems too tedious a task, and also because there is the possibility that you have made changes in the toilet room layouts. I have tried, however, to visualize the type of construction which you are planning to use, and two questions come to my mind.

First, do you not need some wall brackets for your tubing at some points ?

The other is - Why the 135 degree angle-clamps, when apparently all the stirrup standards are for 90 degree layouts ? We can find no 135 degree clamps listed in the books, but are asking for special quotation upon same.

As to the last three items, we hesitate to place orders for these hinges without knowing conditions of use, and mode of attachment. I judge from the bill of materials that a number of these stalls will be open, some will have doors attached directly to the partition slab, and some will have doors attached to the front surface. I have found a type of hinge that can be applied to either of these conditions of door hanging, but they are quite expensive, and I am not sure but that we would have to specify the thickness of doors, even with this. The more common variety requires that we specify whether the door is to swing open or swing shut, and the thickness of the door, as well as of the slab, and I think we would have to specify whether it was to be attached to the partition slab or to the front slab as there is 90

degrees difference in the direction of action.

Your last three items read as follows - - -

26 ~~Pr 3~~ Pcs. Single boxs ring hinges
18 " Toilet Door Fasteners, single
4 " Toilet Door Fasteners, double door, spring open.

I judge from the other items on your bill of materials that you desire hardware for 26 leaves. With some styles of hinges it would be 26 pairs, and in others, 26 sets. I am sending you under separate cover a catalog of Sommer Spring Hinges and their latest pricelist as given us a month or two ago. Please either specify from this catalog just what items you wish, or from some other catalog where we can identify the pieces more directly. These parties do not wish to quote from the catalog except on a re-explanation of just which of their articles is desired.

I am sending this letter through Mr. Moss that he may be informed of these transactions, though I expect to be available for conference when your reply is received. Perhaps you had better address your reply to Mr. Moss since he is now in charge of requisitions on the Purchasing Department, and will keep the files of all such correspondence. I shall be glad to do anything I can in the matter. With best wishes to you personally and for the success of your work.

With the prospect of a lot of new buildings to be authorized within the year, I can foresee that you are going to be very busy, and I hope it will be possible for you to have some really effective assistance. Sorry I cannot do more for you myself, but I seem to be out of it for the present.

Please also extent my greetings to Mr. Hill.

Yours very truly,

MHB:MMC

April 2, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University Construction Bureau,
Peking,
China.

Dear Gibb :

There is one section of your requisition for plumbing materials that we were unable to place through the regular jobbing houses, and for which we are just now getting down to place the order. It is for the toilet room fixtures and we shall proceed immediately to buy all but the last three (3) items. The other twelve (12) items appear to be thoroughly understandable and our only variation is in substituting 1 1/8" tubing, instead of the 1 1/4 " which you specify.

I have not tried to check back this bill of materials against the blue prints made by Murphy, McGill and Hamlin, partly because it seems too tedious a task, and also because there is the possibility that you have made changes in the toilet room layouts. I have tried, however, to visualize the type of construction which you are planning to use, and two questions come to my mind.

First, do you not need some wall flanges for your tubing at some points ?

The other is - Why the 135 degree angle-clamps, when apparently all the stirrup standards are for 90 degree layouts ? We can find no 135 degree clamps listed in the books, but are asking for special quotation upon same.

As to the last three items, we hesitate to place orders for these hinges without knowing conditions of use, and mode of attachment. I judge from the bill of materials that a number of these stalls will be open, some will have doors attached directly to the partition slab, and some will have doors attached to the front surface. I have found a type of hinge that can be applied to either of these conditions of door hanging, but they are quite expensive, and I am not sure but that we would have to specify the thickness of doors, even with this. The more common variety requires that we specify whether the door is to spring open or spring shut, and the thickness of the door, as well as of the slab, and I think we would have to specify whether it was to be attached to the partition slab or to the front slab as there is 90

degrees difference in the direction of action.

Your last three items read as follows - - -

26 ~~P.O.S~~ Ker Single box spring hinges
18 " Toilet Door Fasteners, angle
4 " Toilet Door Fasteners, double door, spring open.

I judge from the other items on your bill of materials that you desire hardware for 26 leaves. With some types of hinges it would be 26 pairs, and in others, 26 sets. I am sending you under separate cover a catalog of Bommer Spring Hinges and their latest pricelist as given us a month or two ago. Please either specify from this catalog just what items you wish, or from some other catalog where we can identify the pieces more directly. These parties do not wish to quote or take the order except on more explicit statement of just which of their products is desired.

I am sending this letter through Mr. Moss that he may be informed of these transactions, though I expect to be available for conference when your reply is received. Perhaps you had better address your reply to Mr. Moss since he is now issuing the requisitions on the Purchasing Department, and will keep the files of all such correspondence. I shall be glad to do anything I can in the matter. With best wishes to you personally and for the success of your work.

With the prospect of a lot of new buildings to be authorized within the year, I can foresee that you are going to be very busy, and I hope it will be possible for you to have some really effective assistance. Sorry I cannot do more for you myself, but I seem to be out of it for the present.

Please also extent my greetings to Mr. Hill.

Yours very truly,

EFB/MTF

燕京大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU
Haitien

April 4, 1923

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Noted
E. M. N.

My dear Dr. North:

We are enclosing herewith a copy of the minutes of the Grounds and Building committee held last Saturday on the site. I will refer to the actions item by item.

It was our opinion that there was no proper place for a cemetery on the site and that any action which would lead to making of any part of the site into a cemetery would certainly have to be ratified by the Trustees before it could become effective. On the other hand it was thought impossible to deny Dr. Vincent's request, so the committee allowed the body of Mrs. Vincent to be interred here temporarily and hoped Dr. Vincent would not make use of this permission. He has, however, done so, and Mrs. Vincent is buried inside of the wall a little bit east of a line which would join the ruined temple and the horseshoe shaped dry lake.

The second action of the committee asking for greater liberty and cooperation in purchasing materials probably needs no explanation.

In regard to the residences the committee had already approved residences marked N, EC, D and Q, though they have suggested to Mr. Hill consideration of certain alterations in these plans. D might be taken as a typical five room house, and it was worked out by the committee that we would need five such houses. N or EC without the attic rooms might be taken as a typical six room house; the committee find that we will need nine of such houses. While N or EC with the attic rooms might be taken as our typical seven room houses, of which size we will need nine.

The committee has from time to time looked at M as being a possible house for the President whose house is set down as an eight room house in this action of last Saturday.

We have sent you the designs of four modified Chinese houses. They are lettered C, C2, C3 and C4. The latter two would rank as twelve chien houses such as the committee felt would be needed for at least six members of our staff, while there would have to be an even smaller size house drawn to provide the nine chien house such as about twelve members of the faculty would need. We did not have these faculty residence plans at Haitien the day the committee sat, and I am surprised on looking them over to find no house as small as nine chen. I think the rest of the committee's action in regard to residences is quite clear.

I yesterday signed a contract for the cement needs of the University for the next five years, or until such time as we have used 75,000 bags, and we are sending you a copy of the same. At last 17,000 bags have appeared, the railroad company holding up two cars for several days and then sending five cars through at one time.

I have been in conversation with a representative of the firm who made the glazed tile for the Union Medical College here in Peking. He brought with him a sample tile which was very fine, much better than the ones supplied to the Medical College, and I am afraid much better than the run of tile he would supply to anybody else. He offers to sell us green glazed tile at Mex.$.40 per piece. This would mean for both big and little pieces provided we were buying all the tile for any one building. Our School of Religion building would not cost less than $20,000 local currency for its roof alone at that rate, and the dormitory would come to somewhat more.

I have asked him to give me a figure from which we can calculate what it will cost to have the trimmings made of glazed tile, and have plain gray tile for the major part of the roof. The tile he is offering to sell cannot be used along with the cement tile which we have made. We will study to see whether we can find some way of getting a glazed tile which will link up with our cement tile, though think it is quite a hopeless task.

The prices quoted above are for the tile alone. When the Medical College used this tile they did not rely upon it to keep out the water. They first of all put in a reinforced concrete slab roof and covered this with three or four ply roofing felt and tar and then put the tile on top of that; and reports we had last summer indicate that their roofs were leaking.

I think I have reported to you a conversation which I heard between an Italian tile expert and Mr. Bennett when he said that in a few years they would be able to go on to the roofs of the Medical College and sweep the tile off with a broom. It is already possible to see from the ground large sections where the glaze has already dropped off of the tile.

In regard to the women's dormitories, I was talking with Mrs. Frame over the phone this morning about the roofs. When I wrote you on the 28th last I called her on the phone and gave here the figures that were in your letter of that time and asked her to bring those up before here committee, and I was asking today whether there had been any action of the committee. It seems to me that they must take the responsibility of putting this roof on their buildings when they know how much more expensive it is. She asked me for some alternative, and I had to say that I was unable at present to suggest anything except that we might consider making a smaller sized cement tile than the ones we have been making for our larger buildings. Mrs. Frame states that there has been no action of her committee, which led to the action of the American committee calling for these half round and pan tile of Chinese make.

We still have no reply from either Canton or Shanghai in regard to cost of these various kinds of tile. Sincerely yours,

Thos. W. Gage Gibb Jr.

4/30/23

燕京大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU
Haitien

April 5, 1923

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Noted
E. M. N.
5/1/23

My dear Dr. North:

I am in receipt of a letter from Mr. Moss dated March 9th enclosing a copy of one of the proposed contracts between the Trustees and Murphy, McGill & Hamlin and asking me to make any corrections on it. I am asking Miss Mason to copy the latest edition of the agreement which I have and am enclosing that to you. I am not entirely clear in my own mind whether this is the very latest and the one that was signed or not, but I think it was, though I believe that on the signed copy there were a few changes made by Mr. Murphy at the time he signed it.

I am also enclosing a bill for $13.15, being freight charges on the drawing paper from Keuffel and Esser, the bill of which I sent you some days ago, and request that both of these be paid to that firm.

I am also in receipt of a letter dated March 7th with some notes of a conference between Mr. and Mrs. Luce and Mr. Porter in regard to some of the plans which they have been studying. I will in order give our answers to the questions raised.

Plan NC.

(1) The committee out here is about equally divided as to the separating of the kitchen from the main house by means of an open porch, as we cannot afford to run two fires, one for cooking the servants' food and one for food for the family. If the kitchen and the main house join, there is every possibility for the odor of the Chinese cooking to come into the house, which can be avoided if the coming and going is through the open. The committee realizes that the food may arrive at the table somewhat colder than it otherwise would, but is trying to choose the lesser of two evils.

(2),(3),(4). These points are all well taken but must necessarily mean increase in cubage of the house and an increase in cost.

(5) The committee would like to see as many bath rooms in the various houses as there is money to pay for, and we would like some decisions from the Trustees from this very important point. It is Mr. Hill's very strong opinion, and he is supported by most of the committee, that no bath room should have two doors, as one is usually forgotten and left locked, and that if a bath room is connected with a bed room it should not be connected with any other part of the house, when it is used by persons not sleeping in the bed room, is sure to waken them and cause annoyance, and in a four bed room house it

does not seem fair to give one room sole use of a bath room and make the other three share one room.

(6) The committee is planning to provide some trunk room for every house.

(7) The question of servants' quarters has been much under discussion by the committee. All the houses in the various Mission stations in and around Peking have one exposure at least which is very unsightly. As the Mission compounds are laid out at present the majority of these unsightly exposures are against some back wall and are not an eyesore to the people living in the compounds. This unsightliness is caused by the fact that servants' quarters, a more or less irregular string of Chinese buildings, are put behind the house.

It has been Mr. Hill's desire, thoroughly approved of by the committee I believe, to make all sides of the residences as sightly as possible. This involves making the servants' quarters part of the main house, though in every case they are to be as completely cut off as possible by means of solid brick or concrete partitions and floors. The committee has decided that men and women servants' rooms should not lead to the same passageway.

In regard to communication with the second floor of the house where it has been provided it is planned to have the access through a passage with two doors so that the occupant of the house has the option of whether these communications shall be kept open or closed.

(8) A dweing room can be added, but here again it increases the cubage of the house.

Plan HC.

The answers given to the various points made above I think will answer all the points here. The question which is troubling the committee is how to build the houses small enough to allow the faculty to live in them on a Mission salary and at the same time large enough to give all the accessories that the increased ideas make us think are almost necessities.

In regard to the China Medical Board supplies, Mr. Goodrich has been urging me to call, but I am in somewhat of a quandary. First of all we have less storage space on the site than they have around the Medical College, and one of the reasons why they are so anxious for us to take these things over is that they find the storing of them difficult.

Secondly, a great deal of the materials are odd sizes left after the run of the material has been used. Thirdly, there is a great deal of it which we could use in small quantities in each of a large number of buildings.

I am afraid that if we stock up with it we will have it on our hands for a long time and will have difficulty in finding enough money to complete the various buildings as they come along because these capital funds are tied up in material still unused. I am hoping, however, to find a clear day so that I can give all of it to a careful inspection and discussion of these things with Mr. Goodrich, and shall keep you informed as to the progress of events.

We are enclosing herewith a copy of a letter which I have just written Mr. J. H. McCann, the Treasurer and Business Agent of the American Board Mission in Tientsin. We have long felt that if their business agency would handle the University affairs, it would save the University money and would in a way help to equalize their contribution to the University. I am sending you this hoping that when opportunity offers you will take the matter up with the home authorities of the American Board Mission, and ask them to approve of their agency taking over our work.

Very sincerely yours,

John McGregor Gibb-Smith.

G/M

燕京大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

Noted
E. M. N.
5/9

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU

April 9, 1923

Haitien

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. North:

I am in receipt of your cable giving me the date of the arrival of the 300 tons of steel and asking whether you had better order from Yokohama for us lengths of 12' and sizes ⅝" and ½". I take it from your telegram that there are 10 tons of each size available. We do not feel that this length of steel would cut to advantage and are, therefore, not answering by cable.

I have had an opportunity to purchase steel for delivery this month or the first of May at ₮ 104 including duty into Tientsin, and have placed an order for at least thirty tons of ⅞" square bars, this being a size equivalent to 1" round bars. I believe there are no bars as large as this in the 300 tons you have purchased for us, as our estimate of last summer did not include such large sizes.

We explained in our recent letter that the large spans in the Science buildings could be more economically made with large size steel. We hope by carefully planning our work to be able to carry on up to the time of the arrival of the steel and not delay the buildings too much.

I might note that our ₮ 104 price would work out a little less than the price quoted in your cable of March 24th, and we will have to pay import duty on the American steel over and above what we have paid for it in New York.

I have let the contract this morning for the excavation for one Science building, and am spending the afternoon with the Medical Board going over their list of materials and seeing what they have which we can use.

Very sincerely yours,

Frank Gregg Gebhardt

G/M

燕京大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

Reply to
CONSTRUCTION BUREAU
Haitien

PEKING

April 18, 1923

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. North:

I have letters of March 17th and 21st both signed by Mr. Moss. The first deals with the question of tile and also the question of consulting engineer for the University. In regard to the tile, many thanks for all the efforts that you are putting on this question. We have, as per your cable of nearly a month back, stopped the manufacture of tile and are waiting for complete instructions.

We note that you find no color with which to make a green tile that the manufacturer will guarantee. We have a sample of green tile colored with some cement coloring manufactured in England which is now exposed on the roof here, and in another month or so we will know pretty definitely whether the color will stand or not. Of course, green is always a difficult color either in paint or in dye.

We also have various kinds of water-proofing materials but do not consider the use of such in the tile necessary, as with the pitch that the Chinese roofs have the water runs off very rapidly and with the close texture of the outside layer of the tile we are making, we do not believe there is any danger of the water working through. Mr. Gernow and Lethmuller have both made careful tests with the tile and feel quite confident of this.

To go back to the color question, I have often expressed my own feeling that, as the China Medical Board has a green glazed tile, very expensive, but very effective so long as it lasts, I feel that our buildings will suffer by comparison if we put any green in our roof finish at all, unless we go in for the same type of tile as they have for, for which the best price I have obtained at present will bring it up to $150 for 100 square feet without considering the additional cost of ornaments. I have asked the tile manufacturers to give me prices for ridge poles and hips and borders. While they have promised to do so, we have not received them as yet.

The samples of Canton tile have come, and so far as my figuring goes they cannot be had for the $30 per 100 square feet, the price sent to us by Murphy, McGill & Hamlin offices. For the

size which is nearly, though not quite as big as our Peking tile, the price would be more nearly $70 per fang. This also without ornaments which they do not seem to manufacture down south at all.

The queries raised by President Edmunds of Canton College as to the tile being heavy enough for our northern climate and as to the great breakage in shipment have also come to us here. I have not had the information long enoughto put it before our committee but will do so when they get together early next week.

Murphy, McGill & Hamlin state that they are putting best gray native clay tile on the Ginling buildings, and that their contractor says tile plus the mortar in which it is set cost ₮54, or nearly $80 per hundred square foot which I think is a very high figure. Again they are making their ornaments out of brick, and some of the heavy ones out of metal lathe and plaster which probably will have to be added to this cost. They also are sheathing their buildings with wood and then putting on two coats of waterproofing which cannot cost less than $40 more. Compared with this our estimate for the cement tile colored gray with lamp black including the wooden battens on which they are to be fastened costing $10 per fang, makes it seem as though we should stick to this kind of roof covering.

We will be putting tile on the dormitory roof within the next two weeks and will have a considerable part of it finished to show Mr. Warner when he arrives, and will send you photographs as soon as we can get some that are worth while. We are enclosing a few to add to the collection you already have.

We are disappointed at your not being able to persuade Mr. Todd to become honorary consulting engineer of the University, and note that he suggests that you employ an engineer. I wonder whether this is advisable, as we have the services of Mr. Lund out here who, if the Trustees would rely upon, I am sure would give the very best of service on each of the problems. It seems strange that the Government University in Peking was able to secure the services of one of Britain's most highly though of engineers on an honorary basis and that we cannot find such a person in America for an institution such as ours.

Mr. Moss's letter of March 21st deals only with the question of shipments, and calls attention to the fact that plumbing and other equipment on the way now is prepaid to Peking. With the shipment that was handled for us by the American Express Co. we were able after a large amount of discussion to obtain the goods delivered near Peking without further cost. This is the first time that we have been able to do this. The other forwarding companies always claim there is no way to enforce this clause on the documents. I have called their attention to the fact that it was done in this one shipment, and we are hoping that we may be able to secure the same treatment in all others. It will, however, avoid delay and considerable argument if all goods are sent as noted in the bottom

of Mr. Moss's letter. As a matter of fact we do not want any of our things to go into Peking, as there is a 3% octroi duty there which we are able to avoid by sending them around the city and right out to the Tsing Hua station.

We have been able to buy 30 tons of 7/8" plain square bars 35' to 39' long, duty paid at Tientsin, for $104 or approximately G$80 a ton. These are also Belgian bars and are being sold to us by the Truscon Steel people whose manager you will remember reported me and the University to Mr. Arnold because we were not purchasing American products. We expect this steel to be delivered next week and hope that with what we have on the lot now we will be able to tide over until your consignment of 300 tons arrives.

We have at last gotten the three big sticks of wood to make the Chinese type of truss for the School of Religion Assembly Room. Seven animals and perhaps twenty men dragged the last piece on to the site at noon today, they having been unloaded at the station last Sunday afternoon.

I am cabling you today to ask in which position the second Science building is to be built. We have started one on position 6 as laid down in our map of July 1922, and the question is whether the second goes in position 5 or 8. We have waited until today's mail to see whether that question would be cleared up, but can hardly wait any longer, hence our cable.

We are finding large numbers of old cedar piles in the part of the site where we are digging for the building number 6, and this leads us to feel that the probabilities are this whole buildings will have to go on cement piles.

We have also let a contract for three women's dormitories. The changes made in the instructions from the American committee have so increased the cubage of these dormitories that it does not seem possible to keep them within the price which we at first hoped. I am afraid they will now cost Mex. $45,00 per unit and there will be a considerable quantity of grading which will have to come outside of that figure.

Mr. Tayler has been trying for the last three or four days to get an interview with C. C. Wang in order to try to push the old Summer Palace land deal. We had an appointment for Monday at 4:00, and Mr. Tayler and I called around to find Dr. Wang had been called out and there was no telling when he would return. Another appointment was made for 9:00 last evening and that hour was then changed to 10:00. Mr. Tayler and I waited until after 11:00 when I thought I must start back for Haitien. Whether Dr. Wang got back or not I have not yet heard.

In the meantime, some brick and tile manufacturers have been scouting around in order to find suitable land on whichto put up kilns in which to burn brick and, or, tile for the University.

CABLE: Advise by telegram what are the exact numbers Science buildings.

One proposition is that we allow them to burn brick at the extreme southeast corner of our premises, that piece of land which comes below the diagonal road on the map; and they have also found two other pieces of ground.

One is of 70 mou or about ten foreign acres and lies almost due east of the north boundary of the site and perhaps ten minutes walk through the Chinese village which straggles along that part of the country. For Dr. Stuart's information we might name that village, it being called Ch'en Fu. This is a high piece of ground belonging to a Buddhist temple, is rectangluar, being longer east and west than north and south. It is divided into two pieces by a road which goes from horth to south.

The brick manufacturer says he can buy it for $56 a mou, but that the villagers are opposed because of the luck of the place to his putting up a brick kiln there. He asked us if we would buy it, thinking that if the University owned it the villagers would have no power to prevent its being used for brick burning. My mind, of course, immediately went back to the residence site question, and without telling him that I had other ideas I went and looked the place over. The ground is certainly a nice plot. It has the disadvantages, if you can call them such, of being next to the Chinese village and being somewhat away from the main roads. I should think twenty houses could be built on it.

The other piece he had found was southeast of the site. Again for Dr. Stuart's information, due east of the southern end of the Tung Wu place. This place is approximately 20 mou and can be bought for $55 per mou. The brick man, however, has some doubt as to the title of the place, and I have suggested that he spend a little more time investigating the rights of the place as far as the man who claims to own it is concerned.

While not having given up all hope of the old Summer Palace plot, it seems to me that we must push for that more strenuously than we have, even at the risk of losing it. And should the time come when we finally decide that it is unprocurable we wish to have some second strings to our bows.

The roof timbers of the dormitory are largely in place, and people who have seen it all think that it fits the site very well indeed.

We are now receiving a large quantity of cement on the $3.00 per bag contract which we entered into some time ago, having already taken delivery of 4200 bags, and we are told that there are four carloads at the station which may contain 2,000 more. If this is so, we will have a surplus stock of between 4,000 and 5,000 bags on the site, and shall very soon be arranging with the cement works to deliver each week one or two carloads as we are able to use it in larger or smaller quantities.

Very sincerely yours,

Jno McGregor Gibb

G/M

CABLE: Advise by telegram what are the exact numbers Defense buildings.

One proposition is that we allow them to burn brick at the extreme southeast corner of our premises, that piece of land which comes below the diagonal road on the map; and they have also found two other pieces of ground.

One is of 70 odd on about ten foreign acres and lies almost due east of the north boundary of the site and perhaps ten minutes walk through the Chinese village which straggles along that part of the country. For Dr. Stuart's information, we might make that village, it being called Ta'erng. This is a high piece of ground belonging to a Buddhist temple. It is rectangular, being longer east and west than north and south. It is divided into two pieces by a road which goes from north to south.

The brick manufacturer says he can buy it for $20 a mow, but that the villagers are opposed to taking of the land of the place to the putting up a brick kiln there. He says if we would buy it, thinking that if the Ministry owned it the villagers would have no power to prevent its being used for brick burning. My mind, of course, immediately went back to the resistance site question, and it turns out that I had other times I went and looked the place over. The ground is certainly a nice plot. It has the disadvantage, if you can call them such, of being next to the Chinese village and being somewhat away from the main roads. I should think twenty houses could be built on it.

The other piece we had found was southeast of the site, again for Dr. Stuart's information, due east of the southern end of the Tang Ta place. This place is approximately 20 mow and can be bought for $15 per mow. The brick man, however, has some doubt as to the title of the place, and I have suggested that he spend a little more time investigating the rights of the place as far as the claims to own it is concerned.

While not having seen all those of the old Summer Palace site, it seems to me that we must rush for that more attractive than we have, even at the risk of losing it. And should the time come when we finally decide that it is unobtainable we wish to have some second string to our bows.

The roof timbers of the dormitory are largely in place, and people who have seen it all think that it fits the site very well indeed.

We are now receiving a large quantity of cement and tiles per our contract which we entered into some time ago. Building already taken delivery of 4200 bags, and we are told that there are four carloads at the station which may contain 2,000 bags. In the meantime, we will have a surplus stock of between 4,000 and 5,000 bags on the site, and shall very soon be arranging with the cement people to deliver each week one or two carloads as we are able to use it in larger or smaller quantities.

Very sincerely yours,

April 19, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

In your letter of March 16th addressed to Dr. Eric North we note that you would like a total of 300 tons of steel. This steel, as you will know from our cable to you, has already been purchased and will very shortly be on the steamer enroute to Peking.

We also notice that you have no news of the Ford truck, and are wondering whether you are to buy it in Peking or whether we are to buy it for you here. Dr. North says that you were authorized to buy whatever was needed in the way of equipment to enable you to carry on the construction work. Inasmuch as this appears to be a very sensible item and quite essential, we would suggest that yougo ahead and purchase the kind of a truck you desire. We do not have any indications here as to the size or type of truck that you desire, and I believe that you could secure it much more expeditiously in China than we could send it to you from here.

Very sincerely yours,

燕京大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

PEKING

Note
E. M. P.

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU
Haitien

April 24, 1923

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. North:

Herewith a copy of the minutes of the last Grounds and Building committee meeting held yesterday. It was the time of the spring picnic for the whole school, though it did not look to me as though more than about one-third of the students really came out to the site. I believe a day or two before the picnic the students asked for a day's holiday extra in order to recover from the effects of it, and when the faculty did not grant this many of them said then they would not come out. Those that did come seemed to have a good time, and the class of 1923 planted fifteen date trees in groups of one, nine, two and three.

Previous classes have planted one or at the most two trees and have put with them a large tablet. The last tablet looks more like a tomb stone than one wants to admit. This time we were able to persuade them to leave the tomb stone out. As they wished to plant such a number of trees they were prevailed upon to put them in the nursery from where it is understood that they may at some future date be transplanted.

That nursery is growing to some size, and we should have as many trees as we will need, both for the site general and for faculty residence grounds when the planting time comes. The barbed wirefence in so far as it is around the outside border of the site, is also planted partly with the wild date or jujubeand partly with American locust, and where we have surrounded the exposed roots of the old trees with retaining walls and earth we have planted Virginia creeper hoping that it will soon cover the retaining wall and so remove the rather new appearance of the same.

These attempts at landscape gardening are costing us $20 or so per week just now, and to helpmeet this expense we are planning to sell walking sticks made from the piles of a century or more ago which we are digging out where the foundations of No. 6 Science building are being laid.

The Grounds and Building committee met in our office here and in various parts of the site and finally adjourned half way between the site and the railroad station where we were hurrying to allow part of the committee to make the train, at the same time to see the piece of ground mentioned in the minutes.

The question of the truss covered in the first action resolves itself to that fact that the bottom member alone of the Chinese truss in the School of Religion cost over $300 a piece and there are three of them, and the whole scheme makes a very expensive finish for the inside of the room. Without having the exact figures I told the committee I believe there would be a saving of perhaps $2,000 in the roof alone of the Refectory if the four trusses designed there would be omitted and a simple western truss substituted. As few of our rooms will be of Chinese design on the inside it seems rather foolish to put in this expensive construction in these refectories.

In regard to the second action it now looks as though dormitory and dining hall for women will cost M. $800 per student accommodated, and they have all the students' rooms facing south and have sitting room and laundry space for the students, none of which features are found in the Men's College; while in the Men's College our dormitory accomodations will cost $1,000 per student. It was this consideration which led to the action transmitted. But as I had been criticized for suggesting to Mr Hill advance work without the authorization of the Trustees, the motion took the form that it did.

Until the sketch plan drawings are made it is quite impossible to tell what form the buildings may take. The committee thought yesterday that the corridor in the men's Dormitory might be made somewhat narrower, and that either the attic space should be decreased or some way of lighting it should be found, so that with a slight increase an additional floor of bed rooms might be provided. One member of the committee suggested an example of two-story Chinese buildings which might be studied.

The members of the committee who have been working on the proposed purchase of the old Summer Palace site have long been of the opinion that we have been working on the wrong basis in attempting to get the ground by simply purchasing from the tenants without proposing to pay anything to the Manchus who at present are the owners. Conversations held with the Minister of the Interior of the Republic and others close to the present government have confirmed this opinion so that it does not seem as if it would be possible to secure this tract of ground without paying more than the $50,000 which we have had in mind.

The rent received by the Manchus at present is $630 per year. We have always felt that we would have to continue this rent. It may be that an offer to double the rent will be all that is necessary, or if we should be able to agree upon a cash payment in lieu of the annual rent, we would have to give them between $10,000 and $20,000, so that the ground, if and when the deal goes through, may cost as high as $70,000. Over against this cost must be written the fact that there will be ample land for the use of the Department of Agriculture and a possibility of income from a carefully supervised suburban residence district.

There is, however, some feeling among the committee that it might be wise not to tie up such a large sum at this time, but to

again look in some other place for residence land, such a tract for instance as is mentioned in the top of the second page in the minutes. There is another 20 mou tract which I have mentioned before in my correspondence which will be available in the same way.

I have your cable asking for samples of tile, and we posted to you the same day four pieces, two top and two bottom of the tile made out of concrete. We are having boxes made to ship the plaster casts of the tile, and these will go off in a few days.

We have tried out a good many colors and have now on the floor here a piece of cement covered with a tile compound which they think will give a perfectly black roof, but which the manufacturers only guarantee for ten years. They also have a red which of course is not Chinese, and a green which they will not guarantee. I would be very reluctant to put anything like a paint on the roof as the repair item would be very considerable, and as I feel confident that the color worked up in the cement of the tile itself should be practically everlasting.

We will be ready to lay tile on the dormitory roof this week and so will have an example to show to Mr. Warner who is expected here during the next ten days.

We will soon be ready to put our color finish on the dormitory, but do not know what the wishes of the Trustees are in this matter. There is no enthusiasm here on the part of anybody for the green columns suggested by Murphy, McGill & Hamlin. We hope to hear very soon from our correspondence in regard to this of last winter.

We have been buying materials rather rapidly of late, and must continue to do so if we are to make good progress during the rainy season. There is another reason why we keep on buying, and that is because war clouds are beginning to threaten North China again. Dr. C. C. Wang, one of our Managers and a man who travels between Harbin, Mukden and Peking very frequently, says that war will break out within two months, and he believes it is best to let them fight it out.

We have 5,000 bags of cement on the site and will try to keep that much in stock until the rainy season, receiving weekly enough to carry on each week's building. Five thousand bags will probably carry us through ten weeks of moderate building.

I have word today that the 30 tons of large size steel is on its way up from Shanghai. No word as yet from the hardware and other plumbing materials from which we have received bill of lading from you some time back. Of course, if the steel sent from New York is held up by derangement of traffic, our stock of cement will not be of very much use.

The excavations for the first Science building have uncovered foundations of another old structure which was built on piles and make it practically sure that all of this building will have to be put down on piles which is worse than we had hoped. Ex-

cavations have started for two women's Dormitories, and the women's Administration building is up to ground level; while the School of Religion is having its roof trusses put in place, and the second story walls of the Faculty Club House are being built, and the forms for the third floor of the Junior College are just being begun.

Very sincerely yours,

G/M

April 27, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking Univer~~sity,~~
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

I write at this time to report to you two actions of the Board of Trustees taken at their annual meeting on April 12th. These refer to two actions of the Finance Committee of the Board of Managers which were taken March 5th and reported by you to Dr. Eric North: The actions are as follows:

"Plot No. 119

"T-1510 VOTED to allow the women's school of the W.F.M.S. to erect a new building on plot #119 in place of the one that is falling down, and if the property is not sold to the M. E. Mission, the University will agree to sell to the W.F.M.S. for school purposes, or else reimburse the W.F.M.S. about $1,000, the approximate value of the proposed building."

"Rent of the Methodist Mission

"T-1511 VOTED that the Methodist Mission do not pay rent for the houses and schools which they occupy on the old site, in view of the fact that they paid $25,000 Gold for the purchase of the old site."

These are only actions confirming the viewpoint of the Managers, but they now appear on the Trustees records, so that everything will be clear.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary, Peking University

北大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU

Haitien

PEKING

April 30, 1923

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. North:

Letters from the University office dated March 28th and 29th to hand enclosing a report from the Desmet Quartz Tile Company which we are very glad to study. We note your difficulty in securing the 300 tons of steel and have been regretting for a long time that we put you to this trouble, because as it has worked out now, we could have had the steel at an earlier date and at a lower price than we are able to secure it from you.

We are becoming more and more convinced that for these bulky standard articles we can do better out here buying from the world's markets than you can at home. We are very much afraid that there will be serious delay in the work as we wait for this consignment to come, and are considering another small purchase out here in order to keep the work going and keep our contractors happy.

In regard to the Yokohama short length steel, as explained in a previous letter, we did not think it worth while to purchase it, as the places it could have been used were very limited and the cutting of it up would have been quite wasteful. We have, however, purchased eight tons and a fraction of steel in 14' and over lengths which was available in Peking at about G.$60 laid down on our site.

We note your instructions in regard to the tile, and we have long ago sent you prices. I tried to make clear in our correspondence in regard to the tile that we felt it necessary to go on with the making of them in order to have sufficient quantities to put them on the buildings authorized until we had definite instructions from you.

We have no doubts here that the cement tile are the most economical that we can use. We are confident also that the water-shedding qualities of the tile are all right, and are convinced that we can obtain a dark gray color which will be permanent, not too expensive and resemble the gray color of a Chinese unglazed tile roof.

A long time ago we ordered a quantity of a black cement colored material which we have not as yet received. This will give us a very good gray color. We have already had samples of it and tried it out, having run water over tile made with it for hours at a time, then dried them in the sun and then again turned the water on them. We have other samples on our roof here which have been exposed for several months already. The tile which we sent you recently are colored with native black color which is less expensive but probably not quite so good as that which we have ordered from abroad.

I do not know that there is any other information we can send you, but I would be very glad if we could get authorization to continue the manufacture of this tile at the very earliest possible date, or if we are to use some other kind of roofing we should get our instructions very speedily, as we are not able to plaster or finish the interior of the buildings until we get them under roof. We put a few pieces of the tile on the Dormitory building this morning, and all who saw them agreed that they were very presentable.

The last part of the cable in regard to the light, heat, sewage, etc. has also been noted. As explained before, we have never expected to place any contracts or begin any work until all the scheme has been approved of by the Trustees. Here again with our contacts both in England and on the continent of Europe, and with what the Trustees can do for us in New York, we feel that we are perhaps in a better position than they will find themselves in America to study this question from all sides.

We note that the increase in the Lund, Gernow & Company stipend has been approved, and also the sympathy of the Trustees in regard to Mr. Hill's fire loss. The action of the Grounds and Building committee authorizing him to draw to reimburse himself for his loss will doubtless be approved at some later date.

Mr. Warner is expected in Peking during the present week, though the exact date of his arrival is not known. I hope that I can obtain a private interview with him before he is called upon by Mr. Hill, and that the whole situation can very speedily be cleared up. Mr. Hill has not moved out to the site, and I found out last week that he was rather waiting to move until he talked with Mr. Warner, but he has now consented to move out during the week, if part of his drafting force can recover sufficiently from illness to help him pack up and do the moving.

I have not had time to talk with Mr. Lund further in regard to the matter of a committee in Peking with authorization to settle questions. His idea, however, is that after the broad basis of our installation is settled repeated references of questions to New York will consume so much time as to make the work practically impossible unless the Trustees can delegate their authority definitely to some committee out here with full power to act. If that committee is the Grounds and Building committee it will be necessary for Mr. Lund and our other engineer to educate them up to the points that are under discussion.

The action of the Finance committee in regard to additional help in our organization here is noted and very much appreciated. As a matter of fact we had already begun to increase our staff so as to arrange for additional time of both Mr. Lethmuller and myself in the actual building supervision. Our first move is to get a Chinese accountant who will be able to relieve Miss Mason from considerable bookkeeping and set her free for more work on filing, indexing and looking up matter in regard to orders, while I will be out on the work for longer periods.

Last week there arrived in Peking a lady trained as a mechanical and architectural draftsman, and we have arranged to give her a month's trial to see if we can relieve Mr. Lethmuller and also give Mr. Hill more help in the detail office work. This will for the present enable us to carry on in very good shape.

Months ago Mr. Lund brought up the subject of a foreign supervisor to give his entire time to the erection of the power plant and heating, lighting and plumbing installations. I did not at the time think it necessary to take this matter up, nor do I feel that the service of this man is needed as yet. Mr. Lund had in mind an Englishman with whom he has been acquainted for ten or more years, who has served his apprentiship in England as a mechanical engineer and is available now to come to China. If on receipt of this letter the Trustees feel that the mechanical equipment will soon be authorized and the services of this young man essential, we would be glad to have a cable from them authorizing us to get him out from England. I have not discussed the financial basis with Mr. Lund but shall try to arrange for him on a missionary basis if possible.

We are making good progress in all the buildings. As mentioned above, we will be laying tile on the dormitory this week. The foreign trusses of the School of Religion are in place and the Chinese trusses are being erected today. The pent roof of the Faculty Club House is also being put in place and the third floor forms of the Junior College building. In the new buildings the women's Administration building is having its main floor cast, while the bottom layer of the concrete foundations of one dormitory was finished this morning and the trenches for the foundations of a second dormitory are nearly completed. Most of the excavation work for one of the Science buildings is done, and we are waiting for the pile driver to begin putting the concrete piles in place.

We are transplanting, for better or for worse, four trees away from the location of the second Science building. If we had known in the middle of the winter where this building was to be located this transplanting could have been done with a little better hope of success.

In making the holes to put these trees in we uncovered quite a large number of burnt clay roof ornaments which had evidently been buried a long time ago. These we have put all together in one of the Dormitory rooms and will use them for models and perhaps go so far as to replace them on one of the buildings. If not, we will keep them for the University museum.

Last week we wrote to both Thomas Cook & Son and the American Express Co. and asked them to tell tourists who might be coming out to the old or new Summer Palaces that the University site was as much a point of interest as anything else in the University neighborhood and suggest that they bring them here to look around.

Yesterday I started a visitor book, and we will try to get the names and addresses of all tourists. If we can inveigle the unwary visitor to put his name and address down we will pass them on to you for further follow-up work.

Mr. Krause has just called up from Peking to say there is a cable authorizing the sinking of a well near the gymnasium and asking for samples of color and method of making the tile.

The tile process is quite simple. We have a number of pressed steel palates which fit into a small hand power machine. The mixture of one part cement with three of sand thoroughly mixed is then trowelled down on to these palates, and as soon as it has been thoroughly worked into place a mixture of one part color and four parts of neat cement is sifted on top. This in turn is then trowelled down and all rubbed to a smooth finish. The tile are then put upon shelves and watered for three or four days while they are being cured. After that they can be removed from the palates, the palates cleaned and used again. I hope this with the tile that we sent you by post a week ago will answer all the questions that you wish us to answer.

The coloring matter which we have ordered is Toch Bros. black mortar color dry, and can be obtained in New York without any difficulty. We have also tried a color made by Wilkinson Heywood & Clarke of London, which they guarantee quite thoroughly, but as their price is slightly higher than the Toch Bros. we have ordered the latter.

Since writing the above we have had a visit from an American firm called the Monarch Paint Co. of Cleveland, Ohio, who manufacture a preparation called carbo-lastic. They have a roofing material which contains Texas asphalt, asbestos and China wood oil which can be applied with cement and the wearing qualities of which they guarantee for ten years. This comes in a black and in a red. They also have a green color which they will not guarantee. We have samples and are trying them out. Personally, I have a very strong desire to put on a roof that will not need to be painted even once in ten years, and I think this ought to be obtained by the method we are using. Their preparation, however, would give an appearance of a black glazed tile roof. They have a priming coat which would give perhaps a more glossy appearance than their finished product which they say would last four or five years without being renewed.

Their red color is not as carmine as what we have been hunting for, but is very much the color which Murphy, McGill & Hamlin suggested for the columns. They think we might use their red color and allow this to weather for two or three years and then paint with the exact carmine that we want. Here again, however, I have not given

up hunting for the material that will mix with the concrete itself and give the color we want as an integral part of the stucco. The representative I was talking with today, however, says that he does not believe there is any such material available. These are some of the leads which we have been following up.

Very sincerely yours,

G/M

Jas. McDougald Jr.

PEKING

May 5, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

I am enclosing herewith duplicate invoices and shipping papers for the first consignment of steel. This will enable you to claim shipment when it arrives, which I presume will be some time in July.

The second shipment, which is the larger portion, is to be shipped from ~~St. Louis~~ New Orleans, and we will be sending you the papers for that in a few days.

We note in your recent letter, and by the action of the Property Committee, that you feel that the trustees have acted very unwisely in not purchasing this steel, or authorizing you to purchase it, last fall, when it could be gotten very much more cheaply. You probably did not consider when the action was taken that the trustees did not have the funds with which to buy the steel, no matter how much more cheaply they could have gotten it. The question of sufficient money to pay for it was something that hindered the purchase at the time when steel was cheap.

According to your cablegram of November 24th, you requested authority to purchase 300 tons of steel and 2,000 tons of cement. At that time the trustees had no funds in hand, and had no definite prospect which seemed to warrant their authorizing such a purchase, and we cabled you on November 29th that decision regarding steel and cement purchase would have to be deferred until the beginning of January. We hoped at that time that by the first of January funds would be in hand with which we could authorize the purchase of the necessary steel. On December 26th we cabled you authority to purchase Gold $10,000 local building materials, by which we meant cement and sand and stone that might be necessary.

On January 18th we cabled you that you might proceed with the Woman's Administration Building, and that you might draw on Chicago at sight, not to exceed Gold $30,000 for building materials for three women's dormitories. On February 3rd we

received your cablegram saying that owing to the unsettled condition in Europe you were unable to purchase the steel that you had been negotiating for, and requesting us to secure at least 100 tons and ship as soon as possible. We immediately took up the question of bids, and we were finally able to secure the steel, although the market was in a very unsettled condition, and we finally had to buy it from a jobber. We were able to do this some time before the price had reached its peak, but not before rapidly mounting prices had made it impossible to buy at anything like the rate quoted last fall. It is too bad that we had to pay more for the steel than we anticipated, but so far as we can see, circumstances have made it impossible to do any better than we have done.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures

燕京大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU
Haitien

May 14, 1923

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. North:

It is now two weeks since we wrote you last. Our seeming quietness has been due to the fact that we have been very busy on the site, that we had expected to have some long and serious interviews with Mr. Warner and also to the fact that there has been no New York mail for us since our last letter.

On Saturday last we cabled that we were sending some specifications and estimates from England on the lighting, hot water supply, heating and also for a gas plant to provide gas both for the scientific laboratories and to run a gas electrical generator. Our reason for cabling was that there had been so much work done on this estimate by British firms that it seemed only fair to them that the Trustees should at least know about their estimate before they closed a contract with anybody else.

There are one or two points which should be mentioned in connection with this estimate. In the inquiry sent out, a copy of which was sent to you about the last of December, we asked for hot water under pressure, while the British have seen fit to quote for a vacuum steam service in heating. (There will probably be two other British quotations soon.) This, as I understand it, means that the air in the return pipes is exhausted, so providing for a more rapid return, both of the condensed and uncondensed steam, and keeping the circulation more rapid, also allowing the boilers to work at lower pressure and preventing any noise in the systems.

The second point--the hot water supply mentioned is evidently intended for four dormitories of 96 students each and one refectory in the Men's College, four dormitories of approximately 50 students each in the Women's College, the Women's Faculty Club House and Infirmary. They say 19 and 20, but our inquiry was for 18 and 20, and I believe there is no doubt this was a misprint on their part.

Mr. Lund is having prepared copies of the plans they mention, and these will come forward to you as soon as they are completed. We are not, however, holding up the specifications for the plans.

Mr. Warner has been in Peking but only gave a brief hour to the new site on Saturday, the 5th. He seemed very enthusiastic about everything that we are doing and promises to spend more time with us late in this month and early in June. Mr. Hill has been waiting anxiously for his arrival, but as we had no definite word as to when he was coming

to the site, it happened that Mr. Hill was away on Saturday afternoon when Mr. Warner came. He, therefore, gave Mr. Hill an hour's interview at the railroad station on Tuesday morning last when Mr. Warner was passing through from Pei-tai-ho to Paotingfu. Mr. Hill has said very little to me about the interview, but I feel that it was quite unsatisfactory from Mr. Hill's point of view.

The question of consulting architect seems to be the stumbling block. Mr. Warner pointed out that in his business he often gave a question of analysis to two different chemists, and thought that a question of a design of a building might also be worked on by two different architects. Mr. Hill replied that the one is a question of fact, while the architectural question is one of personal expression.

I tried to point out to Mr. Warner that if the Trustees saw fit to call on anybody to help them come to a decision or judgment, it need not cause any trouble out here, always supposing that their judgment or decisions were sent out here as from the Trustees and not as something the Trustees had received because they had consulted somebody superior either to themselves or to Mr. Hill. Whether this method can be used now that the question has been brought up in such a concrete form out here remains to be seen. Whether other points came up in their interview I do not know, as this is all that Mr. Hill has reported to me.

I think we can say that all the buildings authorized so far have been started, though the ground for one Science building is simply being levelled, and the same is true of the third women's dormitory. The piers on which the western dormitories are to be erected are in place for one building, and the forms for the piers of the second one are ready, and the concrete will be poured today and to-morrow. These buildings cannot go very much further until the steel sent out by yourselves arrives, though I have been buying steel enough for one floor of one dormitory, feeling that it was best to get on with this so as to let the forms be taken down and put up for the second floor while we are waiting for the New York steel to arrive.

In the Geology and Physics building we have had a great deal of trouble. I am very repentant that I ever consented to attempt a cellar in the west end of this building, but the wishes of the Department and the need of more space in the building overcame my judgment as to the condition of the ground. We have finally been able to excavate the entire section laid out for basement. This has been done by working day and night for the last half of last week, and by pumping or bailing for many nights previous to that.

There is no doubt that an old river bed ran across this part of the site and whenever we would dig down the side walls of the excavation would cave in so that the amount of earth that fell in seemed to be even greater than the amount we were able to take out. Finally on Thursday of last week we decided to go at it day and night and try to clear it out and put in a concrete bottom and foundations without stopping. At that time we thought there was a good clay strata just at the level of the cellar floor, but on further digging found that this clay extended but a few inches and we came down to sand again, then more clay, so that we have decided today it will be necessary to put piles in practically every point of this building. All this means additional expense.

I am going to raise the question with the Grounds and Building committee at their next meeting whether we shall not omit the basement thought of for the Chemistry and Geology building. You remember this was also suggested by Mr. Green in New York as being the place for the reception of material. I am going to ask the committee to consider whether we shall not use part of the attic space as a receiving room and leave the basement almost, if not entirely, unexcavated. As this is the driest time of the year we have been taking vigorous methods to get through with this excavation work while the water level is as low as possible.

We have also cleared out the basement of the School of Religion which has never been dry since the rains of last summer, and are water-proofing today. The only way we have been able to make it dry enough was to break a hole through the cement bottom and dig out a small part underneath so that the water runs into this place and leaves the floor dry. It certainly is unfortunate that the site has proved to be such a damp place on which to build.

On the Dormitory we are all ready to place tile, in fact, a few rows are in place, and some of the ridges with the ornaments are going up today so that by the time Mr. Warner and Dr. Stuart are here at the last of the month they will be able to see exactly what the roof looks like.

I hope that the information sent in regard to tile has covered all the points which the Trustees wished it to. In the School of Religion most of the roof timbers are in place, and we will be able to put the tile there as soon as the try-out in the Dormitory has been examined and we get authorization to go forward.

Our contractors are asking every few days what color the stucco on the walls and columns is to be and for permission to push on with this work. It is important that we allow them to do so at the very earliest possible date.

The timber work for the pent roof of the Faculty Club House is also completed and the second story walls and columns are going up, while the forms are being put in place of the third floor of the Women's College Sage Memorial. In the women's Administration building the first floor columns are being cast today.

We have estimates for the drilling of a 6" well. The Chinese ask $45 per 10 feet if through any medium except stone. If through stone they want that amount per foot. This does not include casing. The Tientsin firm of foreigners ask three thousand odd dollars for a well including casing and guarantee to find water.

When Professor Berkey of Columbia went over the situation last year and gave us his report he practically guaranteed water at about 130 feet, similar to the gushing wells that they have found at Tsing Hua College. If we can find water at this level and buy the casing ourselves, this will make it cost, being drilling by Chinese, about $1000. I am still waiting to try to find another bid before contracting for the work. My own thought was first to put down a 4" well, but judging from Professor Berkey's report and all the other information I can get locally, a 6" well will more nearly meet our requirements. There is no progress to report in regard to residence site.

The wild date hedge that we put down is showing signs of life along the better part of the fence; and I am told, though I have not had time to see for myself, that the four or five evergreens which we transplanted during the winter in order to make room for a dining hall building, also show signs of life. Our tree nursury is coming up in great style.

To refer back to the specifications which we are enclosing, I notice that they speak of buildings colored in red. These include four buildings, No. 13 Men's Dormitory; one building, No. 14, men's refectory; the School of Religion; two Science buildings; one Library; women's Faculty Club House; one Administration building; Junior College; and four No. 24, women's Dormitories. Those colored in blue are the Gymnasium, the Infirmary, two more No. 13, the Chapel, the men's Administration building and six No. 24 women's Dormitories. The specifications also include all the radiation for the buildings under discussion.

Very sincerely yours,

G/M

Geo. McGregor Gibb

P. S. We are just in receipt of your cablegram approving the change in the second floor of the Faculty Club House in order to provide for Dean's apartments and separate guest rooms.

May 14, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

I cabled you on Saturday last as follows:

"Yenching Building Committee approve change faculty house to provide exclusive apartments for dean and separate guest rooms on second floor."

This action of the Yenching Building Committee was taken in response to the actions of the Building Committee on the field, and letters from yourself and Mrs. Frame. The Yenching Committee felt that the building which up to this time has been called the Faculty Club House should have its name changed to the Dean's Residence; that there should be provision made on the second floor for a private apartment for the Dean, so that she can be entirely separated from whatever else is going on in the house, and that there might be also on the second floor some guest rooms which could be made use of for guests of the college. It seemd to the committee that the only satisfactory way to make provision for the needs of Yenching College with the funds as designated at the present was such an arrangement as this. They were very clear that the Dean's residence may not be at some distance from the campus, but should be in such a place that the Dean could be readily available in case of necessity. Mrs. Royes is taking up the points in Mrs. Frame's letter of March 22nd and answering them, so that I will not try to indicate the actions which the committee took on each of those points. I think all of the actions cover actinns and requests made by the Building Committee on the field, in connection with problems regarding the buildings connected with the Woman's College.

We received on Saturday last your cablegram, informing us that you were sending specifications and estimates for heating plant, lighting plant, hot water plant, etc., as received from England; that the total amount of estimates for this are 37,000 pounds sterling. President Stuart will be able to take up with you, and will very likely have done so before you receive this

letter, some of the things that are in the minds of the trustees, both as regards the question of mechanical installation and the roofing tiles for the buildings; so that I will not write more at length at this time until there is something definite to report.

Very sincerely yours,

燕京大學

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA

PEKING

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU
Haitien

May 18, 1923

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. North:

Enclosed find a copy of the minutes of the Grounds and Building committee of May 17th. While the committee was meeting it developed that there were in Peking copies of the minutes of the Finance committee of the Trustees containing information about some of the subjects which the local Grounds and Building committee wished to discuss. It seems strange to me that it is not possible for the office of the Construction Bureau to be kept supplied with all of the minutes of your New York committee. As I understand it, the minutes that are in Peking were accessable to both Dr. Galt and Mr. Tayler, but had not been sent out so that we here in this office could have them for our information.

Yesterday we sent off the following cablegram:

Field Property Committee has taken the following action. Request you to send special information at once concerning color scheme buildings nearly completed. Or send authority to field property committee to decide.

This is as near as we could find in the code book to express the feelings of the committee. After the committee had left about 1:00 o'clock I was stopped by one of the foremen to inquire what colors were to be used on the gable end of the Dormitory, as it was impossible to proceed with the pent roof at either end of this building, until the gable ends were properly colored. This emphasizes the necessity of immediate information in regard to the color schemes of both the School of Religion and the Dormitory. We will also need that information in regard to the Sage Memorial building and Faculty Club House in the very near future.

The committee was of the opinion that if the Trustees had not already obtained and were forwarding definite information the thing to do would be to take native examples as a model for our buildings here. Mrs. Frame and a number of other people who have seen the Ginling buildings have remarked that they are handsome, but the colorings are not true Chinese. The Ginling colorings are, as far as I am able to judge, the same as suggested by Murphy, McGill & Hamlin for our buildings here. A traveler who had been to Ginling remarked in our presence the other day that he had heard of the dragon carrying a pagoda ffom one part of the country to another and that he had realized it was possible when he saw that the Ginling buildings were really the gate towers of Peking moved down there. I would be very unwilling that people should remark that we had brought the colorings of Ginling up to the Peking University buildings.

In regard to the possibility of getting marbles from the old Summer Palace, Dr. Stuart before he left asked me to gather up any bits of Chinese art which would go to enhance the beauty of the campus and the buildings. To date we have done very little in this way. It was Dr. Stuart's feeling that if we could make the campus a real exhibit, many tourists would stop off, and the University could get contacts in this way. Dr. Stuart says that the Christian College of Canton receives a great deal of its support from people who have visited it when they have been touring in the Orient. It was because of this feeling that I became interested in the proposition of making a gift to the imperial family and getting permission to salvage the carved marble and other art work which is at present left in the old Summer Palace.

The amount that is left is decreasing very rapidly. Last Sunday in a tramp over the palace I came across the four columns, two lions and spirit ways mentioned in the minutes. These were in a distant corner and are so large and of such imperial significance that none of the pillaging military men have either cared or dared to take them away up to the present. Of course it is evident that after having gotten permission to move them it would be a rather expensive undertaking, as they are tremendously heavy and there are no roads worth calling roads over which they could be hauled. I feel, however, that the expense would probably be more than repaid to us as the years go by.

The renting of the palace which was approved off is another matter which has come into this office because we are living in the neighborhood, and it seemed a wise thing to rent even though we would probably have to pay one of two years rental for the place for which we would get no return. It does not seem likely that when the University begins to move there will be sufficient housing accommodation for all the faculty in new buildings; and if we could get hold of one or more places now at low rentals, the paying of rent for a year or two will not in the long run be an added burden to the University. This piece of property was used as an intern camp, and the Prince got indemnity and has put it all in repair during the last three or four years, so that the buildings seem to be in perfect condition.

In our conversations before the committee really got to work Mrs. Frame was very insistent that considerable glass tile be used in the roof of the Sage Memorial building. In fact, she was ready to go further and put in a foreign skylight on the east side of that building thinking that it would not be conspicuous. I was very unwilling to admit that any side of any building would be inconspicuous and insisted that if anything was done it must be in real glass tile.

I remember that you ask some months ago for an approximate number, and while I have not given it as much consideration as it needs, I think that an average of 1000 pieces per building would make all the attics much more useful than they otherwise would be. We hear the remark from almost everybody that comes on the site, "What are you going to do with these attics?" If we could only make some arrangement for increasing light we would be very well content.

In the Dormitory and School of Religion we have provided for ventilation and some light by some windows under the eaves, but in the Science building there is no light or ventilation at all, and in the Sage Memorial there are only five small windows in the dormer ends. This will make it necessary to have artificial light and ventilation

in these two buildings.

The buildings are going on apace since our last letter, and we have not solved the problem of driving piles in the basement excavated for the Physics and Biology buildings.

I am in receipt of a letter today from Mr. Cyrus C. Lowe, 137 Rue de Takou, Tientsin, who is a former student of Peking University. It was through his good offices and some of his friends that we were able finally to make our close contact with the Tong Shan cement people and to obtain the $3.00 per bag rate for which we are now purchasing cement.

Mr. Lowe at the time of taking up this matter for the University asked that we pay them a small commission of $.05 on the bags purchased. This I felt would be necessary, but on sending him the commission on the first 3000 odd bags I pointed out that the institution was only able to build and carry on this work because of the generous gifts of many friends, and suggested that he and his friends should talk the matter over and decide to give us the balance of the commission. I have a letter from him today in which he says that it would be difficult for him to put up the proposition to his friends in toto, but that they are ready to accept a lump sum of $1000 for a commission instead of the $3750 which the commission would otherwise have been. I have written to thank him for his generous spirit, and told him that I was communicating with you in regard to the matter and would ask the New York officeto write him a letter of thanks for this gift which is approximately Mex.$2750.

We are also in receipt of a letter from Anderson Myer & Co., the Far Eastern agents of the American Radiator Co.,in regard to radiation for the buildings. They call our attention to the fact that there will be an increase of 5% on the price of radiation on shipments due in June, an increase of 10% on shipments during July and August, an increase of 12½% on shipments of September, October and November. I have written that we are not at present authorized to purchase radiation,but am passing this information on to you so that if the heating problem has progressed far enough to make it possible to know what radiation will be used, i. e. whether steam or hot water, you may be able to purchase direct from the American Radiator Co. and possibly save these rather large increases in cost.

Very sincerely yours,

John McGregor Gibb Jr.

G/M

May 18, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking Construction Bureau,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

I am writing you today to take up the question of consulting engineer for the University. You will recall that in December of last year Lund and Gernow sent President Stuart a letter with regard to the securing of a honorary consulting engineer for the University in this country. The purpose expressed in that letter was that he might be able to pass on the plans for the various mechanical installations and thus insure the trustees of first class judgment in this country, and that at the same time he might, perhaps, be the means of securing some donations of such machinery as we would need to use.

The people over here have had the feeling that the process of having Lund and Gernow asking for bids on these various installations from firms who were to furnish both the engineering and the materials was a very unsatisfactory plan - first, because it exposed us to the condition of accepting the judgment of a particular firm whether their materials were satisfactory or not and, if the bid was accepted on the basis of the materials, it did not necessarily follow that their engineering experience was of the class that we would want to secure and, in the second place, we were involving ourselves in the purchase of materials from a firm whose object in making the engineering study was to reduce the cost to such a point that they would be sure to get the bid, which might mean reducing the installations to an unsafe condition.

When, therefore, the question was raised as to the securing of a consulting engineer in this country and we went to Mr. Todd, as Dr. North has already written you, his feeling was that we should approach some man in this country on the basis of paying him whatever charges he felt were necessary in order that we might be sure of securing expert engineering judgment.

The trustees are entirely satisfied that in so large and important a question as the mechanical installations in our great new plant we ought to have the very best of engineering judgment and experience to pass on the requirements. With that in mind, therefore, we have taken up with several engineers in this country, notably Mr. Bennett of Baltimore, E. F. Black of the Methodist Episcopal Foreign Board and other friends of the University, the question of the wisest procedure to follow.

The judgment that we have obtained has been unanimous in urging us by all means to put the matter in the hands of some engineer here and accept his decision as to what the wisest steps would be, all of them expressing the conviction that such an engineer would undoubtedly feel it necessary to send a representative to Peking to study the situation first hand. In the face of this united opinion on the part of experts we felt that the only satisfactory recourse was to put the matter before some engineer of high standard in this country and see what he would do. Accordingly we entered into negotiations with Mr. Clyde R. Place who prepared for us last year the study regarding the heating plant for the University. When first we approached Mr. Place in a rather tentative frame of mind on this matter, with the slight knowledge which he had at his command of our general situation, he was inclined to feel that it would not be necessary to send a man to China. When, however, we raised with him a number of questions that have been bothering us (and Mr. Black was able to help us very materially at this point in presenting the matter carefully to him) he was unwilling to go further in preparing any plans for the heating plant, lighting plant, water plant and sewage disposal until his representative had visited the field and secured the various items of information that he felt would be necessary.

We tried to make it apparent to Mr. Place what we know you understand - that the trustees are most anxious to take every possible measure to insure that we have installed for the University the type of plant that is most practical, standard and economical for each stage of the development. For instance, it might be possible that the plan for a central heating plant at the present time would be too expensive for operation and that we should install subsidiary units which could later be linked up to the central plant when the number of our buildings had so increased as to make it wise. Then there was also the question of ground water and the effect that that would have on the installation of a central heating plant and the carrying of the heat to the various buildings. Linked up with this, of course, is the question as to what type of interior installation in the buildings should be employed. If we are to start with hot water and later change to steam when a central heating plant might be installed the arrangements for that should be made now. These are simply a few of the points that are involved.

I am asking Mr. Black from his knowledge of the technical features involved and his experience to write you indicating

some of the points which we feel need to be very carefully considered before coming to a final conclusion.

I think it is only fair to say, too, that some of our trustees have had to deal with various and sundry types of heating plants in this country and have discovered some of the difficulties that are involved in coming to any decision on such a matter. They have also felt very keenly because of these experiences that the only satisfactory and wise thing to do is to get the benefit of the best experience that we can command in laying out our plans for the University.

We have felt that while the spirit and purpose of Lund and Cernow ~~may be~~ are very admirable and of very real help to the University, they probably did not have the years of experience specialized in handling such problems that would satisfy us with their ability to secure the sort of thing that we want secured. We realize, of course, that any engineer, no matter how experienced, is bound to make mistakes. The best of them admit this, but the probability of mistakes is very greatly reduced by securing the best engineer available.

Before you get this letter President Stuart will, no doubt, have talked with you on this matter, but I desired to set it before you as thoroughly as possible so that you might be convinced that you were having the full history of the case up to the present in the minds of the trustees. In coming to the decision which we have reached President Stuart was heartily in accord with the judgment of the trustees that it was wise to secure the services of Mr. Place in making the study for us. We have, therefore, come to the point where we are making arrangements with Mr. Place to send a competent engineer to Peking just as soon as possible. It is probable that he will be in Peking before the end of June. Definite word as to his arrival will reach you before he gets there and we have told him that the Construction Bureau would do everything in their power to place at his disposal such data and information and materials as he might have need of in making his study.

I am inclosing herewith a copy of our arrangements with Mr. Place up to the present time and if any further agreements are entered into will forward those to you also in order that you may have the fullest information possible.

Our expectation is that Mr. Newman will remain in Peking in the neighborhood of six weeks to two months. The exact time of his stay there is left somewhat to his discretion. We hope that the delays which are always part of any undertaking in China where one has to deal with the Chinese will be reduced to a minimum so that his stay will be as short as is compatible with securing the completest results. We are asking him to indicate in his conversation with you while he is there what in his judgment is the satisfactory solution for the internal distributions in the build-

ings for the heating system so that it will be possible for you to make up your bill of goods that you desire and have them in this country so that they can be placed as soon as Mr. Place gives his approval of the engineer's report upon his return.

We would also note at this point that we believe it would be wise for you to have in mind the needs of the University in the matter of electric clocks and bells and telephones during the years that it will undoubtedly develop and make your preparations for these by laying the necessary conduit as the buildings are erected.

We wish also to call again to your attention, in case it may have been overlooked, the request that we sent some time ago, that you consider very thoroughly what the needs of the Construction Bureau in the matter of personnel are going to be. Our feeling here has been that with the large amount of construction that will be under way during the next two years or so you would be so swamped personally with detail that it would be difficult for you to give the attention to all the buildings under construction that would be necessary. We are perfectly satisfied as to your competence to handle the program with sufficient help and we are anxious to enable you to do this most satisfactorily by supplying you with the help necessary and want you to indicate very frankly what you feel are your needs.

I hope Lund and Gernow are not going to feel too badly put out over the action of the trustees in sending an engineer from this country. The anxiety of the trustees to be as satisfied as they can be that the nature and type of the mechanical installations are as right as possible and all the advice that they have been able to secure on the matter has led them to take this step. We certainly do not wish to create any additional trouble for you in your dealings with people out there and I am sure that President Stuart will give you his very active support and backing in handling the situation.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary,
Peking University.

LBM
HB

Incl.

PEKING

May 18, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking Construction Bureau,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

We have received today your cablegram of May 18th, indicating that the field property committee desire special information at once concerning the color scheme which is to be followed. It is impossible for us to secure action immediately on this point because of the absence from New York of all the members of the Finance and Property Committee except Dr. North. However, we are writing them at once and expect to be able to send you an answer within a week or ten days.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary, Peking University.

LBM
HB

PEKING

May 22, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb, Jr.,
Construction Bureau,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb,

I am enclosing herewith copies of two letters which have been received by us, regarding a recent shipment of steel to you, calling attention to the fact that the numbers of the bundles as indicated on the Bills of Lading were two too many. The actual weight was not involved but simply a miscount in the number of bundles. You will no doubt wish this information when the steel arrives.

I am enclosing, also, herewith a second copy of Bills of Lading of the second and third shipments of steel. We have sent you previously in one letter a copy of the Bill of Lading of the first shipment and in another letter one copy each of the Bills of lading for all three shipments. These present copies will place in your hands two copies of each Bills of Ladings, if they all arrive as they should.

With very best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

LBM:LB
Encls.

PEKING

May 23, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb, Jr.,
Construction Bureau,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb,

We have word from Mr. Clyde R. Place that the engineer whom he is planning to send to Peking, Mr. A. Traver Newman, is now expected to sail from Vancouver on one of the Empress boats, June 14. This should bring him to Peking early in July.

We have told Mr. Newman that you would be glad to make arrangements for living quarters for him, thinking that perhaps it would be easier for you to prepare a way for him than for him to land without any idea as to where he was going. I presume he should be put up at a hotel and it may be that you will be able to secure reduced rates for him at one of the hotels in Peking.

We are planning to have a conference with Mr. Newman before he leaves and I will send you the results of that conference as soon as we have had it.

Very cordially yours,

LBM:LB

PEKING

P

May 25, 1923.

Mr. John McGregor Gibb,
Peking University,
Peking, China.

My dear Mr. Gibb:

This morning Dr. Eric North and I had a conference with Mr. Clyde R. Place and Mr. Newman, whom Mr. Place is sending to Peking to make a study for the university, and at that conference came the request of Mr. Newman that there might be prepared so that he could have it to use upon his arrival, an engineering profile of the entire site, both on an east and west axis, and on a north and south axis, relating to a datum the water levels, the road levels, the floor levels of all buildings, and any other levels that should be included in such a profile. We told Mr. Place that we would write immediately to you and ask you to have this prepared, so that it could be in Mr. Newman's hands when he arrives. As I wrote you yesterday, I think, Mr. Newman is planning to sail from Vancouver June 14th, on the EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA, and this should land him in Peking very shortly after the first of July.

This is all of the material that grew out of our conference this morning, and we do not anticipate now that there will be anything further before Mr. Newman sails. If there should be, we will be glad to advise you of it.

Very cordially yours,

燕京大學
CONSTRUCTION BUREAU
Haitien

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA.

PEKING

May 25, 1923

Dr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. North:

A cable from New York which I suppose was in answer to ours asking for color scheme came to hand on Tuesday. The message as we have made it out reads:

IS IT ADVISABLE TO LAY ROOF TILE? IT IS NOT ADVISABLE UNTIL COLOR AND MATERIAL IS DECIDED.

When more than a month ago we received instructions to discontinue making tile we immediately stopped and have not made any since then. We had, however, at that time made tile enough to cover at least three of the four buildings started last year, and as there was no way to decide whether these tile would compare favorably with Chinese tile as to appearance until they were actually laid up on the roof, we decided that we had better put the tile on the Dormitory and so give all of us here and Mr. Warner a chance to see the thing in its actual position.

When we finally had your cable we were within two or three days of finishing the roof and so have decided it would be best to make a complete job of it. The work would have been completed yesterday if it had not been for a very heavy sand storm which was blowing and also to the fact that the ridge ventilators had not been properly completed. These are now all right and the roof will be finished before noon today, that is, all finished except the tile on the pent roofs at the end which cannot be put on until the coloring on the gable ends is finished.

We have not been going on with the School of Religion roof, as we are waiting until the Dormitory roof is finally completed and approved before doing this. We have not even allowed the contractors to prepare the 2" battens on which the tile are fastened, because should we finally decide not to use the cement tile, it will be necessary to completely cover the roof with boards, and these battens would not be useful.

The roof presents a very good appearance, and I doubt if anyone would notice that it was not typical Chinese unglazed tile. Quite a number of Chinese have been surprised when we told them that the tile being used were not clay tile but were made of Portland cement.

We have also to acknowledge Mr. Moss's letter of April 19th in regard to the steel. We are very sorry to see that this has not gotten on the sea at this time. Also one approving the actions of the Board of Managers' Finance Committee in regard to replacement of old buildings and in regard to the Methodist rent question. This letter I have passed on to Mr. Krause for filing in his records.

We note that you are not getting us a Ford truck but that we are authorized to get one here, which we shall procede to do.

The pile driving for the Science building was finally started on Tuesday, the 22nd, and we find that we can drive about eight piles every twelve hours. We are now working a day and night shift on this pile driving and the contractors are going to make up another pile drive in order that they can work two shifts day and night. This will (barring accidents) finish the pile driving in about two weeks. It is necessary that we get this work done and more piles made for the other Science building before the rainy season is upon us.

I have very little to report in regard to the other buildings. The third floor slab in the Junior College will be finished by noon today. The Faculty Club House is getting the third floor forms in place, while the women's Administration is having the second floor forms put in place and the most advanced women's Dormitory is having the beams of the first floor forms placed, and excavation is being carried on for the third women's Dormitory, and the one that is halfway between these two is practically at a standstill, as there is no need of pushing this building until our steel is nearly at hand.

The School of Religion is also practically at a standstill as we can do nothing more until the roof question is settled. The second Science building is being excavated for, and as I write I am wondering whether we have enough steel to make the piles, four hundred odd in number, which will be needed for this building.

We have let a contract for the Artesian well 6" in diameter at $400 for the first hundred feet and $45 for each foot down to 150'. The supposition is that we will not have to go further than 120' or 130'. This, of course, does not include the casing which will cost in the neighborhood of $400 for 150'.

Our tree nursery is showing very good signs of progress.

As you will have judged from this letter, our three main cares are the color scheme including the tile question, the question of steel and the electric conduit, the need of which we know will be very acute in the near future. We still have no word from New York as to whether the amount asked for in our letter of January 3rd to Dr. Stuart has been shipped. Had we these three points decided we could very cheerfully make a great deal of progress in the near future.

We are having minor troubles such as suggestions of small graft on the part of some of the gatemen, inefficient measurement of materials delivered, and all the other unpleasant things which are sure to come in an enterprise as big as this, even including a dust storm which hung over the site for two days and finally broke with almost the force of a tornado yesterday. We are told that it has been necessary to close everything up in Peking in spite of the great heat.

We are looking forward to Dr. Stuart's arrival in about a week's time, and some very helpful conferences with him and Mr. Warner soon after.

Yesterday I communicated with Mrs. Frame the results of some figufes obtained at her very earnest request in regard to having colored tile ridges on the women's Administration building and the Faculty Club House. I have said in part that the green tile decorations along the ridges of one of these buildings would not cost less than $2000. To this there must be added the fact that the green tile delivered will not be any better than that which was delivered to the Union Medical College. While in that institution the other day I had an opportunity to look at some of the roofs and found that in large patches the green glazed tile had entirely disappeared and left a yellowish gray tile. I have suggested that Mrs. Frame's committee come out and study the Dormitory tiles and the effect they give before they come to any decision.

Very sincerely yours,

Jno McGregor Gibb

G/M

燕京大學

CONSTRUCTION BUREAU
Haitien

PEKING UNIVERSITY
(YENCHING TA HSUEH)
PEKING, CHINA.

PEKING

May 25, 1923

Mr. Leslie B. Moss
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Moss:

I have a letter of April 2nd from Mr. Black asking for more detailed information in regard to certain box springs which were the last item on our order sent him on April 17, 1922.

Mr. Black sent me the Bommer hinge catalog, No. 44 from which I have picked out the enclosed order which I hope will make the whole matter quite clear.

In regard to the original order we said 26 pieces when we should have said 26 pairs, and you will note that the order sent herewith includes material for 26 doors, eight of which are pairs, that is, two doors, one closing and one opening.

I note that the prices given in the Bommer catalog are very high, but expect that there will be great percentage off these prices if they get the order.

Very sincerely yours,

John McGregor Gibb-Jr.

G/M