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PEKING, CHINA

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DEPOSITARY
Bankers Trust Company

Rochester, New York.
6th April, 1923.

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

My dear Eric:

The finance committee came nearly handing out the proverbial straw when it asked us to make out a detailed report every night and send it in. That bright idea could not have been invented by one who knew anything of the hardships and severity of a campaign like ours, especially as far as the work of Mr. Caskey and myself is concerned. It also indicates a lack of knowledge of the travel cards which we do make out and keep up to time, and really that is about all we can do. Indeed, to keep our travel cards written up, which I regard as absolutely necessary, taxes us to the utmost now, and that often has to be done late at night or very early in the morning.

It is not clear to me what the objective is, and I would appreciate it very much if you would let me know, provided the committee desires to continue it in the face of my protest. You may have reasons for having the others of the force, except Mr. Caskey and myself, make such reports, but in our case we have to write up the travel cards, which indicate the result and details of our calls in every case, and it is possible for you to check up from time to time how many calls we are making, etc, etc. But the mere number of calls indicates nothing, and so I ask for myself at least that I be relieved of the responsibility of making up nightly reports of this nature.

Judging by the enthusiastic reports which I heard that Mr. Shell made to our Presbyterian Executive Council I am fearful that the trustees may take a more roseate hue of the situation than the facts warrant. A tremendous amount of serious and hard work, together with a larger co-operation than we have as yet secured will be necessary before the million dollars can be secured. It would not be well to have the trustees obtain any false conception of the situation by a too optimistic view of what is before us.

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