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Wilson, Earl O. 1919-1927

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C O P Y

Sept. 8, 1919

TRANSMITTED

PEKING

Rev. L. C. Porter,  
Dean College of Arts and Sciences,  
Peking University,  
Peking, China.

Re: E.O. Wilson

My dear Mr. Porter.

*File*  
This office is in receipt of a letter, dated September 3rd, from Mr. Earl O. Wilson of 102 Lutz Avenue, West Lafayette, Indiana. Mr. Wilson has just returned to America and will study in the Chemistry Engineering Department, Perdu University. He writes that he has talked with you and others connected with the new Union University at Peking and he has an impression that his services for Industrial Chemistry will be needed within the next few years.

Mr. Scott who has charge of the department for Higher Education is now in China and doubtless you have already seen him. From Mr. Porter's letter to the Board it is clear that he is looking forward to appointment in connection with the Peking University for Industrial Chemistry. Will you kindly indicate the attitude of the authorities of the Peking University toward this matter. From what Mr. Wilson writes it is clear that he has been in China and is well-known. *Wilson?*

During the absence of Mr. Scott in China I am caring for his correspondence. I am an Indian missionary at home on furlough. For about twenty years I have been on the staff of our Forman Christian College at Lahore. At that college we have just established a Department of Industrial Chemistry which is attracting a great deal of attention and interest in the Punjab. It is in the line of true progress educationally for it will fit the students of the Punjab for dealing with the industrial problems of that province. The same thing will doubtless hold true of an Industrial Department established in the Peking University.

With kind regards,

Yours very sincerely,

HLC/R

*A. D. Guinness*



102 Lutz Ave.,

West Lafayette, Ind.

October 24, 1920.

Peking University,

156 Fifth Ave.,

New York City.

Dear sirs,

*Write  
Rev John A. Fudley  
Pres. Univ. Purdue Univ.*

A few months ago Dean L.C. Porter of Peking University wrote that a department of Applied Chemistry was under consideration and that he would put you in touch with me as a possible candidate for the position as head of the new department. I do not know how much has been accomplished and would greatly appreciate some definite information regarding the matter. You may not have my name on file at all so I shall state here that I graduated from Hillsdale College in 1914 taught five years at Peking Government University and shall graduate from the school of Chemical Engineering at Purdue University next June.

I am in no great hurry to return to China as I feel that two or three years of industrial experience here would be of great value but I should like to plan quite definitely as to what I shall do when I do return. For many reasons I should prefer to be located in Peking and for that reason have not been considering other possible positions very seriously. You can see then that any definite information you may offer would greatly facilitate my plans for the future.

Yours sincerely,

*E. O. Wilson*



**The Board of Foreign Missions  
of the  
Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York**

T.H.P. SAILER, PH.D.  
EDUCATIONAL SECRETARY

October 26, 1920.

Rev. H. W. Luce,  
514 West 122nd Street,  
New York City.

Dear Luce:

Mr. E. O. Wilson, 102 Lutz Avenue, West Lafayette, Indiana, graduates in June from the School of Chemical Engineering at Purdue and expects to take a year in some chemical plant in the United States before going out to China. He says he was approached by the Dean of Peking University about a department of applied chemistry, but got no very definite information and wishes to inquire further. Is there any chance of your being able to use him? I have told him he might expect to hear from you. If you are quite sure that you cannot use him let me know and I will write him instead.

Very sincerely,

*T.H.P. Sailer*

S/M

Personally dictated, but signed in  
writer's absence to expedite delivery.



JOHN W. FINDLEY  
PRESBYTERIAN UNIVERSITY PASTOR  
PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

December 28, 1920

Mr. Henry W. Luce,  
V. Pres. Peking University,  
156 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Luce:

I have before me your letter of recent date. I hope that Purdue may some time come to a larger vision which will enable her to undertake a greater Chinese program and shall not forget your suggestion if the time comes that this shall seem to be a possibility. With the number of Chinese students who are attending Purdue and the number of American students who are going out to China from time to time, Purdue must have increasing interest in that great Empire.

Thank you very much for the pamphlet on Peking which I received recently. It is not only very interesting in its subject matter but most attractive in form.

Yes, I know Mr. Earl O. Wilson concerning whom you inquire. You doubtless know something of his work in the Chinese National University in Peking. I am sure you would be most fortunate to secure his services if you are in any way in need of a man equipped in his line. He has a splendid personality, a deep interest in China, and altogether an attitude which seems to me of the very finest. He finishes here this year in Chemical engineering.

Wishing you all the good things of the season I am

Faithfully yours,

JWF:VA

*John W. Findley*

0013



TRANSFER

RECEIVED

January 15, 1921

Mr. Carl O. Wilson,  
102 Lutz Avenue,  
West Lafayette, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Dr. Stuart has recently written me of the possibility, some time in the future, of your going out to Peking to teach Industrial Chemistry.

I write at this time just to get in touch with you, and to find out if I have your correct address. I should be glad if I might have a word from you telling me how the Peking matter may be related to your future plans.

If you are ever in New York, I hope you will call at our office. Should I chance during the year to reach Lafayette I should hope indeed to see you.

Recently I have had some correspondence with Rev. John W. Findley, of Purdue University, who is interested in Peking.

Very sincerely yours,

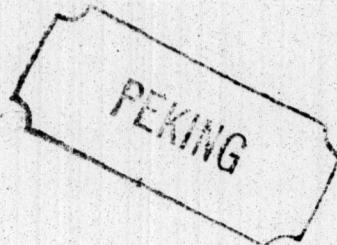
H.W.L.W

0014



102 Lutz Ave., W. Lafayette, Ind.  
January 31, 1921.

Mr. H. W. Luce,  
106 Fifth Ave.,  
New York City.



Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 18th inst. I may say that I wrote to your office some three months ago and at that time stated my plans and wishes regarding returning to Peking. That letter was apparently not delivered!!

I am planning to return to China, preferably to Peking, sometime within the next few years and hope to be in a position where I can render real service to Chinese chemical industry. Dr. Stuart and others of Peking University have written regarding the establishment of a department of Applied Chemistry and it has seemed that a position as teacher in such a department might afford the opportunity that I wish.

It would be of great assistance to me to know whether or not you are going to want me and if so when so that my plans can take more definite form. Any definite information that you can offer will be most gratefully received.

Yours sincerely,  
E. O. Wilson.



April 20, 1921

R. M. C. Wilson,  
100 Lutz Avenue,  
West Lafayette, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

We have just voted to taking the authorization to start building upon the new site on January 1, 1922. In carrying out our business it may be necessary for Mr. Tibb of the Chemistry Department to devote his time to the work of building supervision, as he has a practical experience in this sort of work. We may be called upon very shortly to find some one to take his place, and we wish to you now to ask informally the earliest date when you would be able to go, if the trustees should find it necessary soon to secure reinforcements for the Department of Chemistry.

Hoping I may have word from you by return mail,

I am

Very sincerely yours,

462

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323 Salisbury Street,

West Haverette, Ind.

May 2, 1921.

Mr. H. W. Luce,  
156 Fifth Ave.,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Luce:

I have your letter of April 29th regarding the possibility of my going to Peking in the near future as a member of the faculty of Peking University. School closes here June 5th and I could leave any time after that but would prefer to sail in the Fall. If I knew definitely that I was going I would like to spend the summer at Chicago or Columbia summer school. In case the Peking position does not materialize I hope to obtain a position with some chemical plant for the coming year, for this reason I hope that the matter can be settled soon.

Yours sincerely,

Earl O. Wilson



PEKING

323 Salisbury Street,  
West Lafayette, Ind.

June 4, 1921.

Mr. W. Reginald Wheeler,  
156 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir,-

I have replied to your wire of June 4th giving the names of three references. These men know of my scholastic work in America and I assume that you have sufficient information at hand concerning my work in Peking.

I graduated from Hillsdale College in 1914 with the A. B. degree and at that time received the Michigan State Teacher's Certificate for work in Pedagogy. After leaving Hillsdale I taught five years at Peking Government University and had an active part in the student work of the city during that time. Mr. R. R. Gailey or Mr. D. W. Edwards of the Peking Y. M. C. A. can tell you of my work there.

During the past two years I have been studying Chemical Engineering at Purdue University and shall receive the degree B. S., Ch. E., on June 8th. I am thirty years of age and married. My wife is also a graduate of Hillsdale both from the Arts course and the Department of music. We have one child aged fifteen months.

You will appreciate the fact that I cannot accept a position in America if I am planning to go to China during the year. The past two years at Purdue have been expensive and it is necessary that I begin earning money at once. For this reason I shall request that, in case I am selected for the Peking position, my salary begin from July 1st. After that time I shall be at your service but would suggest that it would be to the best interests of the University



that I be permitted to study either at Columbia or Chicago until it is necessary for me to leave for Peking. New York especially would offer opportunities for the inspection of modern chemical plant and for making connections with firms supplying chemical equipment that might prove of great value to the University in the future. I am interested in making the work in Chemistry as practical and useful as to the students as possible and realize only too well the difficulty of this task in a country such as China.

Very truly yours,

Earl O. Wilson



June 13, 1921.

Mr. Carl O. Wilson,  
323 Salisbury Street,  
Lafayette, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Wilson:-

On June eleventh I sent you the following  
day letter:

"Appointment confirmed by Trustees Peking  
University Terms stated in my wire of  
June eight Three year appointment affil-  
iation under Presbyterian Board Salary  
begins July first Please plan to confer  
with Mr. Gibb, Peking professor in chemistry  
who is returning to America this summer  
will write you details later Wire me  
if you wish us to arrange for your steamship  
accommodations On account of travel and  
other expenses suggest study in Chicago  
rather than New York. Letter follows."

Sincerely yours,

R  
HEB



TRANSFER

PEKING

June 28th, 1921.

Mr. E. O. Wilson,  
1404 East 69th Street,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I have taken up your questions contained in your wire of the 15th with the officers of the University and will answer them herewith.

The field is expected to furnish you living quarters at Peking. This may mean that you will not have as comfortable or as roomy a place as we would like to give you because of the University being in temporary quarters. We will do the best we can for you and will hope that this will be satisfactory. I know from my own experience in China the difficulties along this line but trust through cooperation on the field they will be solved in due time.

Your travel expenses of course will be covered as I stated in my previous telegram.

There is no allowance for vacation. Most of the foreigners in Peking go to Pei-tai-ho and the traveling expense is not great from Peking.

Medical attention you should receive, of course.

The salary which I named, \$1400. Gold, two for one, is higher than that which is given to the Presbyterian missionaries and so for the present that includes children's allowance. Later this question can be taken up again if you think it necessary.

Your sailing accommodations we will secure here and will let you know as soon as they have been reserved. We should like to have you sail in September, but there may be some difficulty in getting reservation at that time and it may possibly mean your not going until October. I will write you as soon as I have anything definite on this subject. I will write you also as soon as we know Mr. Gibbs' itinerary and the time of his arrival in Chicago.

0021



Pg.2- Mr.E.O.W.-6-28-21.

In accordance with our agreement your term of service begins the 1st of July. I am enclosing a check for \$250. for your outfit allowance and if you should like to have me forward part of your July salary I should be glad to see that this is done.

I hope that your work at the Chicago University Summer School will be full of interest and enjoyment. I expect to go through Chicago about the middle of August and shall perhaps have the pleasure of seeing you and Mrs. Wilson then.

In your wire you did not state just what length of term you would prefer. We should be glad to hear from you on this subject.

If there are any other questions which you desire answered, or if I can serve you in any further way, I shall be glad to do so.

Sincerely yours,

WRW-AS.

P.S.- I am asking our Treasurer to send you the check direct from his office.

0022



RECEIVED

TRANSFER

JUL 6 1921

W. R. WHEELER

1404 East 69th Street,  
Chicago, Ill.

July 4th, 1921.

PEKING

Mr. W. Reginald Wheeler,

156 Fifth Ave.,

New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wheeler,

In my letter of the 2nd inst. I did not acknowledge receipt of your check for \$250.00 for outfit allowance. This came by the same mail with your letter. With regard to the July salary, it will be quite satisfactory if that is paid at the end of the month. I should, however, like to have the August salary before sailing if that is convenient.

In our discussion of the work at Peking nothing has been said about the Chinese language. I assume that you know that I would be unable to teach Chemistry in Chinese. From my conversation with Dean Porter and others on the field I understand that it is the intention to teach western sciences, in so far as possible, in the English language. If I am in error in this matter kindly let me know at once.

We are enjoying our work in Chicago very much and feel that the time is well spent. In case you can reach Chicago before we have to leave we shall be very glad to have you visit us.

Sincerely yours,

E. O. Wilson

0023



RECEIVED

JUL 5 1921

W. R. WHEELER

TRANSFER

1404 East 69th Street,  
Chicago, Ill.

Mr. W. Reginald Wheeler,  
156 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wheeler,

I have your letter of June 28th and your wire concerning steamship reservations. It will be impossible for us to sail before August 27th. Mrs. Wilson is studying at the Chicago Musical College and her work ends Aug. 6th, the first term of the summer quarter of the U. of C. ends about the same time. It will also be necessary for me to spend a few days at Lakeview, Michigan, with my mother.

I wish that I could have had an opportunity to talk with you personally about the work at Peking. As you know I studied Chemical Engineering at Purdue and expected to teach applied chemistry and perhaps engage in some actual technical work. The idea of going to Peking as head of the Chemistry department in its present form came as a complete surprise. I am rather in the dark as to the plans and possibilities for the future of the department. Of course I know something of the wishes of the men on the field and also appreciate the fact that lack of funds may hamper the work to a considerable extent. For these reasons it is perhaps better that I should go out on the three year term altho I should not do so unless I really expected to stay longer. At my age it is really a decision between a life work in China or in America. Also it would be impossible to save enough on the salary paid to pay the other half of the return passage home at the end of three years. However I believe in the spirit of the institution and the type of men at its head and am willing to go trusting that all will be well in the end.

Yours sincerely,

E. O. Wilson

0024



RECEIVED

JUL 21 1921

W. R. WHEELER

PEKING

1404 East 69th Street,  
Chicago, Ill.

July 23, 1921.

RECEIVED

JUL 26 1921

TREASURERS OFFICE

Mr. Dwight M. Day,  
156 Fifth Ave., N.Y.

Dear Mr. Day,

I have your letter of the 21st inst. and note what you say regarding the change in steamers and sailing dates. We will leave Chicago August 21st via Great Northern for Seattle. Shall I keep a detailed account of my travelling expenses from here to Seattle and from Shanghai to Peking and make a report or how do you wish this matter arranged? The clergy certificates came all right. Do travelling expenses include freight bills for household goods and excess baggage?

Mrs. Wilson would like to know whether you have any definite information as to how we are to live in Peking, whether we will be "keeping house" by ourselves or living with some one else. It will make a difference in the kind and amount of household furniture that we take. Professor Gibb will be in Chicago this week, perhaps he can give me some information along this line.

Sincerely yours,

*E. O. Wilson*

*P. S. I did not receive contract and literature mentioned in a recent letter.*

0025



RECEIVED

AUG 6 1921

W. R. WHEELER

Mr. Hanny.  
Send literature to Jahnien.  
Order books into him at Peking University, Peking.

1404 East 69th Street,

Chicago, Ill.,

August 3, 1921,

TRANSFER

PEKING

Mr. W. Reginald Wheeler,

156 Fifth Ave.,

New York City.

Dear Mr. Wheeler, \*

I have your letter of July 29th containing check for \$900. including an additional \$150.00 for outfit. Thank you very much. With regard to the trans-continental baggage allowance, it is necessary to present steamship tickets at the station where this extra allowance is claimed. I am going to Lakeview, Michigan August 6th and shall return to Chicago on the 19th and leave for Seattle via C.M. and St. Paul on the 20th. I have R.R. reservations for this date. Please send the steamship tickets to me in care of Mrs. Jane Wilson, R.F.D. #4, Lakeview, Michigan.

Professor Gibb tells me that there has been no text book in qualitative analysis used at Peking University and that there are about three students to take this course next year. He suggests that I order the books thru you and that they will be paid for by the students when they reach Peking. I wish to use "The Elements of Qualitative Analysis" by Julius Stieglitz, published by the Century Co. in two volumes. <sup>Ms. Sq. 3350</sup> Four sets would be enough for the present. I also wish to offer a course in Industrial Chemistry and will use as a text the "Chemistry of Materials" by Robert B. Leighou, published by the McGraw-Hill Book Co. Ten copies should be enough for this work. I should also like two ~~to Lakes~~ copies of Dr. E. G. Mahin's Quantitative Analysis, published by the McGraw Hill people. All these books will eventually be bought by students and the money can be turned over to the University in whatever way is customary. They should be sent by parcel

0026



post so that they will be available this Fall. I am expecting to use most of the ~~¥27¥~~¥150. that you sent me for larger reference works.

I understand that there is no platinum ware available at Peking University but hesitate to make an order until I am actually on the field. The advanced classes are small at present and we would not need much of this material but at present I do not see how the work in Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis can be <sup>carried on</sup> without at least one medium sized platinum <sup>(3 in.)</sup> crucible with cover and one platinum dish. I shall leave this matter to your <sup>in</sup> discretion until I become more familiar with the details of the situation.

Yours sincerely,

E. O. Wilson



Longacre 0700



RECEIVED

AUG 17 1921

W. R. WHEELER

Lakeview, Michigan, R.#4.

August 15, 1921.

PEKING

Mr. W. Reginald Wheeler,

156 Fifth Ave.,

New York City.

Dear Mr. Wheeler,-

I have your letter of the 8th inst. and will follow your instructions in regard to the contracts, enclosing one in this letter. I hope that you do send the text books that I ordered direct to Peking as every available bit of our packing space is filled. I already have copies of these texts. The steamship tickets were forwarded from Chicago and I think all necessary arrangements for the trip have been made.

Yours sincerely,

E. O. Wilson

0029



The Trustees of Peking University and Mr. E. O. Wilson enter into the following agreement and contract as evidenced by their signatures underwritten:-

THAT Mr. E. O. Wilson enters the employment of Peking University in the Department of Chemistry for the term of three years beginning July 1st, 1921;

THAT his salary for this period shall be Fourteen Hundred Dollars (\$1400) U. S. Gold, with the usual children's allowance (according to the scale of the Presbyterian missionaries) of One Hundred Dollars (\$100) for each child under ten years of age, the accepted exchange being not less than the rate of \$2.00 local currency to \$1.00 Gold;

THAT the expense of his journey from his residence in Chicago to Peking, China, with his wife and child, shall be borne by the Trustees of the University;

THAT at the completion of three years of service, the Trustees agree to pay three-fifths of the return expenses of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, four-fifths at the end of four years, and all the expenses at the end of five years of service.

THAT the University shall not be liable for the expenses of the return journey if Mr. Wilson leaves the service of the University within less than three years after the beginning of the term of service for causes for which the University is not responsible, but shall refund to the University the cost of transportation to Peking;

THAT the University shall provide in Peking housing facilities equivalent to those of other members of the American staff of the University;

THAT an outfit allowance of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400) be paid to Mr. Wilson, with the understanding that if Mr. Wilson returns from China before the five year term is completed, One Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$150) shall be refunded or its equivalent in outfit shall become the property of the University;

THAT the University will be responsible for the freight bills on Mr. Wilson's household goods on the trip to China up to three tons;

THAT this contract may be renewed at termination for a shorter or longer period, in which case the Board of Managers in Peking shall have power to act for the Trustees;

THAT it is understood Mr. Wilson also has the right to take up with the University, at the completion of this contract, the question of permanent appointment on the usual terms for such appointment.

For the Trustees:

Emm McJannet  
Treasurer.

New York, N. Y.  
August 11, 1921.

-----  
E. O. Wilson



TRANSFER

TRUSTEES OF  
PEKING UNIVERSITY

PEKING

May 1, 1922

Prof. H. H. Wilson  
Peking University,  
Peking, China.

My dear Professor Wilson:

I am very glad to inform you that the  
Trustees of Peking University at their annual  
meeting on April 12, 1922, appointed you to the  
post of Assistant Professor in Peking University.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

WHL  
JL

0031



**The Board of Foreign Missions  
of the  
Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York**

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

1928  
TRANSFER

October 29, 1923.

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

My dear Mr. Moss,

RE: MR. E. O. WILSON, PEKING UNIVERSITY.

You write that Mr. E. O. Wilson on the staff of Peking University wishes to be appointed as a regular missionary under our Presbyterian Board. The regular procedure would be for Mr. Wilson to use the Presbyterian application and medical blanks and apply to our local North China Mission. In case of an appointment of a missionary on the field, the favorable recommendation of the local Mission to the Board is always expected. I believe the proper papers are in the hands of the Secretary of the Mission, Mr. Clark C. Steinbeck, but in case they are not, I am sending a set of them along with a copy of this letter to him.

I assume that your office will take the matter up directly with Mr. Wilson.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours

*G. T. Scott*

George T. Scott.

GTS-JWJ

Copy for Mr. Steinbeck.

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DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

PEKING UNIVERSITY  
YENCHING TA HSUEH  
PEKING, CHINA.

*Wilson*  
**TRANSFER**

January 10, 1925.

Dear Dr. Luce,

With regard to my proposed letter to the Presbyterian Board supplementing the application I sent in last year:

It seems to me that all the information we have at hand is too vague to justify such a letter. If the Board does not wish to employ another layman on our Faculty there is no point to writing, and if they wished for more information from me I am sure they would have asked for it.

Would it be possible, while you are in America, to find out just what action has been taken with regard to the application and let me know by direct letter from yourself or from the Board. I am sure that is what I wish. If it should develop that a letter from me, setting forth my religious views and aims more in detail, would be helpful, I shall be pleased to provide such a letter.

With best wishes for a pleasant and successful trip,

Sincerely yours,

*E. O. Wilson.*

0033



PEKING

TRANSFER

PEKING UNIVERSITY

July 19, 1923.

Mr. E. O. Wilson,  
c/o Mr. Warren Buell,  
8030 Robson Avenue,  
Chicago, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Wilson:

I enclose a check for \$191.33 covering your furlough salary and the children's allowances for the month of July.

With reference to the rent, I have to report that the Trustees make a grant of the actual cost of the rent if, as, and when necessary, up to an amount not to exceed \$50.00 per month. When you settle down to paying rent, if you will advise us how it works out with you, we shall be glad to make the allowance.

I must say that it gives me quite a thrill to realize that you are back here on your furlough, for I well remember the efforts in which I shared to arrange to have you go out five years ago, at the beginning of our great venture of planning, erecting and financing the new buildings.

I am glad indeed to know that you and the children are all well. We shall want you all to have medical examinations far enough ahead of your return to make sure that you are all in equally good condition for the next stretch of your experience in China.

I shall be glad indeed to learn what your furlough plans may be and if I can be of any help in any way, please be free to write me.

EMW/L

Cordially yours,

OK. KNC.

0034



clt  
see next p 2

144 Hancock St,  
Auburndale, Mass.

August 21, 1926.

TRANSEER

Dear Dr. North,

I have your letter of July 19th. with check for \$191.33. We are temporarily located in the Walker Missionary Home at the above address and expect to move into an apartment in Cambridge on Sept. 1st. We get board and room for the family here for \$40.00 per week. This is a very pleasant place and we are sorry to leave but they have no room for us after the first. We have had considerable difficulty in locating a suitable apartment where children are even allowed but finally have one that will do for \$100.00 per month. This is much more than we wanted or expected to pay but I see no way out of it.

Things look very interesting at Technology. I have met some of the professors and feel that the work we are planning will give me many of the things that I have been wanting. I have already started work tho the regular session does not commence until the 27th of September.

I am enclosing a statement of our travel expenses, but was unable to put it into just the form you suggested. Mr. Gibb advanced me \$3,500.00 Mex.

Sincerely yours,

E. O. Wilson.

0035



0036



25 Hammond St., Cambridge, Mass.,

September 6th, 1926. *TRA*

*Chh*  
*17, ret*  
Dear Dr. North,

We are now located at the above address and I have started work at M.I.T. I am writing to call your attention to the fact that I have not yet received my August salary and rent allowance. As rent is paid the first of each month in advance I would be pleased if arrangements could be made so that the monthly stipend will reach me during the last week of each month.

In your next letter will you please indicate how we are to proceed in case we need medical attention? Is there any special doctor in this region to whom you would wish us to go? Thus far we have not needed a doctor but of course the need might arise very suddenly.

I am sorry to trouble you with these details but I do not know any other way to get things straightened out.

Very sincerely yours,

*E. O. Wilson*



35 Hammond St., Cambridge, Mass.

September 2nd, 1925.

Dear Dr. North,

We are now located at the above address and I have started work at M.I.T. I am writing to call your attention to the fact that I have not yet received my August salary and rent allowance. As rent is paid the first of each month in advance I would be pleased if arrangements could be made so that the monthly stipend will reach me during the last week of each month.

In your next letter will you please indicate how we are to proceed in case we need medical attention? Is there any special doctor in this region to whom you would wish us to go? This far we have not had a doctor but of course the need might arise very suddenly. I am sorry to trouble you with these details but I do not know any other way to get things straightened out.

Very sincerely yours,

RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITY  
SEP 9 1925  
JOINT OFFICE

8500



TRAN.

Peking University

September 8, 1926

Mr. E. C. Wilson,  
25 Hammond St.,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Mr. Wilson:

Your letter of September 6th comes to hand in the same mail with the return of our letter of August 25th to you concerning your salary check. The letter was returned after pursuing you from Chicago to Auburndale, and a parently also to Hammond Street, Cambridge. We are remailing it herewith to Hammond Street, Cambridge and hope that it will find you.

I take it from your letter that it is your desire that we send you rent allowance for each month of the last of the preceeding month, although the salary applies to the month in which it is drawn.

It would be desirable for you and your family to have a general medical examination before you return to the field, and if you think that difficulties are likely to arise on such examination, it would be well to have it earlier in your stay here. We have these medical examinations and other medical work handled under the direction of the Medical Department of the Methodist Board and I am asking Dr. Vaughan to write you as to procedure.

Do not hesitate to write me fully as to any items in connection with your work or your personal needs in which we can be of assistance.

Cordially yours,

See

0039



25 Hammond St.

Cambridge, Mass.

Dec. 5, 1926

TRANSFER

Dear Dr. North:

I am writing to ask about the re-outfit allowance (item 3, schedule of salaries and allowances.)

We feel that the outfit that we need most is clothing and Mrs. Wilson would like to take advantage of the mid-winter sales. For that reason we would like to have the allowance now if you have no objections, we feel that we can make the money go much further now than by hurried last minute buying.

We hear that the school work is going quite well at fencing in spite of the chaotic political conditions. The universal verdict seems to be that conditions on the new site are "even better than anticipated" and as one who anticipated for five years I know that means a lot. I rather envy those who are having the first experience of the new fencing out. I am well satisfied with the work I am getting here at M.I.T.

Sincerely yours,  
Earl O. Wilson



RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITY  
JUL 7 1926  
JOINT OFFICE

0041



APR 11 1927  
April 4, 1927.

25 Hammond St., Cambridge, Mass.

Dr. Eric North,  
New York City.

Dear Dr. North,

I do not know whether Dr. Stuart has told you of the plans relative to my return to Peking. It has seemed advisable for me to stay on here until the end of next December to take advantage of the Chemical Engineering Practice School offered by the Institute. This involves my spending two months in Bangor and two in Buffalo (field stations) and it would be inconvenient to take my family with me. I have suggested that Mrs. Wilson and the children return to China in August-leaving me to follow about ~~Aug./Oct.~~ Jan. 1st.

Dr. Stuart has agreed to this and says that the plan fits in with housing arrangements there. If we are to carry out this plan we should soon make steamship reservations. Dr. Galt and family are to sail from San Francisco on the President Jefferson, Aug. 9th. I would like to have Mrs. Wilson on the same boat if possible. I wish then that you would have these reservations made for us. Of course we may have to cancel later if conditions in China get worse.

If you have any personal suggestions or comments on this arrangement I would be very glad to hear from you.

Very sincerely yours,

Earl O. Wilson.



RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITY  
APR 5 1957  
JOINT OFFICE

0043



16  
TRANSFER

Peking University

April 26, 1927

Mr. H. O. Wilson,  
25 Hammond St.  
Cambridge, Mass

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I have been delayed in replying to your letter of April 4th because of the pressure of annual meetings and emergency business. I have to report cablegram from President Stuart containing the following clause:

"Mrs. H. O. Wilson and children come (or can come)"

A similar statement has come for Dr. and Mrs. Galt. I will make the reservations for Mrs. Wilson and the children on the "President Jefferson" as you desire, but please note that the date of sailing of this boat is not August 9th as your letter states but August 6th. Dr. Stuart will keep us posted as to whether any change in plans should be made, and it would be desirable, we think, for her passage to be engaged to Yokohama with the thought that she would go on by train from there, or to Kobe and go on by boat from Kobe to Tientsin. On the whole I am inclined to suggest the former.

Cordially yours,

Secretary  
Peking University

BTM:H

0044



TRANSFER

25 Hammond St., Cambridge, Mass.

May 9, 1927.

Dear Dr. North,

*men  
w  
to  
H  
4/19/27*

I have your letter of April 26th saying that you have engaged passage for Mrs. Wilson and children on the "President Jefferson" sailing Aug. 6th from San Francisco. We would prefer to have the reservations made thru to Kobe on the same boat as this would avoid a change at Yokohama. The Galts also have the latter arrangement. She could go either by rail or by boat from Kobe.

There is another matter in connection with my return to China that I would like to take up with you. That is the matter of the future status of foreigners on the University staff (and not connected with a mission). Dr. Stuart told me before I left China that you were working on a plan for insurance or some other method for making the future of the University teacher more definite and secure. If such a plan has been worked out I would like very much to know what it is and in what way it affects me. At present I have a contract which simply states that I have been permanently engaged, but no details are given as to the conditions governing the contract. In view of the rapidly changing conditions in China it seems especially desirable to have this matter clear. I would greatly appreciate a frank reply and as detailed an explanation as you have time to give.

The question as to whether I shall be permanently wanted or even needed in China is not clear in my own mind and it seems to me that some provision for that possibility should be made at this time. The University has always been very generous and fair in all dealings with me but with rapidly changing personnel and the possibility of radical changes in policy I feel that we should have things more definitely stated.

0045



You doubtless realize that it will become increasingly difficult as time goes on for me to return to America and find a position, and as I am unable to save any money the matter has given me considerable concern. If I have not made myself quite clear I trust that you will feel free to ask any questions that may occur to you.

Very sincerely yours,

*E. O. Wilson.*



3

RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITY  
MAY 10 1977  
JOINT OFFICE

0047



July 17, 1927.

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

Dear Dr. North, -

TRANSFER

OK  
1/17/27  
BAS  
I have begun the work at the Chemical Engineering Practice School in connection with M.I.T. and have paid the first fee (\$100). Dr. Stuart has agreed that the University will pay the extra expense involved by this course and I understand that he has written your office to that effect. I have estimated the total extra cost at about \$400. If convenient I should like that amount paid in four installments of \$100 each, on the first of each month beginning August 1st. I expect to end this work about Dec. 20th and be ready to sail about Jan. 1st. I am to spend 2 months here in Boston, two in Buffalo and two in Bangor, Maine. *my family will probably remain here in Cambridge.*

C.K.  
4.50  
BAS  
I am enclosing in this letter a receipted dental bill for \$9.00. As the University regulations are that half of the dental bills are to be paid by the University there are \$4.50 due me on this bill.

Very sincerely yours,

E.O. Wilson.

0048

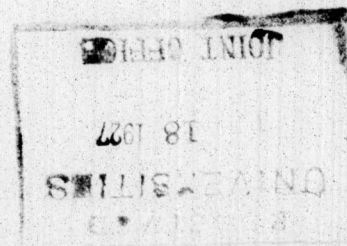


July 17, 1927.

Mr. J. H. ...  
100 Fifth Ave.,  
New York City.  
Dear Mr. ...

I have been and work at the Chemical Engineering  
Institute school in connection with J. H. and have paid the first  
term (1927). Mr. ... has returned that the University will pay the  
extra expense involved by this course and I understand that he has  
written your office to that effect. I have ascertained the total extra  
cost at about \$400. If convenient I should like to have amount paid in  
four installments of \$100 each, on the first of each month beginning  
August 1st. I am not so sure about the date and so ready to  
call about Jan. 1st. I am to a great extent here in Boston, two in  
Buffalo and two in Bangor, Maine.  
I am enclosing in this letter a receipted dental  
bill for \$100. The University regulations are that half of the  
dental bills are to be paid by the University there are \$4.50 due  
me on this bill.

Very sincerely yours,



9400



Peking University

July 25, 1927

Mr. E. O. Wilson,  
25 Hammon Street,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Mr. Wilson,

Enclosed we are sending you checks as follows:-

|                                                  |          |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Salary for July                                  | \$241.66 |
| First Instalment on M.I.P. course, together with |          |
| one-half of dental bill                          | \$104.50 |

I do not find any record of this office having received word from Dr. Stuart in regard to your extra expense amounting to about \$400 in connection your course at the Chemical Engineering Practice School. We are today writing him in regard to the matter. Pending information from the field, we will advance \$100 at the first of each month, with the understanding that if this extra expense is not finally authorized by the field suitable adjustments will be made.

*the  
probab-  
ility of  
continuing  
next month,*

In your letter to Dr. North you raised certain questions which have not yet been answered, so Dr. North has asked me to reply. Your questions present frankly the personal problems confronting all missionaries to China in these times of transition. Two specific questions you raise may be easily disposed of:- If you wish to replace your present contract with the regular form generally used in forming an agreement with the University staff members supported directly by the institution, we will be glad to handle that for you. The plan for pension provisions for staff members is now in process of development, and will not be completed for some months at least, so it is not possible as yet to state just what its details will be.

Yet your larger questions cannot be disposed of so simply. Are you to be permanently wanted or even needed in China? Is it wise, with the prospect of radical changes in China during the next few years, and with the increasing difficulty of fitting again into work in America as one grows older and more out of touch with conditions here, to stick to our purpose of serving China as long as we are permitted to render such service as we can? While you do not phrase your questions in just these words, this, I take it, is the substance of your query. They are vital problems, which one must face, if only in justice to one's family responsibilities. They are questions which the Foreign Board

0050



Mr. Wilson

-2-

July 25, 1927

Secretaries are having hurled at them from all sides, and that even our China Union Universities office is frequently called upon to answer.

Of course each individual must answer these questions for himself, in the light of all the factors in his own particular case. The mission enterprise has always been a great adventure of faith, wherein many grave risks must be taken, not only for oneself but for ones family. The uncertainties and the risks are larger today than ever before. Mission Boards and Trustees cannot guarantee permanency, for they are after all only the agents of the Christian constituency of America, and are powerless when support dwindles or when conditions on the field force radical changes in force and policy. It's a long chance we are all taking, but I'm sure we will agree it is worth it.

As to your own particular case, our New York office has no facts beyond those already in your possession. You know pretty well what has been going on in Yenching and what are their plans and policies for the future. As far as we can tell, your own services will be needed as long as any others of the foreign staff. Without doubt you have already raised something of these same questions with Dr. Stuart or others on the field who can best evaluate the situation as it affects yourself.

I quite appreciate your viewpoint in regard to these matters, for I am trying to keep my own hold on China and am not sure whether or not I will succeed. I am sorry our office can't give any more helpful information. I do hope, however, that you will manage to stick on if at all possible, for as Bishop Grose says, "it is only nine o'clock in the morning for the cause of Christ in China". There's a long, hard day of work still ahead of us, and it will take all the available force, and more too, to carry it on.

Very sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary  
Peking University

BAG/G

Enc. 2.

0051



PEKING UNIVERSITY

TRANSFER

YENCHING

Extract from letter of December 3, 1927, from E. C. Wilson to Dr. Stuart

"Since you did not reply to the questions I raised in my last letter about insurance etc. I assume that there is nothing definite to report. Perhaps it will be possible for me to have a talk with you and some interested member of the Board of Trustees while I am in N.Y. I may have the wrong view point on this question but from the information that I have at present I am not at all certain that I am doing the right thing in going ahead on such an uncertain basis. I want to spend my life in service to China and Yenching seems an effective and attractive means to that end; but I feel that it would be selfish and wrong to go ahead blindly without some material provision for the future. I do hope that a definite adjustment of this matter will be possible in the near future."

*Action now pending*

0052



Peking University

Mr. Garside

Mrs. Britton tells me that Dr. Stuart requests that we make reservations for Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Wilson and their three children, sailing from San Francisco on or about January 10, 1928. According to our records, their children were born on the following dates:

Peter G. Wilson Feb. 17, 1920

Eric D. Wilson Jun. 26, 1922

Alan B. Wilson Mar. 18, 1924.

The transportation department will need the above information before completing the reservation.

K. J. L.

**TRANSFER**

11/28/27

PEKING

0053



Peking University

December 7, 1927

Mr. E. O. Wilson,  
70 Grove St.,  
Bangor, Me.

My dear Mr. Wilson:

Dr. Stuart has handed on to me your letter of December 3rd and has asked that I reply to some of the questions you raise therein.

In accordance with your request we have arranged for reservations on the S.S. President Van Buren sailing from San Francisco January 13, 1928. The exact location of the state rooms has not yet been determined. We have, however, shown the transportation office your suggestions and they are trying to arrange some such combination as state rooms as 103 and 105 on the lower promenade deck as shown on the enclosed steamship plan. These reservations do not include a bath, but does give a shower in one room. The reservation is being made from San Francisco to Kobe.

You speak of securing clergy certificates. Do you wish this office to assist you in this or not? If so, please let us know at once.

We note that you are to purchase three standard cells and probably also some text books in Chicago and that you will have the bill sent to the New York office. We will be glad to arrange for payment of this bill when it is received.

Dr. Stuart has already discussed with me some of the questions of insurance to which you refer in your letter. We realize the gravity of the problem so many members of the staffs of our Universities in China are facing. In the spring of this year Dr. North and Miss Priest of the University of Nanking had just about completed a detailed plan for the University of Nanking when the incident of March 23rd and the disturbed months following it made it necessary to delay all such planning for the time being. I very much hope that within the next few months we will be able to revive this plan for Nanking and secure similar arrangements for the other Universities cooperating in this office. The fact that our organizations have proceeded so slowly in such matters as this is not due to any lack of interest but simply to the constant and urgent pressure for more funds than it has been possible to secure.

If there is anything further that we can do to assist, please feel free to call upon us.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-H  
Enc.

0054



PEKING

70 Grove St., Bangor, Me.

December 8, 1927.

TRANSFER

Dear Mr. Garside,

I have your letter of December 7th and note that you have secured reservations on the S.S. President Van Buren, sailing from San Francisco Jan. 13th, 1927.

With regards the clergy certificates; in the past the University office has arranged this matter for us and I hardly know how to go about it. I believe tho that the blanks were sent to us from the Presbyterian Board office. These were signed and returned, after which the certificates were forwarded to us.

I am now planning to leave Bangor Friday afternoon, Dec. 16th, so that mail intended to reach me between the 16th and 18th should be addressed to 17 Linden Ave., Malden, Mass. I shall of course need an advance to cover cost of transportation and hotel fares between Boston and San Francisco, and from Kobe to Peking. This can be handed to me when I am in New York if most convenient.

I am enclosing a bill from Dr. Smith for medical attention during my recent illness. As I am leaving Bangor so soon I thot it best to handle the matter this way rather than waiting for a receipt to forward to you.

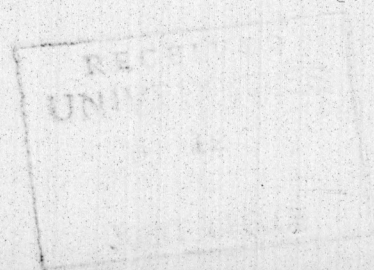
I wish to thank you for all your help and hope that my affairs are not taking too much of your time.

Very sincerely yours,

Eari O. Wilson.

0055





0056