

中国 银行 北京 分行

Bank of China
City Branch, Peking
China

March 19, 1980.

Treasurer

Institute for Advanced Study

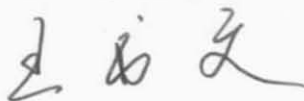
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Dear sirs:

We've the pleasure to be authorized by Prof. Loo- Keng Hua to make arrangements for recalling the amount of \$10000 which had been sent by Academia Sinica to Prof. H.Weyl for his visit to China in 1947 and later deposited with the Treasurer of your Institute in trust for the Academia. Herewith we enclose a letter written to you by Prof. Hua for your reference. Now will you Please clear this matter and remit the whole sum to our bank directly. Besides, it is more reasonable that the amount should be bearing interests as per a bank deposit so as to make compensation to the losses it has enduced from the blockade for nearly 30 years and the devaluation of U.S. dollar.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,



Mr. Wang Shu Wen.

Bank of China,

City branch Peking.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540

MEMORANDUM TO: Harry Woolf
FROM: Allen Rowe
DATE: April 24, 1980
SUBJECT: China Money.

According to our records we issued a check to Academia Sinica on October 13, 1953. The check number was 3881 and was drawn for \$10,000. The check cleared in January, 1954.

It would appear that the records of China Institute of Mathematics are incomplete. If you need additional information, please let me know.



Weyl

April 24, 1980

Professor Loo-Keng Hua
Institute of Mathematics
Academia Sinica
Beijing
People's Republic of China

Dear Professor Hua:

I have looked into the matter raised in your letter of 4 March 1980. I share with you the pleasure in the new relationship between China and the United States. As you already know, we have invited (and paid for) several visitors from China, and we hope that this bridge will grow significantly stronger in the years to come with traffic flowing over it in both directions.

It pleases me, therefore, to inform you that the specific matter you refer to of the money sent to Professor Hermann Weyl, in the amount of \$10,000 to enable him to visit China, was returned long ago to the Academia Sinica. To be specific, our records show a check, number 3881, issued on 13 October 1953 to the Academia Sinica, and the record also shows that the check was cleared in January 1954. Thus, it would appear that your records are either incorrect or incomplete.

May I also point out that the letter from Mr. Wang Shu Wen of the Bank of China, was inordinately impolite in this matter. In the world of academic exchange, which is supported inadequately to begin with, to have made a capitalistic request for profit in the form of interest payments on monies allegedly retained, and, equally, to request compensation for the supposed devaluation of currency over time was, to say the least, inappropriate, especially in view of the fact that we have supported scholars from the People's Republic of China and mean to continue to do so at our own expense.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Woolf

April 24, 1980

Mr. Wang Shu Wen
Bank of China
City Branch, Peking
Peking
People's Republic of China

Dear Mr. Wang Shu Wen:

Your letter of 19 March 1980, refers to the request of Professor Loo-Keng Hua for a sum of money in the amount of \$10,000, which had been sent by the Academia Sinica to Professor Hermann Weyl for his visit to China in 1947. Since this visit did not take place the money was originally deposited with the Treasurer of the Institute for Advanced Study. Our records show that check number 3881, was issued to the Academia Sinica on 13 October 1953 for \$10,000. That check was cleared in January 1954. It would appear, therefore, that your records are either inaccurate or incomplete. The money was returned to you over twenty-seven years ago.

May I take the additional liberty of reminding you that in the world of scholarly exchanges, an inadequately supported non-profit enterprise if there ever was one, to seek for capitalist gain in the form of interest and compensation for the devaluation of currency is entirely inappropriate. This is especially true since for the past few years we have supported scholars from the People's Republic of China as full members of the Institute for Advanced Study at our own expense.

In the hope that this provides greater understanding of the merits of academic and intellectual exchange, as well as the nature and proprieties of international scholarly comity, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Harry Woolf

中国科学院数学研究所
ACADEMIA SINICA
INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS
BEIJING, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

March 4 , 1980

Treasurer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Treasurer,

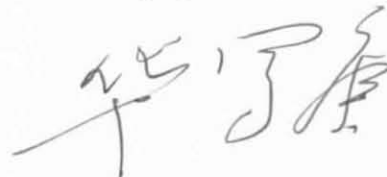
In 1951, I wrote a letter to late Prof. H. Weyl, hoping to recall the amount of \$ 10,000 which the Academia sent to Weyl for his visit to China in 1947. In his reply letter, Weyl told us that the money had been deposited with the Treasurer of the Institute for Advanced Study. He also suggested that we might write to you directly.

The Chinese and American peoples have always been friendly to each other. Now the relations between China and the United States of America have been normalized, good prospects are in store for exchange between our two countries. We hope that the frozen fund would be recalled.

Looking forward to hearing you soon.

With best wishes

Sincerely yours,



Professor L. K. Hua

PS Since I am very busy, I entrust this matter to Beijing Branch of Chinese Bank to transact.

Records of the Office of the Director / Faculty Files / Box 37 / Weyl, Hermann Acad Sinica Fund
From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, USA

中华人民共和国 北京
中国科学院数学研究所
ACADEMIA SINICA
INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS
BEIJING, CHINA

Treasurer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton , New Jersey 08540
USA

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



October 30 1953

In reply refer to
L/FE

My dear Mr. Oppenheimer:

Reference is made to the Department's letter to you dated October 20, 1953 regarding the check of \$10,000 made to the Academia Sinica for transmission through the Government of China.

The Department has now received a note from the Chinese Embassy acknowledging the receipt of the check for \$10,000. An authenticated copy of the note is enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

Conrad E. Snow
Assistant Legal Adviser

Enclosure:

Authenticated copy
from Chinese Embassy,
October 22, 1953.

Mr. Robert Oppenheimer,
Office of the Director,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

United States of America



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

certify That the document hereunto annexed is a true copy from
files of this Department.

In testimony whereof, I, JOHN FOSTER DULLES,

Secretary of State, have hereunto caused the seal of the Department of State to be affixed and my name subscribed by the Authentication Officer of the said Department, at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, this twenty-ninth day of October, 1953.

John Foster Dulles
Secretary of State.

By Barbara Hartman
Authentication Officer, Department of State.

The Chinese Ambassador presents his compliments to the Secretary of State and has the honor to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of his note of October 22, 1953, transmitting check No. 3881, dated October 13, 1953, from the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, in the amount of \$10,000 payable to the order of the Academia Sinica, which represents the sum returned by the said Institute to the Academia Sinica for advances made to Professor Hermann Weyl in 1946.

The check is being forwarded to the Academia Sinica through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Taipei.

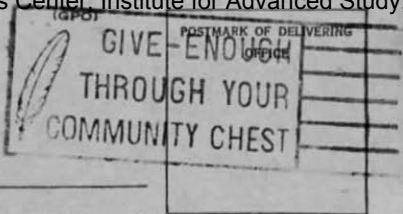
Chinese Embassy,

Washington, October 22, 1953

TLT

Records of the Office of the Director / Faculty Files / Box 37 / Weyl, Hermann Acad S
From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study,

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



Return to Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, Director

(NAME OF SENDER)

Street and Number, }
or Post Office Box, }

Institute for Advanced Study

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No. 50,048

Post Office Princeton

INSURED PARCEL

No. _____

16-12421

State New Jersey

Records of the Office of the Director / Faculty Files / Box 37 / Weyl, Hermann Acad Sini
From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study, P

RETURN RECEIPT

Received from the Postmaster the Registered or Insured Article, the original number of which appears on the face of this Card.

1 _____
(Signature or name of addressee)

2 _____
(Signature of addressee's agent—Agent should enter addressee's name on line ONE above)

Date of delivery _____, **19**_____

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



In reply refer to
L/FE

October 20 1953

My dear Mr. Oppenheimer:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated October 14, 1953 in which you enclosed a check for \$10,000 made to the Academia Sinica for transmission through the Government of China.

The check is being delivered to the Academia Sinica through the Government of China, and when receipt is received for its delivery you will be notified.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Conrad E. Snow".

Conrad E. Snow
Assistant Legal Adviser

Mr. Robert Oppenheimer,
Office of the Director,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

14 October 1953

Your reference: L/TE

Dear Mr. Snow:

Thank you for your note of October 12, and for transmitting the request of the Chinese Government of September 22, 1953 for the return of the sum of \$10,000 deposited with the Institute for Advanced Study in trust for Professor Herman Weyl.

We are enclosing a check made to the Academia Sinica for transmission through the Government of China.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Oppenheimer

Mr. Conrad E. Snow
Assistant Legal Adviser
Department of State
Washington 25, D. C.

enclosure: Check No. 3881
in the amount of \$10,000.

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



In reply refer to
L/FE

October 12 1953

My dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

Reference is made to the Department's letter of December 21, 1950 and other correspondence relating to the \$10,000 advanced by the Academia Sinica to Professor Hermann Weyl which, not having been used by Professor Weyl, was placed in trust with the Institute for Advanced Study. In your letter of January 17, 1952 to Mr. T. L. Tsui, Counselor of the Chinese Embassy, you suggested that the Government of the Republic of China transmit a formal request for the refund of the sum in question through the Department of State.

The Department of State has now received from the Chinese Embassy a note, dated September 22, 1953, concerning this claim. In accordance with the wish expressed therein, the Department transmits herewith a duly authenticated copy of the note.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Conrad E. Snow
Assistant Legal Adviser

Enclosure:

Copy of Chinese Note dated
September 22, 1953.

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer,
Office of the Director,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

United States of America



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

All to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Know all men that the document hereunto annexed is a true copy, with
exception of the listed enclosures, of a note dated
October 22, 1953 to the Secretary of State from the Ambassador
of the People's Republic of China, the original of which is in the files of the Department

In testimony whereof, I, JOHN FOSTER DULLES,

Secretary of State, have hereunto caused the seal of the Department of State to be affixed and my name subscribed by the Authentication Officer of the said Department, at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, this eight
day of October, 1953.

John Foster Dulles
Secretary of State.

By Barbara Hartman
Authentication Officer, Department of State.



The Chinese Ambassador presents his compliments to the Secretary of State and has the honor to inform the Secretary that in 1946, the Academia Sinica, an agency of the Government of the Republic of China, had invited Professor Hermann Weyl of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University to lecture in China. A sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), U. S. currency, was advanced to Professor Weyl for his use as traveling expenses and remuneration for his lectures.

On account of the change of the situation on the mainland of China, Professor Weyl wrote to ask for the postponement of the trip, which was finally cancelled. The Academia Sinica had therefore asked for the return of the money but the Director of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University had written to say that such request should be made formally through the Department of State. There is enclosed for the information of the Department a copy each of the Embassy's letter to the

Institute

- 2 -

Institute and its reply thereto.

The Ambassador will appreciate it if the Secretary would be good enough to transmit this information to the appropriate authorities in order to enable the Institute for Advanced Study to return the said sum of money to the Government of the Republic of China.

Enclosed:

Copy each of letters
as mentioned above.

Chinese Embassy,

Washington, September 22, 1953.

TLT

13 October 1953

Memorandum to Miss Trinterud:

This will be your authorization to transfer the sum of \$10,000 you are now holding in trust for the Academia Sinica to President Chu Chia-hua of the Academia Sinica in Taipeh. These funds are to be transmitted to the Academia through the office of Mr. Conrad E. Snow, Assistant Legal Adviser, Department of State, Washington, who in turn will transmit the money to the Government of the Republic of China.

This action is taken in accordance with the request of the Government of the Republic of China through its Embassy in Washington dated September 22, 1953.

Robert Oppenheimer

cc: Professor Weyl

January 17, 1952

Dear Mr. Tsui:

Your good letter of December 26th came in my absence, and I regret this delay in answering it. It would be most helpful to me in responding to your request if you can transmit this request to me quite formally through the Department of State, attention of the Legal Adviser.

With every good wish,

Robert Oppenheimer

Mr. T. L. Tsui, Counselor
Chinese Embassy
Washington 8, D. C.

Copies to: Legal Adviser, Department of State
Office of the Science Adviser, Department of State
Attn: Dr. Joyce
Professor Hermann Weyl

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

January 2, 1952

Dear Mr. Tsui:

Your letter of December 26th has come to the attention of this office; and in the absence of our Director, I should like to acknowledge and thank you for it. Dr. Oppenheimer will return to the Institute about the 14th of January; and you may be sure that your letter will be held for his attention.

Sincerely yours,

Katherine Russell,
Secretary to the Direc

Mr. T. L. Tsui, Counselor
Chinese Embassy
Washington 8, D. C.

CHINESE EMBASSY
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

December 26, 1951

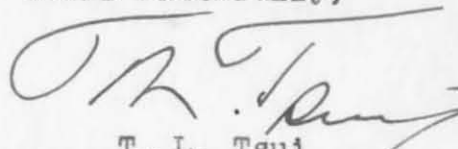
The Treasurer
The Institute for Advanced
Study
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

We are informed that Professor Hermann Weyl, of the University of Chicago, has referred to you the case of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), which was advanced by the Academia Sinica of the Republic of China for his trip to China. His trip was cancelled, so he is to return the money to the Academia Sinica.

As the Academia Sinica is a branch of the Government of the Republic of China which is recognized by the United States Government as the Government of China, we are instructed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to approach you with a view to effecting the refund of the above amount by Professor Weyl. We will therefore appreciate it if you will remit the money direct or through the Embassy.

Yours faithfully,



T. L. Tsui
Counselor of Embassy

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Copy: ✓ Director's Office

May 8, 1951

Professor Loo-Keng Hua
Academia Sinica
3 Wen Ching
Chieh, Peking, China

Dear Professor Hua:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, from Peking dated April 15, in which you inform me that you have been appointed Director of the Institute of Mathematics of the Academia Sinica and ask me whether I would agree to return to the Institute the advance amount of \$10,000 which I received from the Academia in 1947. This money has been deposited with the Treasurer of the Institute for Advanced Study in trust for the Academia Sinica. But I understand that any such transaction as you propose would be a criminal act under United States laws.

I have also been asked, and that was months ago, in a letter from Taipei by President Chu Chia-lua to return the money. It is not for me to settle the dispute, and I hope that you will understand that under the present circumstances I can do nothing else but ask the Treasurer of the Institute for Advanced Study to continue to hold the sum in trust for the Academia Sinica until the international situation is cleared.

This is my last year at the Institute and in a fortnight I shall move to Zürich, Switzerland (address: Bergstrasse 27). If there is further correspondence on the above matter will you please address it directly to the Treasurer of the Institute for Advanced Study.

With best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hermann Weyl

HWcdu

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Copy: ✓ Director's Office

May 8, 1951

Professor Y. R. Chao
Department of Oriental Languages
University of California
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Professor Chao:

I am very sorry indeed that you had to wait so long for a more definite reply than was contained in my letter of November 21, 1950, to the request to remit to you the \$10,000 advance which I received from the Academia Sinica in 1947. The directive from the State Department for which we hoped has not been forthcoming. But in the meantime I have been informed that a United States law, promulgated months ago, would make illegal such a transaction as President Chu Chia-hua proposes. Moreover, I recently received a letter from Peking written by the mathematician Loo-Keng Hua, whom I know well from his stay with us a couple of years ago, informing me that he has been appointed Director of the Institute of Mathematics of the Academia Sinica and he also requests me to return the money to the Academia Sinica on the mainland of China.

I think under these circumstances I can do nothing else but ask the Treasurer of our Institute for Advanced Study to hold the money in trust for the Academia Sinica until the laws and the international situation have settled the issue. If there is further correspondence on the above matter will you please address it directly to the Treasurer of the Institute for Advanced Study.

Very sincerely yours,

Hermann Weyl

HWcdn

Academia Sinica

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



December 28, 1950

Dear Mrs. Leary:

I have your letter of December 22 concerning a reply to Dr. Oppenheimer's inquiry of November 20 on the question of the disposition of funds now held in trust by the Institute for Advanced Study for the Academia Sinica.

From our files I note that Mr. Perkins, Deputy Director for Chinese Affairs, had replied in a letter dated December 21. You have probably received his letter by this time.

I trust that Mr. Perkin's comments are satisfactory. If this office can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to communicate with us.

Sincerely,

Walter M. Rudolph

Walter M. Rudolph
International Science
Policy Survey Group

Mrs. John D. Leary,
Aide to the Director,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



In reply refer to
L/FE

December 21, 1950

My dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

Your letter of November 20, 1950 to Dr. Spoehr has been referred to me for reply. You ask for the comments of the Department on the propriety of remission by the Institute for Advanced Study of \$10,000 to Professor Y. R. Chao in Berkeley, California, at the written request of Mr. Chu Chia-hua as President of the Academia Sinica in Taipei, Formosa, these funds having been held in trust for the Academia Sinica by the Institute since 1947.

This is a matter in which the Department is not in a position to advise you since any conflicting claims to the money would, of course, have to be adjudicated by the courts. In the recent case of Bank of China v. Wells Fargo Bank and Union Trust Company, 92 F. Supp. 920, a United States District Court in California held that a deposit in the defendant bank would not be turned over for the present either to the management of the Bank of China controlled by the Chinese Communist authorities or to the management controlled by the Chinese National Government.

It appears that your problem is one in regard to which you may well wish to consult a private attorney.

Sincerely yours,

Troy L. Perkins
Deputy Director for Chinese Affairs

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer,
Office of the Director,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

RO spoke to Prof. Weyl re this -

November 22, 1950

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

In the absence of Dr. Spoehr, I am acknowledging the receipt of your letter of November 20 requesting the comments and advice of the Department of State on the disposition of funds which the Institute of Advanced Study holds in trust for the Academia Sinica.

I have passed along your inquiry to Mr. Troy L. Perkins, Office of Chinese Affairs, with the request that he communicate with you directly. I am sure that Mr. Perkins will be helpful.

Please do not hesitate to call upon this office if it can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Walter M. Rudolph
International Science
Policy Survey Group

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer,
Office of the Director,
Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey

December 22, 1950

Dear Dr. Rudolph:

The question of the disposition of the funds now held in trust by the Institute for Advanced Study for the Academia Sinica was brought to Dr. Spoehr's attention by Dr. Oppenheimer in a letter of November 20th. We understood from your letter of November 22nd that the inquiry was referred to Mr. Troy L. Perkins. Do you know whether it will be possible to get any comments on this matter in the near future? I believe that Dr. Oppenheimer would feel, if he does not hear from the Department of State, that he cannot do anything but encourage Professor Weyl, for whom the funds were originally intended, to remit the money to the Taipeh branch of the Academia Sinica.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs. John D. Leary)
Aide to the Director

Dr. Walter M. Rudolph
International Science Policy
Survey Group
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

W Copy: Professor Weyl - I think Dr. Oppenheimer wishes to wait a while to see if we receive a reply.

EWL

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



November 22, 1950

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

In the absence of Dr. Spoehr, I am acknowledging the receipt of your letter of November 20 requesting the comments and advice of the Department of State on the disposition of funds which the Institute of Advanced Study holds in trust for the Academia Sinica.

I have passed along your inquiry to Mr. Troy L. Perkins, Office of Chinese Affairs, with the request that he communicate with you directly. I am sure that Mr. Perkins will be helpful.

Please do not hesitate to call upon this office if it can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Walter M. Rudolph

Walter M. Rudolph
International Science
Policy Survey Group

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer,
Office of the Director,
Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey

to d m
- 11 22 2
per 100
my G. Weyl
ed r Fairfield Acad,

B
/

November 20, 1950

Dear Dr. Spoehr:

You were kind enough to offer to obtain the comments and advice of the Department of State with regard to the proper disposition of funds which the Institute for Advanced Study holds in trust. These funds were remitted to the Institute in 1947. At that time the Academia Sinica had invited Professor Hermann Weyl of the Institute for Advanced Study to visit China and give a series of lectures at various universities. The funds were remitted to us in order to make Professor Weyl's trip possible. It turned out that Professor Weyl could not go to China at that time; but it was understood that he might make the trip later, and the Institute agreed to hold the funds in trust until such time as he had need of them. Professor Weyl has not gone to China, and has no present intention of going.

On August 31, 1950 a letter was addressed to Professor Weyl from Chu Chia-hua, signed as President of the Academia Sinica in Taipeh, Formosa. This letter states that it is now "unwise to give our cardinal invitation to you at present", and asks that the \$10,000 be remitted to Professor Y. R. Chao, 1059 Cragmont Avenue, Berkeley, California, Professor Chao is a research fellow of the Academia Sinica, and he is a professor at the University of California. Professor Weyl has been advised to comply with the request by Professor Chern, now at the University of Chicago, whom the Institute brought out of Nanking shortly before its fall last year. Professor Weyl had earlier been advised by Dr. L. K. Hua, writing from Urbana, Illinois, that only two of the fourteen sections of the Academia Sinica moved from the mainland of China to Formosa. One of these two is apparently the section on mathematics with which he is directly concerned.

The Institute would be grateful for any comments or advice that the Department can furnish as to the propriety of remitting the Academia Sinica's funds to Professor Chao. We are of course desirous of not being held accountable at some later date to the Academia which has remained in China and is presumably responsive to the communist government.

- 2 -

Acting without advice from the Department, I should encourage Professor Weyl to remit the money to Professor Chao and recognize the authority of the Taipeh branch of the Academia Sinica as responsive to the Chinese Government which we recognize.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Oppenheimer

Dr. H. A. Spoehr
Science Division
Department of State
Washington 25, D. C.

COPY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Chicago 37, Illinois

Department of Mathematics

November 17, 1950

Professor H. Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Professor Weyl:

I am very grateful for your letter of November 14 and the considerations you are going to give to the application of Wu Wen-Tsun.

As for the requests by Dr. Chu Chia-hua and Dr. Y.R. Chao on the remittance of the money of the Academia Sinica now at your disposal, I think they are legitimate so long as we recognize the Nationalist Government in Formosa. Perhaps the simplest thing for you to do is to comply with their request, although I have always wished that the money could be spent on Chinese mathematics. Dr. Chao is a very respectable and remarkable man. He was associated with the Academia Sinica before the war, but has been in this country for more than ten years. For long time he has handled funds for the Academia. He is one of the leading Chinese philologists and is now professor in the Department of Oriental Languages at Berkeley. He got his Ph.D. degree from Cornell in Logic (in the early 20th) and must therefore be acquainted with your work on logic and philosophy.

With best regards,

Ever yours,

(s) S.S. Chern

COPY

ACADEMIA SINICA

Taiwan China

115 Section 1,
East Ho-ping Road,
Taipeh, Formosa.

August 31, 1950.

Professor Hermann Weyl
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey
U.S.A.

Dear Professor Weyl:

After the late Prof. A. Pen-Tung Sah wrote to you in March 1947, we always hoped that the situation in China would soon be better so that we would have the honour to welcome you in Nanking. But things became quite opposite to what we had expected. Nanking was occupied by the communists last year and this institution had to leave Nanking for Taipeh temporarily. The Institute of Mathematics was removed to Taipeh just after Dr. Chern left Nanking for America. I think Dr. Chern had told you what we had happened.

It seems to us unwise to give our cardinal invitation to you at present. Now for the sake of urgent need of this institution, I wish to ask a favour of you to remit the money, which we remitted to you in 1947, to Prof. Y.R. Chao, a Research Fellow of this institution, whose address is as follows:

Prof. Y.R. Chao
1059 Cragmont Avenue
Berkeley 8,
California, U.S.A.

We hope peace in Far East will soon be restored and you will receive our hearty welcome in Nanking in near future.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

(s) Chu Chia-hua
President

COPY

Department of Oriental Languages
University of California
Berkeley 4, California
October 2, 1950

Professor Hermann Weyl
Department of Mathematics
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Professor Weyl:

I have received a letter from President Chu Chia-hua of Academia Sinica, dated Taipeh, September 15, 1950, stating that he regrets that your visit to China did not materialize owing to unsettled conditions and requested me to receive and hold for the Academia the refund of the \$10,000 advance which he is requesting you to remit to me. I am writing to him that I should be glad to take care of this fund, as I am handling other funds of the Academia, of which I am a member.

Allow me to take this opportunity to express my special regards to you, as I did my undergraduate work in mathematics and my graduate work in philosophy of science, although I am now a linguist. I have recently finished reading your Philosophy of Mathematics and Natural Science and derived much benefit from it.

Very sincerely yours,

(s) Y.R. Chao

COPY

1059 Cragmont Avenue
Berkeley 8, California

November 18, 1950

Professor Hermann Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.

Dear Professor Weyl:

Enclosed please find copy of letter I wrote to you on October 2. I have since learned that you were in Princeton and so am not sure that my previous letter reached you.

Hoping to hear from you in the near future, I am

Very sincerely yours,

(s) Y.R. Chao

COPY

December 23, 1949

Department of Mathematics
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Professor Weyl:

At the moment I decide to go back to China, I have to express my deep appreciation of your kindness which you extended to me, when I am in U.S.A.

The most regrettable thing is that the Chinese mathematicians did not have the luck to get your wide inspiration. But I dare to say that the Chinese communists welcome you as well as the nationalists, since according to our tradition, we always respect scholars.

Perhaps you knew already that the math. Institute of Chinese Academy was moved to Formosa by Chiary and Chern. With the institute of history which was headed by a "war criminal", these are the only two among the 16 institutes of Chinese Academy which moved to Formosa. If we can get the consent of communist government, we shall start all over again. Any help will be appreciated by Chinese mathematicians.

I got letters from Tuan and Ming very often, they all asked me to give their regards to you.

With all my best wishes,

Yours respectfully,

(s) L.K. Hua

P.S. Regards to Professors Siegel and Selberg.

L.K.H.

COPY

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

Office of the Treasurer
125 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y.

April 11, 1947

Professor Hermann Weyl
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Professor Weyl:

Sincere apologies for this somewhat tardy reply to your letter of March 28, 1947 regarding the \$10,000 advanced by the Academia Sinica.

Mr. Maass and I both approve the depositing of this money in the Institute's accounts, which sum will be held strictly "in trust" for whatever purposes or use the Academy may direct for its withdrawal and we will cheerfully act as custodian of this sum until such time as its disposition will be authorized.

We have accordingly requested Miss Miller to forward the check of \$10,000 which she is holding, so that we may deposit same at once.

Yours sincerely,

(s) S.D. Leidesdorf
Treasurer

Records of the Office of the Director / Faculty Files / Box 37 / Weyl, Hermann Acad Sinica
From the Shelby White and Leon Levy Archives Center, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton

Chern told Weyl that the Academia Sinica branch in Formosa might ask Weyl to spend a portion of the \$10,000 (attached letters) to defray the travel expenses of Chinese students coming to the U. S. from Formosa. Weyl told Chern he would probably consent to do this if it came up.

This is just for information.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

March 28, 1947

Samuel D. Leidesdorf, Esq.
125 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

As you may remember, I was invited to spend the next academic year in China lecturing on mathematics in various universities. It now seems that for reasons connected with my wife's health and because of unsettled conditions in China it would not be wise to accept this invitation though the Board of Trustees of the Institute very kindly granted me leave of absence to do so. Meanwhile the Academia Sinica before they received my reply, forwarded to me a remittance of \$10,000 (American dollars) in payment of our expenses to China. I should be grateful if you as Treasurer of the Institute would be willing to take charge of this sum of money, holding it subject to my instructions. If by any chance I should go to China, I should, of course, want to use it for expenses. If I do not go, it is just possible that I may suggest to the Academia Sinica that they allow me to use this money in payment of the expenses of Chinese scholars in the United States. If neither of these uses should prove feasible, I shall, of course, want to request you to return the money to the Academia Sinica.

I should be very grateful if you would be willing to take charge of the sum. I hesitate to place it in my own bank account for the reason that in the remote possibility of something happening to me, it might be difficult to see that this money was used in the proper way or disposed of in accordance with the wishes of the Academia Sinica.

Dr. Aydelotte ventured to say that he was quite sure that you would be willing to act as custodian of the fund. I have meanwhile deposited the check with Miss Miller and if you are willing to take charge of it I shall ask her to dispose of it in any way you suggest, either depositing it in the bank in Princeton or forwarding it to you for deposit in the bank in New York.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Hermann Weyl

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

March 27, 1947

Dr. Chu Chia-Hua
President of the Academia Sinica
Nanking, China

My dear Dr. Chu:

Professor Hermann Weyl reports that he has just received a remittance of \$10,000 from the Academia Sinica for his use in case he is able to accept their invitation to give some lectures on mathematics in China. Mrs. Weyl has been very ill and it is not at all certain that Professor Weyl will be able to go. In view of this uncertainty, Professor Weyl has turned over this \$10,000 to the Institute for Advanced Study to be held subject to his instructions. I wish herewith to send you a formal acknowledgment of the receipt of this amount of money. We shall hold it subject to Professor Weyl's instructions, either for his own expenses for a trip to China or for any other purpose which the Academia Sinica may designate. If Professor Weyl is unable to go to China and if no suitable proposal for the expenditure of these funds presents itself, we shall, of course, be glad to return the money to any source which you may designate.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

/s/ Frank Aydelotte
Director

For Dr. Aydelotte
Miss Miller

Translation of a paragraph of German letter of March 26/47 from H.Weyl to
Dr. Chu Chia-Hua
President of the Academia Sinica
Minister of Education
Nanking, China

Day before yesterday I notified you by cable of the receipt of
the funds sent me through the Chinese Embassy in Paris. I have deposited
this sum with the Treasurer of our Institute. So it will remain available
to the Academia Sinica in case I can make no use of it. You will receive
a communication about it from our Director, Dr. Aydelotte.

B.G.M. has copy —

March 28, 1947

Samuel D. Leidesdorf, Esq.
125 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

As you may remember, I was invited to spend the next academic year in China lecturing on mathematics in various universities. It now seems that for reasons connected with my wife's health and because of unsettled conditions in China it would not be wise to accept this invitation though the Board of Trustees of the Institute very kindly granted me leave of absence to do so. Meanwhile the Academia Sinica before they received my reply, forwarded to me a remittance of \$10,000 (American dollars) in payment of our expenses to China. I should be grateful if you as Treasurer of the Institute would be willing to take charge of this sum of money, holding it subject to my instructions. If by any chance I should go to China, I should, of course, want to use it for expenses. If I do not go, it is just possible that I may suggest to the Academia Sinica that they allow me to use this money in payment of the expenses of Chinese scholars in the United States. If neither of these uses should prove feasible, I shall, of course, want to request you to return the money to the Academia Sinica.

I should be very grateful if you would be willing to take charge of the sum. I hesitate to place it in my own bank account for the reason that in the remote possibility of something happening to me, it might be difficult to see that this money was used in the proper way or disposed of in accordance with the wishes of the Academia Sinica.

Dr. Aydelotte ventured to say that he was quite sure that you would be willing to act as custodian of the fund. I have meanwhile deposited the check with Miss Miller and if you are willing to take charge of it I shall ask her to dispose of it in any way you suggest, either depositing it in the bank in Princeton or forwarding it to you for deposit in the bank in New York.

Yours sincerely,

Hermann Weyl

Copy To Miss Miller

March 27, 1947

Dr. Chu Chia-Hua
President of the Academia Sinica
Nanking, China

My dear Dr. Chu:

Professor Hermann Weyl reports that he has just received a remittance of \$10,000 from the Academia Sinica for his use in case he is able to accept their invitation to give some lectures on mathematics in China. Mrs. Weyl has been very ill and it is not at all certain that Professor Weyl will be able to go. In view of this uncertainty, Professor Weyl has turned over this \$10,000 to the Institute for Advanced Study to be held subject to his instructions. I wish herewith to send you a formal acknowledgment of the receipt of this amount of money. We shall hold it subject to Professor Weyl's instructions, either for his own expenses for a trip to China or for any other purpose which the Academia Sinica may designate. If Professor Weyl is unable to go to China and if no suitable proposal for the expenditure of these funds presents itself, we shall, of course, be glad to return the money to any source which you may designate.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte
Director

Copy to Miss Miller
Prof. Weyl

Re; \$10,000 sent to Prof. Weyl

Letter goes to

His Excellency Dr. Chu Chia-Hua

Minister of Education

Nanking, China

PROFESSOR WEYL ASKS THAT THE LETTER BE GIVEN TO HIM SO THAT HE
CAN ALSO HAVE SOME CHINESE WRITTEN TO GO WITH IT.

BAM 3/26/47

JANE: I MAY NEED TWO COPIES OF ALL OF THIS
CORRESPONDENCE.

Bam —

H

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

February 12, 1947

Dear Frank:

This is to notify you that I have declined the invitation to China for the year 1947-48. That automatically cancels my application for leave of absence for that year.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you and the Trustees for the generous terms on which they were willing to grant me leave of absence for my visit to China.

Sincerely yours,

Hermann Weyl

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Institute for Advanced Study
HW:GB

Hermann Weyl

November 5, 1946

Professor Hermann Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Hermann:

As I said to you informally, the Board of Trustees of the Institute at their meeting on October 18th approved my recommendation that you should be granted leave of absence to go to China next year if it turns out that you wish to do so. The Board has proposed that you be given a year's leave of absence with full salary, with the understanding that you return to the Institute any remuneration you may receive from the Chinese Government minus your transportation expenses. We all of us hate the idea of having you away for a year but realize that your presence in China would do a great deal to spread the influence of the Institute.

Warmest congratulations on your election to all these learned societies. I hope you will give me the details.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jsr

Copy to Miss Miller

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

OCTOBER 18, 1946

A regular meeting of the Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study was held in Fuld Hall, Princeton, New Jersey on Friday, October 18, 1946 at 12:30 P. M.

PRESENT: Messrs. Aydelotte, Bamberger, Fulton, Leidesdorf, Maass, Schaap, Strauss, Veblen and Weed.

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Messrs. Douglas, Lehman, Lewis, Mee, Rosenwald and Wolman.

The minutes of the annual meeting of the Members of the Corporation and of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held May 23, 1946 having been distributed, their reading was dispensed with and the minutes were approved with the following corrections: On page 1, lines 19 and 21 and on page 2, line 2 of the minutes of the annual meeting read "Herbert H." for "Judge." On page 7, line 3 of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, read "salary" for "stipend."

On motion of Dr. Fulton, seconded by Mr. Strauss and unanimously carried, the actions of the Executive Committee as recorded in the minutes of the meeting of August 21, 1946 were approved. There was no further report from the Executive Committee.

The Treasurer, Mr. Leidesdorf, informed the Trustees that the audit of accounts for the next academic year would be mailed in a few weeks' time.

- 2 -

Professor Veblen presented the following brief report for the Committee on Buildings and Grounds:

The Trustees will have read in the minutes of the Executive Committee for August 21, 1946 of the steps taken during the summer to purchase surplus Government housing at Mineville, New York, and to provide for its transportation and re-erection on Institute land. Since that time several carloads of houses have arrived in Princeton and one two-family house is nearing completion. It is hoped that the houses will be ready for occupancy by Christmas and that within ten days or so we will be able to provide for two families who have been able to find only the most temporary quarters.

The Institute has taken no action in connection with a gift of land to the State of New Jersey for the Princeton Battlefield Park. The State of New Jersey has appropriated \$100,000 towards this Park and will probably use nearly one half of this sum to acquire the Hale property which is the section of land of greatest historical significance since it contains the original house in which General Mercer died. The residents of the area originally designated for the Park, whose homes and properties are vitally affected, have exerted considerable pressure on the State to reduce the size of the Park. This the State has done. In this connection, it was noted that R. C. Maxwell expects to contribute five-eighths of an acre to the area of the Park. The formal dedication of the Park will take place on Sunday afternoon, October 20, 1946, and any Trustees who find it convenient to do so are cordially invited to

attend. It has been impressed upon the speakers that it would be advisable to make no mention of any possible gift of land from the Institute for Advanced Study on this occasion.

Mr. Maass read a letter of October 13, 1946 from Mr. Henry Allen Moe submitting his resignation as Trustee of the Institute. After brief discussion, members of the Board agreed that no course remained other than to accept Mr. Moe's resignation and it was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that a letter be written to Mr. Moe thanking him for his services to the Institute during the period of his Trusteeship, and expressing the sincere regret which the Board feels in accepting his resignation.

With the agreement of the Board, Mr. Maass appointed Lewis L. Strauss to the Chairmanship of the Selection Committee to recommend a successor to the Director, thus filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Moe. The other members of the Committee are: Messrs. Aydelotte, Douglas, Fulton, Leidesdorf, Maass and Schaap. As Chairman of this Committee, Mr. Strauss expressed the desire that Dr. Weed be added to it. The matter was referred to Mr. Strauss with power and was left for discussion between the individuals concerned.

The Director read to the Board a letter from Professor Hermann Weyl, dated October 15, 1946, requesting leave of absence in order to accept the invitation of the Academia Sinica to spend the academic year 1947-1948 assisting the Academy in opening the newly created Institute of Mathematics. Professor Weyl received this invitation from the Academy and the Ministry of Education

*Cancelled
2/47*

- 4 -

of the Chinese National Government at the instance of Professor Shiing-Shen Chern, a leading Chinese mathematician who recently spent two years at the Institute. This proposed visit of Professor Weyl's to China will do much to establish close and friendly relations with the United States and to lay foundations for future research in higher mathematics in China.

After discussion in which the gap which Professor Weyl's absence from the Institute would create was clearly recognized, it was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that Professor Weyl be granted a year's leave of absence with full salary, plus transportation expenses, less any remuneration which he may receive from the Chinese Government, in order to accept the invitation of the Academia Sinica for the academic year 1947-1948.

The Director presented the request of Professor Robert B. Warren for leave of absence from October 15, 1946 until December 31, 1946 to assist Dr. Edwin G. Nourse, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers to the President, in organizing and starting his bureau. This request has the approval of Professors Stewart and Riefler and the duties of the assignment are closely related to the investigations in money and banking in which Professor Warren is now engaged at the Institute.

After brief discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried that Professor Warren be granted leave of absence from October 15, 1946 to December 31, 1946 on full salary with the understanding that he accept any remuneration offered him by the

- 5 -

Government for this position and that this sum, minus reimbursement for expenses, be credited against his salary from the Institute on a no loss, no gain principle.

Reporting for the Committee on Salaries, Mr. Schaap stated that the following arrangements, which were left to the Committee with power, had been agreed upon concerning Miss Bernetta A. Miller: From July 1, 1946 until the time of Miss Miller's retirement, June 30, 1949, the Institute will, in addition to paying her salary of \$3,000 per year plus 5% to the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association, make an additional payment to the TIAA on her account of \$1,000 per year.

Mr. Bamberger presented the following report on negotiations with the contractor concerning the price of the computer building:

"1. Negotiations with the Belli Company concerning the price of the computer building have been carried on in our behalf by the law firm of Edgar S. Smith and have now reached the stage where a form of contract satisfactory to the contractor has been reached. The contractor agrees to erect the building at a cost of about \$67,000 plus a fixed fee of about \$10,000. The cost is subject to the familiar escalator clause current in present day building contracts. This clause provides that any increases in cost authorized by the OPA shall be borne by the Institute provided these increases bring the total cost of the building above the \$67,000. If the contractor is able to complete the building for less than \$67,000 he will receive a bonus of 50% of the difference between the actual cost and the \$67,000.

"2. It is to be remembered that the Architect-Engineer's fee amounts to an additional \$7,000, bringing the cost of the building to about \$84,000. We anticipate that there will be an additional expense for such roads, walks, exterior grading, and landscaping as we may feel desirable. We feel, however, that it may be well to include this work in the John A. Johnson contract inasmuch as Johnson will have to do similar work on the new houses.

- 6 -

"3. We understand that the Belli Company has agreed to sign the attached contract subject to three minor modifications as soon as these modifications can be incorporated into the contract.

"4. Work on the building is proceeding very rapidly and we are anticipating only one possible delay in the completion of the structure. The heating contractor is having considerable difficulty in procuring a boiler and radiators. The Ordnance Department in Washington is, however, doing everything possible to secure a higher priority rating for these items from the Civilian Production Authority."

Mr. Bamberger pointed out that the Institute had not as yet signed a contract with the Belli Company for this building and expressed the belief that with a few minor changes the contract was now ready for formal execution. He added that the Institute had been able to secure funds from the Government which would in part offset the greatly increased cost of the computer building.

After discussion, the report on the computer building was accepted and it was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that the officers of the Board of Trustees be empowered to execute this contract.

Mr. Bamberger read a letter from Mr. Herbert H. Lehman, dated September 7, 1946, accepting membership on the Board of Trustees.

After adjournment for luncheon, the Trustees reconvened to hear the report of the Director. The Director's report which is added as an appendix to these minutes was fully discussed, was accepted as read and the following resolutions were adopted.

It was suggested that Dr. J. J. L. Duyvendak's report on the Gest Oriental Library be circulated to all members of the

Board of Trustees and that the matter be discussed in detail by the Executive Committee.

After discussion of various methods of determining the amount of a suitable contribution to Princeton Township, it was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that the Institute make a gift of \$1,000 to the Township in lieu of taxes for the fiscal year 1947.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the revised budget for 1946-1947 be held over for further consideration and action by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.

On motion, duly seconded and unanimously carried, the following resolution establishing the Mineville-Princeton Project Account in the Princeton Bank and Trust Company, for the use of John A. Johnson and Sons, Inc., contractors engaged by the Institute to erect the new housing, was adopted, and the Secretary was authorized to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Bank.

WHEREAS, THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY has purchased and acquired from the Government of the United States certain housing units located at Mineville, New York, under a contract duly executed therefor, and has made payment for such housing units; and

WHEREAS, it is desired and intended that the Institute shall have such houses disassembled where they are now located at Mineville, New York, and reassembled and reerected on property of the Institute at Princeton, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Institute has duly awarded a contract to John A. Johnson & Sons, Inc., of 270 - 41st Street, Brooklyn 32, New York, as contractor, so to disassemble said housing units and to reassemble and reconstruct the same on property of the Institute; and

- 8 -

WHEREAS, in accordance with the terms of said contract, a special deposit is to be maintained with the Princeton Bank & Trust Company in the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) out of which payments are to be made to said contractor as such work progresses, which payments are to be evidenced by checks drawn on such special account and duly signed by an authorized representative of the contractor and countersigned, in behalf of the Institute, by Julian H. Bigelow;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY create and establish a special account with the Princeton Bank & Trust Company to be known and described as the "Mineville-Princeton Project Account", in which said special account a deposit of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) shall be continuously maintained by the Institute until the completion of such project;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that checks drawn on said account, when duly signed by an authorized representative of the said John A. Johnson & Sons, Inc. and countersigned by Julian H. Bigelow, shall be duly paid;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that when such project has been completed and the contractor fully paid, any balance remaining in said account shall be released and paid over to the general account of THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY in the Princeton Bank & Trust Company.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned
on motion at 3:30 P. M.

EDGAR S. BAMBERGER
Secretary

APPENDIX I

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

October 18, 1946

We began in September what may be the busiest and most interesting year in the history of the Institute. The staff and members list which is being distributed will give Trustees an idea of the breadth and quality of the group which we have assembled. In addition, the Princeton Bicentennial celebrations have brought us a great many visitors, one of whom, Niels Bohr, remained long enough to do some serious work. Aside from Bohr we have had the pleasure of entertaining Lord Lindsay, the Master of Balliol, Harold Laski of the London School of Economics, Linus Pauling of the California Institute of Technology, the next Eastman Professor, Madariaga, Niebuhr, Courant, Perry and many others, including forty eminent scientists brought to the United States by the National Academy of Sciences and the American Philosophical Society with funds supplied by the Rockefeller Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation. We are to entertain in November the American Statistical Society and the American Mathematical Society at the time of their joint meeting in Princeton.

These visitors are of great value to us. They come quietly to Fuld Hall after their meetings at the Graduate College are over, confer with professors and members of the Institute, learn what lines of research are being proposed here at present, and thus acquire the information they need to suggest younger scholars for membership in future years. This is the only kind of publicity that has any real value for the Institute. Newspaper

- 2 -

articles are for us of practically no value at all. What we need is that our aims and methods should be understood by leaders of scholarship in the fields which we touch. The best possible way for any scholar to learn what we are doing is to pay us a visit and we are receiving this year visitors of eminence in larger numbers than ever before in our history. The result will be to clarify and solidify the place of the Institute in the world of scholarship.

The advent of larger numbers this year has not been without its embarrassments. I have repeatedly called to the attention of the Trustees the difficulties of the housing situation in Princeton and the fact that while we have added to this congestion, we have so far done nothing to relieve it. I attacked this problem in 1941 as soon as I had been here long enough to understand the situation, but the outbreak of war put a stop to all building operations and the wartime reduction in our membership made the need less pressing. Now, thanks to prompt and courageous action of the Executive Committee during the summer, we are on the way to independence as far as concerns the problem of housing our members. The Trustees have received the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee and will know the main outlines of the story. As early as last February, I learned that the Federal Public Housing Authority might have some surplus Government housing which could be made available to educational institutions. I applied at once but it was only in June that I received notification of the houses at Mineville, New York, on the edge of the Adirondacks.

I sent an engineer, Mr. Bigelow, of the computer project, to Mineville the same day. He found representatives of two other universities on the spot eager to secure the houses available. Thanks to the enterprise of Mr. Bigelow, we were able to buy eleven buildings, containing thirty-eight apartments of two and three bedrooms each. These apartments are substantially built, they have hardwood floors, are insulated with rock wool against the Adirondack winters, are fitted with storm windows, fly screens, clothes lines and garbage pails. The only things which the houses lack are electric refrigerators. With the cooperation of Mr. Rosenwald, the Institute has been so fortunate as to have been able to secure during the summer thirty-eight electric refrigerators from the Sears Roebuck Company and these are now stored in Princeton ready to be installed. The houses are brand new and have never been lived in because men could not be found for the project for which they were designed. They are modest buildings, and while we do not know as yet what they will cost us, we have reason to hope that they can be amortized in from ten to fifteen years and their use will provide us with valuable experience as to exactly the type of housing best suited for our needs.

Since the houses are being transferred from Mineville, New York to the Institute on a cost-plus basis, it is impossible to say at this moment just what their cost will be. The contractor's estimate is about \$4,000 for each apartment. I am, myself, inclined to think that the figure will be in the neighborhood of \$5,000 per unit. They would be cheap at that price and they are so important

- 4 -

to the conduct of the work of the Institute that we have no choice but to take the risk of the price going even higher.

The rentals to be charged and the rate of amortization will have to be fixed when we know the cost. My first hope had been that we could rent the apartments for 17% of their cost, allowing 4% for interest, 10% for amortization and 3% for taxes, insurance, repairs, care of grounds and administration. At this rate we could amortize the apartments in less than ten years. We could cut the combined figure for interest and amortization from 14% to 9% and amortize them in fifteen years. Probably this will reflect more accurately our actual experience.

My first idea of housing for Institute members had been something in the nature of an All Souls quadrangle or the great Wolsey quadrangle of Christ Church. Various architects have suggested instead groups of small houses of the type which look so charming in Williamsburg. Between these two conceptions it is not easy to decide but by the time we have operated our new apartments for a few years we shall know and will be in a position to plan wisely for the future.

With the cooperation of the Rockefeller Foundation, the Institute has been so fortunate as to secure the services of Professor J. J. L. Duyvendak of Leyden during the last few months to make a study of the resources of the Gest Library, the situation of Chinese studies in the United States and the opportunity of the Institute in this field. I have from Professor Duyvendak a very full report in the course of which he makes a strong argument for the cultivation of Chinese studies at the Institute. Dr. Duyvendak

is deeply impressed with the resources of the Gest Library and it is his opinion that this Library could be made useful for scholars at a very much more modest expense than I had anticipated. I shall send to the Board of Trustees copies of Dr. Duyvendak's report and hope the whole matter will be referred to the Executive Committee for study and recommendation.

I am not prepared to ask for a decision today but I should like to present for the consideration of the Trustees a few observations in regard to the financial questions involved. The Institute has an endowment which varies between \$16,000,000 and \$19,000,000 according to the condition of the stock market at any given moment. Our income from endowment is, roughly speaking, \$500,000 a year. The Rockefeller Institute, which is confined to the single subject of medicine, has an endowment of approximately fifty million dollars. It is clear to me that the Institute for Advanced Study which must divide its resources between mathematics, economics and politics and humanistic studies, must be extremely conservative in making plans for expansion. I believe, on the other hand, that the scholarly and political importance of Chinese studies is so great that it might be possible to find additional funds with which to carry on work in that field. I should like to have some time to explore these possibilities before bringing the whole subject to the Executive Committee and eventually to the Board of Trustees for decision. Meanwhile I should be very grateful for any advice which any members of the Board of Trustees may have to give me on this subject.

- 6 -

It gives me great regret to report to the Trustees that Professor Wolfgang Pauli has decided to resign his position in the School of Mathematics and to remain at the Technische Hochschule in Zürich. When I saw the Paulis in Zürich in April I was afraid that they were moving towards this decision. I made no effort, however, to persuade Pauli to return to Princeton, thinking it better that a man of his quality should reach his own decision as to the place in which he could be most useful. Pauli has suggested that he would like to be made a permanent member of the Institute without salary and I may have a recommendation on that subject to present to the Board at a later meeting.

Professor Carl L. Siegel is likewise uneasy about the propriety of his remaining in Princeton. There are various personal considerations which influence Siegel's decision but at bottom the question is whether his conscience will allow him to enjoy one of the best professorships in the world here at a time when he might be needed and useful in Germany. So far as his contributions to the science of mathematics are concerned, I am convinced that they would be greater here than in Göttingen. On the other hand Siegel is a man as well as a scholar and he likewise must be allowed to decide his own destiny without over-persuasion from us. I am grateful for the fact that the Executive Committee has granted Siegel leave of absence for ninety days to return to Göttingen to give a course of lectures. So far he has been unable to secure from the American Government a passport which would allow him to travel in Germany. He has accordingly

taken passage to Denmark hoping that he may be allowed to go to Germany from there. Professor Siegel sailed on October 4th and his ninety day leave of absence with full salary will consequently extend to January 4, 1947. If he requests an extension of that leave on less generous terms, I shall make an appropriate recommendation to the Executive Committee. If Siegel finally decides to return to us he will greatly strengthen the faculty of mathematics but if he prefers to remain in Germany I think we must give him our blessing.

Meanwhile the Faculty of the School of Mathematics has been considering a long list of able young men who might be invited here in the place of Pauli and Siegel. I have no recommendations to make today but I shall probably have something prepared for the Executive Committee at its meeting in November. One suggestion which appeals very strongly to us in informal discussions so far is that a succession of eminent European scholars, such as Bohr, Dirac, Whitehead and Newman, might be invited to the Institute on a regular schedule as Visiting Professors to spend perhaps one term in each two years. If this arrangement were made definite so that the presence of these men could be announced in advance, it would be possible for young scholars who wish to work with them to make their plans accordingly. Such a plan as this, which has been in my mind ever since I became Director, would seem to me to extend the influence of the Institute in a most desirable way. I think it could be demonstrated that the same amount of money spent in this way would make a maximum contribution to American scholarship. The creation of the new category of permanent members seems

- 8 -

to me to offer in addition an opportunity for us to bring to the Institute young men who are not yet ready for professorships but who show promise that they will eventually reach that stature. I am inclined to believe that the word "Fellow" would be a better designation for such an appointment than "Permanent Member" but the difference is only one of words. What we need is some kind of status which does not involve a permanent appointment to the Faculty and which does not involve a full faculty salary. It would, nevertheless, enable us to recruit a group of promising young scholars, the best of whom would eventually qualify for faculty appointments.

I hope to have ready for the consideration of the Executive Committee in the near future a recommendation for the School of Humanistic Studies. Our Humanistic group when I came to the Institute was spread over the subjects of classical archaeology, the history of art, Persian archaeology and mediaeval paleography. I do not believe the resources of the Institute are equal to the adequate support of scholars in so many different fields. I believe, furthermore, that our policy should be to strengthen what is best and for this reason I am inclined to make my first recommendation in the field of classical archaeology. I have frequently said to the Board that I hope we might some time be able to extend our School of Humanistic Studies into the mediaeval and modern fields. Whether that is feasible with our present resources I do not know but it is a subject to which I am giving continual study and on which I am taking the advice of scholars inside and outside our faculty.

I am asking Professor Veblen, Chairman of the Committee on Buildings and Grounds, to make a detailed report on the request which we have received from Governor Edge to make a contribution to the Princeton Battlefield Park. The Trustees will probably have learned that residents of Princeton Township in the region of the proposed Park have strongly objected to the original plans which contemplated a park of a fairly large area. Residents of that neighborhood fear that a large park inadequately supervised might become a kind of picnic ground and a nuisance. They have made strong representations to Governor Edge that the park should be of limited area, that it should be adequately landscaped and supervised and that everything possible should be done to make it a dignified memorial to the Battle of Princeton, without attempting to include in the Park all the area which was covered by the actual battle. My recommendation to the Trustees is that we should take no action at this time in regard to our contribution to the Park. I believe, however, that we should eventually make a contribution and that this should take the form of a gift and not a sale of land to the State. The Trustees will have received invitations to the Dedication of the Park on Sunday, October 20th. I hope as many as find it possible to do so will attend.

In connection with the discussions of the new Institute houses and the possible contribution of the Institute of land to the Battlefield Park, certain friends of the Institute have put up to me the question as to whether we might be prepared to make a contribution to Princeton Township in lieu of taxes. Institute buildings, like Fuld Hall and the new houses for members, are free

- 10 -

of taxation although we do pay taxes on land not immediately surrounding these buildings. Our annual tax bill to the Township is between \$2,000 and \$2,500 per year. Princeton University makes a contribution to the Borough of approximately \$9,500 per year. Comparing the value of the tax exempt buildings owned by the University and by the Institute it would seem that \$1,000 a year from us to the Township would be generous in proportion. Any contribution made by Princeton University or the Institute to the Borough or Township is particularly useful because it does not have to be shared with the County and State as regular taxes are. I very much hope that the Trustees will consider this question seriously and refer the matter either to the Finance Committee or to the Executive Committee with power. The whole question is inevitably bound up with our status under the New Jersey law covering inheritance taxes and the Trustees may wish to await a decision on that matter before taking definite action. The Institute is entirely dependent on endowment. I think it only reasonable that we should expect bequests of larger or smaller amounts in the future from individuals who are interested in research. Certainly donors will be deterred from making such bequests if we are compelled to pay a 5% inheritance tax. The matter seems to me so important as to affect the entire future of the Institute. I am informed that we cannot expect definite action or a decision until after the next election and I mention the matter in this report only that the Trustees may know that it is being anxiously considered.

FRANK AYDELOTTE
Director

October 15, 1946

Dear Hermann:

The usual terms on which we have granted leave of absence to a member of the Faculty to accept a professorship abroad have been leave with half salary. That is what Professor Meritt received when he went to Oxford as Eastman Professor. Would that be satisfactory to you for your proposed visit to China?

Yours sincerely,

Professor Hermann Weyl
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

New friends

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

October 15, 1946

Dear Frank:

In July I received a letter from our good friend Professor Shiing-Shen Chern by which he invited me on behalf of the Academia Sinica (the Chinese National Academy) to spend the academic year 1947-1948 in China, if feasible one term in Peiping and one term in Nanking, and to help them start work at the newly created Institute of Mathematics of that Academy. I replied that I was disposed to accept on condition that I should obtain the necessary leave of absence and with certain reservations on account of the uncertainties of the political situation in China. Subsequent to this correspondence I recently received a cable from the President of the Academia Sinica, Chu-Chia Hua, with the official invitation from the Academy and the Ministry of Education of the Chinese National Government; the letter that was to follow and to specify the terms has not yet arrived.

Before I commit myself any further I should be grateful if you would ask our Trustees at their next meeting under what terms they are prepared to grant me leave of absence to go to China for the academic year 1947-48. I hope the door will be left open for my withdrawal should the political situation in China become too menacing.

To help in establishing close and friendly relations between this country and China, and more particularly between the new Chinese research Institute of Mathematics and our School of Mathematics, appears to me a task of some significance. Were this not so, I should not easily be persuaded to interrupt my quiet life and work in Princeton.

Sincerely yours,

Hermann Weyl

Hermann Weyl

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
HW:GB

*full sdors
- chinese sdors
+ transp white*