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DR. A. B. BROOKHUYSE FORTUYN,
PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY
PEKING UNION MEDICAL COLLEGE

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11/5/38

Amsterdam, August 8, 1938

c/o Mr L. Th. Jorissen

Oranje Nassaulaan 52
Amsterdam.
Holland

Dear D Fisher

Your highly appreciated letter dated May 26 has been forwarded to me in Holland where I just arrived for a year of furlough. It has been really most kind of you to think of me in circumstances which indeed in Peking are far from pleasant and it is of great value to me to know, that if things in Peking collapse altogether, there would be other possibilities to continue to work.

So far the research work in the Peking Union Medical College has not been interfered with by the Japanese, although otherwise our work is often very difficult. The Rockefeller Foundation continues to support us strongly ^{6/10/38} not only by regularly paying our salaries (of course) ^{6/10/38} but also by urging us to continue and to see the College through these hard times. The consequences of this and

also of my sympathy with the Chinese is that I feel loyal to the College and that I am not exactly looking for another position. But there are many factors beyond the power of the Rock. T. which may cause a complete collapse of the work in Peking and in such a case an offer from you would be very welcome.

The year 1938-39 is a year of furlough for me which I intend to spend in Holland for the greater part of the time. Already for a long time I planned to ask your permission to visit you but I did not write from Peking because it takes such a long time to receive answer and because the mail is somewhat uncertain. After your letter I feel still more encouraged to visit you, not only to discuss things in general, but also with two definite problems in mind. The first one is in connection with a certain phenomenon which I observed in my experiments and for which I cannot find an explanation. I gave a lecture on the subject in

July in the Department of Genetics in Cold Spring Harbor with the result that I feel that I need your advice more than ever. The other problem is the possibility of collecting material on human inheritance by obtaining copies of certain reference cards which, I understand, are on file in your laboratory. The month of October would be very suitable to me to visit you, for some days if I can do no actual work or for a rather indefinite time if I could make use of your archives. However I stay in Holland till May and so there would be many other periods during which I could come.

It may save time if I state my problems in detail before I come but it will not do so before having had your reply. As yet I have no home in Amsterdam, but the address given above will always reach me.

Thanking you very much for your kindness and moral support which is of great value to me

sincerely yours

A.B. Droszlauer Fortkamp