Nanking
Corres.
Rice, Edward L. 1925

Edward L. Rice
1925

EXCERPT FROM WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA RE EDWARD LORANUS RICE.

Zoologist; b. Middletown, Conn., March 18, 1871; s. William North (q.v.) and Elizabeth Wing (Crowell) R., A.B. Wesleyan U. Conn. 1892; U. of Berlin 1892-3 U. of Munich 1893-5. Ph.D. 1895; U. of Chicago summer, 1898; Columbia 1st semester 1906-7; Harvard University 2d semester 1916-17; m. Sarah Langdon Abbott of Rochester, N.H., March 20, 1901. Asst. in zoology Wesleyan U. 1896; prof. zoology Allegheny (Pa.) Coll. 1896-98; Ohio Wesleyan U. 1898- Inst. zoology, Lake Lab. (Ohio State U.) Sandusky, O., summers, 1905, 06, 08, 09, 12. Methodist. Fellow A.A.A.S.; mem. Am. Soc. Naturalists, Assn. Am. Anatomists Am. Soc. Zoologists, Am. Genetic Assn., Ohio Acad. Science (pres. 1906-7, sec. 1912 -). Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, Phi Nu Theta. Address, Delaware, Ohio.

CHINA MEDICAL BOARD

OF

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

61 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

TRANSFER

March
19
1925

My dear Mr. North:

Mr. Greene has just drawn my attention to the fact that Professor Edward L. Rice has an article in the March 6th issue of Science entitled "Darwin and Bryan - A study in Method". A foot note indicates that Professor Rice is Vice President and Chairman of the American Association for the Advancement of Science which would seem to give him high standing. We have had an acknowledgment of a letter to Dr. Lillie about Dr. Rice and are informed that Dr. Lillie will be away until about the first of April. We are trying to get some information about him from Professor Conklin of Princeton.

Very sincerely yours,

Margery K. Eggleston
Assistant Secretary

Mr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

MKE:DB

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OF
THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION
61 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

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Very sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

Mr. Eric W. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Nanking

TRANSFER

Chicago, Illinois
March 30, 1925

Mr. Roger S. Greene
China Medical Board
61 Broadway
New York City

My dear Mr. Greene:

I am very sorry to have been delayed in my reply to your letter of March 10 by absence from Chicago. I have known Dr. Edward L. Rice of Ohio Wesleyan University for a great many years but have seen relatively little of him for the past ten years or more. He is essentially a college teacher of a very good type and long experience and not at all concerned actively in research. I have no doubt that he would be well qualified to help in the organization of laboratories for instruction of collegiate type and I believe that he would be sympathetic with the missionary spirit of the University of Nanking. I doubt that I could make any better recommendation for this service.

Yours truly

F. R. LILLIE

FRL:A

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March 30, 1925

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61 Broadway
New York City

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FRL:A

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
DELAWARE, OHIO
JOHN W. HOFFMAN, PRESIDENT

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
EDWARD LORANUS RICE
ALLEN CLIFTON CONGER

March 31, 1925.

Dr. Eric M. North, Secretary,
China Union Universities,
New York City.

My dear Doctor North:-

I have been doing a lot of hard thinking since I received your letter of March 24. Have also had an opportunity to consult with Bishop Welch, who was with us for the week-end. I have reached no very definite conclusions, but am ready to make a preliminary report.

Your tentative proposition interests me very decidedly, but raises a lot of problems. Whether all are surmountable I am not sure, and cannot be without some further information.

The matter of leave of absence from the University can probably be arranged all right, on the regular half-pay arrangement, although I can have no definite word for a few days yet.

When would I need to start for Nanking? I have two engagements for the summer which I do not wish to break if it can be avoided. The first is at Auburn Theological Seminary, July 5 - 24; the other a teachers' institute in Ohio from Aug. 31 to Sept. 4. The latter would probably have to be cancelled. How about the former?

The family question is perhaps the most formidable. The idea of going out alone does not particularly attract me personally; and Bishop Welch says there is a decided objection on the mission field to married men without their wives. Charlotte is in her junior year; I think she would prefer to stay here and finish her college course with her class. It would be easy to arrange for her, but her expenses for the year would be materially increased as compared with living at home. That leaves Abbott to be accounted for. He is twelve. I wish you would give me your judgment as to Nanking as a home for a boy of that age. Are health conditions such as to make it reasonably safe to take him with us? We could probably make arrangements to leave him with relatives; but he is at an age when we dislike to be separated from him for a year. To leave him or to take him would again make an addition to our usual expenses.

The other formidable question is the financial one. My half salary would amount to $1800.00; I have an additional income of four hundred dollars, and should expect to be able to rent my house, but have no very definite estimate what I could get for it. On the other side of the account are taxes, insurance, and benevolent subscriptions, which would go right on with little change. I think, also, that the rent, at least, should be applied on the mortgage and note by means of which the house was bought. I have not, as

3-31-25

yet, attempted any definite estimate of the cost of leaving the children in this country; and the cost of life in Nanking you can estimate much better than I.

The work suggested looks attractive, although it would necessitate a good deal of change from my regular schedule. I am wondering what are the facilities for such research as mine in Nanking. My work has been on the embryology of the vertebrate skull. A reasonably good microtome is practically necessary, and a microprojection apparatus almost necessary. The minor equipment I could supply. If you have catalogs and circulars concerning the University, I wish you would send them to me.

I have attempted to show how the proposition has worked out in my mind thus far. I am certainly interested, although I am not sure that my going would be practicable, even in case you decide I am the man you want; and I recognize fully that your letter was a feeler and not an offer of the position. I wish to express my appreciation of your considering me in this connection, for I recognize that is is a very great honor.

I shall be grateful if you will give me as much as you can of the desired information and keep me informed as to developments at your end of the line; I will inform you of any further development or changes in my attitude. Have you any idea how soon the matter is likely to require a decision either on your part or on mine?

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am

Yours very sincerely,

Edward L. Price

Nanking

TRANSFER

University of Nanking

April 13th, 1925.

Prof. Edward L. Rice,
Ohio Wesleyan University,
Delaware, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Rice:

I should have answered your letter of March 31st earlier if it had not been necessary for me to submit to the University of Nanking, by cable, one or two alternatives. To my surprise their cabled reply gave me no conclusion on the alternatives, but asked me to await a letter which will not reach here for another three weeks. I am afraid that this indicates the unlikelihood of my being able to make you a definite proposition though I do not know the grounds of their suggestion of delay. It may, however, be possible that the matter will work out.

The financial questions which you ask we can take care of without difficulty.

I am not sure as to the microtome and microprojection apparatus, but will try to find out about them.

With reference to the matter of Abbott in Nanking, I presume that other things being equal Delaware would be better for him than Nanking, but I think likely from what those who have been in Nanking tell me, that he would get along there very comfortably, and might be able to continue some schooling.

As soon as I receive the letter from China I will know a little more definitely as to what I can say.

Cordially yours,

EMN
ELH

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
DELAWARE, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

EDWARD LORANUS RICE
ALLEN CLIFTON CONGER

JOHN W. HOFFMAN, PRESIDENT

April 18, 1925.

TRANSFER

Dr. Eric M. North,
China Union Universities Central Office,
New York City.

My dear Eric:-

Thanks for your recent note with its report of progress.

I am sorry for the necessary delay; but, as it is necessary, there is no use worrying about it. I shall, however, be glad if you will let me hear as soon as practicable after you hear from China. The later the decision, the more difficult it will be to make satisfactory provisions for my work here in case I should go to China. I have a very good man in mind as a possible supply, but do not know how long he can hold off from other propositions.

Charlotte is emphatic that she does not wish to go to China now, even if the rest of us go; she wants to finish up her college course with her class. I am not sure whether it would be wiser to take Abbott or to leave him behind; I rather incline to the former if it does not prove too expensive.

I am finding the whole problem a perplexing one. Another element of the perplexity, which I did not mention before, is the question of leaving my father. At eighty, you do not know what may happen. He will probably pull through the year all right. If he should die from a short illness, it would make little difference whether I were in this country or China. But there is the possibility of a break of such a character that, for his sake and that of the Crawfords, I should be very sorry to be out of reach. However, both Father and the Crawfords incline to advise me to go if the opportunity offers.

But there is no use in trying to settle things definitely until I know wherher I am wanted and just what the financial and other conditions will be. So I am looking forward to the next letter.

Yours very sincerely,

Edward L. Rice

NANKING UNIVERSITY

April 27, 1925.

Professor Edward L. Rice,
Ohio Wesleyan University,
Delaware, Ohio.

My dear Prof. Rice:-

I have your letter of April 18th to acknowledge and also to report that I have received the word from Nanking which I was expecting and that this indicates quite a change of plan with reference to the position. They are hoping now to secure a man who has been in China before for a period of four or five years, which puts another complexion on the situation.

If this plan goes through the opportunity which I had suggested to you would of course not exist. If it does not go through, I am somewhat uncertain as to what the next step will be, and will probably have to depend upon further advice from Nanking. How long this will take it is as yet impossible to state; so that it is only fair to you for us to say that we ought not to hold you to further consideration of the matter, unless we should take it up anew with you at a later time.

I very greatly appreciate your interest in the whole plan and regret the inevitable delays in working out such a proposition as this, so far from the center of activity.

Faithfully yours,

EMN
HBB

Secretary.

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
DELAWARE, OHIO
JOHN W. HOFFMAN, PRESIDENT

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
EDWARD LORANUS RICE
ALLEN CLIFTON CONGER

Nanking

May 2, 1925.

TRANSFER

Dr. Eric M. North,
China Union Universities,
Central Office,
New York City.

My dear Doctor North:-

Thanks for your letter concerning the developments in the Nanking proposition. In many ways I should have liked tremendously to go to China for next year; but there were a a lot of puzzling elements in the problem, and it is rather a relief to have you settle it rather than to have to take the responsibility myself.

If anything should open up later in that part of the world (i.e. beyond the Pacific, not necessarily in China) for which you consider me desirable, I should like to know of it. When I wrote "later" I had in mind something after next year; if this matter should reopen later for next year, it is very doubtful whether I could fairly ask for release here so late in the college year.

Yours very sincerely,

Edward L. Rice