

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
EUGENE

April 8, 1931.

Mrs. Gertrude Bass Warner,  
C/o the Bass Cottage,  
Hotel El Conquistadore,  
Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Mrs. Warner,

Dr. Mez has told me of your last letter to him; of your desire that the winner of the Warner Prize Essay contest should not spend the summer in Japan, of your fears for the security of an immature student while traveling alone in other parts of the Far East, and of your consideration of the possibility of sending the prize-winner to Geneva instead of the Orient.

I hope you will pardon my suggestions in this matter, but being a member of the prize committee I naturally am interested in your decision. I am writing to call to your attention the fact that it would be quite feasible to send a student to the Orient without having him spend his summer at the Kyoto school, and yet to have him properly guided and amongst congenial companions. There are several student tours of the Orient being conducted this summer by competent and responsible persons, such as Upton Close (Josef Washington Hall), and the Oregon student would find great profit from going to the famous places in Japan, Korea and China under expert guidance. I should add, while this letter is in no sense a sales letter, that I myself am planning to take a party of students, about fifteen, to the Far East during the summer, and that I sincerely believe that any Oregon student would find his horizons and knowledge greatly broadened were he to go along. There are several other similar tours also, of which I could inform you if you wished me to do so.

Please know that this letter is not in any sense an attempt to sell a ticket on my tour. I write because I truly believe that the winner of the contest should have the opportunity to visit the Far East, since the whole direction and apparent motivation of the contest has been centered around that portion of the globe.

The response to the essay contest was most gratifying. Twenty-eight papers, of which seven were from Orientals, were submitted. The leading papers are of a high quality. In my estimation the best essays are on the interplay of oriental and occidental architectural forms, the Communist Movement in China, China's Silver problem, and the part played by the Dutch in awakening Japan during the latter's period of seclusion. There are other good papers, but they are not up to the standards set by these. I have not yet had time to read the essays written by orientals, so can make no comment on them.





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I hope you will be able to return to Eugene soon and that Mrs. Noble and I shall have the opportunity of extending our acquaintance with you, which we had only begun before you had to leave.

I trust you will forgive me for intruding my opinions upon you.

Sincerely yours,

Harold J. Noble.

I hope you will be able to return to Eugene soon and that Mrs. Wolfe and I shall have the opportunity of extending our acquaintance with you, which we had only begun before you had to leave.

I trust you will forgive me for intruding my opinions upon you.

Sincerely yours,

Harold J. Wolfe.

