

26 Broadway
New York

December 31, 1924.

President Yoshinno Kozai,
Imperial University,
Tokyo, Japan.

My dear Sir:

I have learned with deep regret that the Library of the Imperial University of Tokyo and practically all of the eight hundred thousand volumes which it contained were destroyed by the great earthquake and fire of last year. The unparalleled catastrophe which afflicted Japan called forth the sympathy of the whole world, and the fortitude your nation has shown in the face of such devastation has caused general admiration.

In response to the request for aid in rebuilding the Library and restocking it with books, which has been made to me by Professor Takayanagi as the representative of the Imperial University, it will give me pleasure to contribute 4,000,000 Yen. This gift is made without condition. I shall appreciate it if you, together with the Chief Librarian, Professor M. Anesaki, and Dr. Takuma Dan will act as a Committee of three, with full power to disburse the fund. The distribution of the gift as between building and books I leave to the Committee. I am informed that the Government has already appropriated 1,300,000 Yen toward the new building, which it is estimated will cost 4,000,000 Yen. It would be my hope that with such other funds as may be available, my gift would not only make possible the completion of the building, but would also provide a considerable sum for the early purchase of books.

I quite realize that in time the Japanese people will themselves accomplish the complete restoration of their cities and institutions which have been destroyed. However, I shall regard it as a great privilege to be permitted to hasten the day when your University, which stands among the foremost institutions of learning in the world, will again be provided with adequate library facilities.

Very truly,

John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

ジョン D. ロックフェラー氏から古在総長宛に出された手紙（大正13年12月31日、前日届いた電文と同文のもの）

東京大学百年史

通

史

二