

Pomona Today
Summer 1980

Dear Editor:

Thank you for the nostalgic romp through 47-mania. Skeptics may dismiss 47 as just another prime number convenient for inane mathematical examples and musical dilettantes ("47 yard line, rah!"). However, my old textbook from Professor Bob Chambers' Astronomy I class confirms the universality of the number 47. Indeed, I am referring to the Great Sunspot Group of — yup, you guessed it! — April 7, 1947!

Guy M. Lohman '71

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to the college on becoming the receiver of the Seaver House (*Pomona Today*, Spring, 1980). I can well remember from my senior year (1957-58) that the Seaver Science Center, then still on the drawing boards, was strongly criticized in the pages of *Student Life* for its allegedly uninspired architecture. By now, of course, the center has more than proved its worth academically, quite apart from any considerations of aesthetics. However, the arrival on campus of the family home, as a distinguished monument of architectural history, suggests that the family has had an eye for style all along.

Lawrence N. Crumb '58

The following letter arrived as an emissary for its author, who was unable to attend Alumni Weekend except in spirit. — Ed.

My Dear Classmates,

Hearty greetings to you all. Sorry that I have not been able to make the trans-Pacific trip to attend our reunion, which excites me with vivid recollections about our friendships. Allow me to say that the only difficulty preventing me from attending this great occasion is my eye trouble.

Since our graduation at the end of May, 1920, I continued to study history in Chicago; Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Berlin. During the 1920's, 1930's and 1940's, I led an international scholarly life and participated in revolutionary work in China, Japan, the Soviet Union, India,

and the U.S.A. I was a professor at Beijing University, then served as director of the Institute of Social Sciences of the Academia Sinica, and later joined the editorial staff of an international quarterly, *Pacific Affairs*. I did research work at the School of International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, and the Department of Oriental Studies, University of Pennsylvania, and for a time I lectured at the Asia Institute in New York City.



After the Communist regime was established in Beijing, I returned to China through Europe. I served as one of the chief editors of the monthly, *China Reconstructs*, and as one of the directors of the Institute of International Studies. Then there was the so-called Cultural Revolution. Now I am a visiting professor at Beijing University, Consultant to the national Academy of Social Sciences, and chairman of the Society for Central Asian Studies.

I presume that you might ask me about my present understanding of the international situation. About this I can only deliver a hazy sketch. The world situation today appears so different and advanced, compared to 60 years ago. Economically, we have progressed with amazing speed. But regarding international relationships, my humble notion is that we are reliving the Munich affair once again. Personally I feel that we are now taking all possible steps to appease the monstrous military aggressors in the Middle East. In short, there are some lessons to be learned from the past to meet the present situation. It is my hope that we will have a peaceful atmosphere when we meet again to celebrate our sixty-fifth reunion of the Sokari tribe.

Warmest greetings to you all,

Chen Hanseng
alias Geoffrey C. Chen '20
38 Donghua Dajie
Beijing, China



March 29, 1980
38 Donghua Dajie
Beijing, China

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My Dear Classmates,

Heartly greetings to you all. Sorry that I have not been able to make the trans-Pacific trip to attend our reunion (which excites me with vivid recollections about our friendships.) Allow me to say that the only difficulty preventing me from attending this great occasion is my eye troubles: I suffer from two types of eye troubles: glaucoma and cataracts.

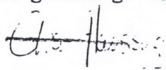
Since our graduation at the end of May, 1920, I continued to study history in Chicago, Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Berlin. During the 1920's, 1930's, and 1940's, I led an international scholarly life and participated in revolutionary work in China, Japan, the Soviet Union, India, and the U.S.A. (To my regret, I am too disabled to tell you in person about my experiences.)

(Presumably you would charge me with the duty of explaining what I have been doing as a student of history. Well,) I was a professor at Beijing University from 1924 to 1927, then served as director of the Institute of Social Sciences of the Academia Sinica, 1929-34, and later joined the editorial staff of an international quarterly, Pacific Affairs, from 1936 to 1939. I don't wish to tire you with this personal record, but you will be interested to know that from 1946 to late 1950 I did research work at the School of International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Department of Oriental Studies, University of Pennsylvania, and for a time I lectured at the Asia Institute in New York City.

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~~Warmest greetings to you all,~~


Chen Hanseng
alias Geoffrey C. Chen, '20

P.S. Since I left you, I have been known as Chen Hanseng [as appeared in International Who's Who as recently as 1973/74.]