

Quebec, May 14, 1946

Prof. Gleb Wataghin
Departamento de Fisica
Av. Brigadier Luiz Antonio, 784
S. Paulo
Brazil.

Dear Wataghin,

Many thanks for your letter and for the interest that you have taken in the matter of my invitation by the University of S. Paulo.

As soon as I had your letter I inquired about the means of transportation, and unfortunately it appears that there are difficulties in this respect. They told me that travel by steamship is quite unreliable, as no one ever knows in advance when a ship sails. So one must book a passage for an undeterminate date, and may have to wait even one or two months before a ship sails. I do not know whether they did not exaggerate the difficulties, but this is exactly what I was told.

On the other hand I inquired about air travel. This seems to be quite regular in schedule, but has the serious inconvenient that a trip from New York to S. Paulo and back costs no less than \$ 1000 (U. S.). The conclusion is, as you say, that the terms offered by the University are quite sufficient to cover the expenses of the trip by ship, but would leave me an additional expense of about \$500.

I understand perfectly well that the University of S. Paulo is already being very generous in allowing \$500 for transportation plus expenses in S. Paulo, but on the other hand I regret not being in a financial position to afford an extra expense of \$500 to cover the thip by airplane.

Under such conditions, I do not see how a solution can be reached. I may try to get some extra money here but that seems an unlikely probability, and in any case it cannot be done in a day or two. If I had more time available I would take the chance of the trip by boat, but since I have a definite engagement to be in St. Louis by September 1st, I cannot risk missing the return trip in time.

It is really too bad that thisedifficulties in transportation interfere with the carrying out of a plan that I would have liked very much. Maybe you can suggest something about finding a convenient ship. Of course the main trouble in this respect is about the return trip, as it is difficult to gnarantee now that there will be a ship to take me to the United States earlier than the end of August.

I have no engagements here now, and could leave immediately except for the difficulties in transportation.

Yours very sincerely



F. Rasetti

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