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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

AUG 18 1953

207 Shimorenjaku  
Mitaka, Tokyo  
Japan

13 AUG 18 1953

Messrs. Wittenborn & Co.  
38 East 57 St.  
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

Thank you so much for your kind letter of July 2;  
I have forwarded your letter to Maruzen Co. It  
is my regret that Mr. Tsukasa the President of  
Maruzen did not visit your office on his round-  
the-world trip.

If you want to write a letter to Maruzen Co.,  
it should be addressed to:

Mr. Tokuji Hatta  
Maruzen Company  
~~7-7-7~~ 6, 2-chome Tori  
Nihonbashi, Tokyo

When we have finished our writing manuscripts,  
probably at the end of this year, we will inform  
you about the detail of the book.

Sincerely yours,

*Tsutomu Ikuta*  
Tsutomu Ikuta

TAUT, HOUSE AND PEOPLE OF JAPAN.

FOR STUDY PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION.

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	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

Tsutomu Ikuta  
207 Shimorenjaku  
Mitaka, Tokyo, Japan



Messrs. Wittenborn & Co.  
38 East 57 Street  
New York 22, N.Y.  
U. S. A.

PAR AVION  
航空

この郵便物には何物も封入又は添附できません  
Nothing may be contained in or attached to this letter.

折込線

折込線

GW:lh  
airmail

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

July 2, 1953

Tsutomu Ikuta  
207 Shimorenjaku  
Mitaka, Tokyo  
Japan

Dear Mr. Ikuta:

Re: Your letter of February 28, 1953. Taut. HOUSE AND PEOPLE  
OF JAPAN.

Mr. H. H. Waechter writes us that Maruzen Publishing Co. will not publish a new edition of this book. Would you please tell this publisher to get in touch with us as soon as they can give us the price and other details of the Taut book, so that we can start our negotiations with Maruzen for taking over the American edition of this book.

Sincerely yours,

GW:lh  
airmail

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

JUN 15 1953

H. H. WAECHTER  
541 EAST 12TH AVENUE  
EUGENE, OREGON

June 9, 1953

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

As I hear from Mr. Ikuta, the Maruzen Publ.Co. has now formally agreed to publish Taut's "Houses and People" after Sanseido gave up. He emphasizes that Maruzen is doing this only reluctantly because of the architects' eagerness to have this excellent book on Japanese tradition published.

The retail price is scheduled to be 1,500 Yen (\$5.00), which is relatively low, and Mr. Ikuta supposes that you'll get it at wholesale price, whatever that is. The manuscript will be ready by the end of the year, and the book appear at the beginning of next year. All illustrations will be newly selected by Mr. T. Yoshida (old ones destroyed), but fewer of them to cut costs. Color plates will be the same.

I think that all this sounds very promising, and I am glad that this important step has been made.

Mr. Yoshida has heard nothing about an English translation of his new book.

Kindly send me:

UTOPIA LTD. by Harold Orlans (Yale)  
A Prospect of Cities by Cecil Stewart (Longmans, Green & Co.)  
Modern Town & Country Planning by James W.R. Adams (J & A. Churchill, Ltd.)

With kind regards,

H. H. Waechter

MAR 3 1953  
Morenjaku  
Tokyo

January 1953

January.

publication  
Japanese  
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the  
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Ikuta  
Ikuta

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

TAUT

207 Shimorenjaku  
Mitaka, Tokyo  
Japan

MAR 3 1953

28 February 1953

Messrs. Wittenborn, Schultz, Inc.  
38 East 57 Street  
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

Thank you so much for your kind letter of 6 February.

It will take at least one year to finish the publication of HOUSE AND PEOPLE OF JAPAN through a certain Japanese publisher: we have just began editing it. When we have gone through with our editorial business, I will inform you about the detail of the publication without fail.

I don't think that Taut's book and the English reprint of Yoshida's book would appear on the market at the same time: for it would be less favorable for us, too.

Sincerely yours,

*Tsutomu Ikuta*  
Tsutomu Ikuta

Waechte

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

March 16, 1953

Tsutomu Ikuta  
207 Shimorenjaku  
Mikaka, Tokyo  
JAPAN

Dear Mr. Ikuta:            Re: New Taut edition.

We have now definite proof that the English reprint of Yoshita's book will be ready during this fall. This means that the prospects of a new Taut edition are very much lessened. We urge you once more to consider publication of the Taut book at the earliest possible date. Please tell your publisher that we will be glad to hear from him, but we must know, at the same time, the cost price of the book and at what Japanese retail price the new Taut edition will be offered in Japan.

Sincerely yours,

GW:lh  
airmail

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	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

APR 10 1953

H. H. WALTHER, ARCHITECT AIA, 207 Shimorenjaku

341 E 12th Ave. Eugene, Oregon

Mitaka, Tokyo  
Japan

5 April 1953

Wittenborn & Co.  
Messrs. Wittenborn and Company  
38 East 57th Street  
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wittenborn;

I am in receipt of your letter of March 18.

Professor Yoshida is the co-editor of new Taut's book; and he is saying that he has heard nothing about the English reprint of his book written in German; in addition to it, I would suggest you that there are much distinction between Taut's book and Yoshida's book: each has its own characteristics.

The retail price is scheduled to be about \$5.00; we expect to finish our editorial preparation by the end of this year; it takes a lot of time to correct mistranslation and misprints in the original edition.

It is a happy coincidence that Mr. Tadashi Tsukasa, President of Maruzen Company, one of the biggest companies in Japan, is coming over to the States and is expected to visit your office. Maruzen Publishing Company wants to publish new Taut's book. I hope, you can talk over with him about the possibility of its distribution.

Sincerely yours,

*Tsutomu Ikuta*

Tsutomu Ikuta

It seems to me that this has brought us and that the time has arrived for you to get from the official verification of this new addition, asking for the conditions and other details. I repeat the address: Prof. Tsutomu Ikuta, 207 Shimorenjaku, Mitaka, Tokyo, Japan.

Kindly send me; Mumford, Roots of Contemporary Amer. Arch. and Modern History builds the town. 6-11-53

May I ask for your reaction to my proposals in my letter of Sept. 29th?

With best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,

*H. H. Walther*

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H H WAECHTER . ARCHITECT AIA . ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
541 E 12th Ave. Eugene, Oregon - Jan. 5, 1953

Wittenborn & Co.  
38 East 57th St.  
New York 22, N.Y.

*Redundant to Gels*  
*JAN 8 1953*

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

I am sure that you'll be pleased to hear the message I've just gotten from Mr. Ikuta.  
b.  
"Among the two ways mentioned in your letter (a. shortened American Edition, b. reprint in Japan), we would prefer the first way: we are going to publish the newly revised edition of HOUSES AND PEOPLE OF JAPAN, probably by the end of next year (1953); on our publication we would like to have Messrs. Wittenborn distribute 1,000 copies through the States. Unfortunately, papier-maché mould and original photos of the book were all burned by air raid bombs during the last war. We shall have to renew the photos and perhaps have to reduce the number of photos in our new book. However, anastatic printings of Taut's sketches will be reproduced in the new book, too."

I still feel that the corrections should be taken care of, and in a way that those changes would be recognizable as such, which seems to me the only ethical way. I shall write again to the publisher in this matter but should appreciate your support.

It seems to me that this has brought us a step further and that the time has arrived for you to get from Mr. Ikuta official verification of this new addition, asking for their conditions and other details. I repeat the address:  
Prof. Tsutomu Ikuta, 207 Shimorenjaku, Mitaka, Tokyo, Japan.

Kindly send me: Mumford, Roots of Contemporary Amer. Arch. and  
Korn, History builds the town. 6-11-D 7-11-60 9-11-60  
May I ask for your reaction to my proposals in my letter of Sept. 29th?

With best wishes for the new year,

cordially,

*H. Waechter*

*postponed (5-6-60) to friend*

*Order  
placed*

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

H H WAECHTER . ARCHITECT A I A . ~~BOX 1000 BOX 1000 BOX 1000~~  
541 E 12th Ave. Eugene, Oregon - March 19, 1953

MAR 23 1953

Wittenborn and Co.  
38 E 57th Street  
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

Thank you so much for your letter of Feb. 6th. I appreciate greatly your sending me the credit memo.

As soon as I had your letter I rushed to investigate the present condition in Tokyo.

Prof. Ikuta answered that there are hard times for Japanese publishers. People are too poor for buying many books. Also, no agreement has been concluded yet. He is mentioning a letter from you, so I presume that you are in negotiations. It is Mr. Ikuta's opinion that Sanseido Company will not be able to publish the Taut book within a year (I urged not later than fall). Prof. Yoshida will write a preface. I am convinced that the book will eventually be published, and if not immediately than later. By that time, I presume, the first interest in the translation of the Yoshida book will have petered out. In any event, the Yoshida book is no real competition because of its essentially different character. Yoshida in his books is restricting himself to professional and historical facts while the value of Taut's book lies in his interpretation and evaluation. As you know, Taut's interpretive power was so great that he was in a position to "discover" for the Japanese the tremendous importance of the Katsura Detached Palace.

I shall try, however, to push the matter further. Kindly keep me posted on any agreement you may reach with the publisher.

Please discontinue Arch. Review. - Could you send me samples of German arch. magazines for inspection?

Please send one copy of: D'Arcy Wentworth Thompson, ON GROWTH AND FORM (McMillan); G.D.H. Cole, THE BRITISH CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN A SOCIALIST SOCIETY (George Allen & Unwin Ltd. London); Baker Brownell, THE COLLEGE AND THE COMMUNITY.

Sincerely,

*H. Waechter*

*Answered  
to Mr. Taut  
8/2/53*

*sent  
mch  
3-21-53*

*2-27-53*

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*1003*

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

30 May 1952 - 541 12th Ave. Eugene, Oregon

Mr. George Wittenborn  
38 East 57th Street  
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of May 16th. I have sent air mail letters to: Mrs. Taut (in Berlin's eastern sector), the Sanseido Co., and to three friends in Tokyo. If the Sanseido Co. has all the rights, is co-operative and is forwarding permission at reasonable terms, you'll get quickly were you want to be. Otherwise, it may become a lengthy procedure.

I was happy to go as far as I did, and I appreciate very much the rare opportunity to assist with this worthwhile project. I should, however, appreciate to have your advice as to your conditions and remuneration.

To give me up to 16 pages for an introduction and editorial notes is very generous indeed, and I shall proceed very conscientiously to your full satisfaction. The offset procedure seems to me a fine idea, except that I cannot imagine how you will handle the colored plates; and can you duplicate cover and binding?

Please enclosed check for \$4.29.

Cordially,

*H. Wachtler*

Meiji restoration. I wonder whether the FUNDAMENTALS should not be somehow combined with the book in question. As I gathered from Mrs. Taut, some errors in detail crept in, and I would make it my business to trace them. Perhaps a little preface by Prof. Shinoda, who knew and admired Bruno much, could be added. Aside from the purely legal end of the copyright procedure, which you probably would have to handle, I will be glad to work for you to get the necessary cooperation. I will write immediately to Prof. Ikuta, who is one of the editors of Kokusai-Kentiku, to give me initial information on the Japanese publisher. Also, I owe Mrs. Taut a letter for some time and will ask for her reaction. I feel sure that she will gladly cooperate. She told me, that she has the rights on all Taut books which were published outside of Germany. Unfortunately, she lives now in the Russian sector of Berlin, and I don't know whether that will pose any problem. I will write immediately to my friend and former associate of Bruno, Franz Hillinger, who is now on his way to Turkey via Berlin and may see her. Well, if things should develop properly, as I hope they will, we should discuss many of the details personally at your office. It would be good to get hold of the German manuscript since the translation seems to me in spots awkward and in need of improvement.

This reminds me of another matter in which I should appreciate to have your advice. As you may remember, I worked hard to get something done with regard to Taut's last book, the ARCHITEKTURLEHRE, which he wrote for his Turkish students, not long before his death in 1939.

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## SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND ALLIED ARTS

university of oregon • eugene, oregon

3 May 1952

Mr. George Wittenborn, 38 E 57th St., N.Y.C.

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

Thank you very much for your shipment of April 21st and your letter of April 23rd. Please find enclosed check for \$ 28.44 as remittance.

I appreciate very much your listing of our book and your kind interest.

The news about your intention to reprint the English edition of Taut's book, HOUSES AND PEOPLE IN JAPAN, thrilled me, of course. It is most considerate of you to think of me as editor. I think that you could not find a more devoted and conscientious worker on such an important job. From my visit in Japan and my contact with Taut's Japanese friends I know how scholarly, imaginative in understanding a foreign culture, and artistic in presenting the material Taut's book really is. He devoted every minute, during the years he staid there, to live their life, to study every detail himself, and to discover many aspects involved through endless discussions with his native friends. I think it significant that Taut discovered for the Japanese the importance of Zen for the development of a modern architectural culture as demonstrated in his FUNDAMENTALS OF JAPANESE ARCHITECTURE. The Japanese architects were extremely thankful for this service rendered by Taut, and only recently, one of Taut's Japanese friends, who is a scholar of long standing, wrote to me that he considers Taut as one of the most important foreigners to have visited Japan since the Meji restauration. I wonder whether the FUNDAMENTALS should not be somehow combined with the book in question. As I gathered from Mrs. Taut, some errors in detail crept in, and I would make it my business to trace them. Perhaps a little preface by Prof. Shinoda, who knew and admired Bruno much, could be added. Aside from the purely legal end of the copyright procedure, which you probably would have to handle, I will be glad to work for you to get the necessary cooperation. I will write immediately to Prof. Ikuta, who is one of the editors of Kokusai-Kentiku, to give me initial information on the Japanese publisher. Also, I owe Mrs. Taut a letter for some time and will ask for her reaction. I feel sure that she will gladly cooperate. She told me, that she has the rights on all Taut books which were published outside of Germany. Unfortunately, she lives now in the Russian sector of Berlin, and I don't know whether that will pose any problem. I will write immediately to my friend and former associate of Bruno, Franz Hillinger, who is now on his way to Turkey via Berlin and may see her. Well, if things should develop properly, as I hope they will, we should discuss many of the details personally at your office. It would be good to get hold of the German manuscript since the translation seems to me in spots awkward and in need of improvement.

This reminds me of another matter in which I should appreciate to have your advice. As you may remember, I worked hard to get something done with regard to Taut's last book, the ARCHITEKTURLEHRE, which he wrote for his Turkish students, not long before his death in 1939.

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	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND ALLIED ARTS  
university of oregon • eugene, oregon

MAY 7 1952

-3-

Although I did not exhaust all the possibilities, it became clear that the publishers considered publication a poor risk, for various reasons. Particularly the cost involved in building up his name again was mentioned as a handicap. Since then it was my desire to find time for writing a small monograph on Taut as artist and architectural philosopher. The major and very important thoughts of the ARCHITEKTURLEHRE could be brought out, together and in comparison to his earlier thinking. This could be illustrated with a few and very well selected examples from his drawings for DIE STADTKRONE, DER WELTBAUMEISTER, DIE AUFLÖSUNG DER STÄDTE, ALPINE ARCHITEKTUR, and from his work as architect and city planner. As appendices, I would write a brief biography and would compile a complete listing of his publications and buildings.

It seems to me that such a small volume could help to fill a gap in the current presentations of the history of modern architecture, and so refresh the memory of such an outstanding pioneer. The commercial risk could be minimized in this way and, possibly, the interest in publishing the ARCHITEKTURLEHRE at a later date may result.

The desirable thing to happen would be to get a grant such as a Guggenheim fellowship in order to take care of the considerable scholarly effort needed, for which no publisher could pay.

I should appreciate it very much if you could give me your appraisal of my idea. Would you be interested in such a venture, and could you advise me in any way as to possibilities of getting such a scholarship grant?

I find trans/formation no.3 particularly good. Heisenberg's article is a real contribution. It shows so clearly that things, which seem to mystify people, can be seen scientifically by sheer power of creative imagination.

Cordially,

*H. Waechter*

H. Waechter

Kindly address answer to: 541 E 12th Ave. Eugene, Oregon

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

May 16, 1952

Mr. H. Waechter  
541 East 12th Avenue  
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Mr. Waechter:

Many thanks for your letter and remittance of May 3. Also many thanks for your remarks on the contents of "trans/formation" No. 3.

Regarding our proposed reprint of Taut, HOUSES AND PEOPLE IN JAPAN, we merely intended to make an unchanged offset reprint, using a clean copy of the first edition. This would mean that no major changes could be made, except for the addition of a signature in the front, middle or end of the book. Such a signature can be extended to 16 pages, and could of course embody some of your editorial suggestions.

Principally we are concerned with issuing this reprint as quickly as possible, in a limited edition and at a reasonable price. All the other points raised by you with regard to unpublished material would have to wait and be used possibly for a future publication, which as you have already indicated, needs time and the possibility of a financial grant. All this could be discussed verbally on your next visit to New York.

This for today, in great haste, but just to tell you we would very much appreciate it if you could make the necessary demarche and secure the reprint rights for HOUSES AND PEOPLE IN JAPAN.

Sordially,

George Wittenborn

CW:lg

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JUL 7 1952

# THE MURRAY PRINTING COMPANY

WAKEFIELD · MASSACHUSETTS

## Quotation

SUBMITTED JULY 2, 1952

TO WITTENBORN & SCHULTZ

Title: HOUSES AND PEOPLE OF JAPAN

No. Copies: 1,000

No. Pages: 344

Trim: 7-3/8x10-1/4 inches

Stock: Basis 60 we to furnish

Copy: Printed book. Corrections, if any, charged extra

Halftones: 469 to rescreen

Blueprints: None

Color Frontis and  
Tips: No bid

Delivery: Full size sheets on skids f.o.b. our plant

Price: Platemaking \$2057.  
Printing 461.  
Stock 476.  
Approx.trans.  
to N.Y.City 22.

THE MURRAY PRINTING COMPANY

*B. M. Beatty*

EMB:k

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	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

JUL 7 1952

# THE MURRAY PRINTING COMPANY

WAKEFIELD · MASSACHUSETTS

## Quotation

SUBMITTED JULY 2, 1952

TO WITTENBORN & SCHULTZ

Title: CHEVREUL ON COLOURS

No. Copies: 1,000

No. Pages: 264

Trim: 4x6-1/4 inches

Stock: Basis 60, we to furnish

Copy: Printed book all line ready for camera. Corrections, if any, charged extra.

Color Frontis: No bid

Halftones: None

Line Cuts: None

Blueprints: None

Chromatic Diagram: Special piece for foldout (included in odd 8) simple black line.

Delivery: Full size sheets on skids f.o.b. our plant

Price: Platemaking \$220.00  
Printing 116.00  
Stock 176.00  
Approx.trans. to N.Y.City 8.00

THE MURRAY PRINTING COMPANY

*B. M. Bealy*

EMB:k

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	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

6 February 1953

Mr. H. M. Waechter  
541 East 12th Avenue  
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Mr. Waechter:

Our sincere apologies for this late answer. It seems that another publisher here is now bent on publishing as soon as possible Yoshida, DAS JAPANISCHE WOHNHAUS, of which we understand an English translation is now ready carrying all the late revisions of the Yoshida book.

In other words, if the Japanese publisher of the Taut book could rush the English language edition through during this year, that would be most desirable. Have you heard anything in the meantime from Japan or Mrs. Taut. We are enclosing a credit memo of \$25.00 which we hope will be acceptable to you as remuneration for your help and advice in these matters.

This for today in great haste.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

enclosure  
gw:mfh

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

H H WAECHTER . ARCHITECT AIA . ~~BLACKSBURG VIRGINIA~~

541 E 12th Ave Eugene, Oregon July 1, 1952

JUL 3 1952

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND ALLIED ARTS  
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON . . . EUGENE, OREGON

SEP 15 1952

Sept. 9.

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

Enclosed find check for  
\$ 5.74.

I am disturbed that I  
didn't hear from you about  
the Taut publication, and  
am without answer to my  
detailed questions to you.

I hope that my extensive  
Correspondence with Japan and  
Germany in this matter, which  
caused much careful work,  
will bear fruit soon.

Sincerely,

H. Waechter

541 E 12th Ave. Eugene, Ore.

all looking forward  
royalties.

Taut that she is  
republished and is

needed? I am not  
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I should go ahead,  
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and editor, and you  
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it seems advisable

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Joewey, The Retarded

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H H WAECHTER . ARCHITECT AIA . ~~BLACKSBURG VIRGINIA~~

541 E 12th Ave Eugene, Oregon - July 1, 1952

JUL 3 1952

Mr. George Wittenborn  
38 East 57th Street  
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

Thank you for your card of June 12th. I'll looking forward with pleasure to your offer regarding royalties.

I have just had a letter from Mrs. Erika Taut that she is agreeable to having "Houses and People" republished and is ready to sign papers to that effect.

There is no word yet from Sanseido Co.

What formalities, in your opinion, are needed? I am not clear what rights the Sanseido people may have.

Please advise me by return mail whether I should go ahead, have prepared and sent to Mrs. Taut a power of attorney for her signature? It seems that such document would be superior to any other. I would act as your agent and editor, and you would be named as publisher and holder of copyright for any edition of litho reprints in this country. What royalties would be offered to Mrs. Taut? I feel that she would be agreeable to any reasonable figure.

In view of your own urgency, uncertain political conditions in Berlin, and Mrs. Taut's frail health, it seems advisable to act quickly.

Sincerely,

*H. H. Waechter*

P.S. Please send me one copy of: Herta Loewey, The Retarded Child, Philosophical Library, N.Y.

*ad  
7-3-52*

*7-19-52  
375 338  
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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

541 E 12th Ave.  
Eugene, Oregon  
28 July 1952

Mr. George Wittenborn:  
38 East 57th Street  
New York 22, N.Y.

JUL 31 1952

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

In addition to my letters of July 1st and 22nd, I hurry to relay to you this information, which I just received from Japan.

Prof. Tsutomu Ikuta, a good colleague of mine, expressed much pleasure about hearing of a new edition of HOUSES AND PEOPLE OF JAPAN. He talked to the Chief of Sanseido. Then he continues: "I have been authorized (by Sanseido) to negotiate with the American publisher about the copyright! Then he wants to know the size of your edition." If you would be so kind as to supply me with the details of your proposal, it would be of great assistance to us in determining the terms".

Also, he points to mistakes in the translation and some misunderstandings on Taut's part. Prof. Kobayashi is coming in September to Oregon, which would give me a wonderful opportunity to discuss these matters in detail.

There is still some doubt in my mind as to who has what rights. I know that Mrs. Erica Taut has all rights regarding those books published outside Germany, as far as the Taut estate is concerned. As I wrote, any needed statement can be had from her immediately. Foreign copyright was not recognized in Japan when the book was published, as far as I know. Should Sanseido have copyright now? I hope you can clarify this. Please let me know.

Sincerely, *N. Waller*

ber 12, 1952

nd I can  
the Taut

ur apologies  
in soon.

By yours,

WITTENBORN

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection: Wittenborn	Series.Folder: I. C. 84
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541 E 12th Ave.  
Eugene, Oregon  
22 July 1952

Mr. George Wittenborn  
38 East 57th Street  
New York 22, N.Y.

JUL 24 1952

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

This is just to inquire whether you received my letter of July 1st in which I asked for your o.k. to send to Mrs. Taut a power of attorney for signature.

I had hoped that this could be done before my going in vacation during August. Otherwise the matter will have to rest until September, and we have to keep our fingers crossed that Mrs. Taut's health will last and letters will get through at that time.

I hope that you could send the Loewey book. Please send me also:

Amos Hawley, Human Ecology (Ronald),  
Walter Schwagenscheidt, Die Raumstadt  
(Lambert Schneider, Heidelberg)

Sincerely,

H. Waechter

H. Waechter

follow in 7-8 weeks

JUL 24 1952

ber 12, 1952

nd I can  
the Taut

ur apologies  
in soon.

ly yours,

WITTENBORN

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

September 12, 1952

Mr. H. Waechter  
541 East 12th Avenue  
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Mr. Waechter:

Back at the desk Mr. Schultz and I can still not give you any more precise reaction to the Taut project.

Have you heard anything from Berlin or Japan? Our apologies for this short note, but we hope to write you again soon.

Sincerely yours,

GW/ea

GEORGE WITTENBORN

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Wittenborn, Schultz, Inc.

Publishers

38 East 57th Street, New York 22, N. Y.

Plaza B-8890

6 February 1953

Professor Tsutomu Ikuta  
207 Shimorenjake, Mitaka  
Tojo, Japan

Dear Professor Ikuta:

We are approaching you today in the matter of an English reprint of Taut, HOUSES AND PEOPLE OF JAPAN. As you have probably already heard, through the good offices of Mr. Waechter, we would be interested in purchasing one thousand copies with our imprint. Before coming to any decision in this matter, we need of course to know the terms, quality of reprint, possible date of publication, etc.

We would like to point out that we have just heard of the pending English reprint of Yoshida's book. It would be less favorable for the Taut book if both publications were to appear on the market at the same time.

Sincerely yours,

airmail  
gwimfh

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Wittenborn, Schultz, Inc.

Publishers

38 East 57th Street, New York 22, N. Y.

PLaza 3-8890

November 7, 1952  
AIRMAIL

Mr. H. H. Waechter  
541 East 12th Avenue  
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Mr. Waechter:

Mr. Schultz and I have come to the conclusion that the costs of the reprint production of Taut's book are too high even for a large run (say 3,000 copies). We therefore have not yet written to Japan. There are, however, two other approaches, as follows.

First, the Japanese publisher himself could print a new edition -- which from the point of view of color plates would certainly be of higher quality -- and then offer us a part of the printing, say about a thousand copies at the best prevailing price. In this way, however, you would probably not receive any remuneration, except if you make an arrangement directly with Mrs. Taut.

The other way would be for you to arrange with Mrs. Taut and the Japanese publisher for a revision of the Taut book, condensing the material to one half, which could then be produced either in Japan or here. This way you would of course be entitled to participation in the royalties.

We also heard that a German publisher is offering a new book by Yoshida on Japanese architecture, and that an English translation is in preparation. We also heard indirectly that another New York publisher is looking for a short manuscript on the same subject. We happened to put in a good word for Mr. Taut, but this source knows his book and rejected it as not up-to-date to too diversified.

We regret having to come with these new propositions, but we really cannot tackle the originally contemplated reprint financially. Let us know your reactions, and if you wish, we can then write to the Japanese publisher.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

George Wittenborn

GW:lg

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Sincerely yours,

George Wittenborn

GE:lg

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OCT 1 1952

Wittenborn and Co.  
38 East 57th Street  
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

Thank you for your note of Sept. 12th. I cannot quite understand your question: "Have you heard anything from Berlin or Japan?"

Judging from your book shipments you must have received my previous letters; one of July 1st in which I wrote that Mrs. Taut would be willing to sign a power of attorney, the other of July 28th in which I wrote that Prof. Ikuta has been authorized to negotiate by Sanseido publishers, and I conveyed to you his questions. I just got another letter from him saying: "I have been looking forward to a letter from Wittenborn Company on the reproduction of Houses and People of Japan by Bruno Taut. As Sanseido has the copyright of the book, it should be authorized by Sanseido to reproduce it in foreign countries. However, we won't to have high royalty on it." Then he repeats his inquiry into number of copies, etc. If you wish to correspond with him directly, his address is: Prof. Tsutomu Ikuta, 207 Shimorenjaku, Mitaka, Tokyo, Japan.

So, everything is up to you. Also, you promised me to advise as to payment for my services. It took me already some time to carry the negotiations as far as I did.

my  
Conclusion — As I suggested before, it might be advisable to look into the legal question as to copyright. As Sanseido is claiming, they have all the rights (and, therefore, would be accountable to Mrs. Taut.) On the other hand, Mrs. Taut told me once that she has all rights regarding books and manuscripts from Taut's estate, which were written or published outside of Germany. In our case, she might have still a valid contract with Sanseido.

Prof. Kobayashi has arrived in Eugene and I have made arrangements with him to go over Taut's book with a fine tooth comb and find all possible errors. Your early reply would help me considerably in carrying out this task.

Most cordially yours,

*H. H. Waechter*

H. H. Waechter

541 East 12th Ave. Eugene, Oregon - Sept. 29, 1952

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	Wittenborn	I. C. 84

H H WAECHTER . ARCHITECT AIA . ~~BLACKSBURG VIRGINIA~~  
541 E 12th Ave. Eugene, Oregon - Nov.21,1952

Wittenborn, Schultz, Inc.  
38 East 57th Street  
New York 22, N.Y.

NOV 25 1952

Dear Mr. Wittenborn:

Thank you for your detailed letter of Nov.7th.

I appreciate fully your reasoning behind your decision not to publish the Taut book. I feel, however, that the Yoshida book and possibly the other one which is planned are much more specialized and limited books. As far as I know the Yoshida book is just a new and perhaps revised edition of "Das Japanische Wohnhaus" which never was or was meant to be a substitute for the Taut book or vice versa. The Taut book, by contrast, is a valuable rendering of Japanese culture and environment as seen by one of the most sensitive and intelligent artist-philosophers of our age and civilization. I realize, however, that those values are today less appreciated than systematized last minute technical information.

I wrote to Prof. Ikuta, quoting your proposals. I supported your idea of cutting the book in half (which would probably be at the expense of much of the travelogues and the weaker photographs), and I suggested also to add perhaps the important "Fundamentals of Japanese Architecture". Also, I shall write Mrs. Taut about it.

Well, we'll see what the Japanese publisher has to say. Japanese publishers are poorly equipped with regard to keeping contact with the outside world. Therefore Sanseido asked Prof. Ikuta to represent them.

I realize that these new developments will not entitle me to any royalties coming from you or possibly even from any other source. On the other hand, I undertook time consuming investigations at your specific request, and I helped you thus in making your decisions. Therefore, I feel that I am entitled to some payment, although I'll be much more modest than any lawyer whom you may have asked to investigate the matter. I should say that about \$20 or perhaps the equivalent in books would be a nominal fee for my time spent on your behalf.

Cordially yours,

*H. Waechter*