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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
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Girling
Cortes.
Grabill, Ada 1930-1937

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0817

GINLING COLLEGE

Nanking, China.

Candidate Blank NO. 1



- 1. Name *Ada A. Grubill* born *Dec. 22, 1876-*
- 2. Present address *709 College St., Belmont, Mass.; after June 21. No. 6028 Myrtle St., K.C. Mo.*
- 3. Permanent address *Same.*
- 4. Preparation (High School, College, Special Courses, etc.)

Dates	School	Courses	Degrees
<i>Drury Academy, 1889-1893.</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>General for Graduation -</i>	
<i>1893-1897</i>	<i>Drury College</i>	<i>Scientific, with Latin Extra, throughout</i>	<i>B. S.</i>
<i>1899, 1900, + 1901</i>	<i>Drury Conservatory</i>	<i>After doing much work elsewhere, A. M. honorary.</i>	
<i>1904-6, Faelten Private School, Boston</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>All-round piano & harmonizing.</i>	
<i>1913-14, Private lessons with Rudolph King, K.C.</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>See letter -</i>	
5. Experience	<i>Sauvage School, Peking.</i>	<i>Piano -</i>	

Dates	Institution	Kind of work
<i>1898-99</i>	<i>Drury Academy</i>	<i>History & English</i>
<i>1899-1900-</i>	<i>Drury, College</i>	<i>Biological Science -</i>
<i>1907-12</i>	<i>Private teacher, Springfield, Mo.</i>	<i>Piano.</i>

It has been hard to make all these dates accurate. They are approximately so.

6. College Work

Underscore once any work you are prepared for and twice that for which you have special preparation or preference. (Roman numerals refer to years.)

- ADMINISTRATION (a) Library (b) Registrar (c) Secretary (d) Treasurer;
- ART (a) Drawing (b) History of Art; ASTRONOMY; BIOLOGY (I) (II) (III); CHEMISTRY (I) (II) (III); EDUCATION (a) History (b) Principles and Problems (c) Secondary;
- ENGLISH (a) Language--Rhetoric and Composition (b) Literature (c) Oral English;
- HISTORY (a) English (b) Mediaeval (c) Modern; HYGIENE; LANGUAGES (a) Latin (b) French (c) German; MATHEMATICS (a) College Algebra (b) Trigonometry (c) Analytical Geometry; MUSIC (a) Piano (b) ^{Organ} Organ (c) Voice (d) Theory; PHILOSOPHY;
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION; PHYSICS; PHYSIOLOGY; PSYCHOLOGY; RELIGION (a) Comparative Religion (b) Christianity--Preparation, Growth, Teachings (c) Psychology of Religion (d) Religious Education; SOCIOLOGY.

Name Ada A. Grubill

7. Health Record

Make statement as to general health, giving dates of any serious illnesses, operation, etc.

Good, for the most part, though not particularly robust. One very serious illness, 1907-8, typhoid fever with complications, from which I recovered fully eventually. No operations; a slight nervous breakdown once or twice. Health in China good enough for hard work. Dr. Pugs, of Stockbridge, Mass. has just pronounced me quite sound.

8. Church connection, religious experience and purpose

(a) When and where did you unite with the Church, and of what church are you now a member?

Calvary Pres. Church, Springfield, Mo., about 1889. Sat. 1st Cong. Ch., Springfield, Mo.

(b) How do you keep vital your personal religious life and in what form of religious activity have you given expression to it?

Have been active in Y. W. C. A. circles, as student, and ever since. Presently in charge of the Religious Education in Y. W. C. A. Normal School in Shanghai.

(c) Ginling College exists for the furtherance of the cause of Christ in China and for the promotion of higher education under Christian influence. Enthusiasm for these aims of the college, and desire for every student to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to enlist in His service, are essential requirements. In accepting an appointment would you pledge loyal support and active co-operation in promoting these aims?

That is the only thing, I think, worth our going to China to share. It is my vital desire.

9. References.

Give names, with addresses, of two persons who have known you (1) as a student, (2) as a teacher, (3) in church or other religious work, (4) as a personal friend. At least three of these should be women.

1. ✓ Professor A. P. Hall, Dury College, Springfield, Mo.
2. ✓ Miss Irminful Wyzal, Y. W. C. A. Field Committee, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
3. ✓ Miss Lydia Brown, Oberlin, Ohio.
4. Miss Thurston (through Miss Brown) } China - but quickly available.
5. Mr. H. Paul Douglas (formerly A. M. A., New York) pastor, at Springfield, Mo. (where I was there).
6. ✓ Mrs. May K. Lewis, 1100 Chapline St., Wheeling, West Va. (Y. W. C. A.)
7. ✓ Miss C. W. Daniels, Independence, Iowa. (former dean of women, Dury)
8. ✓ Miss Katherine Halsey, 905-1st Natl Bank Bldg, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Letters sent June 9/1921.

Return to

Mrs. Lawrence Thurston, Room 923, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York.

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Name Ada A. Grabill

Life Sketch

Write at sufficient length to make the document an introduction to you, covering the following points: parentage and ancestry; early home life; school life - special interests in study and in extra curriculum lines; language ability; musical ability; favorite recreation; church life - what you get and what you give in it; motives for life service; attitude toward hardship and danger as possible incidents in the day's work; fundamental religious convictions.

See appended letter. My mother was of Scotch Ancestry, and my father of German. My Ancestors on both sides came to America about the time of the Revolution. My early life was spent at my home, Springfield, Mo., just off DeWitt College Campus. My family was always intimately associated with DeWitt, which was my only school until I graduated. Even in those days I traveled a good deal, though, and was familiar with other places and people.

My special interest as a student was in languages, of which I studied several. I was always very fond of music, but having a brother who was exceedingly talented, I allowed the technical development of my ability to be ~~indeed~~ neglected, & left the playing largely to him. Singing & music are both easy for me, as such things go.

My favorite recreations have been reading and walking, (aside from music) if alone, but I have always liked to be with people.

In Church life, I have always been active, but have tried to link Church interests with those of the Community and its needs, largely through the Y. W. C. A.

My sole motive to serve in China is to show Christ, and to free the lives of Chinese Girls from the mental and spiritual bondage that holds them - even more than it holds us.

I am not afraid of anything that may come in the way of danger. But China is a friendly place, and one finds rewards for any efforts.

My fundamental religious convictions have been moulded by President McPherson, Dr. Fordick, under both of whom I have had course, and thinkers of their stamp. Most of all perhaps, by sitting into simplicity, ten thousand miles from Christianity, those elements - few & light that Christ himself brought, & that are for all countries and all time.

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SUMMARY.

Name: Miss Ada A. Grabill.

Born: December 22, 1875.

Present address: 709 College Street, Beloit, Wis. (After June 21 (new)
6028 Nyandotte Street, Kansas City, Mo.

Preparation: Drury Academy 1889 - 1893. General courses for graduation.
1893-1897 - Drury College. Scientific with Latin.
Springfield, Mo. Extra throughout. B.S.
After doing much work
elsewhere, A.M. honorary.

(1899, 1900 - 1901
Drury Conservatory *1899-1901* Piano and harmony.
1904-1906 - Faelten Pianoforte School, Boston - all round piano
and harmony. *omit*
1913-1914 - Private lessons with Rudolph King, Kansas City.
(1918 - Language School, Peking.) *omit*

Experience: 1898-1899 - Drury Academy. History and English.
1899-1900 - Drury College. Biological Science.
1907-1912 - Private teacher, Springfield, Mo. Piano.

"It has been hard to make all these dates accurate. They are approximately so.

Health Record: Good for the most part though not particularly robust. One very serious illness. 1907-8 typhoid fever with complications from which I recovered fully eventually. No operations. A slight nervous breakdown once or twice. Health in China good enough for hard work. Dr. Riggs of Stockbridge, Mass. has just pronounced me quite sound.

Church connection: Calvary Presbyterian Church, Springfield, Mo. about 1889. Later First Congregational Church, Springfield, Mo.

"Have been active in Y.W.C.A. circles, as student, and ever since. Recently in charge of the Religious Education in Y.W.C.A. Normal School in Shanghai".

Personal letter:

"My mother was of Scotch ancestry, and my father of German-Swiss. My ancestors on both sides came to America about the time of the Revolution. My early life was spent at my home, Springfield, Mo., just off Drury College Campus. My family was always intimately associated with Drury, which was my only school until I graduated. Even in those days I travelled a good deal though and was familiar with other plans and people.

My special interest as a student was in languages, of which I studied several. I was always very fond of music, but having a brother who was exceedingly talented, I allowed the technical development of my ability to be neglected and left the playing largely to him. Language and music are both easy for me as things go.

My favorite recreations have been reading and walking (aside from music)

if alone, but I have always liked to be with people.

In church life I have always been active, but have tried to link church interests with those of the community and its needs, largely through the Y.W.C.A.

My sole motive to serve in China is to show Christ, and to free the lives of Chinese girls from the mental and spiritual bondage that holds them - even more than it holds us.

I am not afraid of anything that may come in the way of danger. But China is a friendly place and one finds rewards for any efforts.

My fundamental religious convictions have been moulded by President King, Dr. Fosdick, under both of whom I have had courses, and thinkers of their stamp. Most of all, perhaps my sifting into simplicity, ten thousand miles from Christianity, these elements - few and big - that Christ himself brought, and that are for all countries and all time.

Testimonials:

Up to date (June 18, 1921) but three testimonials have been received. They are as follows:

" An unassuming personality whose charm grows more. Splendid woman with consecrated common sense. Her ability to work with Chinese girls is proven. With a certain amount of freedom from excessive pressure in work she is an original, dependable and effective worker."

" Her character and devotion are above question. Her personality wears well and is increasingly attractive though not captivating at first. I think of her very highly both personally and professionally."

" I have written testimonials for many years, but I can recall scarcely a half dozen of whom I could speak in such high terms. I am a bit critical of qualifications suitable for good teachers and missionaries, and given to telling the truth. In this case I hesitate to do so for I know that in doing it I must seem extravagant and so untrustworthy. The only thing that seems adequate to a summary of Ada Grabill's qualifications is the statement that she is "almost too good to be true". I've recently spent a week with her and am greatly impressed with her knowledge and spirit about things Chinese."

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How long have you known the candidate? Over 30 years

In what relations have you known her? As a student, as a Y.W. worker, as a member of the Church and of the Community.

Among women you know how would you rank her on the characteristics listed below? Indicate rank by letters where you can give your own personal estimate; A, superior; B, average; C, below average. Make any comment you desire in addition.

Rank	Remarks
..... Spirituality	Very deep and sincerely spiritual
..... Judgment (common sense)	Excellent
..... Capacity for leadership	Strong
..... Ability to work with others	Had done it successfully
..... Adaptability	Able to plan the best of a situation
..... Tact	is very tactful
..... Unselfishness	I have always found her wholly unselfish
..... Cheerfulness	Very cheerful - very easy to get on with
..... Scholarship	superior - accurate - broad
..... Teaching Ability	Excellent
..... Executive Ability	Has proven herself in executive positions
..... Open Mindedness	Always fair and open minded
..... Sense of order and neatness	Very orderly and very neat
..... Versatility	Has a rather unusual variety of abilities
..... Promptness	Always on hand
..... Refinement	at rather unusual degree of refinement
..... Physical endurance	While her health is remarkably good, I think she has to be rather careful not to overdo.

State your opinion of her personality, her Christian character and devotion.

Miss Grabill has a strong and charming personality, and the very highest Christian character and devotion.

Make any statement which will give your freest opinion of the candidate.

She has had a very thorough and ample training and is capable of rendering the finest and most intelligent service.

Signature Arthur P. Hall
Dean, Spring College
Springfield, Mo.
June 20, 1921.

Miss Ada A. Grabill

JUN 3 1921

(Name of candidate here)

MISS M. E. HODGE

How long have you known the candidate? ... Since... 1916

In what relations have you known her? ... As a co-worker ... and member of the same household ... in the Y. W. C. A. in China

Among women you know how would you rank her on the characteristics listed below? Indicate rank by letters where you can give your own personal estimate: A, superior; B, average; C, below average. Make any comment you desire in addition.

Rank

Remarks

- .A... Spirituality with practical sense that prevents emotionalism.
- .A... Judgment (common sense)
- .A... Capacity for leadership of the magnetic, rather than aggressive type.
- .A... Ability to work with others ... develops leadership in others
- .A... Adaptability
- .A... Tact
- .A... Unselfishness
- .A... Cheerfulness plus a nice quiet sense of humor
- .B... Scholarship keen intellectual & aesthetic appreciation
- .A... Teaching Ability
- .A... Executive Ability
- .A... Open Mindedness but has also firmness & independence
- .A... Sense of order and neatness
- .B... Versatility in many quiet interests, music, art, athletic
- .A... Promptness
- .A... Refinement of the deepest & choicest type
- .C... Physical endurance not very strong, but knows her limitations and guards her strength better than most people.

State your opinion of her personality, her Christian character and devotion.

An unassuming personality, whose chosen profession is a splendid woman with consecrated common sense.

Make any statement which will give your freest opinion of the candidate.

(I think most highly of Miss Grabill) Her ability to work with Chinese girls is proven. With a certain amount of freedom from excessive pressure in work she is an original, dependable and effective worker.

Signature ... Katharine C. Halsey

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RECEIVED

JUN 15 1921

MISS M. E. HODGE

Miss Ada A. Grabill

(47)

(Name of candidate here)

How long have you known the candidate? *About thirty years*

In what relations have you known her? *As pupil and friend*

Her family lived near the college in which I was Dean for 19 years... and their home was my most intimate resort. The Grabills are of the finest American stock - New England & Southern mixed.

Among women you know how would you rank her on the characteristics listed below? Indicate rank by letters where you can give your own personal estimate: A, superior; B, average; C, below average. Make any comment you desire in addition.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<i>A</i>	Spirituality
<i>A+</i>	Judgment (common sense)
<i>A</i>	Capacity for leadership
<i>A+</i>	Ability to work with others
<i>A</i>	Adaptability
<i>A</i>	Tact
<i>A</i>	Unselfishness
<i>A</i>	Cheerfulness
<i>A</i>	Scholarship
	Teaching Ability <i>I have no personal knowledge</i>
<i>A</i>	Executive Ability
<i>A</i>	Open Mindedness
<i>A?</i>	Sense of order and neatness
<i>A</i>	Versatility <i>I am not quite so capable of judging this as the others but I should suppose it excellent</i>
<i>A</i>	Promptness
<i>A</i>	Refinement
<i>B</i>	Physical endurance

State your opinion of her personality, her Christian character and devotion.

First in every respect

Make any statement which will give your freest opinion of the candidate.

I have written testimonials for many years, but I can recall scarcely a half dozen of whom I could speak in such high terms: I am a bit critical of qualifications suitable for good teachers & missionaries, and given to telling the truth. In this case I hesitate to do so for I know that in doing it I must seem extravagant and so untruthful. The only thing that seems adequate to a summary of Ada Grabill's qualifications is the statement that she is almost too good to name. I've recently spoken a week with her and am greatly impressed with her knowledge and spirit about things Chinese.

Signature *Caroline W. Daniels*.....
Jun 11 W. M. S. President for Dubuque Presbyterial.

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(Name of candidate here) ... Miss Ada A. Grabill

How long have you known the candidate? For many years - probably twenty or twenty five

In what relations have you known her? As a fellow townsman and colleague in Y.W.C.A. work

Among women you know how would you rank her on the characteristics listed below? Indicate rank by letters where you can give your own personal estimate: A, superior; B, average; C, below average. Make any comment you desire in addition.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
.....	Spirituality .. A
.....	Judgment (common sense) .. A
.....	Capacity for leadership .. B
.....	Ability to work with others .. A
.....	Adaptability .. A
.....	Tact .. A
.....	Unselfishness .. A
.....	Cheerfulness .. A
.....	Scholarship .. A
.....	Teaching Ability .. A
.....	Executive Ability .. A
.....	Open Mindedness .. A
.....	Sense of order and neatness .. A
.....	Versatility .. A
.....	Promptness .. A
.....	Refinement .. A
.....	Physical endurance .. B

State your opinion of her personality, her Christian character and devotion. Her character and devotion are above question. Her personality wears well and is increasingly attractive tho not captivating at first.

Make any statement which will give your freest opinion of the candidate. I think of her very highly both personally and professionally

I have never been intimate with the applicant. But I have reason to believe in her.

Signature Winifred Nygal

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Beverly, Ky.

Ada Grubell

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MAR 17 1930

As to present suggestions, I have no new ones just now, but I want to repeat to you what I have volunteered to write Miss Bender, just because I felt that I might be of help. And everything I have written her I have written at the same time to Dr. Wu, because I did not know where the matter might first come up, and I wanted it to be where it was needed. And Miss Bender evidently showed it to Mrs. Thurston, or read it in a meeting for Mrs. Thurston wrote me not long ago that she was asking Miss Bender to send it to her. She wrote telling of various needs, but perhaps the new organization, or addition, had not gone into effect at that time.

I know of no one definitely for the vocal position, but gave as a person to be looked up the graduate of the Conservatory of the University of Southern California (which is fine as to standard whom Lily Ho chose to go out with her in that trio that had such a fine scheme: you probably heard about it. A violinist, a vocalist, and Lily decided that they would offer themselves as a musical unit to some college in the Orient (China, I mean) pledging themselves for at least two years of service, and making certain stipulations which we could not fulfil, but which I imagine they would give up. They sent the letter to a good many colleges, and government universities, and of course (Lily wrote me) were turned down, because the plan showed absolute ignorance of budgets, and the way departments had to be built up. They have all had teaching experience, and their references not only as to scholarship but as to character were of the highest. They came, however, only from members of the University faculty, and whoever went would have to be looked up much more carefully, especially as to fitting in. The fact that Lily thought they would do that has some weight with me.

I have heard nothing about it very lately. But at least here was a person ready to go, and seemingly prepared. If she really wanted to do it, and could not go that way, I imagine she would take another. I copied the names together, and find I am not sure which is the singer: Emily Greene Korstad, or Lucille Elizabeth Bessolo: I think the latter. Lily's present address is 328 West Adams Street, Los Angeles (Lily Ho Quon) and I am sure she could be written to frankly about it. Albert is to be in America six months of every year for the next few years, and Lily wants to teach in China, as she says "I am simply wasting time in America when I could be of use in China". She will go back soon.

I wrote all this both to New York and to Dr. Wu. As I consult Lily's letter, it is Miss Bessolo who sings. It seems likely to me that any of these three could be engaged separately, if they have not already done so, and if they suit, since I haven't any idea they could go together anyplace. What is called "Public School Music" these days here is much needed at Ginling, and either she or Yu-djen, or Lily, is prepared to teach it.

Nobody has written me definitely that Yu-djen has been asked. Has she? Several letters have implied so. She is a rare musician, very talented, and now with an amount of sound training that no one who has ever been at Ginling has had. She has had little experience but has had considerable practice teaching. She is the person to take the theory, it seems to me. She has had a lot of it, and she would I think be quite uncompromising in its standards. I do not think you will ever find a singer who has had enough theory to teach it. The two lines are not commonly combined, as the theory is not

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MAR 17 1930

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necessary to the study of singing, as it is to advance piano.

With two such fine and finely brained musicians as Yu-djen and Lily going back to China to teach, I think it would seem very strange not to ask one of them to strengthen our department, and to my mind we would be missing an opportunity that will not come again in a good many years, as far as I can see. Both of them have very high ideals of service, and either would be strong, I think, though their strength lies in different points. Lily is more used to give and take with foreigners than Yu-djen used to be, and that is in her favor. Lily stands up for her point of view, and Yu-djen used to be a little inclined to shrink into herself, even when she knew she was right. An example of this is the feeling between her and Minnie, not often spoken but constant, I think, on both sides. Minnie didn't have any particular appreciation of Yu-djen (she never does of music, and it often makes things a little hard) Yu-djen knew it, and because of it she shut up like a sensitive plant. Because I did understand her, she expanded like a flower; no work was ever too hard for me to give her; no criticism too plain or severe. She has a most instinctive knowledge of what is on the right path musically. Of course she has gotten over that, a lot of it, in the five years here; but she will always be somewhat temperamental. Lily, on the contrary, is a less fine musician, but she has worked hard, and done creditably what other graduates of conservatories do, and I think she is rather an unusually good teacher. As far as temporariness is concerned, we cannot tell about either one, and either one is likely to be more permanent than most foreigners, and to make more of a contribution. I am telling you all this about both of them because whatever the situation is now, it may come up again. I should be very glad indeed to know that Yu-djen had been asked. Either one I think will be wholly loyal and co-operative.

I unearthed another possibility for piano and theory, unintentionally, since I was looking for the vocal teacher, last winter, at Smith. She graduates this year, but is a mature person who had teaching experience in Curtis Institute, I think, before she went to take college work. Professor Roy Dickinson (head of Smith Music Department) said she was better fitted for such work than any member of the faculty, and she is interested in going to China. I knew we did not need her this year, but sent her name to the Committee for filing. I told Professor Dickinson that I had not the slightest authority, but had been asked by Ginling to look up possibilities. He was very understanding, and through him she wrote me a letter which showed that she was the kind of person we need there. This on the side. Miss Sutherland has so constantly begged me to get someone else for the work that in spite of the fact that I think she must have a very rare fitness for it in some ways, I thought I ought to help her, especially since I was responsible for getting her into a place which she would not have agreed to filling more than temporarily. I have always felt that one of the most important things at Ginling was the right ideal for the use of music, as a part of the larger Ginling ideal. Many music departments simply lead away from it, and are very artificial. It is more easily done in music than in anything else. That is why I did not want the little McTyiere person, although her training was adequate, and she had worked well. She would not have added the strength we must have, I think.

Much love to you. Write me again, and forgive this long epistle.

Affectionately, Ada.

0829

Sily could also teach the theory.
She has had the preparation, and considerable
Elementary Experience; and she is especially
enthusiastic about the work she has had.
Enough vocal work will almost immediately
come up, I feel, for one person without the theory;
~~if she can take violin, it will be fine. It is~~
very desirable here to establish violin and
vocal and piano classes at cheaper rates.
We have these here this year, the vocal ones for the
first time, and they are a great success. A
good teacher will get more out of students (bying)
that way than any other. a.

St. Hilda's work musically is rather outstanding
as a lower school. I am sorry that I cannot
recall more of it, though I think I've met
her. Certainly background is desirable, if
other things are equal. You know the spirit
of St. Hilda's is good.

ask

Berea, Kentucky,

Sunday afternoon. - April 6, 1930

Dear Rebecca:

Our letters that have just crossed have almost answered each other.,but not quite. It does not seem certain yet,to me,that Yu-djen has already been asked.

I did write her a very careful personal letter last week,speaking personally of wanting her to go to Ginling,and of always having wanted it;but I did not ask her to anser so soon,unfortunately,as you suggest.And having written once,I hardly think I ought to write again. What do you think? I will do it if it seems necessary.We talk to each other very frankly,and I think I could say anything I needed to. I fully realize the delicacy of the situation,especially as I knew of both the other incidents of which you speak.Certainly all we can do is to prod the people on the field---if it is necessary.

As to Oberlin:it would depend on the individual. The Oberlin vocal department is not nearly so evenly strong as the piano and violin and theory sections are,though it is better than it was when I was there in 1922. I remember that year that they sent to Kobe a vocal teacher,newly graduated, that seemed to me a crime.Not only that she could not sing, but that she seemed to me a person utterly without judgment, or the right kind of personality. I met her there afterwards, and saw her work,which confirmed my feeling. If I wanted a vocal teacher from there,I would write Dr.Heacox,of the harmony department,and Mr.W.T.Upton,of the piano department,to recommend,or refrain from reccomending anyone who seemed possible--that is,who would go if asked. They would know who was suitable,I think,but all the faculty would not. We have here in the piano department,and the public school music work,two recent graduates of Oberlin.One is a success in her teaching,and one is not,though both did their work creditably ~~the~~ The difference is largely one of adaptibility to an unfamiliar background,and beginning to build in such a way as to meet it.

It seems to me that Lily's friend ought to be investigated.I hoped Mrs.Thurston,or some of the rest of you, had had that letter.It was sent to me on a list of Lily's student friends,and I had to pass it right on to Maida Kuo. I wrote at once,and fully,to Miss Bender and Dr.Wu. Her work, taken in a place of high standard,is evidently all right;and her personal recommendations were excellent,but too limited:only from her teachers and the dean of the University. Evidently Lily approved of her.She has teaching experience.

What I say of Oberlin would to a certain extent be true of the Cornell school.There is no place in the whole curriculum where a teacher without good judgement as well as good training can do more damage,as you know,than in the vocal department. But there are people of the right sort,and we can surely get one by bestirring ourselves enough.

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APR 6 1930^[27]

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Did I give you Yu-djen's address as 180 Claremont Avenue?
I should have done so, but it seems to me I wrote another one.

How I wish I could be at the luncheon at Mrs. Thurston's
tomorrow, which she thought she might be able to have with
Mary, you, and Miss Thayer as guests!

At any rate, I am counting on seeing you soon, and think of
you now as having a nice visit with the others.

Love to Mary, and as always to you.

Affectionately,

Ade.

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0832

Berea, Kentucky,

May 22, 1930.

Dear Rebecca:

The enclosed letter from Yu-djen came yesterday, and I should have sent it to Montgomery if I had known your address. However, since you probably will reach home tomorrow and home is on the way to New York, it will probably be just as quick.

My first impulse was simply to say "Isn't it too bad!" and let the matter drop. But, in spite of the fact that Yu-djen's reasons are real reasons with which I sympathize, I am now wondering if her answer is necessarily final.

We are dealing with China, even though we are not in China, and Yu-djen would be as "kuch'i" as anybody. I remember that when I wrote Miss Koo as strongly as I could, and considered her answer, which also gave real reasons, final, Miss Hoh and Mrs. Chen came to me and said "I think she will accept!". So I went to Shanghai to see her, dined her for two hours, --and she did accept! And she had studied in America too, though not for so long.

I did write to Yu-djen, and will write again. But if somebody in New York could see her, and not too hurriedly, it might still bring results.

If you think it would not, there is still Lily Ho. I have not heard from her lately, but I doubt if she has a position, since she has probably depended on the combination of the three teachers, which you and I know hasn't any chance. And she expects to go back this summer, and of course will go to Nanking. I should in the long run quite as soon have her as Yu-djen, although the latter is a more artistic person in her work. Lily has had excellent training and some experience, and has the qualities that make a good teacher, and a very dependable personality besides. Aren't we lucky to have two people who could do that work! Her present address is Lily Ho Quon, 328 West Adams Street, Los Angeles.

I hope you liked the two people you went to see. I almost wish Emily had decided to come. But I think probably she had to make the decision then, after putting it off in the hopes of hearing there was somebody here, because of planning and announcing the work there. Of course no one can take her place at first, after her initiation; and that Physical Education work is still on a shaky basis.

Things are humming here. Two weeks from now I shall be in Beloit (709 College Street), and that address will reach me always. By July I will go to Crystalia, Michigan, for the summer, I think. I shall hate to leave Berea, but I am glad to stop for a while. I do wish we might have caught a glimpse of you again.

Lovingly, Ada.

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709 College Street, Beloit, Wisconsin,

November 16, 1930.

Dear Rebecca:

I suppose you came home! I am wondering where you are and what you are doing; but I know you are busy, wherever you are. I did not understand whether or not you were to be studying this year, and perhaps you did not say.

I am at Beloit, and am enjoying it very much, though I can't say that I have entered a life of leisure! Probably that does not exist anywhere, if one is interested in many things and people, and I do not think I should like it if ~~it~~ did. But I am determined not to rush so that I cannot be anything, and at least now I have some choice as to what I shall do--even if it does not last! We did not come from the Lake until September 9th; then my K.C. sister and her adorable four year old grandson were with us a few days; two or three other people have visited us; Gene has been sick a week; and I have had the task of adapting myself to a new home and a new kind of life, or at least one that I have not lived for a good many years. Of course Beloit is not really new to me, and I have lots of friends here, of my own and Gene's. We are on the edge of the college life (in social affairs), in the midst of a very active church life, and I am trying not to drop musical affairs too completely, and have promised to start a junior choir in the (college) church, with which I hope to have a good deal of fun, as well as to undertake the missionary education part of the church school.

I have been a few days in Chicago and a few in Madison since I came, the latter at the annual meeting of the American Board of Missions, which was exceedingly good. I met lots of China friends there, of course, and there were many stimulating addresses.

When I was in Chicago I took dinner with En-lan and Sung Ching-ying, and found them both very happy. We have invited them here for the week end soon, and I do hope they can spare the time to come. En-lan wants to come back for the rest of the year after she goes to Clark for her work ~~***~~ there, but cannot afford to. But she is philosophical, as always.

I am sending you Yu-djen's letters about Ginling. I am disappointed, of course, but I think we must see her point of view. She is very much in earnest, underneath. The Smith person of last year may still be a possibility: the only one I know of.

Thank you so much for the program you sent me. I enjoyed it very much, and shared it with other interested people.

Much love to you. This is just a note.

Affectionately, *dda.*

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709 College Street, Beloit, Wis.,

December 3, 1930.

Dear Rebecca:

An urgent letter from Dr. Wu today makes me write you at once in answer to your letter, which I have been meaning anyway to answer very soon.

By all means secure the Smith girl if you can. As far as Dr. Dickinson's recommendation and her own correspondence with me goes, she seemed a very unusual chance for that head of the department that will be so very difficult to fill. She didn't want to promise for more than one year, but there seemed to be no reason for her not doing it except that she didn't know how she would fit; and that is to her credit, I think. Of course some difficulty, or some unfitness, might turn up with further investigation; but her work is all right, her age and experience good, and her personality very unusual, perhaps. And she was already interested. Let's try hard for her.

I'll be glad to help, in the ways you suggested. I'll write to several people I know in different places, to get them to help in the search. But do it as you investigate for other needs, too, and I'll be glad to look over the qualifications of anyone that turns up. The sooner it is all done the better, as you know!

This growth in the music department is long overdue, and we would do a great thing for Ginling, I think, if we found those people. The one for the credited courses and the "head" is the most difficult, of course.

En-lan spent the week-end with us, and we had a lovely visit. She is so attractive, and is growing very much in every way. Ching-ying is not, I judge. E--said that she was practically engaged to a Harvard foreigner she met on the boat coming over, throwing over a nice Chinese who is studying in this country for him. And she said that he occupied all her thought and much of her time, as they wrote daily long letters, and even telegraphed. Somebody ought to see the man, for he may not be serious, even. She herself is very much in love, E--says. At best it would be a tragedy. She is staying at Mrs. Mills', and there are two American girls there too who are in the same frame of mind, which makes her think that is the American way, I suppose.

I'm so glad you had a nice summer! I hear you have a car! I think that is nice for you.

Much love, as always.

Affectionately, *Ads.*

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DEC 3 1930

Next Morning:

Dear Rebecca:

I opened my letter to tell you what I can about other Ginling supplies.

Do you remember meeting Miss Marion Cox, head of the Physical Education girls' work in Berea? I introduced her because she was nice with the girls, and the sort of person we would like at Ginling. She left in June, I think to study this year. Before she left I asked her if she would be interested in considering going to Ginling if the opportunity came, and she said she would! Her address this year (which I took for the purpose) is

Miss Marion Cox,
care of Dr. L. B. Drake,
Ogdensburg, New Jersey.

If you write her right away I think we would stand an excellent chance of securing her, if you find that she is what the Committee would like.

Is Emily coming home, or is this to supplement her? En-lan told me that her engagement was broken; that things had never been very happy, and I judge that it was partly because he is a divorced man. I am so sorry! Perhaps you know more about it.

As to the Librarian: When I first came home, you know I visited a good many colleges in behalf of Ginling, and among them I was at Madison (State University) for several days. While there I took pains to meet the head of the librarians work. I think they have a training school, or are very closely in touch with one. I do not even remember her name, but she was a very understanding person, and Madison is a good place. She gave me several names of possible people to consult; but that was the very week of the exodus from Nanking (I received by telegram a copy of the cable of the safety of the group while I was at the last meeting there; it was a terrible week to be speaking, but I never shall forget that hour!) and things seemed so uncertain that I did not trace them at all. I haven't them now, but they would be of no use anyway. But if you should write to the Madison Library I think you might get help. Here's hoping!

Lovingly,

Ada.

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709 College Street, Beloit, Wisconsin

December 27, 1930.

Dear Rebecca:

I am overwhelmed at the number of things I want to write you about! But I'll make a start, with the hope of other letters soon.

First I want to thank you for your very especially thoughtful little Christmas present. I do appreciate both the thought of me and the gift itself. It will be exceedingly convenient to put in my traveling bag, taking almost no room or weight--and you know how nice that makes essential things!

As to music: I have written Dr. Heacox of Oberlin, and one or two other people. Dr. Heacox was one of Lydia's beloved teachers, and is the head of the Oberlin Theory Department. When I went back in 1922 he lent me one of his two manuscripts of a new harmony he was getting out that fall, which, as I went over it with him, seemed exactly what we needed (as it proved to be). ~~So~~ you see he is not only interested, but has excellent knowledge and judgement of necessary qualifications personally as well as technically.

I am enclosing his answer, and am writing today to the two people he suggests, before really presenting their names to you, or to the committee. But I know of no place that sends out better people than Oberlin. However, I should question Miss Barbour's fitness personally a little, until I know more about her, although her work seems more in line with our need. *I should also question Miss Russell. Certainly for "Head" her public school work might be desirable.*

I do hope you have written the Smith girl again. Or do you want me to do it? It would be a good thing to have our findings in as good shape as possible for the Ginling Committee meeting. If we are to dare to choose a "Head", she is by far the most suitable person I have known of, and one better fitted, seemingly, than we can hope to find again. But it is dangerous, according to my mind, to fix that absolutely before we know more. I remember we did it in the Shanghai School of F.E. when Miss Mayhew wanted a successor, The person came with all sorts of recommendations, and from an excellent position,-- and was as unfitted as possible! That is, she had not a good personality, and was unadaptable to Chinese, and to the group of teachers who had been there so much longer than she had. She was there only a year, and didn't do any of the work of being "Head" because she could learn to, in that time, in a non-English speaking school! And yet, holding the position, it made it very hard to carry on what was nominally her work. Not that I think it would occur in Ginling; but it gives me pause.

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DEC 27 1930

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I wish we knew more about the Honolulu person. Getting her without paying her passage is a desirable thing, of course; but as you and I have reason to know, it may not be the desirable thing! We cannot afford to make mistakes, and the music department must stand for solid work, and good teaching. I think the same about Miss Snyder, though we can find out about her, and her experience in China would be fine to have.

I also am on the track of one or two other people of whom I will tell you a little later. I think we can have several from whom to choose, and it is early enough to do a good deal of correspondence if we put it through quickly.

Dorothy Harvey may some day be a candidate. Did you know that? How nice that you saw her! She is a dear, and always her cheery self.

You certainly have a lot to do, and I hope it is going well. People seem to think with interest of going to China these days. The situation is very different from what it was a few years ago.

Isn't it dreadful to think of Dr. Wu's having to write letters like that by hand! She is too precious to waste that way; and yet many, many letters have to be written, and other things that waste her time and strength. Mrs. Thurston seems to feel that she is being useful, and I am sure she must be; but what a pity about Miss Sharp! I suppose you got Minnie's Christmas letter, with all its news. The pressure on the few seems to be no less than ever, to say the least, but I do believe the college is having one of its best years.

As to Phoebe, I haven't any words to express what I feel. She had been hanging on to America by her eyelids, lonely, overworked, worrying about finances, until it is no wonder that she has broken down. Isn't it terrible!

By yesterday's mail, with your letter, came one from her that was perfectly normal, except that she did want to know how much I had paid her for things that I had bought. I cannot believe that she is insane, though she might easily be made so, and a state institution to my mind is not to be thought of for a moment on that account.

I do thank you for sending those letters. What a wonderful understanding friend Miss Daniell is to her, and how fine that she is in a place like that! It is the kind of thing that might happen to you or me, under such circumstances, and with us it would be taken for granted that long rest and care would be necessary, and would make things normal again. Don't you think so? She spoke of being at the "Four Winds" to "Blow away the shadows".

But about her future: what can be done? I think with Miss Daniell that she may get well more quickly than a good many people, but I cannot conceive of her buckling down to a thesis again this year, and to stay here and not do it would cost more

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DEC 27 1930

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than could be raised, probably. She would be heart broken to go home without a degree, I suppose, for it has been a matter of "face" with her, partly. She has realized that the work she was doing was not that which would profit her most, and has spoken of it many times. I am so glad Miss Daniell recognizes in her the qualities I have always found!

I think what can be done must depend on the reasonableness of her own attitude, partly when she gets better. But I should be in favor of planning for her to go home, if possible, though I know too well that she would never be able to do her thesis there. She has got from America the essential things, for work and for prestige. I know of no place for her to go except home, but couldn't she do that, when she gets better, until she can do light work some place? Her home is very simple, but her mother is a nice sort of person, isn't she, understanding and pleasant? She always seemed to let Phoebe have her way. Am I right? They are poor, but she has that brother who also seems more or less dependable, and the Chinese are used to facing family responsibility.

As to the expense of the weeks at the sanatorium, I suppose somehow friends can be found to undertake them. How I wish I were rich! But without a salary as I am now it seems that the one place that is hit hardest is my ability to give. However, I could take a week, and maybe a lot of other people would, too. She will have to stay a number of weeks, at best. How sad it all is! If she can only realize what some of the rest of us have had to, that there are circumstances under which degrees simply don't count, and that with the best of planning we may not be able to have them-- as many as we should like, even if we have done the work! Do keep me in touch as much as you can.

We had a pleasant Christmas, though we did not go to K.C., and therefore were not with other members of our family.

A very Happy New Year to you!

Affectionately,

Ada.

When is the Greeting Committee meeting?
I will return letters later.

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709 College Street, Beloit, Wisconsin,

January 10, 1931.

Dear Rebecca:

Thank you so much for sending the blanks, etc. I am very eager to know what action the committee took about music and other things.

I am sending another letter, about someone I think might be very good. We have to consider reed organ work there, because it is very important. But the person who has it ought to teach good organ method, which is quite different from that of the piano, and therefore ought to be familiar with the pipe-organ. Lydia was, you know, and I was. We have no one else in prospect who is, as far as I know, ^{other than the girl.}

I wrote this person, but have not yet had an answer. I thought it better to chase seeming possibilities down a little before actually presenting them; but I didn't know that the committee meeting was to be this week. The enclosed letter from Miss Zimmerman takes away her possibility, which seemed excellent to me. Letters are still slow because of vacation. Do please still try the Smith girl.

As to Phoebe, letters come frequently, and I do not know what to think; am awaiting the knowledge you get in New York for that. She seems a little more clear and a little less distressed now than a while ago. I do not at all know whether I am writing the right things or not. Perhaps you can tell me. I will send my week immediately when I know just where to send it.

Much love to you.

Ada.

*Of course it was all right to send the blanks.
Miss Bond does sound nice. Praying?
We must have the College Credit work cared for, though
it is no more important as far as reaching than the rest.
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Ans. Dad Jan. 16, 1931.

Miss B. will send references with application blank -
I shall send you letter & reference
n. Dad - n. will be send me
suggestions for these letters -

P.M. Jan. 16, 1931.

Sent Dad right letter
giving Miss Riggs address,
asking her to write her - and
also to write to Miss Sloan if
she thought her
good - -

709 College Street, Beloit, Wisconsin,

January 14, 1931.

I am so glad I have you! It was fine to
get all that clear understanding of things, both as to
Ginling and as to Phoebe.

As to the latter, it is certainly good news.
I am sure she will need more "weeks"; but it is exceedingly
good to know that she has a friend like Miss Ward. I
will send my "week" at once to Miss Daniell. By all means
we ought to keep money for the passage home, which as
you say, might have to come suddenly.

As to Miss Bond, I am enthusiastic. I believe
she is the sort of person that would develop the singing
most rightly, largely in chorus work, all grades, with a
real love for it, and exactly my ideals, at least. Her
musical experience has been rich, and while she has not
had the training of a professional pianist, all the work
she has had has been good, and she could do uncredited
piano work, including class piano. I have written several
times about the desirability of having that in the Train-
ing School, and among beginners in general, because I think
it the best way to teach beginners, aside from the saving
in time and money. So many Ginling students need and want
to learn to play a little! And when I have gone around
and found them at Church and school organs, the only people
around who could do anything at all about the music, I have
realized more than ever why they wanted it. Tsui Shui-dji
has written such funny letters this year about her accomp-
anyments at Virginia School. There is no one there who can-
play. She loves music, and had taken a little at our Shanghai
school; but I never encouraged it at Ginling because I knew
she had more work than she could carry. Now she is practicing
hymns by herself, to lead the school ("oh! ah!", she writes)
and has learned sixteen acceptably.

But I wandered from Miss Bond. If Miss Carl could
take the theory and appreciation of music, as she is technical-
ly trained to do, (although she as the youngest member of the
trio or quartet would be doing the credited work, the most
important ~~of~~ course from the standpoint of the college) I
think she and Miss Bond would fit in perfectly as the new
teachers. But we ought to have references for Miss Bond's
music (although I think I trust it) and I know of no way to
get them except to write her for the names of people to whom
we could write. This will take a little time. I am writing her
thanking her for her letter. Shall I ask her for them, and

Miss Dad
Gracie's
opinion
Miss Kathleen
Bond
try & copy.

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JAN 14 1931

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send them to you?

I do not think we ought to lose track, or fail to get track, rather, of Miss Riggs. She is the one person I have know of that seems to me eventually to be fitted for "head" of the department. Of course I may be wrong about her; but her theory work is strong, she is of a good age, with seemingly good personal qualifications, and her secondary work (in piano) would seemingly fit her for advanced work there. It would do no harm to line her up for next year, and would do no harm to her experience to have her teach the extra year before going, or to know beforehand that we may want her. But if we do not hear from her soon, I think it is quite all right to go ahead with the others, to fill the present need.

~~Dr. Woo really wants Miss Snyder, please no change, at least if~~
As to Miss Snyder, I know nothing; but I suppose if Dr. Woo really wants her we ought to try still to find her, to find her a chance, though I do not think we are likely to better these two in our coming class.

Are you having success with the other departmental needs?

I am interested in the Ginling Committee plans. I think they do wonders in standing back of the college, even if they haven't done all we know of to do. I do hope Miss Bendér can come back. I feel very sorry for her. She must have had very heavy burdens this last year.

Please tell me if you would rather do personally any of the writing I have done. It has only seemed to me a little quicker, and perhaps more personal, to follow it up a little when I had a name, before turning it over. But you know you can tell me anything you want to about the way we work, and I'll gladly fall in line.

^{I think}
Miss Griggs wouldn't know anything about Miss Bond's work in Canton, as she came away years earlier. One year, I think. But I'll write her, on the chance. Miss Bond's language would be on a par with Dr. Hackett's as to usefulness: much better than none, as to the insight it gives, even if not very successful for Nanking conversation.

Much love to you.

Ada.

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709 College St., Beloit, Wisconsin.

July 16, 1931

January 16, 1931.

Dear Rebecca:

My letter that you've just received
partly answers yours received today.

I think Miss Bond and Miss Carl make a good
combination and would well fill this year's need. I do
not think we are likely to do better, if at all, unless the
Committee's blank reveals something that it probably won't.

It may be Miss Riggs would be no better than Miss Carl,
even technically, though as an older person, with full college
work as well as good musical training we might think of her
as a possible eventual "head" where I suppose we could not
Miss Carl. I think on the other hand that if we get people of the
right spirit and training division of actual work by the group itself
will be easy, and that therefore Miss C - could carry that work, though
for the advanced piano work more experience would be a little better.
Miss Riggs seemed lovely, too. She has wanted to go to China, and would
have gone for a year. She may or may not grow into the other, but
perhaps we ought to try to find out still, to have the choice. I will
write her.

As to Miss Bond or Miss Snyder. "A bird in hand". I do not
believe Miss D - could be better, and unless she answers your previous letter why
not drop her. I'll not write unless you tell me you think best. Satis, however, I
should like to "cultivate" her for a reserve. Lovingly, Ada.

0843

709 College Street, Beloit, Wisconsin,

January 17, 1931.

Dear Rebecca:

Just a word this morning, before the postman comes, in answer to your telegram.

I am about to write Miss Riggs, and am very glad to have her own address.

As to M.S., I am very doubtful. A fine person, pleasant, efficient, earnest, etc., but very imperfect in relationships. I'm sure Miss Griggs and the other people in our house at Berea who are good judges would bear me out in this. She is extremely sensitive, and will do any amount of work herself, if she thinks a thing needs to be done, but simply cannot work in co-operation with other people. Has a very strong tendency also to cultivate one person to extremes, no matter what it leaves a general situation. She talks often in criticism, or at least not at all in sympathy with the average missionary in Nanking, or in China, because she thinks, (I judge) that there is not enough personal sacrifice in their work. I think so too, of us all at times, and of a whole situation that it is very hard to modify; but I am doubtful as to how she would throw herself into a situation of which she did not wholly approve, for betterment. She lived with one other person most of the time, and enjoyed it. I believe when she was with other people she enjoyed it much less. I never felt that she was a real part of the missionary enterprise in her feeling, in spite of her brother's connection with it.

It hurts me to talk like this, and you know I would not have it go any farther, in quotation, than absolutely necessary. But I believe that whatever else is lacking in China ability to work with other people is a point that cannot be left out, giving and taking in as hard ways as necessary. MKK- is exceedingly tense and nervous, and I often wondered how the office force managed. But in Berea she had the relief of complete personal freedom after work hours, and most of us in the house felt that there was much to be desired, in the comfort of a household, in the ways she used it, Sundays and otherwise. I cannot feel that she is what we need at Ginling, in spite of the feeling that the need is great, and that she has some very desirable qualifications for it. She has very strong friends, too, and Adelaide (who did not live with her) is one of them, so if you ask her, I am sure she would say differently. We might easily do worse, of course!

Love to you,
Ads.

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709 College Street, Beloit, Wisconsin

January 19, 1931.

Dear Rebecca:

Your two notes have just come. I am sending back Miss Bond's letter, and will be glad to write her suggestions if she agrees to come. Although I should of course be interested in seeing academic references, certainly nothing else need come my way, and I will leave the matter in your hands.

I wrote Miss Riggs a letter she ought to get today. If she agrees to come next year, what shall we do? Ask her, and ask Miss Carl not to forget us? I feel that both are valuable. Miss Carl's organ would be a real point with me, but I believe Miss Riggs age and additional theory as I say would make her a better, or at least easier "head". Do you suppose the Honolulu person has been asked for that this year? It might be very discouraging to Miss Riggs if she has. I certainly want to get in all the correspondence with you I can before you go farther away! These weeks may make the difference between getting and losing anybody, and also with planning for further study along any needed line.

As to M.S., I am heart-broken to write what I did to you. It probably won't make any difference in what you do, but it may make it harder for you to do it. As I think it over, I have not changed my opinion, and therefore cannot write M--heartily, or at all, although of course I shall congratulate her if she decides to go. I know she is a valuable worker, and a conscientious one, and would relieve Dr. Wu very much. Much better for America than for China, though, I think. But that is only what I believe from two years living in the house with her, and it need not affect your own judgement at all unless you care to have it, or if things have gone too far. Personally, I think a lot of her, though she did make living harder for the rest of us sometimes, in the house. Please don't let Adelaide know I have said this!

Lovingly,

Ada.

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3333 N. Charles St.
Baltimore
August 1, 1931.

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Dear Rebecca -

I am glad to have your letter which came this morning. Your coming was a great pleasure to me and here's saying so with gratitude. I was so sorry the heat was so intense when you left & Eleanor & I both thought of you on the way, wondering how you had stood the trip.

I have given Eleanor your kind message. She seems very pleased with the invitation. I hope sincerely she will get to Lancaster to see you.

Now for a very scrappy bit of a head on a librarian, but I feel as

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AUG 1

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if it is worth trying to run ^{down} 1931

Miss Eaton of the Harrisburg
Library - she was giving the course
on Book selection at the Hopkins Sum-
mer School. - says the librarian
at the Gettysburg College library in
charge of cataloguing would (she
thinks) be very much interested in such
a proposition as the Girdling Library. Miss
Eaton had her for an assistant once
& was impressed with her ability &
conscientiousness. Miss Eaton cannot
remember her name but promised
to look it up & communicate with
you. She only remembers as much
as "Miss Margaret", but will con-
sult her records & send you her name.
If she does not find time to send
you word could you get into touch
with her through writing to Gettysburg
College, thank you?

The lady in question is a daughter

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AUG 1 1931 [37]

of missionaries, a graduate of the
Illinois University Library Course on
top of an M.A. from another in-
stitution - I think Miss Eaton said
Ann Arbor. The whole thing sounds
good.

Write Miss Eaton at Harrisburg
if you don't hear from her - & mention
my name. She knows Mrs Hobart
who wrote up the Harding incident &
the Davies who were at the U.S.
Consulate there. She seems interested
in belief of Guling & thought she
might have other possible names
if she had access to her records.

Eleanor & I are just ready
to go off for a picnic supper -
the first outing since I came. I
am so excitedly happy, but can
not show a sign for fear of her
backing out. Today is much less
hot.
Yours with love
Elizabeth

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newspapers [17]

THE CHARLES
3333 NORTH CHARLES STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

August 16-1931.

Dear Rebecca:

I've wanted to write
you for some little time but
that hectic weather stayed right
with us plus Baltimore's
own humilitating humidity
until August left last Tues =
day at 8:52 P.M. and on Wed =
til Monday late afternoon
did we have a storm which
readily did send us off and
it rained 4 days most all

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AUG 16 1931

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day or night and more joy.
I've wondered from the real
reason of this note - which is
that I certainly was sorry
Elizabeth did not accept
John's offer both before and
after she heard from you as
it was too much. I know
for you to have taken that
long trip in that weather
when you were so recently
out of the Hospital - John and
her daughter would have
enjoyed the drive and gone

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on their way" rejoicing and
picking Elizabeth up if you
~~two~~ had throated over the
various to me and hope
you both had on your mind!

I was disappointed that Eliza
beek get in all that hot air
and glare as I had it cool
in shade but you too had
know of her impulses - enough
said!

We are in for another heat
leave so my car still sits
in the Garage but I'm anxious
to get it on the road once

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more again and so here
AUG 16 1931
hoping for cooler days and
a let-up of an extra fever-
ish of my own sinus
infections that laid me low
again this week.

I do hope you are getting
and feel much better and
I shall love to see you again
anon.

Lovingly

Eleanor G.

Eighteenth sailed on the "Empress of
Japan" yesterday

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Arch - May 11, 1933

(17)

309 COLLEGE STREET
BELOIT, WISCONSIN

MAY 11 1933
May 11, 1933

Dear Rebecca:

Your letter came yesterday, and I wish that I could be of help. I fear that I cannot, as I am completely out of touch just now with any place that might furnish just the sort of instructor needed. However, of course I will try.

I am just home after more than six weeks on my brother, Mr. Hill's, cotton plantation near Memphis. I went on telegram because my niece had to go to the hospital; but within two weeks her six-year-old took the whooping cough terribly, so that she almost had to come home as soon as she could, and they have both been there, for a month, in bed! We did the best we could, but it was complicated, and bad for her, of course. A nurse wouldn't have been much help for him, and there really wasn't room, comfortably. In the end I felt myself coming down with flu, and ignominiously fled! But by that time the situation was better.

Rain, rain, rain, there! The cotton crop seems already doomed before they have a chance to plant it.

I've wanted for a long time to write you, and hope you have been well.

Do you know Eva's sailing date, and boat? Please let me know if you find out. She is expecting to visit us, and we want her, but it will have to be in Michigan, as we must take Mr. Hill there again. I do hope we shan't miss her!

[Ginling], I'm glad for Emily, though very sorry for

→ [Ginling]

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MAY 11 1933

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709 COLLEGE STREET
BELOIT, WISCONSIN

It didn't seem as if she were cut out to spend all her life there. What is she going to do?

A long, frank letter from Catherine Sutherland came this week, especially about the music department. Catherine Carl's success has been real, Miss S. feels, but many people have felt that she didn't fit in well, and she does not seem to have made the adjustments altogether well. It was a bad time, and she is young. That means that we shall have to watch out for theory and organ again, at the end of her three years.

Isn't it too bad Mrs. Thurston has had such a time! She seems to be pulling through it now. I do not know whether Dr. Wu's work has been increased or lightened by her absence. Buildings are her forte, and there must have been much time put upon them this year.

What a strong lot of Chinese faculty members there are now! Will Li ming keep on teaching? And what do you think about Dju-Ao? And what do you hear of Phoebe Ho?

How I wish I could talk things over with you!

This must answer for the present, however.
Much love from Gene and me both.

Affectionately,

Ada.

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BIRCH MEADOW
CRYSTALIA
FRANKFORT, MICHIGAN

July 13, 1933.

Dear Rebecca: I have been wanting to write you ever since your letter came, and now comes the especial need to do it, with the request to forward the enclosed letter to Eva. She did give me Gration's California address, but her letter was too late to reach her there. And she said she would stop in Chicago with Emily; but I do not know whether her family are in the same place now as formerly, or not, or whether she is with them, so I do not dare risk that address.

I do so want to see Eva! And of course asked her to visit us here, but almost knew

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JUL 13 1933

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She could not because both of lack of time and the expense. If it were not so difficult now to get to Chicago I certainly would go, if she could not come; but with no boats, and rail connections very inadequate, it is quite impossible. We crossed by the Montrose Car-ferry, coming over, taking a whole day to get there by rail.

What a beautiful time you three will have motoring in New England! I wonder if you will see Miss Thayer, the Cooks, and Ruth, or Dr. Hackett. I am so glad, both for yourself and for Eva, that you can take her!

We are having a quiet time in this restful spot, among the friends of many years standing.

My brother-in-law is far from well,

1933

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[3] JUL 13 1933

BIRCH MEADOW
CRYSTALIA
FRANKFORT, MICHIGAN

And our Chief thought is to help him
get better if possible, by quiet occupation
and a touch of cheery home life, as we
live it in the woods. We have spent the
morning on the Lake Michigan beach; this is
his rest time; and after that perhaps
will take a dip in our Crystal Crystal Lake.

I'll write more later, and I hope
you will. I don't like this too-occasional
note-writing!

Much love to you from Gene, as well
as me, and love to any Girding Friends
you see in your adventuring.

Affectionately
Ada A. Grabill.

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709 COLLEGE STREET
BELOIT, WISCONSIN

February 12, 1934.

Dear Rebecca:

What are you doing this
winter? An unusual silence seems
to pervade everything around you, and
I have missed the letters that used
to fly back and forth - brief and as business
as they often were.

But I have a bit of business that
concerns you to discuss with you now:
the filling (I hope, more than filling) the
vacancy that is to occur in the Girding
music department. A letter from Dr. Lee
recently asked me to help you do this.
She speaks of the need being for a teacher

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FEB 12 1934

of theory and of advanced piano. ^{Dirig.}
 Carl was prepared to teach theory and organ.
 I am still puzzled about there being no
 mention of need of the latter. Is anybody
 there prepared to teach it - except her? To my
 mind it is an absolute necessity if Guthrie
 music is to be as useful as it should be.
~~the~~ need there is for reed organ, but of course
 that is simply pipe-organ without pedalling - and
 that is very different from piano. Of the theory
 there is no question.

But now I am going to ask you
 what chance there is of a readjustment
 of work that would make it possible
 for some one to go who does not just
 fill the bill, if we cannot find the person
 that does. You will probably think I am
 crazy, and maybe I am; moreover,
 not having succeeded last time, I hesitate

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FEB 12 1934

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709 COLLEGE STREET

BELOIT, WISCONSIN

Even to make a suggestion (although I am happy that there are three people for whom I am responsible there that are certainly making good!) Miss C— was an offer— unsolicited— of Dr. Andrews of Oberlin, who had trained her, as he had Lydia and who said she was a "second Lydia". When I went to see her, I doubted it; but I knew the Oberlin ~~Agency~~ guaranteed her training, and he seemed so sure, that in the need I weakened.

Now I am watching another Oberlin graduate who lives here, and is at home ^{this winter} because her position at Frances Shiner ^(wedding) was given up. I know her pretty well: ideals, way of working, personality, which is most attractive, etc. She has worked up a children's choir in our (1st Congregational) Church which is outstanding, and the children love it. She is, I judge, about twenty-five. But her Oberlin major was violin.

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FEB 12 1934 no theory [4]

and her minor choral work excellently, though she does the choral work excellently, sings well, and also plays the piano. She comes of a very musical family.

She could take 1st year harmony easily, hesitate about the second year, though I think she could do it, as she has some much farther; could not, she says, undertake counterpoint. But I think that is not offered, or needed. She could not take advanced piano work though I imagine that if Catherine had the confidence she could do it all. Remembering how Wanching longed for a violinist perhaps she would be a boon, for she plays beautifully and gladly, always. She could teach that, but the college doesn't offer it, and perhaps should not. No organ.

I asked her if she would be interested in having me write about her, and she said she would though this of course guarantees nothing on either side. If you think it even interesting to Dr. W., could you write her, or send this? It is of course not worth while to give the Committee her name yet, but it is (Miss) Adalbeth Gull, 1143 Eaton Ave., Beloit, Wisconsin. Much love to you, as always. Ada Grubill.

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Gillingham
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709 COLLEGE STREET

BELOIT, WISCONSIN

March 26, 1934

Dear Rebecca:

I am going to "take my pen in hand" and write you once more about the Gillingham music position to be filled this year. I do not know the standing of the matter at all, or whether you have found a satisfactory person, or even whether there are any candidates at all or not.

Are you considering Miss Lull at all? I do not know that she can go, even if she passed the requirements, but I asked her, and she said she was interested in it.

If you do not want her, do you still want my help in hunting? The only thing I could do is to write conservatories that have high standing in music, and chase down people for you to correspond with. The committee does not meet till April now, I understand, but I do not know what part of the month; and in any case it would be too late now for me to have anyone to propose. I do hope you have been more fortunate.

Such a busy winter this has been! Almost as busy as if I were teaching, though not quite. I have been well, and Gene has been fairly so, but extreme illness on the part of other members of the family has kept us very anxious. The long winter will soon be over now, and I, among many other people will be thankful.

I suppose you have had a great deal of correspondence to do. What else have you been doing? Do let me hear from you.

Affectionately, Ad.

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709 COLLEGE STREET
BELOIT, WISCONSIN

May 10, 1934

Dear Rebecca:

I received a letter from Dr. Wu last week that disturbed me very greatly; and though I suppose nothing can be done about it for the coming year, it will mean that we have to keep on looking for the right person for the music department, for year after next.

Dr Wu told me who the person engaged in China is, with all the things she has done. I feel obliged to write you this, although they will find out whatever needs to be known, at that end, so (it) cannot matter there, and I shall say nothing to Dr. Wu about it.

I have known the person in question rather fully, that is, seen and watched her career, though she probably does not know me. I was at Oberlin the year she graduated (1922) heard her graduating vocal recital--bled inwardly, as did other people, when she was assigned to Kobe. At that time Oberlin vocal training was at an extremely low ebb, though the ~~edy~~ was as good as ever (as it is now), and her training was nothing at all, in that particular line. Neither voice nor personality is equal to a position of such opportunity, although as far as I know she is a nice girl. She did not make good at Kobe, and one of the members of the American Board committee told me privately they were going to have to withdraw her at the end of her short term. They did this, but gave her another chance, in Japan in a more general position. She kept this only one

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709 COLLEGE STREET
BELOIT, WISCONSIN

1934

year, and then, since it is difficult to withdraw people, as you know, to their own detriment, they tried her for a year in Wen Shan, at Foochow. At the end of the year she and the American Board parted company, and she seems to have been for a part of this year at St. Mary's, from which Ginling secured her.

That is her rather sad story, which was easily predictable in 1922. I am so sorry, both for her and for all the work she has been unable to be equal to! As I say, it means that we shall keep on looking, and so I felt obliged to tell you.

My love to you, as always. We expect to spend the summer in Michigan again, so that I shall probably miss Eva again if she comes this way. But please keep me posted.

Affectionately,

Ada.

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Beloit, Wisconsin,

December 20, 1935

Dear Mrs. Inez Dillan:

I do want
to thank you for the printing
material and it is fine,
and a great help in thinking and
talking about the College. I was
anticipated to have the film
in Chicago, and not see it; but
do hope to see it later.

With best wishes, and again
with thanks I am

Yours sincerely,

Ada A. Grubb

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709 COLLEGE STREET
BELOIT, WISCONSIN

April 13, 1936

Rebecca dear:

I can't tell you how glad I was to have a personal word from you again. I have missed the notes you used to write, very much indeed. I have realized how busy you were, and know from my own experience that not writing does not mean not thinking of anyone--and so have tried not to be too discontented. For there is simply not time or strength to go around, is there? Still, it was nice to hear!

I think you are doing a splendid piece of work for Ginling. I imagine the booklet, as well as the letter, was yours, and I liked them both very much: so well thought out; so tasteful, and so effective! That has taken time and pains, I am sure. I do hope it will amount to all it must, for the college.

It distresses me very much to tell you that I am afraid it cannot, as far as Gene and I are concerned, though; and in that I am breaking the pattern, and weakening the plan. But we are both simply "down and out" financially these days. It has grown worse year by year, since '30, until now it really does not leave us any leeway at all. I hope devoutly it is not a permanent state of affairs, but I am afraid it is, more or less, though it may be a little better. Perhaps I was foolish to give up my salary, but I can't be sorry, even so, for we should be together these days.

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APR 13 1936

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I did send Mr. Carter my check for \$25; but how I wish it might have been the hundred! Our church, which she gives the pledge she has always given, in spite of difficulties, because in this day of falling support of missions, she cannot bear to lower it, helps support both Yenching and Kobe, which are of course also in difficulties.

And as everyone here who is doing anything at all is deeply involved with those, as well as with Northland College, in North Wisconsin, and Tillotson, a negro college in Texas, there isn't any place for more to come from, here. The place is simply combed.

What I am wondering about is next year, and the years after that, for Ginling. It is a splendid plan for the present; but it can't be counted on annually, I suppose. Circumstances may change a little, but not enough, and I imagine exchange won't be very different for a long time, as this is much more nearly normal for it than the higher rate. How fortunate mission budgets have been, these last years, to be held up by good exchange!

All I can do is to tell you how very sorry I am, and to hope you will understand that it is not in the least lessened interest or loyalty to Ginling.

How finely the College seems to be doing these days! The opportunity never was so great before. I do so appreciate all the news that comes--and really a good deal comes in one way or another. I have not seen the film, but still hope to do so.

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APR 13 1936

709 COLLEGE STREET
BELOIT, WISCONSIN

Spring seems actually at hand at last. I hope you have kept well, and did not suffer the strain so many people did from the long cold winter. But Pennsylvania has been among the hard-hit States this last month, and I suspect you have seen something of that trouble, which is so near you.

I always take great pleasure in knowing so definitely how you live, in that lovely home, and in such pretty country. My little visit there was a joy. I hope you will be coming our way sometime.

My love to you always--and Gene's too. Do let me know later, if only on a postal card, whether or not this plan carried, and how the college is faring financially.

Affectionately,

Ada Grabill.

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(From Beloit Daily News, July 24th, 1936)

Miss Ada Alice Grabill, well known for her interest and participation in church and missionary affairs both at home and abroad, died here Thursday, July 23, at 2:30 p. m. at the home of her late sister, Mrs. Robert C. Chapin, after a short illness. She was 60 years old. The shock caused by the sudden death of Mrs. Chapin on July 4 and the intense heat are believed to have been the immediate cause of Miss Grabill's death.

Funeral services will be held at her late residence at 709 College Street on Saturday, July 25, at 3:00 p. m. Interment will be at Springfield, Mo.

Miss Grabill was born in Newtonia, Mo. Her family moved to Springfield, Mo., when she was a child and there she attended Drury Academy and Drury College, from which she was graduated in the class of 1897. For several years she devoted herself to the study and teaching of music and she was a student at the Boston Conservatory of Music. After a tour of Europe, she went to China, joining the staff of the Young Women's Christian Association at Shanghai, where she was engaged for several years. She came back to America for a short visit but returned again to the Orient as a teacher in Ginling College in Nanking. After about 12 years work among the Chinese people, a service to which she was especially devoted, she returned to this country and became one of the faculty of Berea College in Kentucky.

In recent years, Miss Grabill made her home in Beloit with her sister, and was actively engaged in church and social work here. She was a member of the First Congregational Church and was director of world fellowship in the church school, as well as a member of the Fellowship Guild, Faculty Women's Club, American Association of University Women, and Treble Clef, a musical organization to which she made a rich contribution. Although her residence here had not been long, she made a real place for herself in community life.

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July 12, 1937

Miss Rebecca W. Griest
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Miss Griest:

I am enclosing the excerpt from the minutes on Miss
Ada Grabill. I have written Miss Hodge that you are sending
it and I am sending the ones to Mrs. New and Bishop Paddock.

Very sincerely,

(Signed) Florence G. Tyler

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COPY

7/20/37 - Sent to Mrs. Ellen Chapin
See Mrs. Chapin folder

MEMORIAL TO MISS ADA A. GRABILL

At the meeting of the Ginling College Board of Founders on May 12, 1937 the following memorial to Miss Ada A. Grabill, who has passed away during the year, was presented by Mrs. Thurston and it was VOTED that this memorial be incorporated in the minutes:

"Miss Ada A. Grabill

"Miss Grabill came to the Music Department of Ginling College in 1922 bringing splendid training for her work and the experience of five years in China under the Y.W.C.A. which made her, from the start, a valuable member of the staff. A generation of Ginling students received from her the gift of musical appreciation and careful training in musical expression. Her standards were high both in her professional and personal life and she left a deep impression on other lives. Her loyalty to Ginling in recent years was added to her years of service, and her death brings a sense of personal loss to man of the Ginling family."

After the presentation of this memorial Miss Hodge led a brief prayer service of thanksgiving for the life and service of this close friend of Ginling College.

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COPY

7/20/37 - Sent to Mrs. Ellen Chapin

See Mrs. Chapin folder

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