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UBCHEA ARCHIVES  
COLLEGE FILES  
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Girling  
Cotres.  
Kirk, Florence 1944-1945

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January 20, 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that

Miss Florence Ada Kirk

is in good health and is not suffering from leprosy, trachoma, tuberculosis, insanity, acute epilepsy, or any other disease likely to endanger public health. She was vaccinated against smallpox on October 9, 1943; and received the triple tetanus, typhus and typhoid-paratyphoid, and the two cholera inoculations between the dates of October 1, 1943 and October 22, 1943.

MEE  
JL

M. E. Elliott, M.D.  
Mabel E. Elliott, M.D.

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MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE  
Middlebury, Vermont

Department of English

January 28, 1944

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York  
New York

My dear Mrs. Mills:

I shall be glad to have Miss Kirk come at any time that is convenient for her and to talk with her about things that may interest her in our English work at Middlebury. Our present term of class work ends February 11th, followed by a period of examinations and the resumption of classes again March 6th. Possibly therefore, it would be more desirable for a visit before we are involved in examinations or after we are under way in the next term. Usually I am out of town on Tuesday and Thursday mornings but otherwise available during the week. If you can let me know when Miss Kirk will come we will plan accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

*Douglas S. Beers*

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January 31, 1944

Dean Bernice Brown Cronkhite  
Radcliffe College  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Dean Cronkhite:

Thank you for your cordial response to my letter suggesting that Miss Kirk pay a visit to Radcliffe. We greatly appreciate your help in arranging for her entertainment and in making contacts for her with the English and Modern Language faculties.

Since I wrote you, we have secured a passage for her on a boat leaving the end of February, so her visits to the colleges will have to be rather brief and she will plan to start immediately. She expects to leave New York Thursday night, February 3rd, arriving in Boston at 7:45 a.m., February 4th. She will go out to Radcliffe immediately after she gets breakfast, which should mean that she will be there at approximately 9 o'clock. She will go first to your office in the Graduate School.

She feels that she must start on to her next appointment Saturday and will be most grateful for anything that you can do for her during the day and a half she is at Radcliffe. She is really more interested in conferring with the faculties than in visiting classes, as her time must be so brief.

Miss Kirk has asked me to express to you her appreciation for your cordiality and to say that she wishes that she could have a week at Radcliffe instead of just a day.

Cordially yours,

Mrs. W. Flumer Mills

CSM:ef

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WHEATON COLLEGE  
NORTON  
MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

February 3, 1944

My dear Mrs. Mills:

Mr. Boas has referred to me your letter of January 26 so that I may send a general invitation to Miss Kirk to come and visit Wheaton and meet any of the faculty with whom she will be interested in talking. We shall be glad to have her visit classes or use the college in any way that will be profitable to her. We shall be glad to entertain her for such time as she can stay here. I hope I am not too late in sending you this information. We are still in the midst of our midyear examinations and our second semester does not start until the 7th. I think almost any time during the week\* will be a good time for Miss Kirk to come. Mr. and Mrs. Boas are to be away, however, from Thursday to Saturday, February 10 to 12.

With cordial greetings to you, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Thomas F. Carpenter*  
Dean

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills  
Ginling College, American Office  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, New York  
MFC:EB

*\*that is, any of these next few weeks*

*Signed for Thomas Carpenter*

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# UNIVERSAL TRADING CORPORATION

EXPORT AND IMPORT  
630 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS  
UNITRACORP  
TELEPHONE  
CIRCLE 5-7646

CODES USED  
BENTLEY'S  
ACME'S

February 8, 1944

Associated Boards for Christian Colleges  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

Reference - Export License for  
Miss Florence Kirk —

*Dwyer*  
*Personal*

Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith is the following export license which  
has been received from the Foreign Economic Administration:

RA-690

22-0549623

\$86.05

Very truly yours,

UNIVERSAL TRADING CORPORATION

Archie Lochhead, President

By *Barbara J. Bowes*  
B. J. Bowes, Secretary

BJB:en

Enc.

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Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China  
150 Fifth Avenue New York, N.Y.

Charge to the account of

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
NIGHT LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

# WESTERN UNION

1206

\$

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

February 8, 1944

Mrs. Laura W. L. Scales  
Smith College  
Northampton, Mass.

EARLY SAILING UNCERTAIN I MAY ARRIVE SMITH WEDNESDAY. WILL  
WIRE DEFINITELY TOMORROW.

Florence Kirk

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Associated Boards for Christian Colleges In China  
 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Charge to the account of \_\_\_\_\_ \$

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
NIGHT LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

# WESTERN UNION

1206

A. N. WILLIAMS  
 PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
 CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
 FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

February 9, 1944

Mrs. Laura W. L. Scales  
 Smith College  
 Northampton, Mass.

ARRIVING NINE FORTY THREE TONIGHT WILL GO DIRECT TO ELLEN  
 EMERSON HOUSE.

Florence Kirk

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GINLING COLLEGE  
Nanking, China

American Office  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York

Feb. 9, 1944

Miss Florence Kirk  
c/o Mrs. Laura W. L. Scales  
Smith College  
Northampton, Mass.

Dear Miss Kirk;

I have just been talking again to Mr. Cameron about this blank for an export license. He says that there are several copies which must all be filled in the same way, and therefore he asks that you do not fill this blank in yourself, but instead give him the information on a separate piece of paper.

He needs to know the Unit Value of each item; that is, 3 tubes at \_\_\_\_\_, and 1 casing at \_\_\_\_\_. He also needs to know the name and address of the supplier.

If you can write out this information on a separate piece of paper, Mr. Cameron will type up the blank in duplicate form.

However, it is necessary that you sign the enclosed blank, so really your signature is the only thing that you need to put on the blank itself.

As soon as it comes back to us, Mr. Cameron will go ahead with getting the license for you.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Alfred Foster

*Sent Special*

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COPY

[Feb. 19, 1944]

Form 7525-V  
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
FOREIGN COMMERCE STATISTICAL  
REGULATIONS  
(See Instr. 5—Reverse Side)

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Read carefully the instructions on back to avoid delay at shipping point

SHIPPER'S EXPORT DECLARATION

OF SHIPMENTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES OR NONCONTIGUOUS TERRITORIES OF THE U. S.

Clearance will not be granted until shipper's declaration has been filed with the collector of customs  
(Declarations should be typewritten or prepared in ink; pencil is not permissible)

File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Section Customs Statistics)  
(This space for use of Customs)

Customs File No.	
District	Port
Flag	Country
Pier No. _____	

Exporting carrier Serpa Pinto (Portuguese) From Philadelphia, Pa.  
(If vessel, give name and flag) (U. S. Customs port of exportation)

Exporter Miss Florence Kirk Passenger  
(Actual shipper or agent) Address (number, street, place, State)

For account of \_\_\_\_\_ Address (number, street, place, State)  
(Principal or seller)

Consignee Passenger Chengtu, China  
(Ultimate consignee) Address (place, country)

Foreign port of unloading Lisbon, Portugal Final Destination Chengtu, China  
(For vessels only) (Not place of transshipment) (Place and country)

(1) MARKS AND Nos.	(2) GROSS WEIGHT (In pounds)	(3) NUMBER AND KIND OF PACKAGES, DESCRIPTION OF MERCHANDISE AND EXPORT LICENSE NUMBER (Describe in sufficient detail to permit classification according to Schedule B. Do not use general terms)	(4) SPECIFY "D" OR "F"	(5) SCHEDULE B COMMODITY No.	(6) NET QUANTITY in Schedule B Units (State unit)	(7) VALUE AT TIME AND PLACE OF EXPORT. (Selling price, or cost if not sold, including inland freight, insurance, and other charges to place of export) <i>Nearest whole dollar</i>
	140	One Box Books and Personal Papers				50.00
	37	2 Pkgs. " " " "				25.00
	126	3 Handbags, clothing and personal effects				235.00
	31	1 Duffle Bag, clothing and personal effects				30.00
		BAGGAGE				
FAK		Carton drugs and vitamins OEWE License 22-0549623	D	8119.98		86.05

Waybill or manifest No. \_\_\_\_\_ (Of exporting carrier) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date of exportation or, if vessel, date of clearance) Total, \$ 426.05

I authorize \_\_\_\_\_ to act as my agent for customs purposes.

I declare that the above is a true account of merchandise shipped to the country named; and that the description and quantity of each article are truly stated at the selling price or market value at time and place of exportation.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me  
on February 19, 1944  
Elizabeth M. Cloud (signed)  
(Title or designation)

(Signature) (signed) Florence A. Kirk  
(Capacity) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Address) c/o Ginling College  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N.Y.  
(Member of firm, secretary, agent, etc.)

<sup>1</sup> If gross weight is not available for each Schedule B item listed in column (5) included in one or more packages, insert the approximate gross weight for each Schedule B item. The total of these estimated weights should equal the actual weight of the entire package or packages.

<sup>2</sup> Insert the appropriate export license number on the line below the description of each item.  
<sup>3</sup> For exports of foreign merchandise (reexports), use Schedule "F." For shipments to Alaska, use Schedule "H."  
<sup>4</sup> Designate foreign merchandise (reexports) with an "F" and exports of domestic merchandise with a "D."

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**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE USE OF THE YELLOW SHIPPER'S EXPORT DECLARATION**  
**(Commerce Form 7525-V)**

(SEE REVERSE SIDE OF THE WHITE DEFENSE AID SHIPPER'S EXPORT DECLARATION  
FORM FOR INSTRUCTIONS RELATING TO THAT FORM)

*(Follow Carefully to Avoid Delay at Shipping Point)*

**1. PROVISIONS OF LAW.**

(a) Vessels shall not be cleared for foreign ports until manifests (or declarations) verified by oath, of the cargo, or its parts have been delivered to the collector at the point of exportation by the owners, shippers, or consignors thereof. Vessels leaving without clearance subject the master of vessel to a penalty of not more than \$1,000 or less than \$500.

(b) Similar provisions apply to exportations by rail, air, vehicle, or ferry.

(c) Shipper's export declarations must also be filed for shipments between the United States and its noncontiguous territories.

(d) For instructions regarding the use of this form for parcel-post exportations, see Section 91, Part II, United States Official Postal Guide.

**2. SHIPPER'S EXPORT DECLARATIONS (COMMERCE FORM 7525-V).**

(a) Must be made in triplicate for all merchandise shipped to foreign countries or to and from noncontiguous territories of the United States. (Commerce Form 7525-V should not be filed for foreign merchandise shipped in transit through the United States from one foreign country to another. In lieu thereof, "Shipper's Export Declaration for In-Transit Goods" on Commerce Form 7513 should be filed.) (A copy of this declaration is acceptable in various foreign countries to meet certain of their entry requirements. Therefore, on shipments to those countries, the declaration must be filed in quadruplicate. This list of countries includes Canada, Haiti, and Panama; and Argentina and Uruguay for air-express shipments.)

(b) The name of the shipper or his agent must appear on the space provided for "(Signature)" in the lower right-hand corner of all copies of the Declaration, but only the original (or the collector's copy) need be manually signed. The original declaration covering shipment by vessel must be verified by oath before a notary public, customs officer, or other person authorized to administer oaths. Oath is not required on declaration covering shipment to Canada or Mexico by rail, vehicle, or ferry.

(c) Agent's authority must be in writing on declaration or other document filed with the collector. Declarations are treated as confidential.

(d) Declarations must be presented to the Collector of Customs, who will retain the original and certify one copy for presentation by shipper to the transportation company, to be attached to outward vessel or car manifest. The duplicate (or statistical) copy shall be forwarded by the collector to the Section of Customs Statistics, Customhouse, New York, N. Y.

(e) When shipments are made from the interior on through bills of lading to foreign destination, declarations in triplicate must accompany waybills (if preferred, in sealed envelope) to port of exportation.

(f) On local bills of lading, declarations may accompany the goods, or be mailed to consignee at seaboard.

(g) For shipments by rail to Mexico and Canada separate declarations should be prepared for each carload.

(h) The final place and country of destination, not the place of transshipment, should be shown in the space provided for "Final Destination." Special care should be taken to give the final place and country of destination for goods shipped through Canada, United Kingdom, Panama Canal Zone, or other seaboard countries for transshipment to other countries, such as through Chile or Peru, destined for Bolivia.

(i) In the case of shipments by vessel, the date of exportation, for statistical purposes, is the date of clearance of the vessel.

(j) The name and address of the ultimate consignee shall be furnished in accordance with the provisions of Treasury Decision 50433.

(k) Certificates of inspection by Department of Agriculture, for export of cheese, oleomargarine, butter, meats, and other food products must be furnished when required.

**3. DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES, QUANTITIES, AND VALUES.**

*Column 1.*—Insert marks and numbers.

*Column 2.*—Insert gross weight in pounds.

*Column 3.*—Insert number and kinds of packages, description of merchandise and export license number. The merchandise must be described in sufficient detail to permit its classification in accordance with the commodity description provided in Department of Commerce Schedules "B" or "F," "STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATIONS OF DOMESTIC OR FOREIGN COMMODITIES EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES." The description of the articles must be definite and complete. Trade-marks and general terms such as "dry goods," "groceries," "meats," etc., are not sufficient.

*Column 4.*—Specify whether of domestic or foreign origin. Exports of domestic merchandise (U. S. products) include articles grown, produced, or manufactured in the United States. Exports of foreign merchandise (reexports) include articles reexported in the same condition as imported. Foreign articles changed by alteration or manufacture become U. S. articles and are to be classified as "domestic."

*Column 5.*—Insert the Schedule B commodity code number for exports of domestic merchandise. Insert the Schedule F commodity code number for exports of foreign merchandise (reexports). (See Instruction 4 (a) below.)

*Column 6.*—Insert the net quantity in Schedule B or F units. State the unit of quantity shown.

*Column 7.*—Insert the dollar value at time and place of export. Value stated should be the selling price, or cost if not sold, including inland freight, insurance, and other charges to border point or seaport.

**4. SCHEDULES AND BLANKS.**

(a) Schedules B and F, statistical classifications of exports, may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., or from Collectors of Customs.

(b) Shipper's Export Declarations may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., or from the Collectors of Customs for 30 cents per block of 100. They may be printed by private parties provided they conform to the official form in size, wording, color, and arrangement.

**5. FOREIGN COMMERCE STATISTICAL REGULATIONS.**

For more detailed information regarding the preparation of the export declaration, refer to the Regulations for Collection of Statistics of Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States (Title 15, Chapter I, Part 30, Code of Federal Regulations), copies of which may be obtained free of charge from the Department of Commerce Field Offices, located in the principal cities; the Section of Customs Statistics, Customhouse, New York, N. Y.; and the Division of Foreign Trade Statistics, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D. C.  
Revised June 15, 1942.

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(Banc)

Tuesday Evening  
Feb. 29, 1944

Dear Mrs. Mills,

It was so very good of you and Plummer and Harriet to come down to the train to see me off in that festive style. Many thanks for all the good wishes, and the generous offers of help about correspondence. It was a very quick and uneventful trip to Philadelphia, and Alice Morris Raspa and her husband met me at the train and looked after me beautifully yesterday and to-day. It is 8:30 now and mail will still go off. Alice and I got to the pier about noon, and it took from then until about 4 o'clock to see the officers about money carried, and then to go through customs. The licenses were all in order - please tell Mr. Cameron - and I have sent back the forms he asked me to send him. If my papers come back from the censor on board I shall send Mr. Evans the correspondence he asked to have returned; if not, I shall send it from Portugal. None of my luggage has come on board, but the officer assures me I shall get it; he says the men are working just as fast as they can. I think we shall not get going very quickly.

What I saw of Philadelphia seemed very interesting and attractive, and I should like to see more of it. It was a pleasure to see Alice and her parents once more; we got to know them very well when we were in Shanghai the first year of the war.

I had a good sheaf of letters this afternoon when I got on board. Dr. Reeves wrote that she feels well now. She had

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enjoyed Rebecca's visit very much, There was no mention of future plans.

By the way, we never did find out the cost of Lillian's pictures. Would you be kind enough to find that out and give the item to Mr. Evans so that it can be included in the adjustment they will make shortly.?

Please give my best regards to Plummer and Harriet, and I shall tell the people in West China about you. Many thanks for all you have done to make my weeks in New York really delightful. I am writing sitting on my bed, and the badness of the typing is partly due to the awkward position!

Affectionately,

Florence West

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COMPANHIA COLONIAL  
DE NAVEGAÇÃO



Thursday, March 9  
approaching the Azores

[17]

VAPOR

Dear Mrs. Mills,

We have had an unexpected trip so far, but it has been a rough voyage. We were congratulating ourselves that we were accustomed to the motion of the ship when yesterday the "roll" changed to the complicated motions of "pitch and roll." Many passengers have been miserable most of the trip. For a war voyage we have been quite comfortable. The heavy meat diet and the fried foods do not appeal to <sup>us</sup> you: you should see our delight at lettuce and radish salad - with no dressing! When we were asked to give suggestions for the menu, our table said: sliced tomatoes, baked potatoes, and baked apples. The first of these has already appeared.

C. C. N. - Mod. 127.

Kisbm Address  
c/o A. S. Teixeira Pereira  
Av. João Crisostomo  
46-30 D -  
Lisbon, Portugal

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Not much is done to relieve the monotony of the day: there are no movies, and no deck games. The children have had a party, and the last day or two <sup>there have been</sup> dancing and house-racing. However, the day passes quickly, for eating, sleeping, walking the deck, and chatting consume a lot of time. Some of us play bridge before dinner each day. At 9:30 a.m. there is a prayer service, and on some days an evening meeting. Missionaries and children — about 75 of each — give the Testament tone to the boat. Most of the missionaries are going to Africa, three to Palestine and Iraq, two to India, and I am the only one going to China.

I suppose that before this the culling office has received my microfilm of play which the censor extracted. It was very stupid of me not to have had these put in with my books, but I never thought that was necessary, perhaps because they were not packed to go in

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[37] a box of books. I was quite disap-  
pointed to be deprived of these plays,  
because I wanted to do specific work  
on these when the absence of librarians  
prevented other research. Can you  
work a miracle and get them to me?  
They are "play of John Hatcher (1610-1625)"  
and as such should have no  
copies! Could you have the microfilm  
reproduced, so that anyone could view  
it? If Miss Wolmsley comes, could  
she be asked to view it? If she does  
not get away, could it be sent air-  
mail to me in India - or if I write  
from Portugal that we're actually going  
by way of Africa, to me in Durban, as  
being less expensive? Here are  
addresses, in case something can be  
worked out:

c/o Oslo Mansion

106 West St.

Durban, Union of South Africa

c/o Mrs. Ewan Rees

16 Elgin Rd.

London Missionary Society

Calcutta, India

The customs man certainly did a  
thorough job. In case the microfilm has not

MAR. 9.

[PH] Reached the Consular office, could you write the Customs Department at Philadelphia for it? So sorry to bother you about this.

Please give my best regards to the office staff—especially Mr. Evans, Mr. Cameron, and Mrs. Foster. Much love to yourself. Could you phone Helen Kaminis and tell her all's well? Many thanks.

Affectionately,

Lawrence Fertig

P.S. March 14. Arrived safely in Lisbon yesterday afternoon, and had no fuss with customs. I am with a party of nine people bound for Africa, so we were met by an agent and looked after very well. We are lodged in a private home—the third floor of an apartment block, and get meals there. Many things are strange, but we shall be quite comfortable. I shall write you the details later.

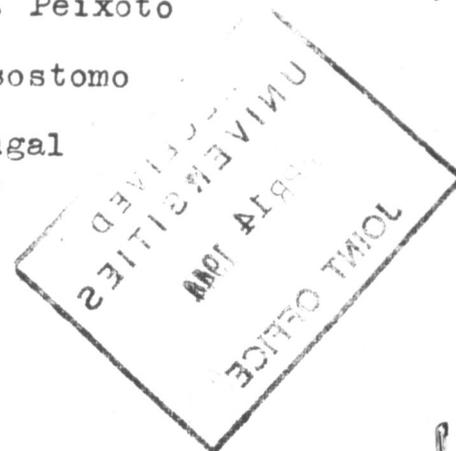
There is no hopeful news of getting away speedily. The round-the-Africa route, <sup>or</sup> may be delayed here two months. I understand that the March 12 boat has been withdrawn—we are told that 1000 people are waiting here for passage. We are investigating all routes—Mediterranean, air, etc., and will keep you posted about developments, but apparently things move slowly. However, we're happy and looking forward to a good time here.

Can you get the microfilm plays to me here? We're glad to be on land. Attached it was a good voyage. See Lisbon address on page 1. Love, Lawrence

0688

c/o A.J.S.T. Peixoto

Av<sup>a</sup> Joao Crisostomo  
46- 3<sup>o</sup> D.  
Lisbon, Portugal  
March 18, 1944



Mr. C.A. Evans  
Room 902  
150- Fifth Avenue  
New York City

Dear Mr. Evans,

I am enclosing the correspondence you asked me to return. There was no trouble about getting the exit requirement waived. When I spoke of it at the Office of Internal Revenue, the man said it would be done on board ship and that there would be no trouble. It did not seem to be considered there.

I want to thank you for all you did for me while home on ILLUMIN and especially the weeks I was in New York. The courtesy extended to me was unflinching, and I appreciated it. I was so glad of an opportunity of getting to know the personnel in 902, and perhaps such contacts may help in bringing about a closer understanding between field and home boards.

The news is good. I have a sailing for April 12 on the "Angola", a boat belonging to the Companhia Nacional de Navegacao, to Lorenzo Marques. We registered with Cook's, and yesterday they told us of this sailing. We think we are very fortunate, the "we" being Mrs. Zwemer and myself, both of us bound for India. We have been busy this week going to various offices in connection with sailing, to the consulates, the shipping companies, international police. A rumour has been spread that there is to be a second Jewish refugee ship through the Mediterranean, so we tried to find out all we could concerning that. If it goes, its destination is Haifa and we might have our troubles getting any passages beyond that point. We hear there is serious congestion at Cairo, so at present our best chance seems to be via Africa. Until recently, we are told, there was congestion at Lorenzo Marques, but the group there has been moved on, so conditions are better now than in the past. We have hopes that we can find out about passage to India before leaving here. Perhaps, Mr Evans, you might send this paragraph to Miss Marquis, for general information. If I have any suggestions to offer after being here longer, I shall let her know.

Mrs. Zwemer and I and seven others are lodged in a private home, at Signor Peixoto's. We are comfortable - chilly, of course, when we are inside, for there is no heat at all, except what we provide for with kerosene stoves - have good food, and every help from Signor Peixoto. We are able to manage here, too, for less than at an hotel - likely for \$2.50 U.S. a day, though we cannot quite tell yet. Lisbon is a beautiful city, with its fair buildings, open squares, budding trees and flowers. It will be a unique experience to see spring in Portugal. When we first arrived the general opinion was that we should not get away before two months, so our sailings are a pleasant surprise. We are happy, and enjoying life immensely. It is good to be on land, and in such a beautiful place.

All good wishes to yourself, Mrs. Mills, and the others,

Very sincerely, *Harold A. Kent*

*P.S. I am hoping that Mrs. Mills will be able to set my microfilm plays to me here, but this sailing always needs time than I indicated in my letter to her*

Handwritten numbers on the right margin: 3, 8, 2, 7, 5, 4

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FAST

DIRECT



# RCA



## RADIOGRAM R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

A RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA SERVICE

TO ALL THE WORLD — BETWEEN IMPORTANT U. S. CITIES — TO SHIPS AT SEA

FORM 112-B. R.-53

TEL. ALGONQUIN 4-7050

RECEIVED AT **45 E. 17TH STREET NEW YORK, AT** MAR 24 1944 **STANDARD TIME**

BR10 XH PG624 LISBOA 25 23 1300 VIA RCA..

NLT GINLING COLLEGE BOARD 150 FIFTHAVE NEWYORKCITY  
ON COOKS DEMAND PAY FIRST CLASS PASSAGE STEAMSHIP ANGOLA  
TO LOURENCOMARQUES RETURNING ELMELL ORDER FOR REFUND

(FLORENCE KINR

*Florence Kirk*

MM. SIGNATURE INDISTINCTLY WRITTEN..

CFM. 150

**TELEPHONE HAnover 2-1811** To secure prompt action on inquiries, this original RADIOGRAM should be presented at the office of R. C. A. COMMUNICATIONS, Inc. In telephone inquiries quote the number preceding the place of origin.

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RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES  
MAY 3 1944  
JOINT OFFICE

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COPY

c/o Sr. A. J. T. S. Peixoto  
Av<sup>a</sup> João Crisostomo  
46 - 3<sup>o</sup> D.  
Lisbon, March 25, 1944

Dear Mrs. Mills:

Well, I've news again. I'm sailing today on the "Mouziuhó" - a boat belonging to the same company we travelled with coming over. That means that the Eberell order for transportation from Lisbon to Lourenço Marques is all right and you can just disregard my cabled night letter sent March 23. I sent the cable to get the financial difficulty cleared so I could go on the April twelfth sailing - for there is trouble, at least, in arranging a transfer of orders from one company to another, although Miss Marquis thought it would be simple. Perhaps the trouble is being cleared up now in New York. I had just sent the cable, and came home to find I had a sailing for today. The hours since 1:30 p.m. Thursday have been hectic, but we've gone through the formalities, and have our tickets. We embark at 4 this afternoon, the "we" being Mrs. Zwemer and myself. We're very lucky, for it looks as though some of the missionaries waiting here may not get away for two or three months unless there is some change in the situation - and we had two sailings each! The company gave these passages to us, I think, because we go to the end of the route and were more profitable than those going, say, to West Africa.

There's been a bad mix-up here about passages, due, apparently, to misunderstandings between the companies and Mr. Guancha, and the general stiff competition among agents. [What would I advise for others coming this route? It's difficult to say, but from my present knowledge, I'd say, "On arrival, go to Cook's and book a passage!" Also, another thing seems to bring results, - that is, on arrival write a personal letter to the steamship company, or companies, stating the urgency of the need for the person to get on the way to the field.] Mr. Guancha did a good job in securing accommodation in hotels and homes, and perhaps in the mix-up mentioned above he's merely a victim of circumstances.

If the microfilm hasn't been sent on, you'll know, at least, that I'm no longer here.

Will write again. Could you send the enclosed letter air-mail to Lillian? Many thanks. All good wishes,

Florence Kirk

We've had a most enjoyable stay in Lisbon and have done a good many very interesting things. WE're happy, however, to be moving along. I'd heartily recommend Signor Peixoto's home for any missionaries coming out; he's intelligent and anxious to help, and speaks English very well. He has been kindness itself. We feel we've made a friend. Please tell Helen Loomis the news. Thanks

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Cape Town, South Africa, April 29 [1944]

Dear Cornelia,

We are in dock now, five weeks since we left Lisbon. We should, I am afraid, have been quite discouraged if we had known as we left Portugal that the voyage would take this long. However, it has been a very pleasant trip, uneventful, and full of fun. When we were in the equatorial region, we longed for cool weather, but now that we have gotten cool airs, we think the heat was more enjoyable. There is no pleasing human creatures! We have passed in the daytime almost no other ships, and the chief events have been the nine stops along the way. We were allowed off at Oporto, Luanda and Lobito, and may get permission to disembark to-day. Cape Town looks very worth while seeing, and we are hoping that this afternoon we may see something of it for ourselves.

In Lobito we visited the Methodist compound, saw a school in session and drove out in cars to see a small church at the edge of the city and a new housing project for average income people. The pastor told us he had received word from friends of his, missionaries waiting at Lourenco Marques for passage for India, that they would not get on their way until June or July. That doesn't sound very promising for us, but we may have the good luck we had in Lisbon and get passage before long. We expect to stay in Lourenco Marques long enough to enquire about passage, and get letters, and then make for Durban. I have a cousin living at Springs, and I am hoping to visit her en route to Durban.

All goes well with me. Just a few days ago I contracted the complaint going the rounds of the ship, a form of dysentery which some have labelled "Lisbon Stomach." I am better now, and never had much trouble. If we get off today we are visiting a milk bar and having cold milk to drink and ice-cream. Canned milk, sweetened at that, does not attract me, and we often long to go to the corner drugstore for even the simplest of food! We realize we are having an unusually good voyage and are grateful. We have on board some of the missionaries who were on the Zamzam, and the comforts of this ship seem to them luxuries. I am very glad we are travelling "first", for "second" on this boat would have been really disagreeable, particularly in the heat.

I hope that all goes well in New York. I am wondering how the spring bulletin has turned out - well, I am sure - what news there is from Dr. Wu and Ginling, how Mrs. New is, and all the work at the Ginling office. Perhaps by now you have a different apartment. Here we lead a very lazy existence, and sometimes we wonder if we shall be able to settle down to work again. We have a very jolly group on board, a group fond of deck games and fun, and the days go by very quickly without much to show in the way of reading or letters.

Please give my best wishes to Mr. Mills and Harriet, and to Mr. Evans, Mr. Cameron, Mrs. Foster. Much love to you,

Affectionately,  
Stewart

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Miss Florence A. Kirk  
Ginling College  
Chengtu, Szechwan, China

Ginling College  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N.Y.  
May 5, 1944

Dear Florence:

Your letter of March 25th reached me some time before the one you began on the boat, dated March 9th, and finished on March 14th after your arrival in Lisbon. The one you wrote to Mr. Evans about the same time came before either of the ones to me. Such are the irregularities of mail these days.

Your microfilm plays came back to us, and we are now working on getting them passed by the authorities and mailed out to you. I think mail will be the quickest way if we find we can divide the film into sufficiently small parts to go within the two-ounce allowance for first-class mail. If we find we can't mail them, we will try some other way, and will surely get them to you as soon as possible. Actually I think you will get them before you get your box of books, so perhaps it is fortunate that you had not packed them that way.

We are grateful for your careful analysis of the problems of travel and for your recommendations to those who come after you. Miss Walmsley finally got away, but we have not heard from her since she sailed, so do not know how she has fared. We hear that there is terrible congestion all along the line, but you probably know all about that. I sincerely hope that you did not have too long a delay in Africa, though a few days there would be interesting.

We are in the midst of preparations for the annual meetings which begin next week. In fact a series of meetings of the Planning Committee begins tonight, so that for the next ten days we will be very much occupied. Of course, we will be sending minutes and reports, so that you will be kept informed of all developments.

I mailed your letter to your sister and have passed on copies of your letters to Helen, and also told Mrs. New of your progress. She has been very, very busy with final papers and exams, and I fear is pretty well worn out. I hope she gets a good rest this summer.

I am most anxious to hear from you after your arrival in Chengtu. You know I am counting heavily on your help with publicity material. As I have already written Dr. Wu, Miss Tomlinson is asking for definite stories of how the Faculty Aid Fund has helped people. She feels that this sort of information will be the very best kind of publicity and make a strong appeal when we begin our fall soliciting. I think, too, that we need stories of the constructive work that Ginling is doing, as I don't want to stress relief more than our on-going program. I want very much all the information and pictures you can send of the rural station at Chung Ho Chang. The Universalist Women are giving \$3,000 a year toward this work and of course they want fresh and vital material for their publicity. Almost anything that happens on the campus is grist for our publicity mill, so send me all you can. We would rather have too much than too little. Margaret Turner's Nanking Newsletter is fine, and a great help.

I have just heard through Helen Loomis, who got the news from your sister, that you have been elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Heartiest congratulations! We are proud of you. I know that the honor is richly deserved, and I am happy that your work has received this recognition.

Do let me know if there is anything I can do to help you. We think of you constantly and always with genuine concern for your welfare.

Affectionately,

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Y.W.C.A., Durban, S. Africa, June 8, 1944

Dear Mrs. Mills,

I think it is time I was sending you a brief report of my doings! Mrs. Zwemer is with me here and we are hoping that before long we shall have news that we are proceeding on our way. We call each day at the office of Parry, Leon, and Hayhoe as they asked us to do, but so far the news had invariably, "Nothing, Ladies, yet."

It is just a month ago that we landed at Lourenco Marques. It took us a day or two to get cleared from the boat, for we came in on a Sunday, but it was a record that we got cleared and our S. African visas in one day, on the Monday; then we were able to take our luggage from the boat, and we settled at the Club Hotel where we were very comfortable. We left that city on Friday, about the first train we could get after the railway company could make sure of reservations. We liked the brief stay there, for it was beautifully sunny weather and there were a certain number of things to see. On the Thursday of that week we saw the "Mouzinho" leave for Beira and saw our few friends sail away, and for a change we were on the pier. After six weeks on this Portuguese boat, it seemed almost like a second home to us, and it seemed strange to see it go off. We had gotten to know so many on board that we were interested in its future voyage.

Then we crossed into South Africa. We had a delightful weekend at Pretoria, the executive capital, at the home of a passenger of the "Mouzinho"; he had a charming family, and they gave us illuminating glimpses into Africaans life and ways of feeling, and made us feel very much at home. They had a car and we saw all that was worthy seeing in the vicinity. Then on to Johannesburg where I hoped to make connections with my cousin who lives about forty miles out of Johannesburg at Springs; however, after we made an engagement, she phoned to say that the illness of her small daughter had just been diagnosed as scarlet fever, and we were not allowed to visit there. This was a disappointment for I hope to be seeing her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Sparling, at Chengtu; however, they are due to come home this summer, so she will doubtless be seeing them in the near future. I did have lunch with Eva Spicer's sister and brother-in-law, the Sidney Potter's; they were charming people, and we were only sorry that we were not staying long enough to see more of them; he is a newspaper man there, and they could tell us much of the other side of the political picture, that of the pro-British group, if one might call it that. Then we came on to Durban. The train trip had its joys and discomforts; for one thing, we just about froze coming into Pretoria, for it turned very cold just that night, and there was no button to summon a potter for more bedding; I doubt if we had summoned him whether there would have been extra bedding forthcoming, for the bedding comes to each passenger in a gunny sack! The trains were not air-conditioned, and the dust and smoke were bad. The meals were good, and the scenery as we came through the Transvaal and Natal changing all the while. We had interesting compartment mates and found out a good deal from them about this country.

We came to Durban without any accomodation, a dangerous thing to do during the "Durban season" when all hotels are full. The railway company had been unsuccessful in securing any accomodation for us by wire, but they suggested that we go on our arrival to their office near the station and probably they could get us a place for a night or two, and we could look

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found for ourselves. We followed their advice and got a place for two nights in a hotel. Before going to the hotel we visited the American Consulate and the shipping company, and they advised us to try the Y.W., saying they thought we would not like the hotel, for sailors chiefly settled there! The Y.W. could take us, and we got a double room on the third floor, a room with a view of the Bay. We are comfortably situated, and fortunate to be so centrally located.

Our "transient" table in the dining-room is interesting: one lady is a nurse, and goes out to give daily massages; another is a Roman Catholic missionary from the Belgian Congo, here to visit a friend who is ill in the hospital; two are Australian ladies from Tanganyika, now waiting to get home; one is waiting to go to Cairo to do Y.W.C.A. work, and then there are the two of us. We have a very congenial group, and every meal is a lot of fun. We have a good deal of fun about our probable goings, and wonder if we shall end up by finding we are passengers on the same vessel. If we should, I know we should be very happy.

What have we done while we are here? Until yesterday the sun shone every day, so it was very pleasant to be outside. We visited parks, the aquarium, the Snake Park, the Zulu dancing, a diamond cutting factory (actually this was in Johannesburg), and went the thirty-five miles on the bus to see the Valley of a Thousand Hills. We had a small gift to take to a Durban lady - given us by a friend on the "Mouzinho"; this has given us entrée into an interesting home where we have been entertained most hospitably; for instance, the other day we were guests at dinner and tea on the occasion of this lady's parents' forty-fifth wedding anniversary. I have done a good deal of reading, and have found the public library has lots of interesting books. We have seen such movies as the ancient "Naughty Marietta" and the more recent "Road to Morocco," which was full of laughs. Now "The More the Merrier" has come, so you will be able to judge how far the movies are behind those of New York.

Of course, the last three days the one topic of conversation has been the Invasion of Europe. I first heard the news when I bought an Extra on the streets near noon on Tuesday the sixth. The churches here were crowded that day; yesterday we went to a service of intercession in the City Hall at noon; the shops were closed from 12 to 2 so everyone, it seemed, flocked there; thousands were seated, and hundreds stood. It was quite impressive. The churches to-day have intercession services also. On Tuesday night we heard the King's broadcast, and later a News Reel from London which gave us some fine glimpses into the actual starting of the paratroops, comments from men on board planes, songs of men on the ships. Then we have read Pres. Roosevelt's prayer. It is a terrific undertaking and seems to have been magnificently planned.

I have been wondering how Miss Walmsley's sailing has progressed. I suppose you have read of the terrible experience of the "Serpa Pinto" on a recent crossing when it was held up by a German submarine and its passengers kept in lifeboats for nine hours: the doctor and two others lost their lives; I suppose it is the doctor we knew. What have you been able to manage concerning the packet of plays?

I hope all goes well with you and your family. I got a little Ginling news from Eva's sister - that the Ginling faculty aid fund was being dispensed in the form of eggs to faculty. I have been disappointed that no letters have arrived here, for I gave this address to my sister

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on leaving Philadelphia; we say to ourselves that we are now experiencing a little of what happens to the armed forces a good deal of the time. We watch the bulletin board for letters, just as if we got daily mail, but I have had none since late February. I am hoping there will be some for me in India.

This is a paragraph that Miss Marquis might be interested in for future travellers, though I know conditions change quickly. From what we have seen there is no use in sending cables from Lisbon to Lourenco Marques or Durban about passage arrangements, for nothing is done until the passenger actually arrives here. I was advised to send a cable to the Delagoa Bay Agency, Lourenco Marques, by the British Consul in Lisbon, in preference to sending to Parry, Leon, and Hayhoe; however, I think that Parry, Leon and Hayhoe are the better company; I also cabled a message signed by the British Consul to the British Consul in Lourenco Marques, on the advice of the British Consul; neither of the cables did the slightest bit of good, I think; I would advise sending no cable, but this is because of the experience we have had, and might not be good advice another time.

The Club Hotel is a good hotel in Lourenco Marques - \$3. U.S. a day; it is centrally located and after the "Mouzinho" it seemed to us to have excellent food. When we landed here I called at the Osla Mansions on West Street - the place which someone had recommended to Miss Marquis, - because I had given it as a forwarding address and thought there might be some mail for me. I was not at all impressed with the place, but I am only judging from the externals. It is near the beach, but a goodish walk from the centre of town. I would advise women to try to get a place at the Y.W., for this is comparatively cheap and is located centrally. By the way, "Osla Mansion" now has a new name, "Lorna Mansion", though either name would be all right.

June 8, later in the day: Well, we have rather discouraging news now - that we shall not leave here before the end of this month, and probably not before the end of July! Of course, there might be an off chance of some other development, but that is the opinion to-day. We really felt we might soon be going, but this is quite another story. Mrs. Zwemer ought to be teaching the end of this month, so this is very disturbing news for her. It seems that I shall be doing well if I get to Ginling by fall opening. I wrote Dr. Wu a week ago, but had good prospects then to tell her of. After all, I suppose an occasional civilian to be transported is a small thing in comparison with the scale of war events in these days!

I hope that you got the word through Lillian of my arrival here. I shall send you a night letter about the time I hope to get away, and also when I arrive in India. When I do, please write Lillian and give her the news too. Many thanks.

Durban is busy with a Cavalcade program which culminates the latter part of July, a plan to raise money for the Governor-General's Fund to look after returned S. African soldiers and their families. Many business places have chosen Cavalcade Queens; the reigning queen is the one which raises the most money. The unique Cavalcade Queen is "Nellie" the elephant in Mitchell park, the representative for Parks and Public Works. The other day we saw her with her keeper; she plays the mouthorgan, and does many other stunts for the visitors to the park. She is temperamental, like many queens, and when her keeper went on holiday some time ago, she refused to eat or behave normally. He has now not had a holiday for years!

Good-night and all good wishes, Affectionately,

*Stewart H. Kirk*

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DIRECT



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150 FIFTHAVE NEWYORK

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LET LILLIAN KNOW BEST WISHES LOVE

FLORENCE KIRK

CFM 150

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SAFE BOMBAY INFORM SISTER=

FLORENCE KIRK ==

*Relayed  
 to Lillian Kirk  
 by telegram  
 7/24/44*

*Florence cables "Safe Bombay" x WE  
 join you in <sup>heartly</sup> thanksgiving*

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Miss Florence Kirk  
Ginling College  
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Ginling College  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N.Y.  
July 28, 1944

Dear Florence:

I was very glad indeed to get your good letter from Durban and to learn something of your travel experiences. I imagine the trip has had its trying moments, but there seem to have been compensations. Harriet has always insisted that there is more than enough of interest to make up for any hardship in a missionary's journey to China these days. I am sure she would go at the drop of a hat!

We were thrilled to get the word that you were safe in Bombay and are now eagerly awaiting word of your arrival in Chengtu. I sent a copy of your letter to Lillian and we also telegraphed her the word of your arrival in Bombay. I also sent to Miss Marquis copies of the paragraphs in your letter dealing with arrangements about passage and hotel accommodations. I am sure she will be grateful for all information, though she may not have occasion to use it very soon, as it seems that it is getting increasingly difficult to get passports. We hear that Claude Thomson's has been approved, though it is not yet in hand. Plumer makes no progress at all with his, so I don't know when he will get away.

I sent your letter on to Helen Loomis, also a copy of the one you wrote me. I imagine she will be writing you soon. She is planning to move in about a week - back to 468 Riverside Drive where she lived before she took her present apartment. Pat is going with her, and there will be a third person in the group. Abigail is taking the apartment Helen now has and will have her mother with her this winter.

Mrs. New is at Vassar and seems to be having a wonderful time. I know she is a great addition to the Child Welfare Group working there this summer.

We don't hear from Dr. Wu very often, but she is always cheerful when she does write and tells us to fang-sin about her. Of course she is terribly busy with more calls upon her time than she can possibly meet.

We have had no word from Miss Walmsley since she left. I wonder if you have encountered her anywhere along the way. I hope she isn't marooned somewhere, though there seem to be all sorts of possibilities along that line.

I know how eagerly the group in Chengtu are looking forward to your coming, and I know what strength and encouragement you will bring to them. You will remember, I am sure, all our conferences on publicity, and that I am depending on you to furnish us with all sorts of interesting and stimulating information, and pictures, too, if you can possibly get them. We send out an appeal in the fall and another in the spring, and I am leaning heavily on you to furnish the ammunition for my guns.

I hope you are well. Do take care of yourself and don't land in a hospital as Miriam Null did.

All best wishes,

Affectionately yours,

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills

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Ginling College, Chengtu, China,  
September 25, 1944

See  
last page  
Cynthia  
please

Dear Friend,

The past six and a half months since I left Philadelphia have been quite exciting, filled with events which resemble a luxury cruise rather than the hardships of wartime travel. The fifteen thousand miles or more which separate Philadelphia and Chengtu were a real education, for I did not touch at a single place I had ever seen before (until I came to Chungking, two hundred miles from Chengtu). Until I reached India I did not come across - on boats, or in cities where I waited - any other person going to China, though I frequently heard of a group of thirty missionaries ahead of me, and of others following with all the speed possible in these days when governments put civilian needs second to the war effort. In India it was something of a shock to discover large numbers of China missionaries just evacuated from their stations because of the threat to their safety when the Japanese armies occupied more and more territory, stations scattered from north to south, in Honan, Shensi, Kwantung, Fukien and Kweichow. The general question asked me was, "And are you going in now?" That I was going to "Free China" was sufficient answer. Even so, there were few women coming in this direction. In Kunming an Air-force man said, "Do you mean to tell me you have just come in by plane from India?" When I said, "Yes," he said, "Why, then, can't my wife get passage?" When I flew in the seven hours from Calcutta to Kunming, I was the only woman passenger on the two planes.

It has not been reassuring to visit Portugal, South Africa, and India, for these countries have a multitude of problems that would be difficult of solution even in peace time. It was a shock to learn, for instance, that there is seventy percent illiteracy in Portugal, and a visitor in other countries is conscious often of the divisions rather than of the unity of feeling. I felt very ignorant of these parts of the world, and was grateful for the necessity of staying for weeks in Durban, for instance; this gave me an opportunity of observation at least, and made me interested in the whole situation there.

In India and China the Allied war effort is very much in evidence. The main street of Calcutta, Chowringhee, seems dominated by crowds of Americans in uniform, in jeeps, in trucks, in rickshas, and on foot. There are British soldiers also, especially from England and Australia. The awful traffic of this street, with its trams, buses, ox-carts, bicycles, rickshas, cars, and horse-carriages that make one think of the 1880's, is complicated by the army trucks and jeeps, and of course by the occasional cows who mildly chew their cud and switch their tails at the busiest of intersections, and always unchallenged. Men in uniform were everywhere, both in the cities and on trains, and in camps scattered across the country. One Anglo-Indian girl on the train told me, "In our school we find it very difficult to get food supplies; the American army buys it all up in large quantities." Similarly in China. The small Chinese children hold up their thumbs, saying "ding-hao", one phrase the American soldier uses, and which now has almost come to symbolize an American.

I was lucky to have such comfortable modes of travel. I had passages on the three occasions on regular passenger boats, and had not to adjust to the strict regulations governing travel on transports and

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troopships. In India I found train travel most interesting, and then came in to China by plane. The last part of the journey took eight days by truck -which you must do yourself to appreciate! I felt ~~very~~ rested when I arrived, quite ready to get to work again after being away from teaching for three years.

Portugal: I may tend to romanticize Portual, for I remember it with some of the joy I had when I first saw Lisbon. We had had a rather unpleasant Atlantic crossing, and were eager to set foot on land; it had been an aggravation to have to see what we could of the Azores from the ship's deck. We came up the river into Lisbon on a sunny day in early March. There followed weary hours in the Customs House over luggage, but finally about six o'clock we issued forth. A glorious sunset was casting its aura over the city, ~~over~~ the seven hills covered with the multicolored stucco houses. We drove along in a miniature car through the centre of the city with its wide-paved streets where trees were partially leafed out, and here and there wisteria hung over walls, and flower-girls offered carnations, tulips, sweet-peas and roses for sale. It seemed a fairy-land of vivid color. The breath of spring was in the air. When we were told that we should have to wait two or three months before we could get a ship onwards, we thought, "Well, it will be a pleasure to have the time to wander about these streets, and observe a country we have never seen before."

I and a party of eight others were housed with a private citizen ~~in~~ Lisbon, for the hotels were overrowded. Our host spoke English, and took a conscientious interest in trying to make us like Lisbon and Portugal. He ate with us at meals, and these were very pleasant occasions: we felt starved continually, and looked forward to the delicious meals he served us, supplementing the generous meals with such things as chocolate, figs, walnuts and oranges, kept in our rooms! At table, he answered our innumerable questions about the city, the Portugese customs, their food, their festivals. He took us to the travel companies, to the bank and post-office, and taught us a few words of Portugese so we could find our way down town. He said, "Make a list of the things you would like to do while you are here; we shall arrange times when we shall go as a group." He took us to the Castle of St. George, dating from the twelfth century when the Templars were fighting the Moors, and later through the Moorish quarters, now the slums of Lisbon. We came in a few days to feel at home in going shopping, but never could do the acrobatic feats of the Portugese who made flying leaps on speedily-moving trams. Our rooms were very chilly, though we had kerosene stoves which we lit morning and evening for a while. Outside, however, the streets were warm, for every day the sun shone, and the skies were a deep blue, untouched by clouds. Our elaborate plans for sightseeing were cut short for two of us, for we got passage south twelve days after arriving in Lisbon. However, we had gotten a "feel" for the city, and had seen a modern market, a fourteenth-century cathedral, the interesting Coach-house with its gilt coaches on display, a beautiful park, and something of the shops with their quantities of elastic, enamel ware, alarm-clocks and watches - all of which were scarce in America. Some day I want to go back to Lisbon.

Lisbon to Lourenco Marques: We had a leisurely trip on a Portugese boat around Africa, travelling at the rate of about eight knots, with considerable waits in certain ports. When we came to the Madeiras, only Portugese people were allowed off, so the merchants brought us the contents of their shops, and we could imagine our deck had become a bazaar, for hung on lines the entire length of the deck, and on both sides, were gorgeous madeira cloths for sale. In general, we were allowed on shore at Portugese ports, and otherwise had to be content to see fellow-passengers go off while we saw what we could from the deck. There were very strict restrictions on

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disembarking at ports not expressly stated in the contract with the powers which allowed a neutral boat to travel in wartime; one of our friends had work in the Gold Coast region, and it was agonizing to him to see our boat go quite close to land, and yet he was ~~not able to disembark~~. Instead, he had to go to the next port of call, from which point it would take him a couple weeks to work back to his home. He said, "If only they would let me jump overboard and swim ashore!"

For weeks - we were six weeks on this part of the trip - the seas were like glass. It was seldom we saw any sign of other vessels, and one night when a freighter passed near us, all dark, it gave us a feeling of insecurity! We travelled with all lights on, as in peace time. The lazy days passed quickly enough, for we spent hours looking over the rail, sometimes rewarded by the sight of schools of flying fish, porpoises, and nearer the cape the albatross, jelly-fish, and phosphorescent water at night. As we went south of the equator, we found our skies very different too. By this time we had become more accustomed to Portuguese food, and felt very much at home. We had the usual deck-games and contests, and spent many a sunset hour on the upperdeck. I shall not soon forget watching the negroes load coal at various ports, and their wild weird songs as they passed baskets of coal from one pair of hands to another. At one Portuguese port we visited a primary school of negro children: their bright eager ways made them very attractive. Our day at Cape Town was delightful: we had time to go up Table Mountain, and see the panorama of the city in its sheltered location, and the mountainous regions beyond, but the "table cloth" which sometimes covers the mountain top was not visible.

Our one storm in those weeks was near the Cape, a storm severe enough to make our boat put back into port. ~~we never did get at the reason for the return.~~ Then we sailed northwards, wishing we might get off when we saw the row of lights which meant Durban. It was pleasant to have a few days in Lourenco Marques where we disembarked from our ship, and to see a new Portugal, its open squares and monuments proclaiming its ties with the motherland.

South Africa: Since few boats were then calling at Lourenco Marques, we were advised to go south into the Union. By this time it was early May, and winter had just set in, announced by a sudden drop in temperature which made everyone shiver, and a fall of snow. We had a weekend at the home of a Boer family in Pretoria, and two days at Johannesburg, on our way to Durban. We liked the Cape Dutch style of architecture, and were intrigued by the circular buildings, modelled on the kraal village architecture. The zoo at Pretoria, with its wild animals in grounds approximating their natural habitat, and the diamond cutting factory in Johannesburg were most interesting. War-time conditions made it impossible for us to go down into the famous mines in that area. I was disappointed that I could not see my cousin who lives at Springs; that very weekend her small daughter had contracted scarlet fever - it later turned out to be measles.

Durban was involved in its "winter season" with all hotels full of visitors from other parts of the country. The climate was most enjoyable, sunny days on which the girls wore cotton dresses and woollen jackets. Swimming and sun-bathing were popular. A lottery on a big scale had been permitted in order to raise funds for soldiers' families or something of that nature, and there was much talk of the Carnival Queens. My favorite was Nellie, the elephant, representing Public Works and Gardens.

We found a room - the "we" being Mrs. Zwemer, bound for India, and I -

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at the Y.W.C.A., one overlooking the Bay. We were under strict orders not to discuss shipping, or the movements of boats, but there was no laws regarding the use of our eyes. We had a real pleasure in watching the varied craft which came and went before our eyes. Often we would say, "I wonder if our boat is in harbor." Our travel agent asked us to call in at his office every day, and so we lived from day to day, never knowing when we might get away. We became accustomed to the atmosphere of uncertainty, and enjoyed our six weeks there very much. We did the sights, including the parks, and the "Snake Farm," the Valley of a Thousand Hills a little distance from Durban, went to movies, and all the Symphony Concerts which we prided ourselves on hearing for a shilling a concert! We tried to make ourselves useful by helping at the Y.M.C.A. Canteen for service men: my job was to cut up fruit salad—bananas, oranges, pineapple, paw paws, and an occasional lemon for flavoring. It was not inspiring work, but we enjoyed the women who came to work. I found interesting books at the Public Library and did a good deal of reading.

After the long wait our sailing orders came suddenly. On a Monday night I heard that we could go on Wednesday if I could arrange to get my yellow fever inoculation on the Tuesday. Well, Tuesday was a hectic day; and the Army co-operated and got enough men together for the inoculation to enable them to open the serum.

India: Three weeks on a British passenger boat landed us in India. I was there more than a month, seeing on my way to Calcutta the famous Taj Mahal, and the new and old cities at Delhi. I was impressed with the multitudinous attitudes and beliefs of India, and felt it would take me a very long time to come to anything like an understanding of it and its problems. I had the privilege of meeting Dr. Ambedkar, the leader of the outcasts, and of hearing him discuss some of the problems of his country and of China. We were told that this was the "cool" season, but <sup>"cool"</sup> seemed scarcely adequate to describe the damp heat which marked the whole month I was there. In Calcutta I had dengue fever, which delayed my trip into China.

There was a good deal of fussy business to be done in Calcutta about customs and censorship, and packing the amount of luggage I was to be allowed to take on the plane. "What is most important?" I asked myself, knowing that if I decided on this, I should have to leave that behind. I discarded all suitcases and containers, and took my possessions in blue cotton bags: thread I took off of spools, typewriter ribbons off of the metal holders, realizing that every thing I could get in was of great value in China where inflation is so serious. It was on a hot Sunday afternoon that I went to the plane office to get "weighed in," looking with my various layers of clothes more fitted to start on a polar expedition than to go on a plane trip into China. One of the officials said to me, "I wish you'd take off your coat; we're afraid you and the others are going to die of heat stroke!" We were, indeed, a bulky, hot-faced group of passengers. Then we went home, to come back at an hour in the early morning!

The trip over the "Hump" was without incident. We were seven or eight hours on the way, smooth flying that day. I was disappointed that the Himalayas were not visible; instead, jungle areas below us, indescribably beautiful cloud formations, and as we neared Kuming mountains spread out below us that surpassed in beauty the Valley of a Thousand Hills near Durban. There was oxygen available, but no one asked for it.

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China: Kunming, with its sunny invigorating weather - it is six or eight thousand feet high there - quite won my heart. I had my re-initiation into China there, getting acquainted once more with some aspects of Chinese life I had forgotten. The prices appalled me: I had had to pay one hundred and fifty dollars for each of two rickshas from the plane office to the China Inland Mission compound - in the pre-war days we would have paid, I suppose, thirty cents ~~at most~~. I was amazed at the variety and quality of articles for sale, many of them of foreign manufacture. It was said that one could get almost anything one could mention if one would pay the price!

A Chinese girl who used to teach at Ginling <sup>at a change</sup> is now doing library work with the Air Force unit in that region. Twice I went out to visit her. The approved method of getting transportation was to stand on the sidewalk of a main street, and hail the first jeep or truck that came along!

I had hoped to arrange for <sup>to go</sup> transportation to Chengtu by plane, but that seemed so indefinite that I got permission to travel by British Military Mission Truck. ~~Then~~ I had six days' travel on that section of the famed Burmah Road. The trip could not by any stretch of the imagination be called luxurious. Most of the passengers, taken on as a courtesy, sat in the back of the trucks, and were jostled by pieces of luggage which worked loose and prodded them uncomfortably. The four women in the company were accorded preferential treatment, and we sat with the drivers in front. The roads were terribly bumpy, even from the cab; we saw American truck drivers wearing very wide, tightly buckled belts, and learned that six months of jostling on these roads resulted in all sorts of internal disorders because organs were displaced - the belts were to "hold them together." I was surprised to see so many trucks on the road, but it was soon evident that about fifty per cent of them spent a good deal of the day drawn up alongside the road being repaired! There were spectacular hairpin curves, one consisting of seventy-two curves in rapid succession, in traversing which we descended five thousand feet in about half an hour. We had trouble with engines and tires, and one day we formed part of a long line of fifty trucks drawn up on a long hill, waiting for three cars stuck in the mud to be extricated. We spent the nights in Mission compounds, or Chinese inns where fleas sometimes gave us a bad time. I wonder if you've tried sleeping on planks - well, with one quilt as a mattress! I did this for three nights in succession, and then could tell a good deal more than formerly about the bony part of my anatomy. But it was fun: <sup>with good</sup> the clear weather - the rain was not so much fun - the ever-changing scene which made me think that sleeping as we drove was a waste of time, the stops at inns to get tea, or Chinese food, the pleasure of stretching our limbs while the mechanic did some repairs, the feeling that we were all on a grand holiday. <sup>Our dinner seemed to</sup> count cigarettes at every difficult turn <sup>by choosing that moment to light a cigarette,</sup> fuss with the car - door or hang up his jacket, and <sup>and if we had no accident</sup> it was harvest time: we saw the rice being cut, threshed by being beaten against the sides of a box in the field, sunned in open courtyards, and then the field being plowed by the stolid water buffalo in preparation for another sowing. We saw red peppers being dried, cobs of corn and the <sup>and</sup> shelled corn being dried, and <sup>cases of</sup> dried cabbage hung on lines for the salted pickle. Here the soil was rust-red, and there it was the color of chocolate; evergreens grew near bamboos and the false banyans; morning-glories and roses still bloomed, but asters and golden-rod reminded us that fall was near.

Now I am back on the West China campus, busy with classes again. ~~At~~ I feel in some ways a very great stranger, for I have been away three years, and ~~many~~ changes have taken place in this time in China. Ivory Soap sells for \$2,000, and a bicycle bought nine years ago for \$120, now will bring \$150,000. I still find it almost impossible to believe, but a wooden pen handle costs fifty dollars - as I found out the other day when I went to buy one.

With all good wishes to you,

Sincerely, Florence Kerr

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Ginling College, Chengtu,  
Nov. 25, 1944

Dear Mrs. Mills,

Well, Founders' Day celebrations are over for another year. In the dormitory, a note of festivity was added to the daily menu by the killing of a pig that had been fattening. Two men came to do the killing, and asked the sum of five hundred dollars for their work! I understand it took them a whole morning, but even so it seems a lot to pay for the mere work in connection with slaughtering. The decoration committee made the Dormitory gay with class banners, the beautiful Ginling purple banner, and cutouts representing the various graduating classes bystats. Luckily in our "temporary" style dormitory there are no restrictions on putting thumb-tacks (we are fortunate if we have such things now, even nails are expensive, and tacks) into walls, or pasting on the brick, white-washed walls. That makes the decorators' task easier. The activities of the Ginling girls is indicated by the number of bulletin-boards around the dormitory: current events; the map showing the fighting fronts, the papers of the Sociology Club, and the English Club. Just recently a framed picture of Dr. Reeves has been put on the wall of the main social room by Miss Phoebe Ho, so she looks down on us at chapel in the mornings, and when we have gatherings in that much-used room.

It used to be that we had toasts during the "banquet" (it can no longer be called this) and that was the chief week-day programme for Founders' Day. In recent years it has been a difficult thing to get space for the students, faculty and guests (alumnae and Board members) to sit and eat, even when we use the main dining-room with the wing newly added since I left, the social room and the tiny social-room. Therefore, we have gotten into the habit of having the assembled crowd go to the theatre room of the Educational Building of the West China University, and having some sort of programme there. I was convenor of the programme this year, so I know some of the difficulties that are inevitable nowadays in these wartime conditions.

The programme, was, as usual, a dramatic presentation of the Ginling Spirit. The title of the performance was "A Little Light - a Bright Flame, an allegory of the Ginling Spirit from 1915 to 1944." The chief characters were: The Ginling Spirit (dressed in a purple dress, with white silk jacket), the Narrator who bound together the different items, and commented on them; a Ginling Chorus of eight girls who sang appropriate songs at intervals. The five acts were as follows:

1) "The Kindling of the Ginling Spirit." The Sophomores did this section, and the details were taken from a report by Mrs. Thurston in her account of the first year at Ginling. She wrote that there were four "red letter days" that first difficult year which showed that the Ginling Spirit was alive and a potent force: the first chapel; the first Founders' Day celebration in November; the day in May when Ginling announced its existence to the academic world of Nanking, and the final day of school when there was no graduation exercises but only a meal together on Saturday evening and the Service on Sunday morning. The Ginling Spirit introduced this section, and then we showed the Chapel Service with Eva acting as Mrs. Thurston, with nine students dressed in old-fashioned skirts and jackets, and six of us dressed in old costumes as the first faculty members. The costumes of Eva (a lacy dress very old-fashioned), of Miss Causer (Mrs. Small's wedding-dress, 28 years old), Ruth and Mrs. Whittington were very interesting, but Catherine and I were more modern, and therefore not so good. When the students - such a handful - and we appeared, we caused a roar of laughter, and I thought, "How shall we ever establish the atmosphere of that first chapel?" Eva can do wonders, and her brief talk was wonderful - not, she says, as Mrs. Thurston would have done it, but certainly the spirit and ideas of the address were suitable. It was a very effective first scene.

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Already we had come to some of the difficulties. We routed out the foot-lights, and got bulbs, but there was no connection! Days later we hear that one previous occasion they were borrowed and the long cord came back one tenth of its original - part of the price of co-operation these days! For a wonder, the "lights were on" but what lights! A feeble glow indicated where the bulbs were, but the stage was anything but adequately lit. After the first scene, various of our faculty friends from the audience came to protest, "But we can't see their faces!" What to do? Already on the stage was a bright gas light borrowed from Mr. Stockwell. It was suggested that we move the light to the front of the stage. This improved the lighting somewhat, and at nine o'clock, the electric lights became a little better. In the classroom where the students dressed, candles gave a much better illumination than the electric lights! In the halls back of the stage everyone tripped along in the dark, stumbled down the stairs where there was no light - until we put a candle on a desk on the landing! And the curtain! You can imagine how well it worked. A servant pulled it by sheer might, and this meant there was no possibility of "a quick curtain!" About half way through the Narrator asked for a drink of boiled water. I felt I would need to be a conjuror to call up out of the Education Building the drink. Well, I asked a janitor. He at that moment was carrying along two thermos flasks, and he said, "Could you ask Mr. Foo if he could give you hot water?" Mr. Foo, a West China University teacher was busy in his office on the same floor, and when I told my need, his reply was, "Of course. I shall be glad to help in such a small way." I brought back the cup of hot water, and later on that evening the janitor brought another cup.

After the first act the CHORUS sang "The Old Ginling" to a delightful tune composed by Catherine Sutherland, and under the leadership of Mrs. Yeh. *See words on separate sheet - not important in themselves, but perhaps a*  
*subt Act II: (by the Seniors):* first a pantomime of the growth of the Spirit, in which representatives from the first ten years of graduates added their lights to the tiny one carried by the Spirit. (Chorus: "G-I-N-L-I-N-G") *help in setting the performance?*  
 :second, two scenes where the Ginling Spirit might be shown in action: a) the fire in the Old Ginling where Mrs. Thurston shouted to the girls, "Girls! Girls! Form a line!" And they formed a line from well to the fire and passed along buckets of water and extinguished the fire ... co-operation in a practical crisis. b) Sunday Morning Visiting, where Miss Vautrin and two girls went to visit a farmer's home near the new Ginling  
 Chorus: "The New Ginling" (words by me, and tune by C.E.S.)

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|--|---|
| <p>1) In T'ung Kwa Sz the Spirit grew<br/>         Grew till its light shone clear;<br/>         Alumnae and students were conscious of it,<br/>         More conscious, year by year,<br/>         In the <u>new</u> Ginling<br/>         In Nanking.</p> <p>2) "Oh, what am I? O what am I?"<br/>         The Ginling Spirit cried,<br/>         "I know I live in many lives,<br/>         That cannot be denied<br/>         In the new Ginling<br/>         In Nanking.</p> | <p>3) "Co-operation, service, love,<br/>         Good-will extending wide<br/>         To all its neighbors and beyond<br/>         To China, on every side,<br/>         From the new Ginling<br/>         In Nanking</p> <p>4) First verse repeated</p> |
|--|---|

*Subt Act III:* a Dream of the Ginling Spirit (by the Juniors). The Ginling Spirit had its difficulties, when crises threatened the very life of the institution. It was after 1937 and the beginning of the war when the Spirit had a bad dream and thought she was being tried by a judge and jury (Mr. Common Sense, Miss Graduate, and Mr. Man-in-the-Street). The point at issue was whether or not the Spirit had died: Miss Grievance and Miss Hopelessness (from inside the College) and two from outside, Mrs. Old-Fashioned, and Mr. Old Scholar, argued that the Spirit was

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undoubtedly dead, but there were others who were as sure that the Spirit was alive in spite of great difficulties - Miss Ingenuity, Miss Loyalty, Mr. Courage and Miss Hope. The Spirit woke up just when it seemed the Jury were to retire to decide the verdict! It was a good act, and the costumes and details such as the queer horn of the Clerk of the Court and the way the witnesses were announced provoked a good deal of laughter.

*Students* Act IV: This was a presentation in dancing of the difficulties and hopeful features of life in Chengtu, introduced by the Chorus singing to the tune of "We are from Ginling" the following:

We have been six long years in Chengtu,  
Six years of gray skies, and sunshine too;  
And since we all are together, we can't be blue,  
For all of us like Chengtu.

This part was perhaps the cleverest and most effective part of the whole programme. Loh Hwei-ling took my suggestion of the "difficulties and advantages" here, and worked up a brilliant dance: girls representing the different co-operating universities in the dance being welcomed by West China; and then the very great difficulties: housing, where Miss House was tugged here and there by interested occupants; Poor Lighting, in which a girl representing the scarcity of books tried to read by the light of a very poor lantern; Malnutrition aided by the girl representing Ginling; and a very clever dance by the girl representing the Amah situation, herself an amah, and "ornery" to the nth degree, arousing storms of applause. Then this section of the dance was followed by a dance showing the co-operation of the different universities. The whole thing was most effective, colorful, rhythical, and the ideas carried out were just what was wanted.

*Students* ACT V: This was meant to represent the Alumnae (done by the Freshmen). The first part showed the different types of work that Ginling alumnae have done, girls dressed in certain costumes representing the medical profession, educationalists, homemakers (with a child), government work, etc.

Chorus: (to the tune "Tilli-ay")

Alumnae, alumnae, alumnae!  
They are from Ginling, joyous and free-  
Ginling alumnae we'd like to be -  
Alumnae, alumnae, alumnae!

Alumnae, alumnae, alumnae!  
Doctors, and nurses, and teachers, see;  
Ginling alumnae we'd like to be,  
Alumnae, alumnae, from our G.C.

The second part showed statistics about the alumnae, twelve girls in academic gowns being the robots who represented the actual figures. Each girl stood for fifty graduates. When the Narrator asked them to tell us the number of graduates, all twelve stood forth; number of married, 5½; those who had no notion of getting married, 3!; those who liked movies, 12!; no. of doctors, teachers, social workers, etc.; those afraid of rats, 12! At the moment when the number of college presidents was called for, Dr. Wu was supposed to be called up and to make her speech. She couldn't come, so Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan gave her regrets, and we finished with the Founders' Song, and the various class songs. Dr. Djang read the telegrams of greeting also.

We felt it was something of a miracle that we had a performance at all.

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There were mid-term tests which went on and on- when the Ginling ones were over there were still tests in courses taught in other universities, for our term arrangements did not coincide. The campus was in a furor of excitement over the plans for volunteering for the army and other services. The girls had to play in a volley-ball competition even on Saturday afternoon and could not come till five for a rehearsal of one part! The auditorium needed certain attention: taking out of all the seats on the tiers so that the crowd could be accommodated by sitting directly on the floor of the tiers, washing off of the floor, seeing to lights and setting the stage. However, there were classes (West China) till five on Saturday afternoon - the earliest moment we could do anything! Supper was at six. I did not get to supper at all - which was no tragedy, of course.

I had two hectic weeks trying to keep things going under such difficulties. One member of the faculty who is getting ready for government exams, asked to be released from my committee; another was in the hospital a week - so nothing goes as one expects. I was very pleased with the spirit of co-operation among students and faculty. There is a Ginling Spirit at work in Chengtu still, in spite of war-time fatigue. Ruth said, "Well, I suppose I can dress in some dowdy dress as I did last year," in a resigned tone of voice, but she and the others were good sports all the way through. I think it is almost heroic that we still think we can do what we used to do when now the conditions are so complicated.

See report of the <sup>Sunday</sup> morning service in a <sup>Supplement</sup> separate slip, please  
Nov. 25

I really should keep a diary these days for things happen so suddenly that what is true one day is out-of-date the next.

The furor started two or three weeks ago in connection with a mess in one of the Middle Schools in the city. The first I heard of it was when I was eating Chinese lunch in the main ("First") dormitory, and a girl from that Middle School came to talk to our girls to get their support in a situation in which they thought there had been real injustice. It was easy to see that our girls were moved, for they came out of the main dining-room to finish their meal with tears in their eyes. As we sat there, the speakers came into the room where we were, and immediately they were surrounded five deep by our girls who were much agitated. Well, for days the students in this area were much upset, there were meetings, and processions, and much discussion. A piece of grey brick wall was plastered each day with new posters, on vari-colored paper, green, yellow, orange, blue, speaking very pointedly about the whole situation. What the actual situation was, it was hard to see, but the general feeling seemed to be that injustice had been done. The situation was dealt with with despatch and in a few days, the affair quietened down. A significant thing to us was the emotion aroused in the students, and we felt then how good it would be if only we could have some normal outlet for them.

Then on the heels of this affair came a call by the Generalissimo for <sup>issued a call</sup> Volunteers, and ever since the students have been searching their hearts and consciences to determine where their duty lay. One of the difficult aspects is that definite authentic information seems to come through slowly - or so it appears to a group of young people ready to act at once. We understand the "call" asked for 100,000 men and 2,000 girls. Whole classes of medical, dental, and pharmacy students volunteered at once, and there appeared on that same strip of wall placards in quite a different tenor - "China needs you. Will you go? We are going." Signed by a certain class in a certain institution.

The lack of a well-organized plan has brought a good deal of anxiety and worry to students. However, let me give you some

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page 5 Mrs. Mills

idea of what is going on by telling you some fact about Ginling in this crisis. So far about forty girls have volunteered for actual service. The other day word came through that none of the girls would be called before the first of February. Already a first aid course is in progress, taken by about a thousand boys and girls: a course from three to five each afternoon for two weeks. Those attending are freed from classes coming in those periods with as little penalty in the matter of catching up on missed work as possible. Early this next week begins a Nurses' Aid course on a much more pretentious scale as far as the work involved is concerned: nine hours of work each week for eight weeks: three hours of this each week is devoted to lectures, and six to practical work. The class will consist of at most 160; at first 150 Ginling girls were interested, but their enthusiasm was a little dampened when they realized it meant so much time, and probably involved the dropping of course they are now taking. I expect that by this time Ruth knows what proportion of that number are Ginling girls and what proportion are from other institutions.

One type of work mentioned that both boys and girls could do was translation and interpretation, and the Deans asked the English departments to arrange some work along this line. We are in the process of doing this, but a great difficulty is finding personnel for this, faculty members who are fitted to do this and who have time to undertake extra work. Our two Miss Pan's of the English department are going to help. We may revise other English courses, attempting to give training in a practical kind of English that would prepare students with good English and Chinese for these types of work. So you see how interesting life is here these days!

Just this morning two of our faculty members left- Liu En-lan and Hu Ya-lan (she taught five hours Chinese, and gave the bulk of her time as assistant to Djang Hsiang-lan as dean of discipline, ~~a very successful person~~ in this work). They went to Chungking to give their time to the new work (necessitated) for the children refugees from the newly-occupied Japanese territory... thousands of children are coming in this direction, we hear. Three organizations are behind this movement- U.C.R., Child Welfare Association, and some government organ. Our two faculty will talk it over in Chungking and see the set-up. To-morrow the students are being appealed to to help; ten girls are wanted, or girls and faculty, to go there soon, perhaps this week.

Another call that has come this weekend is for ten or twelve girls or boys, (all one sex or the other,) to go to an airfield for secretarial and office work. Some of our girls are volunteering for this. The students are in a dither. They want to help, but do not want to act foolishly. We try to give advice, but in many cases scarcely know what to say. Already a good many men have left by plane for India, to be trained there.

This morning we had our First Semester Retreat - in the Dye house where six of us lived the year before I went home on furlough. It was a stirring morning's discussion. I shall enclose a sheet of questions which formed the basis of our talk together.

This weekend the Women's International Club had a programme for raising money for social work, especially for Children's Aid. The concert was International Dances, or rather National Dances from various countries. I did not go, but I heard very favorable comments on how well the Ginling items went. So many people said they were surprised at such talent. Mrs. Millikan - she finds now she cannot teach our English class - spoke most appreciatively of the performance. It was carried out, too, with very great difficulties, no electric light at all, for instance.

I understand that books can be sent now to China by ordinary post. How would it be to try it out with some of mine now in the Ginling office?

We have air-raids, especially on moonlight nights. The perfect night - clear sky, bright moon, so we may have an alarm all

perhaps find it better when  
to Billian. Please  
thank you very much  
I would like to see you. Could you send me some of your papers that are available?  
I have made use of any papers that are available.

A supplement of footnotes

0711

[Nov. 1944]

Supplement to report on Founders' Day

In my description of last weekend I omitted any mention of the Sunday service, most impressive, and mentioned appreciatively by various people not connected with Ginling. As usual it was the nine o'clock morning service - now held in the West China gymnasium, since the Hart College chapel being used when I left in 1941 is no longer large enough to accomodate the crowd.

Dr. Wu, on protest, was granted permission to get out of bed for this occasion. The speaker was Dr. Hsu, Mrs. New's lawyer brother, and he gave a most inspiring message, and told the community a good deal about Ginling that it had never known before. It was a delightful tribute to Ginling during its brief career. The Glee Club sang beautifully, and the seniors in their academic gowns gave an air of dignity. Those on the platform were Dr. Hsu, Dr. Wu, Phoebe Ho, Ruth Chester, and the regular pastor of that morning service, Pastor Gwoh. The only decoration was the Ginling purple and white banner hung on the whitewashed brick wall, and bamboos flanking it on either side, and chrusanthemums at the front of the platform.

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Cornelia,

Nov. 24, 1944

Well, I'm not doing very well by you in the matter of publicity, but I'm ready now to write you another letter of news which I ought to get off to you shortly. I hope next week to get out to the Rural station; until very recently they have not been ready for us to visit there. The Founders' Day programme took a lot of time: I happened to be the convenor of the Saturday evening programme, and there was a lot of difficulty in getting things done, which I shall tell you about in the letter.

Dr. Wunis still in bed, but when it is urgent we have meetings in her room, for instance, the Executive meeting to-day. She got up for the Sunday morning service of Founders' Day weekend, and was not quite so well afterwards as a result. We are all in a hurry because of the new plans for the students to take part in the war effort, and the campus is a very hectic place, especially for students and administrative officials. The last word from Miss Walmsley - written Oct. 15 - was that she had been disappointed for the third time in getting passage to India. We are having our difficulties, too, in getting teachers to do her work, for we all thought she would be here long before this.

Mrs. Millikan (Shanghai, LMS) has arrived, and may help us out in the English work for the rest of this semester. Essie and Frank have gone to Chungking for six months, and I miss her very much; I've been so busy up to date that I really had not seen a great deal of Essie, hoping always that when I was caught I should take time out for some good visits.

Air-raids are a complication too these days of moonlight nights. They mean that there are no lights, and the students' and teachers' work goes undone.

Much love to you, and my deep gratitude for getting out these letters for me,

Affectionately,  
Hannah Kirk

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Rec'd 2/8/45

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Ginling College, Chengtu  
December 14, 1944

Bear Cornelia,

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And ten thousand people came! Some walked twenty li to see the new thing. Some could not understand the miracle of pictures that came and went on a screen, so they came and touched the screen, as if there was some magic in the white cloth! The films given were "Battle of China" and "Lening in North Africa." The crowd was very well behaved, and all went off admirably. Dr. Wu was greatly impressed: three college girls and two assistants in a year and a half could so win the confidence of a community that a crowd, well-behaved and interested, would gather for such an event!

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Hu Shih-tsang's concert - it was brilliantly done - is part of the programme of the Music Department to give occasional recitals for the Community. When she and Catherine were playing their two-piano number, the light that Catherine read by went out more than once - again, one of the hazards of performances on the campus at the present time. The audience was most appreciative, and apparently Shih-tsang not fussed by it. You should have seen the array of flowers.....baskets by the dozen, as well as less elaborate arrangements. Someone said a large basket would certainly cost at least a thousand when bought on the street. Afterwards, Shih-tsang's friends gave an informal reception to her friends at the Canadian School; it turned out to be chiefly Ginling folks.

The Music Department have been doing their share at entertainment of the men quartered here. On the Double Tenth Mrs. Yeh took a group of her Glee Club out into the country to one of the "fields" to give a programme; the roads and transportation were inadequate, and they spent their whole day going and coming, but felt that in spite of the inconvenience they had given a good deal of pleasure.

On Hallowe'en a group went to the hospital to sing. One of the first requests was for jazz, but when the girls wouldn't do that, the boys began to ask for old American folk-song favorites, and Chinese songs. They were there two hours or more going the rounds of the wards, and a Sunday some time later they went again. The Red Cross Worker's plea is always, "We want entertainment."

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(The Chinese Contest was held on Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> & the Eng. on Dec. 10)  
in addition the two girls who won the first individual prizes went to the Ginling teams.

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"What I Learned at the Front in 1938"; "The Voice of a Student"; "Shavianism"; "The Victory of Living"; "O Women of China, Act"; "Some Improvements in Education"; "The Development of Science in Recent Years"; "The New Birth of Freedom". The two best were "The Victory of Living" and "O Women of China, Act." The second got the first prize, and our first didn't come in the first five, but helped Ginling get the team prize

One of the most attractive from the point of view of material was "What I Learned at the Front in 1938." Here are parts from her speech. She is the president of the Sophomore Class, and she has quite a task to keep ninety girls pulling together. She's older than the average college girl because she has been out doing practical work. She's eager and co-operative, and altogether fine. Now she is one of the girls out at the air-field, taking this call as a piece of real service, and not waiting for the government to call her among the other volunteers.

"WHAT I LEARNED AT THE FRONT IN 1938"

by Cheng Mei-lien

I'm very glad to have a chance here to tell you some things from my heart. I don't want you to think that my chief concern to-day is to win a prize for my class or to win honors for myself. I want you to listen to what I'm going to say.

First, I must make you sure that I'm not boasting of myself. I'm here like a soldier who has retreated from the Front, a soldier telling his old tales. I'm rather embarrassed rather to be standing here to-day when many of my friends have already gone to India to be trained, or who are ready to go to the front; I am embarrassed because up to now I have not signed my name to the list of Volunteers. Since some of you are going to leave our College for the Front, I should like to tell something for your reference.

In the summer of 1938 when I was only eighteen, I graduated from a Baptist Middle School. I decided to work for my country, but my parents tried their best to prevent me from going to the Front, and I had fierce discussions with them. My father protested that I was too young to go into army service, and if I went, he might disown me. I made up my mind that I had to do something for my country. Then I joined a scout group under the Y.W.C.A., and did not listen to any of the pleadings of my parents. I left Hongkong, left my mother weeping. I didn't cry though my heart was aching. From that time I worked in the army until I got malaria in 1939.

The army which I joined was fighting against our enemy in Hunan. I followed where the army went, followed in rain, in times of hunger and poverty.

The first thing I learned in my work was independence. I had been brought up in a happy family, and had my education from kindergarten to middle school in so-called aristocratic schools. I had been taken care of by my parents, teachers and servants, and I didn't know what independence meant. In the army I not only had to take care of myself, but to take care of thousands of men. I was not sympathized with, but it was I who sympathized. I worked in the hospitals for wounded soldiers. It is impossible for you to imagine what the smell in the hospital was like. It was exactly like the smell of dead rats. I was not a nurse, but sometimes I did a nurse's work, because the nurses always needed help badly. When I was in Middle School I was not allowed to go alone from Canton to Hongkong by train. Now in the army, I dared go anywhere alone. I had learned to be independent.

Second, at the front I learned about life. When I was in school I took it for granted that life was easy and beautiful. I didn't know what suffering was. In the army I have spent winter nights without enough covering, I have been hungry for days. I saw men crying from the pain of their wounds, mothers weeping for their lost children, old women crying

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for their burned homes. Then I realized that life was not so simple as I had taken it to be. I realized that I had been living in air castles.

Third, I learned how to love the helpless multitude of people, and became anxious to help them live a happier life. Before I left Middle School I was always dreaming of my own bright future. I did not think of helping others. Neither did I dream how lovable the great, innocent, simple-minded multitude was. In the army I discovered that the soldiers in their poor ragged clothes had pure, simple, honest hearts. I felt insignificant before the multitude of men who were going to offer their lives for our Motherland.

You may find the conditions at the front very different from what I have painted them. However, if you go with a spirit ready to appreciate those you serve, you may have abundant life even there.

.....  
I hope you and the girls are well. I understand Plymmer is on his way back. Miss Walmsley is on her way to India, and we estimate she may be there about Xmas. I hope she can get permission to come in now, but conditions are far from settled.

Much love to you and  
all good wishes for 1945

Affectionately,  
Stewart King

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All good wishes for 1945.

Florence Kirk

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Miss Florence Kirk  
Ginling College  
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Ginling College  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N. Y.  
February 5, 1945

Dear Florence:

You don't know how glad I was to get your good letter about the Founders' Day celebrations and other happenings on the Chengtu campus. It is all grist for my publicity mill, and most welcome. Some of it will go into China Colleges for March, and much of it will appear in the spring issue of Ginling News. For both of these publications I need pictures badly. Can you possibly get some for us? Please send us the negatives, as they are really more useful to us than the prints. Of course, if the negatives are not available, send any pictures you can get anyway. We can always have negatives made here, though they are not usually so good as the original ones.

I still have in mind a piece of publicity that will introduce some of our most interesting girls and teachers to our constituency. I want about six or eight really unusual and outstanding people, Dju Yu-bao, for instance, or someone who is doing special work in a science project, or someone in the Child Welfare field. Liu En-lan would be just the kind of person, but I hesitate to use her again, as our spring pamphlet in 1943 was her story of work among the border tribes, and of course the introduction told something about Dr. Liu herself. I want pictures of the people, too, in fact I must have them if I follow the plan I have in mind, which is as follows: Imagine a piece of paper, 5 3/4 inches wide and approximately 19 inches long, folded into a four-page leaflet, 5 3/4 by 4 3/4. One page, of course, is the front cover, and one can be used as a final page to give a brief statement about Ginling, and the address of the office. (Most important when you want checks to come back to you!) That leaves six pages, and my plan is to use one for each of six outstanding Ginling girls or faculty. I want to put a picture of the girl at the top, and then a brief and colorful story of her activities, not more than two hundred words. There is nothing like the personal touch to keep people interested. I am sure that if we can get this material together we can make a very successful appeal. I want it for the fall of 1945, which means that all the material should be in my hands by the first of October. Can you help me get it?

I know you are just as busy as you can be, but I hope you are getting enough rest and food and vitamins, so that you will not lose your pep and energy. I seldom eat a meal without thinking of the difficulties and expense of being properly fed in China today, and I long to share the so easily obtained good things of America with all of you.

We have all been greatly disturbed over the news of Dr. Wu's illness. She writes rather casually about it, and seems to give no special importance to it, but I cannot help being worried. I know, of course, that she will receive the best possible care and attention, and I most earnestly hope that she is really improving.

Wu Mao-i has been delayed again. We had hoped that she could leave last week, but there was some difficulty about securing all the necessary papers, so she is still here. We are not giving up, by any means, and will get her started at the earliest possible date. The uncertainties and changes are very hard on her, and I am very sorry that plans have not worked out more smoothly.

We have not heard one word from Chen I-djen and Hung Dah-ling. I wonder if they are still in India. We would certainly like to know what has become of them.

Mrs. New is studying at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. She went down the first of January, and will be there till the end of the current academic year. She writes enthusiastically of the work and the people she has met. I think she would have stayed in New York if she could have found an apartment near Columbia, but that seems out of the question. I see Helen now and then. Lossing was in my office recently, and I have just had an hour's conversation with Lewis Smythe. Stella Graves is living just a block from my apartment and the Jones family is also very near. So you see, the China group keeps in touch with one another. I wish you could join us sometime.

My affectionate greetings and all best wishes to the Ginling family.

As ever,

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Parts stenciled  
3/22/45

Ginling College, February 11, 1945

Dear Cornelia,

*Omitted in stenciling*  
What good news to learn that Plummer is here in China! Essie Price wrote that he looked no older than when she last saw him in Nanking! We are hoping he may soon come to Chengtu for a visit.

The semester is over, and China New Year is about here. This year the winter vacation is unusually long - about four weeks for students, but not so long for us with entrance tests and Freshman Comprehensive tests to see to in the interval. It has turned cold again, and yesterday morning when we got up the ground, roofs and trees were white with snow - almost a phenomenon in this region. The three Li boys next door did their best to make snowballs, but they were scanty and unsatisfactory ones; their cries and shouts were a sort of background music as we sat at breakfast. This morning there is no sign of snow, but it is cold. Everyone talks about how cold this winter has been; I have heard many say, "I never wore so many clothes before in winter." I often wish I had my fur coat here; did I tell you that when I was in Calcutta, and saw there was no chance of taking it in to China, I sent it back to Canada. I hear it has arrived safely!

The "Spring Conference" is over. Eva protests that it should never be called that for the temperature is invariably winter. It was at Sintu this year, 20-30 miles east of the city. Marjorie Causer went for the whole time, and Eva went out the last day to speak. Ten Ginling girls - our quota - went, and did good service in various ways, musical and otherwise. Marjorie has promised to write you a brief account of it. I hope it may get enclosed in this letter.

Dr. Wu is still staying in the city, at the Y.W.C.A., in the hope of getting more rest than would be possible if she stayed out here on the campus. She is making slow progress, and is inclined to feel that it is no progress at all when she is kept in bed for so long. She feels discouraged at times; for instance, the other day she departed from her very strict regime of food a little, and had adverse results. I hear that her doctor hopes that by the end of this month she may be up and around. She comes out to the campus by rickshaw once or twice a week for meetings that seem imperative; on Friday she had an Executive Committee meeting in her room at eleven, and at three a meeting of a Scholarship Aid grant to Faculty Committee. The second last time she was out, I thought she looked much better: she had a sparkle of fun in her eye, quite like the Dr. Wu as we used to know her. Again the other day she looked much more sober. She is an awfully good sport, not fussing or complaining, but she wants so much to be up and around, particularly when she doesn't feel badly.

The two girls from Chung Ho Chan were in not long ago, and I urged again the importance of brief reports of their work. Before they went back they wrote a brief account of their Christmas activities, and I enclose it herewith.

#### Christmas Program in Chung Ho Chan

Co-operating with the local church, Ginling College Rural Service Station planned several things for the rural people to celebrate Christmas.

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1. Program for the Young Girls. On December the twenty-second the twenty girls had a Christmas dinner together. The rice, meat, vegetables, and fuel were brought by the girls from their own homes, and they cooked the meal themselves, and invited the teachers as their guests. After the dinner they had a very happy time together.

2. Program for the Nursery Children and their Parents. On the morning of December the twenty-third the children gave a Christmas play and sang some Christmas songs. More than sixty parents came and enjoyed the program very much.

3. Program for the Church Members. On December the twenty-fourth there was a Sunday service. Seven young people were baptized and joined the church. After the service a banquet was given for the members. In the afternoon the church members went out together to visit the soldiers' families and gave them presents in order to let them know the love of Christ. To the six or seven poor families the gifts were one pound of salt and ten oranges for each family.

4. Program for the Old People. There is an institution for homeless old people seven "li" away from the town. On Christmas Day the staff members of Ginling rural Service Station and the Bible Woman (from the Canadian United Church) went there. The old people were gathered together. Christmas story, songs, stunts were presented. Bean curd was given to them as a Christmas gift, and the old people showed great appreciation. A man aged ninetythree smiled so contentedly that ~~the~~ he made the visitors happy too.

*Miss Florence Kirk's account of a visit to Chung Ho Chang*

It was one Saturday in January that Liu En-lan was taking Dr. Gould (F.E.A.) out to Chung Ho Chang, and I went along. The day's outing was lots of fun, one of those trips that seem to tell one so much about life in China and what it means.

We started from the campus gate about a quarter to eight, they in rickshaws, and I on my bicycle. En-lan said, "We're going there by boat." It was a chilly gray morning but there were signs which said it would be bright later on. We saw the patches of vivid green vegetables in perfect order, the cabbage hearts looking very white after their outer leaves had been stripped off. Along the way little Chinese boys held up thumbs as they caught sight of Dr. Gould in uniform and said, "Ting hao!" Others said, "Misseter." When they called me this also we realized that the term meant little more to them than "foreigner." I felt that it was an exciting adventure to go to a new town - my first trip since coming back in September.

Before long we reached the "Seven Eye Bridge" towards Szechwan University and there the rickshaws were discharged, and En-lan ran off by herself to talk price to the boatman (she felt our presence would send the fares up). She came back tripping, saying that the boats had left this side of the river, but if we hurried we might be in time for boats ready to shove off from the other side. We went over and followed down the river side street until we saw several boats moored near at hand. The proprietor said, "Hurry! We're about to go." It was not an easy thing to manoeuvre my bicycle up the single board that served as gangplank, but it was done and the bicycle put down on its side at one end of the boat. We were gleeful to think that we had "just made it."

We sat down on the step formed by the intersection of the main part of the boat with one end, and looked about us. Right in the bow was a poor bedraggled specimen of humanity, a ragged young chap shivering so violently that he, shook the boards under his feet. We found out he was a conscript, and later on we saw the officer in charge of him, a chap well dressed and booted. Our hearts ached to look at the would-be soldier, both for what his condition betokened of suffering in the past, and for

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the grief ahead of him in the month - we estimated - he had to live under the rigors of soldier life. Right beside us we watched the life in a teahop just above our heads, saw a basket of rice being carefully washed, and before long the daily laundry attended to. It was only too evident the need there is for all kinds of education and training, and such thought take the edge off of pure pleasure, the feeling I had as we started out an hour earlier.

There were no signs of starting! This looked a little queer after the protestations of the boat-men as we climbed aboard. En-lan asked when we would start, and the answer came, "Quite soon!" In perhaps half an hour the ticket collecting began. We paid our fares eventually, one hundred dollars each - which seemed cheap in comparison with the three hundred dollar rickshaw fare. We learned afterwards that the Chinese generally pay forty! Also, we consoled our selves with the idea that whereas the rickshaw took two hours at least, the boat took just one. It was important that we reach Chung Ho Chang by ten or half-past at latest in order to visit the market, and see the kindergarten or rather nursery school. Well, we sat there from about a quarter past eight till after ten o'clock, and there was nothing we could do to alter the situation. About nine-thirty we learned that the proprietor had gone off to have his breakfast! How would we get there to see anything at all, how get there in time to make the trip worthwhile?

Another disappointment was in store for us - it took at least two hours by boat! For half an hour we floated downstream, but there, always in sight was Szechwan University, showing us that we had scarcely made any progress. A fleet of five boats was in our group, and we had a delightful trip down, seeing various important places, such as a textile factory, a big paper-mill, arsenal, and the like. The boatmen poled us along for a while, then used their oars, and we were fascinated as they broke into their antiphonal singing. The towing of boats up-stream interested us greatly. We saw some men on the towing-path walk upright as if they were under no strain at all, and later we saw men bent double, their hands actually touching the ground as they crawled along, a dozen or more in one group, engineering their boat up a strong current. Sometimes we almost got entangled in the tow-ropes of boats passing near us, and there was quick action by some of the boatmen to push the two boats apart.

One sight that we passed all too quickly was a cormorant fishing party. There were a dozen small craft, each with one boatman and a long pole with a hook on the end of it; this he used to draw the cormorants toward him when he saw they had caught fish. Back the birds came into the boat, and the boatman made them give up the caught fish.

It was just noon as we drew up to the landing-place at Chung Ho-chang. For the previous ten minutes we had seen a steady line of people going home from market, which made us think we were really too late for everything: the nursery children left at noon and market broke up then too. I said, "It's a strange thing if a whole market in China disperses on the dot of the hour." That proved true, for after we had found Tsu Yu-dji and Hsiung Ya-na, they took us to the market and we saw a very great number of interesting things: fortune-tellers, medicine-men at work, piles of vegetables, fruit, chickens, wood for sale, etc. We sampled four at three stands: twisted fried cakes; glutinous rice cakes in triangles, colored green from the plant, a weed, that goes into the cake, and fried rice balls fried in sugary vegetable oil. It was a gorgeous display of color and activity, and it was interesting to see how the people liked our two workers. Miss Tsu said to the seller of twisted fried cakes: "These are my friends; please let them try your cakes." We tasted one or two, dividing them between us.

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About one-thirty we came back to the church and there had a delicious Chinese meal. Afterwards, the girls were eager to give Dr. Gould some information about a survey they had made of the economic life of the town, and I shall give it later on in this letter. It might be interesting to give American people interested in China some idea of the make-up of a small town. It is with these three and a half thousand people that our girls are working and finding friendship and eager response. They say it is a comparatively easy place to work, for there is no opposition to their work. What I like is the evident pleasure the girls get in their work. Tsu Yu-dji and Hsiung Ya-na (there is another Miss Hsiung too - Hsiung Mandjen, a more recent graduate) seem perfectly congenial, and happy in their activities; their faces radiate content and serenity, and I do not have the impression that they are finding it a difficult and disappointingly hard place to work in. They are doing splendid work.

Because relatively few girls wanted to go out this mid-winter vacation, it was decided to have no group of undergraduates at all, but to wait until summer. It was estimated that at least ten were needed to make the class successful, and only ~~ten~~ five were interested. The two girls in charge are to spend the time writing materials, and getting out reports.

Add  
H.

Some Figures from Investigations Done at Chung Ho Chang  
by Tsu Yu-dji and Hsiung Ya-na in charge of the Ginling  
Rural Service Project - Fall, 1944

Population: 3,500; on market days population from nine to fifteen thousand.

On two different occasions people were stationed at each of the seven different market entrances to count all comers:

Nov. 5 - 12,000; of these 8,116 were men

Nov. 9 - 10,677; men, 6,822; women, 3,143; children, 712.

They come from seven different market towns. At that point on every fourth, seventh and ninth day (or date involving these numbers) of the Chinese month there is a general market and the surrounding towns and country people come; on other days there are markets at the other points.

Products sold at market - actually in the market-place, each having its designated shelter or space: chickens; hens, geese and ducks; eggs; pigs; grains; pig feed; rice; cotton material; fuel.

Products sold in the street not far from the market, sold in open stands: sugar-cane; vegetables (we counted ten varieties in one stand - lettuce; carrots, red in color; leeks; rape greens; white turnips; cabbage; two or three leafy vegetables); fruit (oranges, colorful tangerines and close-skinned larger varieties; a few tag ends of persimmons; pomelo); fish, etc.

Facts about the "stands":

No. - 345 (112 from Chengtu, 82 from the town itself, others from neighbor towns)

Classification: food-96; notions (thread, needles, buttons, etc.) 78; general repair, for example, umbrella repairs- 9; vegetable seeds -25; tools- 43; medicine+16; tobacco- 19; fortune-telling- 10

Classification of shops in the town:

24 tea-shops; 23 wine-shops (we hear that the country people drink a good deal of wine, but we almost never see any signs of wine-drinking here, though it is a little more common since alcohol is made on a considerable scale in this area); 9 spice and condiment shops;

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13 restaurants; 4 abbatoirs; 7 noodle-shops; 3 noodle factories; 6 shops selling cured goods; 3 selling bean-curd; 4 candy shops; 3 vegetable oil; 2 roasted peanuts; 1 fried cakes; 1 wine factory; 1 stone-cutting; 2 grave furniture made of bamboo and paper, to be burnt for the use of the dead; 1 glass-ware; 2 clocks; 3 tinsmiths; 1 coal; 12 Chinese medicines; 2 vegetable shops, in contrast to the "stands"; 8 cotton shoes; 2 weaving; 2 hats; 1 dye factory; 1 embroideries; 1 goat meat; 2 western style pharmacists; 1 fermented rice; 8 paper; 4 notions; 7 coffins; 4 carpenter shops; 4 manufacturing cooking vessels; 4 scrolls; 2 silver; ; firecrackers; 5 inns; 3 rickshaw rent shops; 2 bicycle repair; 2 sedan chair rent shops; 2 tobacco; 1 pipe(smoking); 5 pawnshops; 2 barbershops;...Total 223 shops.

11 institutions(2 schools, 1 hospital, District Government offices, etc)  
47 public lavatories

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The actual work of the Service Station I did not see, but I felt that I got a background for another visit. We may go out during the vacation for a day, but again there will be at this time no school or classes in session. My one day there the sun did shine for a few moments, but it was not a picture-taking day at all. We came back by road, they in rickshaws, I on my bicycle, about twenty-one li - my longest bicycle ride so far. We had a day of varied scenery, by water and land, and gotten a glimpse into life in the country, and of one progressive piece of work that points to a new China after the war. We want thousands of such stations where devoted Chinese people become missionaries to their own people, sharing with them their rich experience. I feel that the money which goes into such a work is immensely worth while. The Americans who contribute to it may say, "Yes, we are having a part in vital, Christian work, work that will last in different codes of living and different and richer lives." That is the appalling thing, to see such meagre lives lived by so many. I realize that many people I pity have reserves of pleasure I do not understand, but still their lives are hampered by real poverty, by ignorance and superstition. If we can help enrich lives, Ginling is doing a great work.

.....

*omit this*

This semester eight girls graduated, and since I was the tutor of two of them I was invited to the party given in their honor. It is hoped that these graduates will be able to come back for the graduating exercises in June, but many things may intervene, making that impossible, so we like to give them a simple evening's pleasure now before they leave us.

It was in the First Dormitory that we gathered, about twenty people altogether. Catherine Sutherland had done most of the work for the toasts and programmes and they were very cleverly thought out. The place-cards had green cutouts in green on white paper of violins and lyres alternately and the general title was "Ginling Orchestra." Catherine was the general one in charge, but she called herself merely the Business Manager of the Orchestra. The Programme was as follows:

Conductor- Dr. Helen Djang  
Players

Chinese Flute- Mr. Vhen Djung-fang(head of the Chinese Dept)  
Chemistra- Dr. Cheston(Head of the Chemistry Dept)  
Sociolin- Dr. Lung(head of the Sociology Dept)  
Bells and Drums- Miss Dju En-djen(representing the P.E. dept)

We had fun about these new instruments that Catherine said had an honorable history, the Chemistra and Sociolin. The Chinese food was excellent and we had a jolly party. A charcoal fire at one side gave enough heat for us to but we all kept our coats on. Dr. Wu does not pretend to and we miss her very much. All good wishes. Florence

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On Friday morning Djang Hsiang-lan came to "morning tea" and afterwards she talked for more than an hour while I busily took down her ideas in longhand. I had asked her if she could send some report about college life, for as Dean of Discipline she comes into very close contact with student life and problems, much closer than the ordinary faculty member. She seemed to enjoy doing it, and wishes she had more time to write accounts herself.

A. Activities at Ginling During the Fall Semester, 1944.

There are many encouraging aspects of life in these difficult days of war. An account of the activities of Ginling girls shows that they are busy about taking part in the life of the community, in a way that is quite in the tradition of the Ginling of the past.

1. Oratory Contests. There were nine universities competing, and Ginling was unusually lucky, capturing both the individual and college prizes for each.

2. Ginling War Service:

a) On China New Year's Day ten girls, led by a teacher (all from the Ginling Student Youth Corps, a Kuomintang organization) went out to give gifts of a pound of pork to each of twenty soldiers' families. The pork now is worth two hundred and sixty dollars a pound. The money was saved from the government fund, saved by going on foot when students might have gone in rickshaws, by making posters and publicity material themselves, when they might have had it done in shops, etc.

b) Ginling divided itself into ten groups, and visited and investigated the need of soldiers' families - this independent of any definite organization, but on the school's own initiative. The girls visited the whole area around the college, wrote letters for them to their relatives at the Front, and cheered them and comforted them. They recommended to the Youth Corps the twenty neediest families who were given the pork as described in a).

c) Six of our students (and an office secretary who hopes to be a G.C. student) are at the air-base, which I have told you about before. Helen visited them recently, spending a night with them, staying in their tent. The girls were quite excited that Dr. Djang should care so much for them that she thought it worth her while to visit them. They appreciated the interest the College takes in this venture, and feel that they have a strong support in the College's approval and oversight. Conservative society opinion brands them unpleasantly for going to an American camp, yet the girls faced that certainty before they decided to go, and they are doing a "wonderful piece of work." The Major in charge told Helen: "They are good girls, and they have done good work." They are telephone operators, secretary-typists, and one is doing ordnance work.

d) Three of the newly-graduated class are going to another air-base in this area: mail clerk, typist secretary, and filing clerk. These have not given up college work to go - a real sacrifice for the six girls who went out in November.

e) Before Christmas, students and teachers combined in doing a Christmas Card project, to help soldiers' families. They made interesting cards in Chinese design, and had strong envelopes printed. Phoebe Ho did a great deal to initiate and carry out this project. The American G.I.'s bought a lot of them. The group cleared twenty thousand dollars. With this, a Christmas party was given to more than four hundred soldiers' families at the City Social Centre. The refreshments consisted of cookies, candies, and peanuts. The Ginling students gave a play, "Going to Tokio", and the Nursery Children - the children of the guests - amused the audience by singing and dancing. It was a very successful party.

f) During festival days different groups of girls go out, particularly in the area outside the South Gate of the city - the area assigned by a campus organization to Ginling - to do publicity work; tell groups about the war; put up posters. In the

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China New Year season there have been a three days' exhibit at the City Social Centre; I shall ask Wang Ying-an to write her impressions of this.

g) In the fall, students and faculty joined a First Aid lecture course which met every Wednesday at seven o'clock in the evening. The idea was to train those who could give help in time of air raids.

In November, when the call came for a big student army, the tension ran very high on the campus. Many of our girls took the concentrated First Aid Course that was given during two weeks from three to five in the afternoon, and were excused from class and lab work at this time.

Later, still a more elaborate course - Nurses' Aid - was set up, on the recommendation of Ruth Chester. More than a hundred Ginling girls did this: this meant that many had to drop other work in order to do this combined theoretical and ward work training. The P.U.M.C. Head of the Nursing School, who was in charge, told Helen that the Ginling girls did unusually well.

h) The Ginling students collected from the student body enough money to give three scholarships to worthy children of soldiers. They are now at Primary School, and it is hoped that this scholarship fund will provide for these three students until they are finished High School.

3. Ginling Servants' Night School. This meets five nights a week in the First Dormitory from 8:30 to 9:30. The young servants, both men and women, are eager to come. There is a definite organization: Dean, Principal, and about forty teachers (the teachers take turns, their turns coming about once every two or three weeks). The gratitude of the servants was indicated when the servants gave the "faculty" of their school a party, entertaining them by doing stunts, and singing Chinese opera. The Ginling students collected money to give them practical gifts.

4. The Spring Conference, 1945. Ten Ginling girls - our full quota - went. I am hoping that Marjorie Causer and a student will write some brief report of this. One incident I have heard of. One morning, in the midst of a session, Andy Roy, as fertile of ideas as ever he was in Nanking days, announced that there was to be a debate in the afternoon, subject, whether or not there should be a Christian political party begun. The group at once appointed the debaters, and the afternoon debate aroused a great deal of interest.

#### B. Student Problems

Helen pointed out that in general these are campus problems, not specifically of Ginling, and the type of problem will show that this must be so. However, we are mostly concerned in this report with Ginling students, and they are the ones that Helen knows and has to deal with.

1. Dancing. "It seems that dancing has come to China to stay. The trouble is that we have triple standards about the importance of this form of recreation. The students think it is wholesome. Conservative society thinks it evil. The school authorities have tried to hit a happy medium in such problems, but in connection with this, it is a general campus rule now that students are not to dance.

"What shall the College do? If we let the students do it, we are letting the students do improper things - conservative society says. Also the College is scolded by newspapers and gossips. If we forbid the students to dance, the students say we are fossils, out-of-date, and unable to grow with the times. The students then say, "The faculties and administrations are too old. They don't know what we are thinking."

2. Curled hair. "Three years ago the Ministry of Education sent orders that every High School girl should have her hair bobbed to a length even with the lower tip of the ear. The order for college girls was that there should be absolutely no curling of the hair. Permanent waving was against the law, and still is, with the result that permanents are given in back rooms and up staircases, away from the public view, but still a flourishing trade.

"The girls are in conflict. When they go to social occasions of some importance, they see girls their own age with permanents; they wish to imitate these and their elder sisters. The government says it is a waste of money, and yet at weddings, feasts, and other important social occasions, the girls feel it is necessary to conform to what has become the smart thing, the fashion.

"For some time, Ginling struggled to enforce this rule. For instance, if a girl on government loan had a permanent, she was immediately deprived of the loan to the amount equal to the cost of a permanent. In the year 1943-44, fourteen girls were deprived in this way. Now the school has stopped the struggle, for the permanented and curled hair is the prevailing fashion."

3. Relationship between girls and boys. "Actually on the campus, great freedom is allowed, and it is very common to see boys and girls walking arm in arm, and showing more affection in public than would be true on an American campus.

"Young people are having their own troubles in this regard. They want freedom to choose their mate, but the families still want to make the arrangements. Tragedies and tragedies result. There are tragic conflicts between daughters and parents. Some girls disappear from the homes because of disappointments in love."

4. Problem of appearing well-dressed when prices are so high. "It is a great temptation for girls who have not plenty of income to use other people's things - rouge, lipstick, powder, toothpaste, soap, handkerchiefs, stockings, etc. Frequently a girl who owns such things finds her possessions are being used; in more serious cases, such things disappear altogether. And how is such petty thieving to be traced? Stealing of such things become a common problem. If stealing is discovered, a girl is expelled.

"It is interesting to note what kinds of work girls are doing to supplement their income so that they may buy such and other things:

a) Teach outside the College. This is allowed, if the girl's work does not suffer. If her work is poor, the situation is investigated, and the teaching forbidden. For instance, three now teach in the Midwifery School, teach English, History, Geography. Six are teaching in the Industrial School, particularly English. They tutor in private families, tutor foreigners in Mandarin.

b) They assist various departments at Ginling. For instance, this last semester the English Department had two English majors who wanted work; they gave three hours a week, keeping English materials in order, marking or checking the new-type tests, typing, making stencils, etc.

c) Other jobs they do at Ginling are: sort school mail; aid in simple nursing, taking of temperatures, taking patients to clinic or hospital, etc.; they work at the Student Centre; write articles for newspapers, translate articles; look after children on holidays - type of work disdained in old days; assist in the library; when the matron, Mrs. Wang, is away on holidays, one or two girls, likely from the Home Economics group, look after the food; working in the president's office, do map-drawing, copy music; do knitting.

They are very ingenious in making what they have go a long way. They save money by belonging to the Student Cooperative. They turn gowns. Scarcely any purses are bought ready-made; all are made out of cast-off clothes or bits of new material. They knit old

wool up into gloves, socks and sweaters, using two new styles to make old things possible; combining yarn and woolen material in jackets, and using skillfully various colors of yarn in one garment. They are knitting gloves and sweaters out of cotton thread, whereas before it would always have been wool.

It they cannot afford permanents (I hear that a place the student group patronized charged before the New Year a thousand dollars for a permanent, but the price was to go up sharply after that) put their hair up in the time-honored papers before going to bed, or use water wave.

They are ingenious in their use of "shifts of clothes". Helen had to deal with a Ginling girl who was supposedly having severe financial troubles. Helen said, "You say you are poor. How is that? You often have new clothes."

She answered, "This dress I am wearing is three years old."

Helen: "But recently I have seen you wearing different new dresses. You generally wear very good clothes."

The girl then said, "Yes, Dr, Djang, that is so. Two cousins and I in Chengtu each bought a new dress; then we shift around, so each one of us may seem to have three different new dresses."

They use crepe de chine scarfs frequently, saying, "Well, if I cannot afford a new dress, at least I can buy a new scarf to give a new note to my old dress."

5. Some of the girls are in very great difficulties financially because they are by the tide of battle cut off from their families and the source of their income. I know one girl from Hongkong who has not heard from her family for months. A brother who escaped from Hongkong had, when last she heard, reached Kunming, and wrote her for money. She sent him ten thousand, but is quite worried because she has for a couple of months not heard from him, nor anything of the money. I said to her, "How do you manage to get along?" She said, "Well, so far, I have been able to get along without borrowing." I said, "Why do you not go to the office to arrange help for a certain period of time." She said, "I shall have to do that for next semester." She is a cheerful person, and one would never guess that she has such a weight on her mind. I am sure there are dozens of our girls under appalling loads of uncertainty and sorrow.

The Lowered Morale. The problems just mentioned are one sign, or even a cause of the lowered morale which is evident on the campus. Helen's analysis is as follows:

1. The loss of morale is due, first of all, to the long-drawn-out war; it is proving too much for everybody.

2. The great freedom allowed the girls tends to divert their attention from their studies. In Nanking the girls were shut up on a college campus, at some distance from other coeducational institutions. The girls are "afraid to be old maids", and feel that to make a wise choice they must know many boys. Therefore, they cannot put so much thought and energy on the serious intellectual things as formerly.

3. They are very often poorer students than before because they come from poor middle schools. Many secondary schools are very poor. Ginling is no longer allowed to train teachers - before girls could take a diploma in education, but this is not allowed. The result that there are very poor teachers is partly due to such a situation, and also to the war conditions, scarcity of materials, financial troubles, and ad, infin. Ginling has not, as formerly, mission schools where good teaching was done, as "feeders".

4. Many teachers on the campus - in order to live, or to live a little more easily - are doing outside work. I know of some teachers doing two full-time jobs! The general rule for all universities here is that no full-time teacher should accept outside work. Ginling, better than other institutions, stays to the rule, but it is very hard to know what to advise conscientious teachers to do who wish to add something to their income, know others are doing it, and yet they feel bound by the rule. Of course, when teachers do much extra work, they are not free to give their thought and energy to their classes here, and there is skimpy work. Teachers are frequently poorly fed, and so have not the energy to do good work. Ginling's "egg a day" this last semester has been a wonderful help.

5. China is now in a transition period. The whole nation is struggling to find a new, or at least satisfactory, standard of conduct. People are sure to suffer in such a period of uncertainty and insecurity. They do not have enough religious inspiration. The proportion of Christian students is too small: "there is not enough salt to preserve the meat."

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Well, Cornelia, Helen and I realize that much of this does not "redound to the credit" of Ginling, but it is the truth, and whether or not you can use such material in publicity, I think you will like to know the conditions. Could something be gotten out about the difficulties in war time? We often think it is amazing that work goes along as well as it does. Take, for instance, the vexed question of light. Night after night, when it is our turn to have light - we now have two nights on and one off - there is no light for hours, and students and faculty make shifts to read and study by candle light or vegetable oil lamps - both very unsatisfactory. "Crown" candles are nearly a thousand dollars a half dozen, and most varieties of the tallow candle are drippy smoky affairs. I think the section about how the girls use their ingenuity to look as well as possible is most interesting. Their spirit in class is very good, and one feels the students want to do well, and to get on. They are courteous and friendly, and it is a pleasure to teach them. In English they come in with such poor backgrounds that we find it difficult to help them quickly. They respond very well to tutors' interest in them. Actually, Ginling does a fine piece of work with its tutor-student relationship.

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From the Canadian School Library we have recently been buying some books; many textbooks were on sale at sixty cents gold a copy; I combed the room where they were laid out in higgledy-piggledy order and found several sets which ought to be very useful. En-lan wants a frying pan for geographic trips.

Much love to you and the girls,

Florence Kirk

Handwritten numbers on the right margin: 3, 8, 2, 7, 5, 4

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P.S. This week I went to see the several weeks-old Christopher Ward Sargent, Imogene's baby. He's a nice-looking child with a beautifully-shaped head. Ginling College, Feb. 18, 1945. Imogene says she's apt to faint he's around! Dear Cornelia, *most of this stenciled 3/45*

Essie Price is in Chengtu now, here for the Board Meeting of Cheloo University which has had a serious strike recently. She is so glad to be back in Chengtu, for like many another she does not have much affection for Chungking with its difficult transportation and a weather still worse than the grey skies of Chengtu. She looks well, but had the misfortune to trip over a loose board in her attic and fell down a half flight of steps; she was found unconscious by the cook who came up to tell her that a visitor had come to see her; she has a very sore leg and feels burised and stiff all over. She was here to dinner last night with other guests, and did not feel too comfortable. I have had a couple good chats with her since she came. In a couple weeks she hopes they can move into their new quarters where she will have the ten or twelve men in Frank's Interpreters School. She looks very nice in the new coat and green velveteen hat that Frank brought her from America.

I asked a girl who has just graduated, Djang Kwen-yuen, if she would write something about the Ginling students' Co-operative. This is her short account. *Sociology Major*

*Ginling* ~~our~~ Co-operative

As we look back, we can find several changes that we have been able to make within our little co-operative.

A year ago, we got our co-operative fund from fellow-students who volunteered to be members. Each member contributed ten to fifty dollars, and had also to offer an hour or two weekly for the business. They got very little pay for doing an extra work. The store then opened two or three hours daily. We had for sale candles, writing-paper, envelopes, note-books, soap, towels and toilet paper, and several kinds of refreshments, such as, peanuts, candy and cookies.

Well, this term we approved the idea of enlarging the co-operative circle by including all fellow students as members, each one contributing fifty dollars - what we called a "mutual-helping fund." So we solved a good deal of the economic trouble, and at the same time we have been able to get everybody in this college interested in the co-operative idea. We decided to open the store once a month, and on some special occasions such as Christmas, New Year's, end of term, etc. It seemed difficult to have it open daily since everyone is pressed by school work and outside activities. Now we do not sell refreshments any more, for they are not necessities, and we find it hard to keep them from being spoiled by weather, or rats. What we have now for sale are practical, daily required articles: soap, candles, writing paper and envelopes, toilet paper. On special occasions we sometimes do have refreshments.

All things are sold at a very reasonable price which is just enough to replace them, so we get very little profit. However, our fellow students are benefitted for at the co-operative they can buy these articles at a price which is one-third less than on the street. When such things are available in the dormitory, the students do not need to walk into the city or spend rickshaw fare - now sixty to a hundred dollars each way, depending on the weather and the time of day.

At present the co-operative goes on smoothly, but we have our difficulties too. The main trouble is getting a proper location since we are all crowded into this small dormitory. The room which we now use

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is quite small, and it serves other purposes: post-office, for all students get their letters there, and as a small clinic which opens daily at 12:30. Due to the varied business going on in that room, the cooperative has to learn to adjust its business to times when the room is most free. I feel we have profited by these increasing difficulties.

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I might add a word about the Faculty co-operative. The headquarters are in the office where mimeographing is done and office supplies sold. About once a month we get a notice that such things are on sale as laundry soap (Taiping variety recently was seventy-five dollars for the double cake, when it was about double that on the street), white cotton (eighty dollars a foot, for a coarse quality not worth much, but possible for such things as shoes and dustcloths), sugar (two hundred and fifty a pound, and that not the best refined quality). ~~I think~~ articles are bought in quantity and supplies bought up and sold ~~to us~~ at low prices when street prices have already gone up.

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On Friday morning Djang Hsiang-lan came to "morning tea" and afterwards she talked for more than an hour while I busily took down her ideas in longhand. I had asked her if she could send some report about college life, for as Dean of Discipline she comes into very close contact with student life and problems, much closer than the ordinary faculty member. She seemed to enjoy doing it, and wished she had more time to write accounts herself.

A. Activities at Ginling During the Fall Semester, 1944

There are many encouraging aspects of life in these difficult days of war. An account of the activities of Ginling girls shows that they are busy about taking a part in the life of the community, in a way that is quite in the tradition of the Ginling of the past.

1. Oratory Contests. There were nine universities competing, and Ginling was unusually lucky, capturing both the individual and college prizes for each.

2. Ginling War Service:

a) On China New Year's Day ten girls, led by a teacher (all from the Ginling Student Youth Corps, a Kuomintang organization) went out to give gifts of a pound of pork to each of twenty soldiers' families. The pork now is worth two hundred and sixty dollars a pound. The money was saved from the government fund, saved by going on foot when students might have gone in rickshaws, by making posters and publicity material themselves, when they might have had it done in shops, etc.

b) Ginling divided itself into ten groups, and visited and investigated the need of soldiers' families- this independent of any definite organization, but on the school's own initiative. The girls visited the whole area around the college, wrote letters for them to their relatives at the Front, and cheered them and comforted them. They recommended to the Youth Corps the twenty neediest families who were given the pork as described in a).

c) Six of our students (and an office secretary who hopes to be a G.C. student) are at the air-base, which I have told you about before. Helen visited them recently, spending a night with them, staying in their tent. The girls were quite excited that Dr. Djang should care so much for them that she thought it worth her while to visit them. They appreciate the interest the College takes in this venture, and feel that they have a strong support in the college's approval and oversight. Conservative society opinion brands them unpleasantly for going to an American camp, yet the girls faced that certainty before they decided to go, and they are doing a "wonderful piece of work." The major in charge told Helen: "They are good girls, and they have done good work." They are telephone operators,

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secretary-typists, and one is doing ordinance work.

d) Three of the newly-graduated class are going to another air-base in this area: mail clerk, typist secretary, and filing clerk. These have not given up college work to go - a real sacrifice for the six girls who went out in November.

e) Before Christmas students and teachers combined in doing a Xmas Card Project, to help Soldiers' Families. They made interesting cards in Chinese design, and had strong envelopes printed. Phoebe Ho did a great deal to initiate and carry out this project. The American G.I.'s bought a lot of them. The group cleared twenty thousand dollars. With this a Christmas party was given to more than four hundred soldiers' families at the City Social Centre. The refreshments consisted of cookies, candies, and peanuts. The Ginling students gave a play, "Going to Tokio" and the Nursery Children - the children of the guests - amused the audience by singing and dancing. It was a very successful party.

f) During festival days different groups of girls go out, particularly in the area outside the South Gate of the city - the area assigned by a campus organization to Ginling - to do publicity work: tell groups about the war, put up posters. In the China New Year season there have been a three days' exhibit at the City Social Centre; I shall ask Wang Ying-an to write her impressions of this.

g) In the fall students and faculty joined a First Aid lecture course which met every Wednesday at seven o'clock in the evening. The idea was to train those who could give help in time of air-raids.

In November when the call came for a big student army, the tension ran very high on the campus. Many of our girls took the concentrated First Aid Course that was given during two weeks from three to five in the afternoon, and were excused from class and lab. work at this time.

Later still a more elaborate course - Nurse's Aid - was set up, on the recommendation of Ruth Chester. More than a hundred Ginling girls did this: this meant that many had to drop other work in order to do this combined theoretical and ward work training. The P.U.M.C. Head of the Nursing School who was in charge told Helen that the Ginling girls did unusually well.

h) The Ginling Students collected from the student body enough money to give three scholarships to worthy children of soldiers. They are now at Primary School, and it is hoped that this scholarship fund will provide for these three students until they are finished High School.

3. Ginling Servants' Night School. This meets five nights a week in the First Dormitory from eight-thirty to nine-thirty. The young servants, both men and women, are eager to come. There is a definite organization: Dean, Principal,, and about forty teachers (the teachers take turns, their turns coming about once every two or three weeks). The gratitude of the servants was indicated when the servants gave the "faculty" of their school a party, entertaining them by doing stunts, and singing Chinese opera. The Ginling students collected money to give them practical gifts.

4. The Spring Conference, 1945. Ten Ginling girls - our full quota - went. I am hoping that Marjorie Causer and a student will write some brief report of this. One incident I have heard of. One morning, in the midst of a session, Andy Roy, as fertile of ideas as ever he was in "anking days, announced that there was to be a debate in the afternoon, subject, whether or not there should be a Christian political party begun. The group at once appointed the debaters, and the afternoon debate aroused a great deal of interest.

B. Student Problems

Helen pointed out that in general these are campus problems, not specific to Ginling, and the type of problem will show that this must be so. However, we are mostly concerned in this report with Ginling students, and they are the ones that Helen knows and has to deal with.

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1. Dancing. "It seems that dancing has come to China to stay. The trouble is that we have triple standards about the importance of this form of recreation. The students think it is wholesome. Conservative society thinks it evil. The school authorities have tried to hit a happy medium in such problems, but in connection with this, it is a general campus rule now that students are not to dance.

"What shall the College do? If we let the students do it, we are letting the students do improper things - conservative society says. Also the College is scolded by newspapers and gossips. If we forbid the students to dance, the students say we are fossils, out-of-date, and unable to grow with the times. The students then say, "The faculties and administrations are too old. They don't know what we are thinking."

2. Curled hair. "Three years ago the Ministry of Education sent orders that every High School girl should have her hair bobbed to a length even with the lower tip of the ear. The order for college girls was that there should be absolutely no curling of hair. Permanent waving was against the law, and still is, with the result that permanents are given in back rooms and up staircases, away from the public view, but still a flourishing trade.

"The girls are in conflict. When they go to social occasions of some importance, they see girls their own age with permanents; they wish to imitate these and their elder sisters. The government says it is a waste of money, and yet at weddings, feasts, and other important social occasions, the girls feel it is necessary to conform to what has become the smart thing the fashion.

"For some time Ginling struggled to enforce the rule. For instance, if a girl on government loan had a permanent, she was immediately deprived of the loan to an amount equal to the cost of a permanent. In the year 1943-44 fourteen girls were deprived in this way. Now the school has stopped the struggle, for the permanented and curled hair is the prevailing fashion."

3. Relationship between girls and boys. "Actually on the campus, great freedoms are allowed, and it is very common to see boys and girls walking arm in arm, and showing more affection in public than would be true on an American campus.

"Young people are having their own troubles in this regard. They want freedom to choose their mate, but the families still want to make the arrangements. Tragedies and tragedies result. There are tragic conflicts between daughters and parents. Some girls disappear from their homes because of disappointments in love."

4. Problem of appearing well-dressed when prices are so high.

"It is a great temptation for girls who have not plenty of income to use other people's things - rouge, lipstick, powder, toothpaste, soap, handkerchiefs, stockings, etc. Frequently a girl who owns such things finds her possessions are being used; in more serious cases, such things disappear altogether. And how is such petty thieving to be traced? Stealing of such things has become a common problem. If stealing is discovered, a girl is expelled.

"It is interesting to note what kinds of work girls are doing to supplement their income so that they may buy such and other things:

a) Teach outside the College. This is allowed, if the girl's work does not suffer. If her work is poor, the situation is investigated, and the teaching is forbidden. For instance, three now teach in the Midwifery School, teach English, History, Geography. Six are teaching in the Industrial School, particularly English. They tutor in private families, tutor foreigners in Mandarin.

b) They assist various departments at Ginling. For instance this last semester the English department had two English majors who wanted

work: they gave three hours a week, keeping English materials in order, marking or checking the new-type tests, typing, making stencils, etc.

c) Other jobs they do at Ginling are: sort school mail; aid in simple nursing, taking of temperatures, taking patients to clinic or hospital, etc; they work at the Student Centre; write articles for newspapers, translate articles; look after children in holidays- a type of work disdained in old days; assist in the library; when the matron, Mrs. Wang, is away on holidays, one or two girls, likely from the Home Economics group, look after the food; work in the president's office, do mapdrawing, copy music; do knitting.

They are very ingenious in making what they have go a long way. They save money by belonging to the Student Co-operative. They turn gowns. Scarcely any purses are bought ready-made, but all are made out of cast-off clothes or bits of new material. They knit old wool up into gloves, socks and sweaters, using two new styles to make old things possible: combining yarn and woolen material in jackets, and using skilfully various colors of yarn in one garment. They are knitting gloves and seaters out of cotton thread, whereas before it would always have been wool.

If they cannot afford permanents (I hear that a place the student group patronize charged before the New Year a thousand dollars for a permanent, but the price was to go up sharply after that) put their hair up in the time-honored papers before going combed, or use water wave.

They are ingenious in their use of "shifts of clothes." Helen had to deal with a Ginling girl who was supposedly having severe financial troubles. Helen said,

"You say you are poor. How is that? You often have new clothes."

She answered, "This dress I am wearing is three years old."

Helen: "But recently I have seen you wearing different new dresses. You generally wear very good clothes."

The girl then said, "Yes, Dr. Djang, that is so. Two cousins and I in Chengtu each bought a new dress; then we shift around, so each one of us may seem to have three different new dresses."

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In the English Department we have had some success this semester in connection with the projector and films gotten out by the ABC nations, the project pushed ahead by Dr. Jerry Winfield in Chungking. Ginling is a station, which means we have been given the projector for our own use, on the condition that we use it twice a week for programmes of one sort or another. Miss Pan and I have been in charge, and we have felt very much like two children with a new toy. We gave showings between five and six in the first dormitory - where the girls gathered before supper hour - and found an increasing interest in the student body, having twenty to thirty each time, and visible interest shown. They enjoyed such films as "Ten Million Americans Go to War," "Women in the Service," "Meet New Zealand," "The China Clipper," "Chinese in America," "Rubber Comes from Planst," etc. We are expecting a new shipment of films any time. The projector can be borrowed by faculty or reliable student groups to use with groups of various sorts. I feel there is a great future for such a method of presenting educational material.

From the Canadian School Library we have recently been buying some books: many textbooks were on sale at sixty cents gold a copy; I combed the room where they were laid out in higgledy-piggledy order and found several sets which ought to be very useful. En-lan wants a frying pan for geog. trips. Much love to you and the girls, Florence K.

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Florence Kirk

Ginling College, Chengtu  
March 27, 1945

Dear Cornelia,

This is a beautiful spring day, with the two magnolia trees in our yard beginning to drop their huge white petals, and the wisteria buds hanging over the edge of the gatehouse roof ready to burst into bloom. The willow trees are gracefully floating their long fronds in the almost still air. It is good just to be alive, and out in the sunshine. Of course we are thrilled that Dr. Wun is going to San Francisco. The Executive Committee knew that this was coming, and we thought next Tuesday much too early for her departure; it was a complete surprise to us at the open faculty meeting last night to hear that the time had been set forward and she must leave on Thursday this week. To-day at noon, Dr. Wu said, "Well, I'm still alive!" She has a great many meetings and conferences because Dr. Dekker is here, and she wants to see certain faculty before she "takes off." I was impressed deeply last night at the delighted way the faculty received the news, and what an excellent spirit they all showed at the appeal to co-operate and carry on the best we could. It has been a blessing to have Dr. Wu up and around, for her mere presence at Faculty meetings, and committees does more than a host of the rest of us can accomplish. For that reason it seems hard to let her go so soon after she has come to us from her retirement this winter, but we think it is a wonderful opportunity, and that she has a distinct and unique contribution to make in representing China.

March 28 Li Han-fen is a Senior who has returned to College after being a few months at the air-field as a telephone operator. She has just been awarded a ten thousand dollar scholarship by the Institute of Comparative Culture - which has arranged these to promote research projects in the Cultural exchange between China and the English-speaking countries. She is tiny, but has a keen bright mind and a vivid way of expressing herself. The other night at an organization meeting of the English Majors' English Club, she spoke out against standardization and domination by any committee, and pled for freedom of speech and action. She is liked very much, for she has a "way with her" even as she speaks in what might in others be a blunt manner. She is an interesting student to have: alert, interested, and knows how to take the initiative and carry a thing through.

She wrote her impressions of the "G.I." out at the camp, and so I give parts of her account here. When she came back to school, she said to me, "Really I am sorry to leave the field. I felt that I was doing something to help, and I found the work most interesting. It has been quite an adjustment to make to come back to this peaceful campus."

#### A Chinese Girl Gives Her Impression of the "G.I."

"To go to work in the U.S. Army! This is really a novelty and a thrill to a Chinese girl. In the eyes of some conservative Chinese my action in doing this appeared shocking, for they had a wrong picture of the G.I.- who consequently got the wrong impression of China. I feel it is the job of us students to help improve mutual understanding between China and America whenever we can. Moreover, I believe that thus we can help the Allies who are fighting with us for a common cause by doing office work on the air-fields and thus releasing G.I.'s for other kinds of work. So here I am, working in a G.I. camp as a telephone operator.

"This kind of life is all so novel to me that everything has interested me very much. I want to tell you how the G.I. first impressed me, but I must say that many things which seemed strange to me are taken for granted by the Americans because of the difference in our temperaments and customs. Therefore I hope my readers may make allowance for my attitude and expression.

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"The lively and carefree air of the G.I. was what I noticed first. They feel the burden and sorrow of war, but they don't show this in the least in their expression. Whenever they saw us - they told us afterwards that the coming of seven girls made life on the field much more endurable- they yelled joyfully to us, even from a great distance. Their favorite words in Chinese were 'Ting Hae', the equivalent in English of "Very good." But when they pronounced this Chinese expression, they put their thumbs up and waved their hands in the air-which made them look comical to me. At first I was embarrassed when they teased me, but I got used to this. These signs of being care-free, high-spirited, and somewhat naught -if I may say so - are the expression of a young nation.

"From my personal contact with the English and the Americans, I have found that the greatest and most striking difference between these two nations is that the Americans are not so reserved and conventional as the English. But I think that the G.I.'s are even more straightforward and freer than the Average American. When they called me by my first name on first meeting me, I was surprised, but their friendliness made me at home in their company. They appeared very frank and open.

"I noticed that before long some of the boys looked much tidier than when I had first met them. They confessed that since they were so long away from home they tended to forget their appearance, and how they should speak and act in front of girls. This seemed rather pathetic to me. Most of the boys have been away from home for more than two years, and they are very homesick. It is touching when they talk of their mothers, their wives, and children; some have not seen their children born since they have left America.

"Before I went to the field, I had the idea that Americans have all received at least a high-school education, but now I have learned that this is not so. Some of them have not even finished primary school. More important than that, however, is the efficient way they know how to do their jobs.

Was a telephone operator, I have had a lot of fun. In the first week when we girls first went to the switchboard, there was no doubt that everyone who first heard a female voice on the phone was shocked. Some of them tried to be "fresh" and called me "honey, darling," and such things. At first I was embarrassed, and I must say that I did blush a bit. But now I have gotten used to it and I know that the only way to do is not to take them seriously or to tease them in return. Yes, you cannot take the G.I. seriously; if you do, there will be trouble.

"There were certain inconveniences in working at the camp: it took me some time to get accustomed to living in a tent, having around me only wide spaces of treeless ground, eating foreign food, etc., but it is an interesting kind of work to do. I feel now that it is an experience I would not have missed to get to know the G.I.'s as they work in China."

..... (May 15)

Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan after chapel one morning said, "Do you want more publicity?" Of course, I said, "Yes, always more." So I went into her office and she told me the following.

"It was last Thursday morning (May 7) that about 8:30 a Senior came to my office, and said that Djang Siung-heng, another Senior, was terribly sick in bed with violent pains in her abdomen. Miss Hy Ya-

Djang Siung-heng

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Ian and I rushed to the girl's room and found her white, pale, in terrible agony, apparently struggling for life. I realized she was between life and death, and before long we had sent her to the hospital on a stretcher.

"Several doctors examined her, but no satisfactory diagnosis was reached. Finally at nine o'clock that night the doctors decided to have an exploratory operation. It just happened that I was out at a meeting that evening- a Y.W.C.A. meeting to celebrate the Seventeenth anniversary of the International Women's Day at which I was asked to speak on the topic, 'The Security of Professional Women.' The group had supper at 6, and I spoke afterwards and we had discussion. The meeting did not adjourn until 8:45. It was a dark night, and no rickshaw could be found. The Old South Gate bridge is now undergoing repairs, so two of us had to walk the long way home by the Old South Gate. It was 10:15 when I reached the campus. I was told that the girl's brother had signed for permission that the operation should be done, so since there seemed nothing I could do I went to bed, not realizing how serious the situation really was.

"Miss Dziang was taken into the operation room at 9. The doctors could not discover what was wrong. Dr. Stephen Yang suggested to Dr. Laube that there might be worms in the region of the gall bladder -that was the trouble, five worms in the duct leading to the bladder. She was taken out of the operating room at 1:30 a.m!

"The interesting part of the story is the way the Ginling girls who were her friends -about ten of them- gave their support. Ten of them were examined to see which had blood approximating the patient's and Miss Yang Hwei-ying gave 400 c.c. free and gladly. Of their own accord they organized themselves to be with her constantly as special nurses from that first night. Now it is the sixth day since the operation and still her friends take turns, two shifts at night, and when free took classes during the day.

"The surgeon, Dr. Stephen Yang - everyone thinks he is wonderful - said, 'This spirit can only be found in Ginling College, where the teachers and students do all this service ~~with~~ gladly and on their own initiative, without reward.' He repeatedly said, 'This wonderful spirit should help the patient to get well more quickly.' His words proved true, for on the fifth day the tube was taken out of the wound, the saline injections stopped. She can eat. We can see her smile. Her first food was five tablespoons of chicken soup and half an orange. Dr. Laube said, 'She is robust. She'll get well soon. We hope that the stitches can come out on the ninth day.'

.....

Miss Tsai Yu-dji and Miss Hsiung Ya-na are two rare girls. Their eyes shine as they talk about their work, and there is never an expression of the fact that they have tackled a lonely or difficult piece of work. Here are two reports given me recently.

Some News from Chung Ho Chang

1. The Jenchow People Send Dr. Wu Yi-fang a Present

It was in 1938 that Ginling College started their rural service work in Jenchow, (the fall that they moved to West China.) Owing to the difficulties of communication, the Rural Service Station moved in 1943 to Chung Ho Chang. However, one piece of work thrived after we left, and of this we had a proof recently.

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"In the time at Jenchow we had helped the people in the village name Lu Chai Kou to begin a Pao(100 families) Co-operative, for which the peasants built a house by themselves collectively. After we left the people kept working to improve their own village. In order to support a Pao school and to do some other public affairs, each family reared chickens and fish, and each family contributed fish and two chickens to the co-operative as their public wealth. At China New Year, 1945, the peasants of this district sent a big hen to Dr. Wu Yi-fang as a token of their gratefulness and remembrance of the Hinling Rural Service Station work. When I brought in the live hen to the dormitory, my friends laughed at me, and I felt they were saying to themselves, 'Yes, she's really from the country.' It was the next day that Dr. Wu and the faculty had a dish of chicken and chicken soup. How good it was!"

in 1944

(2) Two pieces of research that we have done at Chung Ho Chang besides the daily work with the people are: making of materials for the children 3-5, and the social survey of the town itself.

The Teaching Material for the Small Children: Miss Hsiung Ya-na wrote this from her experience in working with rural children for several years. The material is divided into 48 weekly lessons, including songs, rythm exercises, stories and games. We hope this material will be published, and will be made available to parents and teachers.

A Social Survey of Chung Ho Chang:"We spent ~~and~~ six months making an investigation of ~~an~~ interesting market town. We wished to find out the functions of the town and the surrounding country, and the relationship between the city of Chengtu, the town and the country round about.

"Our study shows us that the town is the commercial, educational, cultural, religious and recreational center of the rural people. There are 222 small shops in this town. On market days the farmers bring their farm products to sell, including sixteen different kinds of goods: rice, wheat, fuel, chickens, eggs, cows, goats, fruit, dogs, cats, etc. In addition there are about 345 'stands' coming from Chengtu and 22 other towns near by. Most of the goods in the shops and stands come from Chengtu."

N.B. The account I have sent of the facts in more detail might perhaps be incorporated into this report and make more interesting reading. I feel that in the West we do not have much of a definite idea of the make-up of a rural town. Perhaps an enumeration-in part- might fill out this account in a vivid manner.

(3) The Struggle of Six Local Girls  
Hsiung Ya-na

"Hinling College Rural Station runs a nursery in Chung Ho-chang, ~~owns~~ it for three main purposes: firstly, to help the mothers take care of their young children, so that the mothers can more easily do their work; secondly, to experiment in methods and materials for the raising of rural children; and thirdly, to give the local growing girls some domestic training and help them to serve their community.

"Six local girls have helped us in the nursery since August, 1943. At first they came to help look after the wee children in the morning, being supervised in this work. In the afternoon they attended classes especially given for them. For a year and a half the nursery marched on peacefully and successfully, and these six assistants grew bigger and taller with the children, and became more helpful day by day. 'They are now big girls with fine manners, and have grown to an age when they can work,' thought the parents of these girls. Therefor ~~all~~ this spring

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1945

the parents wanted their daughters to stay at home to earn their own living, or to do some handwork in preparation for their marriage. Sha Fu Chen, a quiet but energetic girl, and her step-sister were told to do satin weaving in the spring; Wei Shu-ching, who had lived in poverty all her life, was told to make stockings all day long; Wang Shu-ying was ordered to help look after the tea-shop; Feng Mei-chiang and Peng Shu-yuen, both engaged, were to do embroidery for their marriage. The girls were very sad about this news. They begged and begged their parents, even with tears, to allow them to return to school.

"We appreciated their eagerness for knowledge, and changed the curriculum from the whole day to a half-day program: the girls to study in the early morning, and then work with the children in the nursery. The girls told their parents about this revised schedule, and promised that they would work as hard as possible at home in the afternoons. The parents were moved by the girls' pleading, and finally agreed to the new arrangement. The girls were triumphant. Their struggle had not been one involving bloodshed, but effort, will, and tears. Their keenness was a sign that the girls' minds have improved, this eagerness for learning.

"On March 12th the six girls came happily to the Rural Service station. Every face shone with a triumphant smile. That day - our so-called 'Training Day' - the six girls and their teachers reviewed the lessons, dined together, and afterwards had an evening prayer service on a mountain five li away from the town. The girls took this to be an occasion for starting the new order of things; they vowed they would take good care of the nursery children and work hard at home too. The scene was tranquil: the sun was settling on the river, the water circling in rings as the current moved; young lamps gave a skip here and there on the mountain slope; fragrant wild flowers nodded in the gentle breeze, and the little boys herding the water-buffalo sang that spring had begun.

In haste, Florence

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Ginling College  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N.Y.  
April 2, 1945

Miss Florence Kirk  
Ginling College  
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Dear Florence:

Your two letters of February 11th and February 18th reached me last week, and were most welcome. Our new spring booklet has just gone to press and much of the material in it came from your good letters. It is wonderful to have you on the scene, and reporting so faithfully for us!

Dr. Wu's appointment to San Francisco Conference. We are all much excited about Dr. Wu's appointment to the San Francisco Conference, and are eagerly awaiting news of her plans. I am assuming that if she comes to America, she will of course come to New York and that I shall therefore have an opportunity to see her. My great concern now is for her health. I cannot help wondering if she is really strong enough to undertake such heavy responsibilities.

Hung Dah-ling. I have already written to Dr. Wu about Hung Dah-ling's arrival, and a cable was sent as soon as she got here. She is staying with Stella Graves and Ruth Phillips in their little apartment on 120th St.,. It is a pretty close fit, but they all seem very happy. It is harder than ever to get living quarters in New York, especially near Columbia, so it is really very fortunate that this arrangement can be made at least temporarily.

Miss Hung has had certain tests and examinations at Juilliard and seems to have done exceedingly well. She has also seen the doctor and had X-rays taken of her injured hand. She says it is much better and does not pain her except after long practice. She is a very charming person, and is making a pleasant impression everywhere she goes.

Wu Mao-i. We have heard nothing at all from Wu Mao-i since she left, but there has not really been time. I am using all my powers of concentration and prayer to move her along as fast as possible, as I know how important it is for her to reach Chengtu before Ruth leaves.

Mailing Books. I have not started any of your books out to you as a cable from Elsie Priest said that the packages we have been sending since September have not yet begun to arrive. When we have more information about that method of sending things, I'll decide whether or not to risk your books. The same is true about some very nice physical education material that I have all ready to send.

Grace Boynton is here now, in Scarsdale, but none of us has seen her yet as the doctor has ordered complete rest, and no business at all. That really is all I know about her, except that the trip was fairly hard on her because changes and adjustments had to be made unexpectedly.

I see Helen quite frequently. She seems pretty well, though she said yesterday that her blood count is down again and she was feeling it. She is probably pushing herself too hard, with a lot of guests and outside things in addition to her regular work.

I hope all goes well with you.

Affectionately,

CSM:ef  
Via China Clipper

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Rec'd 8/20/45

Ginling College, July 5, 1945

Dear Cornelia,

You will know a good deal more of Dr. Wu's movements than we do out here. The Chinese press gives us news of the Conference, and Ettie sent us many clippings about Dr. Wu and her programme. Whether or not she went to England, or will go, we are not sure. Dr. Wu's cable of congratulations to the Seniors arrived in good time, but there was no mention of England. It is good to know that she is feeling better, and getting expert advice about her health problems. Would it be possible for her to get someone started on her sinus trouble I remember in Philadelphia when I was about to sail, Dr. Morris (from Shanghai) said, "Has Dr. Wu gotten her sinus trouble cleared up?" I had to say, "Not that I know of." His answer was, "She should certainly have had that done while she was here." Her reaction may be that nothing can be done, but I do wish she would get treatment from some specialist. We are all very proud of her and the work she has been doing, and we'd like to see her come back very much improved in health. News of her goes the rounds, and everyone is very interested. Her cable was read out at the Senior Class night, and at the Joint Commencement services last Monday. Do give her my best wishes when you see her.

Searle Bates arrived here a few days ago, and looks very well. I've done little more than shake hands with him so far. He's to speak to an F.O.R. meeting to-day, so I hope to hear him then. I'm sure the University ofanking is overjoyed to have him back, and the whole community will appreciate him. President Y.G. Chen returned recently, but I have had little chance to talk with him either.

The first item is a short article by the Chung Ho Chang workers which they thought might be information that could be used to raise money for a post-war programme,

A PLAN OF POST-WAR RURAL FAMILY REHABILITATION  
GINLING COLLEGE RURAL SERVICE STATION

I. AIMS:

In ~~Since~~ 1937, the aggressor, Japan, invaded our country and took away a great part of our good earth. In the occupied area, many buildings and houses were destroyed; homes and shops were looted; families were broken up; people were left to poverty, suffering and privation. China is a nation whose civilization has been built on agriculture. Eighty per cent of her population are farmers. Hence, of all the work that confronts China after the war, none is so imperative as that of her rural rehabilitation. The family is the basic unit of rural communities; therefore, among the vast program of rural rehabilitation, the rehabilitation of the family is a matter of the greatest importance.

Ginling College has always been interested in Rural Service work. To meet the needs of rural reconstruction in the rear, during

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\* Chung Ho ~~CHUNG~~ 1945

war time, the College started a Rural Service Satation in Jenshow (about 80 miles from Chengtu) and in ~~Law-ying~~ at a later time. For six years the following work has been carried on, on a small scale: educational, medical, home economics, and industrial work. The local people appreciated the servie, and the college students enjoyed the opportunity of getting acquainted with the life of country people. Several effective methods of rural work, as well as materials, were worked out successfully. Therefore, on the eve of our final victory, <sup>conter</sup> as the College makes her post-war plans, she looks forward to ~~exerting~~ <sup>her</sup> utmost ~~for the benefit of the liberated rural people, after using~~ <sup>her</sup> experience ~~in working among rural families.~~ A plan of rural family rehabilitation is here submitted to accomplish the following things:

work for the

1. To render service to the rural people in the liberated areas.
2. To train proper personnel for post-war rural reconstruction.
3. To furnish a living laboratory for college students.
4. To work out effective methods and materials for rural work, ad to study rural life.

II. METHODS:

A. To select a rural area near Nanking as a service center to carry out the following types of work:

1. Home work:

- a) Housing: 1) To build a model house as a demonstration and to give guidance to those who want to build new houses or rebuild their old ones.  
2) To supply supervisors to visit homes, discuss the ways of beautifying their own houses and yards.

- b) Nutrition: 1) To make a survey on the nutritional condition of the rural area.  
2) To teach house-wives to serve a balanced diet.  
3) To promote the planting of tomatoes, soya beans, etc. for nutrition.  
4) To promote the rearing of goats and chickens as an aid to diet.  
5) To organize cooking classes.

- c) Clothing: 1) To teach women and girls to make their own garments with small sewing machines.  
2) To introduce children's garments designed for hygiene and comfort.

d) Budgets: To enable rural homes to make family budgets and to keep accounts.

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e) Family relationships:

- 1) To enable retired soldiers to have a happy family life.
- 2) To organize family meetings to establish a democratic spirit and put democracy in practice in homes.
- 3) To give family guidance to develop proper relationships between husband and wife, between parents and children, between relatives or neighbours.

2. Livelihood:

- a) To promote home industries on a small scale to increase the family income and such industries that wounded soldiers can participate in too.
- b) To give some agricultural supervision.
- c) To promote co-operatives.
- d) To introduce small machines, such as for spinning and weaving.

3. Children's Work:

- a) Nurseries and kindergartens for pre-school age children.
- b) Supplementary classes for children of school age ~~but~~ who have had no chance to go to school.
- c) Playgrounds for children of all ages.
- d) Libraries for children.
- e) Child guidance clinic.

4. Health work:

- a) Health education.
- b) Midwifery.
- c) Clinic.
- d) Social training of students to promote better health.

5. Citizens' Hall:

- a) Playgrounds and games for adults.
- b) Reading room.
- c) Hall for meetings and social gatherings and exhibits.
- d) Hall for weddings and funerals.

B. Set up three or four branch centres of a similar type of work.

C. Co-operate with organizations, such as local government, agricultural institutions, local clinic, church, and similar organizations, as closely as possible.

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- D. Develop local leaders to serve their own community.
- E. Train college students through their practise or p~~rese~~arch work in this rural community.

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Some News Items from the P.E. Department- July 5, 1945

The other afternoon, Peggy Lin came to my room to chat, and tell me about the work of the department as she saw it.

1. You remember, Mrs. Mills, that last Fall, when there was a sudden awakening of enthusiasm among students to help with the war effort, the P.E. department tried a new experiment, especially to train girls in endurance. The girls voluntarily chose to go on long hikes at least two or three times a week, and it was one of the sights to see the long line starting off every afternoon about four, the girls clad in slacks and bright sweaters, and walking most purposefully. Well, at the beginning of this semester, they returned to their original programme, for the following reasons: The girls found the marching programme uninteresting after a week or two; there were relatively few places that were interesting to walk to, just three in fact; the department found that the time expended brought too little results-- the students were trained only in endurance, when if other exercises were used other skills might have been learned at the same time.

It was an interesting experiment. The girls found out they could really walk; they found they didn't need rickshaws every time they left the campus.

2. In the Volley-ball and Basket-ball tournaments nine institutions participated: universities, Normal Schools, Business schools. Ginling was fortunate enough to win both contests. The final volley-ball game was played against Yenching, and the final basket-ball game against Cheloo was very exciting.

3. The Dance Recital. (I shall be sending you the programme and pictures, that ought to be ready any day now). It was a much better display altogether than last year: better in the composition of the dances (done by Peggy), in the technique, and actual results achieved.

The proceeds went to two things: money for soldiers' shoes (\$190,000) and an equal amount for printing dance materials for use of college and graduates. It is hoped that some books may be published this year. Tickets were \$200, and there was an audience of more than 2,000 people. It was a Saturday afternoon, warm, and sunny, and the Canadian School grounds were lovely. (Expenses were only \$50,000).

More than 200 girls took part. There was much excitement among the girls over the Folk-Dance contest by the different classes. The classes had to choose their dance, costume it, and train it -- except Miss Lin gave suggestions the last day or two.

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Where did they get costumes for this elaborate dance recital? Well, sheets were indispensable, for instance, they swathed the Greek classic dancers. The silk comforter covers came off for the occasion and became skirts and draped gowns. The Primitives were clothed in burlap - in itself not an easy thing to secure, but recent incomers were able to supply some. Girls made colorful cutouts for patterns on skirts and blouses, and wore bright wreaths of flowers in the European peasant costumes.

4. This spring the Department gave a demonstration to the Border Young people (the Ch'angs) one evening in the gymnasium. That afternoon the Border folk had interested us all by their dancing out on the lawn. That night they were both entertained and the entertainers to a smaller gathering. There were nine girls and women, from 12-22, and eight boys 10-16 or 18. The older girls were fascinating, for their natural taking over of the responsibility that afternoon was delightful. All seemed perfectly unselfconscious. In the circular dances, very rythmical and slow, accompanied by the chanting was unforgettable. The girls wore their traditional costumes, but the boys were Boy Scouts.

In the gym, that evening, the Border folk were entertained at tea and with dances which gave them some idea of the class work done here. Then they danced and sang. When it came ten o'clock, and the hostesses were about ready to go home, the visitors had no notion of going. They wanted to sing for their friends a long song with innumerable verses-- a song usually sung on the occasion of the wedding, and treating all aspects of the wedding, the bride's appearance, her clothes, the gifts, etc. This was to be adapted for the evening, and certain suitable verses sung. It sometimes goes on for five hours! Their leader said to Peggy, "This could go on till to-morrow morning. You'd better stop them now."

One girl said to Mrs. Chen (Chen En-tse), "You're such a nice lady. I don't want to leave you people." Then she wept. They left about 10:30. They were very sincere and natural. They never forget those who have visited their tribe. They say to people coming from Chengtu: "Do you know Lin Pei-fen?" I noticed that afternoon we saw them dance that they particularly wanted the Ginling girls they knew to join them in the dance, and would not take "No" for an answer.

Peggy was there in 1943, and visited the Chang, the Chia Yung and the Fan tribes. Dr. Liu En-lan went on further, and Peggy stayed there for two months. She collected folk-dances and folk-songs, writing down the tunes of more than 50 songs which she gave to Miss Graves.

5. On June 23 there was an interesting demonstration when the special guests were the following: Dai Ai-lien (Mrs. Yeh Chien-yu) the well-known Chinese dancer who was brought up in England, and had 6-8 years training there in ballet and modern dancing; Mr. Arthur Powell, an American dancer, once a pupil for a short time of Martha.

*more to follow  
how soon*

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Ginling College  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N.Y.  
July 31, 1945

Miss Florence A. Kirk  
Ginling College  
Chengtu, Szechwan, China

Dear Florence:

Library List. When a fat envelope from China came in a day or two ago, my first thought was that perhaps it contained some more interesting publicity stories from you. It was instead a long list of books which I take to be the catalogue of Ginling's library, though there was no letter to explain exactly what it represents. Please tell Ruth that I am very glad to have such a list, and also that I greatly appreciate the faculty lists which have come to me recently. All such material is very valuable to us for our records.

Dr. Wu. I am sure that Ruth will share with all of you the news about Dr. Wu. She is still in the hospital, but hopes to leave soon. She will then go up to Gould Farm for a month of complete rest. Miss Chien will go along to cook and take care of her. Mrs. New will go, too, though I am not sure that she will stay the entire time. We all hope that after a good rest, Dr. Wu will really be much better than she was when she came. I know that it was a good thing for her to have the operation, though we fully realize that it will be some months before she gets full benefit from it.

Additional Faculty. Dr. Wu has been most anxious to secure additional faculty for several departments, especially English, and we are in communication with some promising candidates. Our greatest problem is transportation and over that we have very little control. However, you may be sure we keep at it all the time.

Miss Graves. I have just had a letter from Stella Marie telling of having her tonsils out and of the wonderful care she has had from her friend, Dr. Wagner, in whose home in Royal Oak, Mich., she has been a guest for some weeks. Stella is on her way to visit her niece in California and hopes to get started back to China before very long. She is naturally much concerned to get there to relieve Catherine. Stella says she is already feeling much better without her tonsils and she is confident that all the vitamins and injections and good food Dr. Wagner has given her will produce such health and hemoglobin as she has never enjoyed before!

Wu Mao-i. I was glad to get the news of Wu Mao-i's arrival in India through Ruth's letter to Dr. Wu. We had all been most anxiously awaiting some word from her and had hoped to hear directly from her upon landing. I hope that by now she is safely on the campus. What is the latest from Evelyn Walmsley? I do hope that she will be able to get to Ginling in time for the opening of the fall session, as I know you greatly need her help, especially after Miss Lamberton's departure.

We are all looking forward to the arrival of the Gripsholm within the next few days. It will be grand to see the Roys again, and all the others from West China. I wish it had been possible for Ruth to come on that boat, and Catherine, too.

The many Nanking people in West China will be interested in learning that Anna Mills, Mary and Sam's daughter, is to be married in September. I am afraid I don't know the man's name, except that he is Paul, but I do know that he is a Friend, interested in the same welfare activities that Anna is concerned about. They plan to continue in the same sort of work they have been in, and are to live in Philadelphia.

I hope you can get away for a nice vacation. My very best wishes to all of you,

Affectionately,

CSM:ef  
Via China Clipper  
c.c. Via next Clipper

0754

J. Kirk  
Ginling College,  
Sept. 8, 1945

Dear Cornelia,

Herewith two other "biographies". I suggest that you get at least one from a Ching graduate now in America: suggestions: Dju Yu-bao, recently arrived in New York and Washington - perhaps her work in Shanghai, under occupation; Wu Suen-i, if not too much used already; Dju Gichfang, as secretary at San Francisco, etc. You may have lots of other ideas. So you ought to have material for six. Has Li Bao-djen from Singapore written you? I asked her to. We are wondering about getting you information concerning the general types of work done by graduates - i.e. work unusual, for instance, one graduate who helps the mahjong group of officials' wives, etc. by being one of them....such instances could not give definite names, but it sounds interesting.

Just now I've been over to the University Hospital to see Djang Kwen-yuen. She gave me her picture (herewith) and the following information about the relief given to Entrance Candidates.

The whole plan started very late. About mid-July the Student Relief Committee here got word from the National Student Relief group in Chungking, urging that Middle School students be given help at exam time - saying 2 million were available, and suggesting as types of the following: drinking water; incense sticks to keep away mosquitoes in the places the students slept; food; medicine - any relief that was urgently needed. The Christian Universities had given exams. So the National Universities' candidates remained - and they took exams. on July 26 following.

They did not widely publicize the available aid, because they did not want to be swamped with applicants - they put up wall notices near the place of examination - the second and third days more and more students came, having seen the announcement - mostly boys who came from national Middle Schools far from Chengtu, often their homes in occupied areas. They were students who started out with what might seem a good deal of money, but transportation was expensive, they wanted to save \$2,000-\$3,000 to return home, and consequently they found themselves short of funds while here. They had to take the exams., and then wait for results - one week, two weeks, and in some cases, three weeks! They provided drinking water, but since the weather was unusually cool, they saved a lot of money on the boiled water allotment! They did not use incense sticks finally, fearful that they might cause fires in the restaurants where many of the students slept, and the coolness made the situation better than they anticipated. They arranged with student groups to take these newcomers in, and the Relief Committee paid the meals. They did not give medicine, but decided to send students to the hospital; actually only two felt faint, and these recovered with a little rest. One girl on the way was in a bus accident and broke her leg, and the Relief Committee undertook her complete hospital bill. They found that some of the examination rooms were very dark, so provided gas lights during the examination. They tried to give relief wherever it was needed.

The investigation was a very difficult piece of work. To help with it, members of the Relief Committee got students they knew to help - 50 of them paying them \$1,000 a day for their three meals away from their

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own dormitory. When applicants for relief came, they were told to return half a day later. Meanwhile a member of the Committee tried to investigate:

A) Talk with the student himself:

1. They judged from his appearance; if his clothes were ragged, or he looked worried and pale, it was safe to say that he was short of money.

2. Where do you come from? (Then they asked for his school certificate, to corroborate his statement.

3. How much money have you? How much did you start out from home with? What did the bus fare cost? Whynt tried to see if the figures tallied. If they said they had no money, they suspected the student's veracity, for, since he could not have known that relief would be forthcoming, he would not likely have gone through all his money so early in his stay.

B) 1. Where do you stay? If it was with a family, they went to the home and asked for information, to see if the two accounts agreed.

They found some students wanted to get something for nothing. But the greater percentage who applied were in real need.

In the period from late July to the end of August they spent two millions and helped hundreds of students in varying amounts.

Miss Dhang is in the hospital recovering from an appendicitis operation. She goes as soon as she can to San Tai - there the North-Eastern University is located with approximately 300 students. Working with her will be Mr. Jack Weir of the Friends' Mission, and other student workers. Her work will be: student activities; student relief, general religious programme. She promises to send us a report of her work there, since we are interested.

.....

Cornelia, Claude has arrived on the campus, but I've not seen him. Searle is trying to get away for Nanking, but plans are slow in materializing.

We were so sorry to hear Dr. Wu had had a rocky time, and am so relieved to know she is improving. Give her my love, please. Your letter and cable gave us lots of news we were eager for. Now we are about ready to start school, but still Miss Walmsley hasn't arrived. We expect her anytime, but have had no word the last ten days. Pan Ya-tien is held up in Chungking with hundreds of others, due to the floods from continuous rains. So we're having to do lots of doubling up, hoping the two of them will appear soon.

Catherine left by plane yesterday - with B. Louise Foster, from the air-field. She's lucky, for civilian traffic by AAF plane is now at a stop.

Much love,

Florence

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Ginling College, Chengtu, Sept. 13

Dear Cornelia,

I am so glad that Plummer is to be one of the chosen six to go to the coast. It will not be easy work meeting the new responsibilities, but he will do it so well. And his experiences in the 1937-38 period will help immensely. Searle thinks he will get off from here next week, going directly to Nanking. He's being very generous with his time, and is giving two or three lectures on the historical background of the Sixteenth to Eighteenth centuries while he is here,

Enclosed is Mary Chen's picture. Also, she came along this morning, and suggested certain changes in what I have sent you

page 1\* In paragraph 1, she thinks this ought to be added: "The parents formed a Board to help with the Administration. We

ii The name for the school ought to be still longer. There should be added after University of Nanking "from Occupied Areas" on this campus (add "and for other reasons"

iii Each two or three families had a tutor.....

page 2, paragraph 3, (4) one from each friendly institution was the rule at first. Later many came from this course, even one-third of our total student body.

..... last paragraph, #I spent almost the whole summer.... borrowed \$300,000 for three months

page 3 - parents (add and parents' friends

Add in the second last paragraph: "She agreed after six months' rest from administration duties, to resume full responsible for administration, including finance."

Final paragraph. When it comes to the time that the University will soon move back to Nanking, she has asked to be given power for at least one month before that time in which to close up the work. She has offered this help.

The errors are not serious, but some points need to be remedied. She is quite anxious that the account does not seem to indicate that she has done everything! The parents did help. Actually, I think the truth of the matter is that she did do the big bulk of the work, but she hates anything like boasting, or taking undue credit for herself.

.....

From Chung Ho Chang R S S

From Hsiung Ya-na's English diary:

August 1, 1945

This afternoon as I was reading a novel, All This and Heaven Too, funeral songs floated into my ears. I ran to the gate, and was in time to see the procession. I soon found out that it was the funeral of the parents of one of our students, Hwang Tan-chou; they had kept a scroll shop. The mother had for days been sick, vomiting violently. Then her

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1945

page 2

baby was born. She and the baby died this morning. This afternoon the father died of cholera. The parents are dead, leaving two small boys in this ugly world. Hwang Tan-chou is five years old, and his brother only two. It was the most tragic funeral that I have ever seen.

Cholera pervades Chung Ho-chang and causes many deaths. The newspapers tell us that in Chengtu new hospitals have been organized to care for cholera victims. What can we do here in Chung Ho-chang? Our local clinic seems asleep and the doctor seems to stand aloof. They are helpless without equipment and drugs.

August 2, 1945

When the country people found no way of getting rid of cholera, which is so bad now, they went to their idols.

It was ten o'clock this morning when our nursery children were about to have their morning lunch. We noticed that the street was crowded. Firecrackers, Chinese music, and gongs made a raucous noise, but it was somehow rather attractive. All of us went to see what it was all about.

It was a long procession of the god of Plague and the Goddess of Mercy. "Our procession will overcome the pestilence," said the country people. Preceding the main procession were people with old-fashioned silk umbrellas in their hands. Then came the Chinese music band. Then a single file of more than sixty women followed, each holding a tray with burning incense. Behind them were groups of men, ~~with~~ each with seven lamps hung on his forehead - one on each of his arms - two on his chest and two on his back. These were fastened to his skin by the small hooks on the handles, the hooks digging into their flesh. These men marched on bravely, not a sign of fear on their faces. I understood that "where there is faith, there is strength and power. #"

Then a scene of sinners in hell was acted out at the roadside when the procession stopped. Those who had sinned against idols, or who lacked filial piety, were, in the play, severely punished by Hell's judges. Some were pierced through from the back to the belly with a knife, and the intestines came out. Some were tied with ropes. Some were bleeding.... all this making a fearful scene.

Behind came the God of Plague and the Goddess of Mercy, riding in sedan chairs. And behind them literally thousands of women marched, each holding incense sticks in her hand. The procession took about two hours to pass our doorway. To welcome and to worship their gods, each family or shop burned incense and kindled candles at the gates.

Superstition overwhelmed Chung Ho Chang. All the nursery school children have been inoculated. We were convinced that this would save them, and they made no murmur, for they trusted us.

As many as fifteen die in one day. We know this from the fact that the shop which sells pitchers in which to burn paper money for the dead sold fifteen to-day and as many other days.

.....  
Cornelia, such good news last night, that our buildings are intact in Nanking, a letter from Blanche Wu that I've not read. And Miss Walmsley has her passport difficulty fixed up, so should be in soon.

All good wishes to you.  
P.S. Please remember me to Dr. Wu and Mrs. New.

Affectionately,

*Lawrence*

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Miss Florence Kirk  
Ginling College  
Chengt'u, Szechwan, China

Ginling College  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N.Y.  
September 24, 1945

Dear Florence:

Thank you for your good letter of July 5th with all the reports and news enclosed. You know how valuable such material is to us and how grateful I am for it. The letter to the Universalist Women has been sent on to them, and also the Plan for Post-War Rehabilitation of Rural Families. The items about the physical education work will be used in fall publicity, both Ginling and China Colleges.

Of course the thing uppermost in our minds is that peace has come at last. There will be problems in plenty in the days ahead, and the way is by no means clear, but there can be hope in a world at peace, and the satisfaction of working on a constructive and on-going program. So no matter how difficult this next year may be, the knowledge that there is no more war will lighten all burdens. Our thankfulness is too deep for words.

I am eagerly awaiting letters written since V-J Day. We want to know all about the celebrations on the campus, and how the changed situation is affecting you - such things as prices and exchange, and the attitude of the people, and how the students react and what present plans are, and what changes will come in the immediate future. People here are clamoring for news, so we want every bit you can send us.

Not long ago a letter came here for you from the Great-West Life Assurance Co., asking what you wanted done with the proceeds from your policy which matures in October. I sent the whole thing on to Lillian, as I thought it possible that she could attend to it for you. She will doubtless be in communication with you about it. If I can be of any assistance please let me know.

Dr. Wu has been at Gould Farm since the middle of August, and says that she is really making good progress. She will return to New York on September 29th, and will doubtless make this headquarters till she starts back to China. She is planning to see a doctor about her nose, and is even getting around to considering the operation which has been advised.

I hope you have had a restful and comfortable vacation. I went away out in the country, miles from anywhere, on the shores of Lake Champlain. It was simple living, camping really, but I loved it. We swam and canoed and hiked all over that beautiful Adirondack country and had a wonderful time.

I haven't seen Helen since I got back nearly a month ago, but I have talked to her over the phone on a number of occasions. Wang Ying-ing and her husband have been staying with Helen ever since they arrived on the Gripsholm early in August, but they are going to Philadelphia soon, where they will both be studying. Helen says she is fine now, though she has had some ups and downs this summer.

It is still not possible to get passports and passage easily, though it is better than it was. Dr. Walline, Dr. E. B. Struthers, Dr. Sailer and Dr. P. C. Hsu left a week ago, and Dr. Kilborn and Dr. Lindsay are leaving within the next day or two. Of course, several others have gone recently, too, but I have no list. Stanley Smith left on September 19th, flying all the way. You will be seeing him long before you get this letter. Women have not gotten passports yet, so Stella is still waiting. She will start as soon as possible, and I assume you that we are doing everything we can to expedite her departure.

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Miss Florence Kirk

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September 24, 1947

All Nanking friends will be grieved to know that young Rex Wheeler died suddenly on September 19th. You know he has really been ill since 1938, when he had the first breakdown, and the last two years have been increasingly difficult for him. It is hard to lose him, but we have the comfort of knowing he is at peace. Connie and Rex have been perfectly marvelous in the way they have taken it. They truly live by faith and with courage.

Warmest greetings to the Ginling family,

Affectionately,

CSM:EF  
Via China Clipper  
Confirmation via next clipper

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Helen Kirk

Ginling College, Chengtu, Sept. 24/45

Cornelia  
Dear Mrs. Mills,

The other day Helen Djangsat down with me in the English Office and chatted while I wrote busily. I am hoping to have frequent such chats when she can share with me and you her knowledge of student affairs and attitudes. I hope to get into action soon a plan I thought about last year - having a news-gleaning group of three students to meet me every week or two to tell me what is happening in the dormitories and on the campus from the student point of view. I always have a feeling that there's any amount of news here, if only we could get at it. And the students are responsive and eager to talk too. So perhaps we shall do a better job in the future.

Helen told me about the coming of the news of peace.

"That night (August 10) the presidents of the Nine Universities joined together to entertain Han Li-wu, the Vice-Minister of Education. Governor Chang was a guest too. After the meal we chatted, discussing when the war would likely come to an end.

"I said, 'Do you think it possible that the war will end by the Moon Festival (Sept. 20) ?' All of them laughed, and someone said, 'No! That is much too early. It will last at least another half year, even one year.' Then we went on to chat of all kinds of things, of 'heaven and earth' as we say.

"Suddenly a messenger boy brought Governor Chang a note from his youngest son. He read it, and shouted, 'Ai yah! The war is ended!' No one believed him. When he heard our exclamations of disbelief, he said, 'You can read this note.' Then he asked President WU Keh-ming to read it aloud to us. We were stunned. Nobody took the import of the news in. Then our reaction was, 'If the war is really ended, we are not ready.' Governor Chang said, 'I must go home and get confirmation.' We all left immediately.

"I returned to the Canadian School Dormitory and told the news to our group of faculty and students. There followed shouting, clapping, screaming by both faculty and students, and I could hear, 'I don't believe it. It can't be true. Perhaps we are fooled as we were about the false news of victory on V\*E Day.'

"Anyway, spontaneously we went out on the street to see what other people did. By the time we reached the main gate of the campus, the news had already reached many people. The O.W.I. had sent out cars with flags flying, and the men spread the news from street to street. We watched streams of people, walking quickly and joyfully, and carrying lighted twisted bamboo torches. The streets were full of students and civilians. There was no organization, but it was a beautiful sight to see their joy, and to hear the patriotic songs that burst from their throats. Thousands of people with burning torches spontaneously made a procession of a circle of the city: campus to New South Gate, then north to Chuen Si-lu (the main street), then back to the Old South Gate and to the campus once more. There were thousands of people.

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"I did not go on this circular trip, but watched the others go. I returned to the First Dormitory, and talked with the excited students still there. One student said, 'Dr. Djang, are we going to have school here this September?' My answer was, 'Why not?' She said, 'Well, aren't we going back to Nanking?' I said, 'But who will take us? How can we go?' 'Oh, by plane, or boat.' Some of the girls wept, because they have family members buried here, and already they feared what they would find about tragedies happening in these recent years to relatives they have had no word from for months or years. The parade group returned to the dormitory later that evening. Usually the rule is, 'Lights out at 10:30,' but we did not think of rules that night. The students were hilarious on their return, and there was not quiet until 2 a.m.

"It is no wonder, perhaps, that our students realize so little of what travel conditions are, even now that the war is over, when their elders have as little conception of the realities. We have heard of people selling their furniture and other possessions almost at once after peace came, fondly thinking that they could start down-river at once. Some of our students in the first week or two sold their clothing and treasures, preparatory to leaving! Peace brings to many sadness as well as joy. One man said, 'I had a family before the war. When I go back, there will be no home, just myself.' Some people have come to love Szechwan, and hate to leave, but the pull of sentiment for their native places and their family may mean that they have to go. Others have decided to stay; they have, in some cases, married Szechwan people."

.....

"This year already (Sept. 24) we have 347 students registered, as compared with about 310 other years. We were surprised that such large numbers came: usually about 40% of the students passing Entrance Tests and formally admitted actually arrive; this year 70% appeared! We find that there is the prevailing feeling that Ginling will be able to arrange for them transportation facilities to the coast.

"What to do with them was our problem. Our dormitories before were crowded to capacity,.... we have made space for 32 more than usual in the Canadian School, and the others have to become 'Day students' which we disapprove of in principle. Well, we closed up one sick room and gave that over to two double decker beds for four students; took the small prayer room; shifted the morning service from the Living-Room to the Guest Room so that there could be four more tables added to the Living-Room for students to eat at; shifted the laundry drying-room in the Second Dormitory on Third Floor and gave over this room to students. In this big bare room we put 14 girls: no beds, no desks, no stools or chairs. Students were willing to accept these conditions if we would only let them stay. Not that they thought they would have to go on indefinitely in such barrenness! At the meeting of the Executive Committee the question was raised, 'Shall we be forced to invest in new furniture for a single year? Double-decker beds are not saleable!' We decided to let the question wait for two weeks, meanwhile investigating the price of furniture, if it came to buying it. After two weeks we were 'lucky' to find we could borrow 20 double-decker beds from the Army Nurses' Training School, and we hope to have these until we leave. Had we been ten minutes later in putting in our request, the beds would have gone to another institution!

"For desks we use all sorts of objects: ping-pong tables, stools, Canadian School furniture, nothing matching in size, style, color. Still 20 students have no desks to study at. Even if we had the desks, there is

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1945

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"This year we have an unusually nice group of Freshmen, very wide-awake, and co-operative."

.....

"We are happy to think we can go back to Nanking so soon. Our problems have in some instances become worse with the passage of time, and it is a relief to know that soon we shall be relieved of these problems. Take, for instance, our problem in the First Dormitory when the terrifically heavy rains - the heaviest since 1912 - came night after night this summer: we had more than 80 girls who couldn't stay in their rooms, for real streams poured down through the leaky roof. Down they streamed with some bedding to the floors of the dining-rooms, to spaces in the very narrow halls, squeezed into every dry corner. Also they have had considerable losses of clothes, notes, books, etc. through this rain. We have had masons at work on the roofs, and paid out considerable money, but the roofs are little if any better. The roofs were in the first place, poorly built. Similarly, cheap furniture gives us continual trouble. Chairs collapse under students, arms of chairs fall off, drawers fall apart, doors of cupboards develop maladies. The one cheerful aspect of this is that the carpenter does a thriving trade. We shall be glad to be back to the time when we have nails for furniture, and do not need to depend entirely on glue and wooden pegs.

"Faculty and students came late because of heavy rains: bridges were washed out, roads pitted with large holes. One student coming from Chungking (200 miles or more) spent six days on the way: for three successive nights of that time she sat up in villages where there was no inn for her to go to. When she arrived here, she was so tired, she couldn't either sleep or eat. Another student (the daughter of the Governor of Sian, by the way) went first to Baochi, one day's trip. There she found there was no transportation farther. Back she came to Sian, where her father's influence procured her plane passage. Other students with less 'strings to pull' would probably be still there waiting for some way to get to Chengtu. On that one day's truck trip the roads were awful: at one place the truck passengers were walking in muddy slush to their knees. They had finally to creep to keep going at all. I couldn't recognize what she tells me were once white shoes.

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Miss Walmsley arrived! Friday! She says she still can't believe she really is here. Her story is quite thrilling...but perhaps chiefly from the negative point of view - that is, the near misses she made! We're delighted to have her here. Marjorie Causer has been good enough to do her work, so the rest of us have just had our own schedules. So glad you are getting us more American faculty.

Much love  
I am & chat with you. I suppose summer will soon

*affectionately, Lawrence*  
*perhaps has a bag full of stuff.*

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Ginling College,  
Chengtu  
September 24, 1945

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SEP 24 1945

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1945

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Miss Walmsley arrived! Friday! She says she still can't believe she really is here. Her story is quite thrilling... but perhaps chiefly from the negative point of view - that is, the near misses she made! We're delighted to have <sup>her</sup> here. Marjorie Causer has been good enough to do her work, so the rest of us have just had our own schedules. So glad you are getting us more American faculty.

Much love. Some of these days I hope to settle down to chat with you. I suppose Plumer will soon - or perhaps has already gotten to Nanking.

Affectionately,

Florence

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Ginling College  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N.Y.  
October 22, 1945

Miss Florence Kirk  
Ginling College  
Chengtu, Szechwan, China

Dear Florence:

You don't know how much I appreciate all the good material you have sent me recently and all the work you put into getting it together. The biographies are most colorful and interesting and will make excellent publicity. I am working on the leaflet now, and plan to have it ready to mail out in December, according to our regular schedule. Now that peace has come, perhaps mails will be less expensive and more reliable and we can be sure you receive a file of all of our publicity efforts, so that you can see how we have used what you have sent us. You may be sure that every scrap of news and every picture is valuable and treasured by us.

Dr. Wu is making very good progress and the doctor seems quite satisfied with her general condition. She is conscientiously trying to rest as much as possible and is undertaking no heavy responsibilities of any kind. She should therefore return to China much stronger and better than she was when she left. I had a tea for her at my apartment on Saturday, October 20th, and invited the Ginling alumnae in New York. Thirteen came, and we had a grand time. That number included Alice Chong, who isn't an alumna of course, also Lucy Koo, and a friend of Dr. Wu's from Washington, but the other ten are bonafide Ginling graduates. They were all happy to see Dr. Wu and responded eagerly to her suggestion that they do something special for Ginling's 30th Anniversary. A committee was promptly organized and they began at once to make plans. I'll let you know how it all develops.

Mrs. New is settled at Whittier Hall, and taking some courses at Columbia. She has a very nice suite, but it is terribly noisy. I could not stand it, and I don't see how she does. However, she is looking unusually well and seems to be thriving.

Stella is out in California with her niece. Things seem to be opening up a bit more now, at least we hear of more men getting passage, so maybe Stella will get off sometime soon. We were all glad to know that Catharine is on her way home, and hope that she will not be long delayed in India. Since she did not seem to be making progress out there, the sooner she gets home, the better it will be. Of course her family is happy to know she has started.

This has already been delayed so long that I will not hold it any longer. There are always so many demands on time that letters often get delayed.

Warmest greetings to all the Ginling group.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef

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Ginling College, Chengtu,  
Nov. 27, 1945

Dear Mrs. Mills,

We are busy at publicity, and hope some of it may be the kind of thing you can use. People are being very good at helping, particularly when they have been so very busy with the campaign for Ginling rehabilitation, for Founders' Day, the special P.E. and Music general concert, etc. We are sorry to hear that Ruth is being held up in Chungking because of her lost passport, and hope she can quickly get over that difficulty.

Just a word to accompany this letter. I thought the material might be more readily available to you, if it was somewhat organized. Therefore, I have adapted the following plan.

Those sheets marked at the top I (followed by special subtopics, or titles) represent The Bigger Ginling - The Alumnae and their Doings

II. Ginling at Chengtu.

- A. Departments, reports of work since 1938
- B. Special projects to be written up separately;  
for example, Miss Ho's Cross-stitch Embroidery Project, that I am in the midst of typing now.
- C. Faculty figures (publications, etc.)
- D. Student Body at present
  - 1. War Experiences
  - 2. What the War Has Taught Me
  - 3. Aspects of Life on the Campus Here

III. The future?

We are also trying to get you some pictures. Did you get a chance to make use of the color films that the Universalist A.A.F. man took at Chung Ho-chang? What special use did you make of the Chung Ho-chang material I've been sending regularly? Did the alumnae writeups work out satisfactorily? We'd like to know, for if we find that such things are satisfactory, then it is easier to get further help along such lines.

Catherine S., we hear, thinks there's a hope she and Miss Foster may get away on a cargo boat the end of this month. I hope they can.

Most of the student material I'm enclosing came as a result of the Monday Morning Memorial Service time given over to ask the students to write their impressions and experiences. I've some other good material that will be coming along shortly.

With all good wishes,

Affectionately,

*Lawrence*

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Ginling College  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N. Y.  
December 10, 1945

Miss Florence A. Kirk  
Ginling College  
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Dear Florence:

The December booklet is off the press and will soon be in the hands of Ginling donors and friends. I hope it brings in good results. It did not grow into a Ginling "Who's Who", as we finally decided to make it a special 30th Anniversary appeal, and so I used only a little of the good biographical material you sent me this time. The rest will be wonderful ammunition for our spring effort. In the meantime, I hope you will add any bits of news of college activities or people that you have. I want our publicity to be as attractive and alive as possible, and I depend on you to send me the material.

All the accounts that have come about the rural work have been enthusiastically received by a number of different groups. We have everything mimeographed and find it hard to keep a supply on hand. As you know, people are more interested in these biographies and stories of actual work done than in anything else.

We are, of course, most eager to get news from Nanking. Ruth's letter of October 13th, Eva's of November 19th, and a report from Bill Fenn, written after his visit to Nanking, all seem to indicate that while things are bad, they could have been worse. I shall be most interested in Ruth's report after her visit.

Stella has her passport at last, and we hope she will soon be on her way. Harriet Whitmer is also working on arrangements to leave as soon as possible. She will go to Nanking. We have heard nothing more from Catharine directly, but from her mother we learn that she was still in Calcutta on November 4th, hoping to leave by the end of the month. I hope she got away. If she did, she may be home for Christmas, which would mean much to her mother.

Dr. Wu has made no final decision about the date of her departure, but I think she will be starting soon. She is most eager to be off, and wants to go by Shanghai and Nanking, which I think would be a grand thing for her to do. We need her here, but I suppose the College needs her more, so I hope she can get away when she is ready.

We are beginning to appeal for rehabilitation funds for the colleges, - first letter went out last week. There is tremendous interest in the program and needs of the China Colleges, so I hope we get a generous response. We are all thrilled at the wonderful gift for the 30th Anniversary from the alumnae. I have written Ruth about our small 30th Anniversary celebration here, so will not repeat.

All best wishes to each and all of you for Christmas and the coming year.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef  
Via China Clipper

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Sinling College, Chengtu  
December 29, 1945

Dear Cornelia,

After a lull due to the hectic activities of end of term and Christmas season combined, I am starting in again to get some material off to you. I thought I would have had at least another article of two in this letter, but did not manage it.

Will you, Cornelia, see that Mr. Bellew(?) knows what material is reaching you? The cable was signed by him - I mean the one asking for the formation of a Publicity Committee - but I've taken for granted that when we sent it to you it was available for all publicity purposes. I meant to write this to you long ago, or even to write him a letter, but have neglected to do either.

Ruth is back, and, I think, cheered rather than the reverse by the conditions she found inanking. No doubt you will have a detailed report from her direct. Now we're looking forward to having Dr. Wu back with us before too long. The shortened term makes life very busy just now, and between terms we have only a week - not long to finish up one term, and get things ready for new classes.

We had a gorgeous Christmas - and the most beautiful weather imaginable. Soon comes New Year's - one day's holiday. At Christmas time, Mr. Sullivan's illness meant that one play we hoped to give could not be given, so this weekend we're giving that as a climax for the Senior banquet - for the nine girls graduating in the midst of the semester - and the whole college is invited, of course. If they all come, we shall be embarrassed, for we've not space enough in the Canadian School auditorium.

Best of wishes to you and the girls. I hear you've had a real looting of your house - since the Japanese moved out! What a pity!

Much love,

*Helen*

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