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Vautrin, Wilhelmina
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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

A letter from Miss Vautrin written Thursday morning December 9th, 1937 in Nanking. The envelope is stamped "American Embassy, Hankow, January 31, 1938"; "Honolulu, February 16". It was received in New York February 21, 1938 via air mail.

Although the post office will no longer receive letters I have heard of a person at the Metropolitan Hotel who is trying to get up to Hankow and I will see if he will take these letters out, for I know that you are all anxious to hear from us as long as it is possible.

Yesterday we could hear occasional gun or cannon shots at a distance, but this morning it seems much nearer. To Mrs. Tsen and me it seems to the southwest of the city. We also know that the Japanese army is no very far to the east of the city as well. I am still hoping that if the Japanese army approaches from two sides and if the gunboats come up the river - they have not yet gotten past the barrier down at Giangyin - that the Chinese army will retreat rather than to make a stand here and run the risk of sacrificing a large group of men by having all means of excape cut off. We have a number of air raids each day now but only the urgent warning is given for there is no chance to give the first warning since the planes are upon us too quickly. There has as yet been no combing of the city by planes as was done in Soochow and we are hoping that we will not have to go through such an ordeal of destruction.

The International Committee for the Safety Zone has been working like galley slaves on trying to put the safety zone into effect. Yesterday the flags were put up - the red cross in the red circle. This zone is now crowded with people. Most pitiful stories were told us yesterday by people living near the south gate, the Confucian Temple district and the East Gate district, who were forced to leave their homes on a few hours notice. I imagine the police had to be ruthless or the people would not have left their homes. Many of the houses in the above regions have been burned because they interfered with military plans. The Committee has had a very, very difficult time in getting the orders of the higher military officers to penetrate down to the lower officers and as a result fortifications continually are placed within the safety area and shelters are still being built in the region although to be really a safety zone all of these will have to be removed, even to military hospitals.

Ever since Dr. Wu left those of us on the campus, including the servants, have been working like Trojans getting ready for the refugees. Yesterday we completed preparing the dormitories. All the furniture has been moved to the big attics - one value of big attics that we did not think of before - and the rooms have been thoroughly cleaned. In the four regular college dormitories we will house 1320 refugees, putting nine in a room. In the Central Building we can house 436 and in the Arts Building 550. In the Science Building 266 and in the Practice School 180. We are not planning at the present time, at least to put them in the South Hill Residence, Eva Spicer's house, the Library or Music Buildings. The Neighborhood House is already full to overflowing with families. On the main campus we are expecting to take only women and children, the boys being not over twelve. The total that we have figured on taking is 2750. That seems a good many to you but the committee wanted us to take in about ten thousand. There will be a soup kitchen managed by the Red Cross on the vacant land just to the northwest of our gate.

Last night we took in a few and this morning they are coming in. Our organization is well planned so that Mrs. Tsen and I do not need to be on the job all of the time but can be free to meet special problems. Six servants have been organized into a guard and have special arm bands. They help at the gate and also direct people to the right building. We have prepared a special plan of the campus showing the number of persons who can be assigned to each room- allowing 16 square feet per person, including children. We have also prepared cards and as each group comes in it is assigned and given a stamped card. Mr. Li does the former and Mr. Hsia writes the card. Mr. Chen is outside of the gate with Yang Szi-fu trying to get them into families and explain to them. At the buildings - and we only open one at a time, is Miss

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Hsueh, the day school teacher with a group of her pupils and also some of the older children living on the campus, and they escort them up to the room to which they have been assigned. These youngsters have special arm bands and have a special room where they gather and they feel quite important. "Big Wang" is living down at East Court and his three children are helping, and also Mrs. Tsen's second grandson who is invaluable. He certainly will make a fine business manager someday. As I write the aeroplanes are carrying on a vigorous raid in the south section of the city. Miss Wang a student in the seminary and Miss Lo are both living down at the Practice School and are giving us great help. Mr. Wang goes to the office of the International Committee everyday and helps them there. You can see that we are a busy, useful family on the campus, even if we are not joyful or carefree.

Each day at six o'clock, Mrs. Tsen and I have been attending Press Conference which is held down at the headquarters of the Sino-British Cultural Society. Mary Twinem has come for us each time and taken us in her car. After the meeting she comes home with us for supper. Although none of the men have told us that we were heartily welcome, yet they have not told us we were unwelcome and so we continue to attend. It has enabled us to get in touch with people of importance and to keep up to date on the progress especially of the Safety Zone.

I am so sad every time I go out on the street that I seldom go out now. Nanking is but a shadow - a sad and dejected shadow - of what it was a year ago, when there was so much enthusiasm and progress. The roads are in terrible condition, of course. The houses in this area are fast filling but the rest of the city is deserted. How much destruction there has been down in the south city I do not know. At the Press Conference every effort has been made to persuade the military and the mayor to cause as little destruction in the city as possible - for after all it will be the poor of the Chinese population who will continue to live here when the city is turned over. They have promised not to follow the "scorched earth" policy but it remains to be seen whether or not the promise is kept.

Fortunately for the poor, the weather is still good although cold at nights. In the day time we have sunshine which is a great blessing. If there were snow or rain people would be most pitiful.

A letter came from the American Embassy yesterday afternoon in which they say, "Simultaneously with the departure of other foreign diplomatic officers, the remaining officers of the American Embassy will this evening board the U.S.S. Panay and establish temporary offices there. It is expected that the officers of the Embassy will return to the premises on shore during the day time. Full functions on shore will be resumed by the Embassy at the earliest date practicable. When information is received that the Hsia Gwan gate (Yi Chiang Gate) is closed the Panay will move from its present anchorage to one off of San Chia Ho. The Embassy is attempting to make efforts with the authorities to keep open the telephone to the U.S. Naval Club on the Bund (32814) and to the Asiatic Petroleum Company Installation at San Chia Ho (32906). Ropes for assistance in evacuating over the city walls are being given into the custody of M.S. Bates, etc." I give you this information so that if any of you wish to try to get in touch with us you may do so. How long we may be cut off from the outside world we do not know - but we hope it will not be for long time.

I must go out to the front gate and see what the condition is there. Remember that no news is good news and that the chances are very large that we shall come through the ordeal safely, I am sure that you are daily praying for us that we may be continually led by the spirit of love and understanding. I am sorry that I was not able to get a Christmas message to each of you - but there has been no time for it. No time to copy diary. Will do so later.

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Mary Twinem to come over to live with us so that she could take turns with me in the running and since then life has been somewhat more normal for me. As I said above, she lives with me down at the Practice School. One other great help is that she plays for our numerous meetings and she helped us prepare for a very lovely Christmas service. We used an upper room down at my home and she decorated it beautifully. We had a number of groups in for meetings there.

I have not heard from any of you since the time that Yi-fang (Dr. Wu) left (December 3rd) and know nothing of your whereabouts. The proverb says "I live in the heart of a drum and do not know what is going on outside" describes me well. Somehow I feel that you are praying for us here, for a strength beyond our own is given us from day to day.

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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Letters from Miss Minnie Vautrin. These letters written January 4th and January 6th, 1938 were carried, as you will read, to Shanghai. Ruth Chester then forwarded them by air mail to America. They reached New York January 27, 1938. They are written for all the world to read - but they reveal much, both "many reasons for deep thanksgiving" and also pictures between the lines, of troubles not expressed. It seems probable that there has been damage, either from a shell or heavy looting, to one end of the South Hill faculty house.

January 4. This morning, when I went to 5 Ninghai Road, the office of the International Committee for the Safety Zone, to talk to lewis Smythe, I found George Fitch writing to his wife. He told me that Mr. Tanaka, Japanese Consul in Nanking, is expecting to go to Shanghai this afternoon and has kindly offered to take personal letters for us. This is the first opportunity I have had to get in touch with any members of my big family since air mail and telegraph service was stopped in December. Neither have I heard from any of you since Elsie Priest left. (on December 3rd)

All are well and busy on the campus. We have had as many as 10,000 women and children at one time, but the number now must be down to between 6 and 8 thousand. Our superintendent of dormitories in addition to her regular work is giving much time to sick refugees, especially children, and her presence is a great help. Mary Twinem and my personal teacher (Chinese language teacher), who have been persuaded to help and to live on the campus now, have shared and lightened my load so you need not worry about us.

The academic buildings came through unharmed save for the dirt and refuse brought by the refugee guests. We are almost a complete family again for our messenger boy returned on December 18th. We are still hoping the son of the head serjeant in the biology department will return soon.

We shall be glad to hear from you and other members of the family whenever possible.

January 6th. Last evening between nine and ten o'clock Lt. Col. Y. Oka came to call and from him I learned that he was expecting to go to Shanghai today about one o'clock. He very kindly consented to take a letter for me and will call for it at 11 this morning. It seems that some cars are now going between here and Shanghai and also a few trains each day.

One of the phrases in the Episcopal Prayer Book expresses my condition and state of mind so accurately that I cannot refrain from quoting it. It runs something like this, "That which I would do I do not, and that which I would not do I do and there is no goodness in me." If for the verb of action I could substitute the verb of speech it would describe me even more exactly.

Although it is almost the end of the first week in January, yet the weather in Nanking has been almost mild at times and we have had very little rain or snow. In fact most of the days we have had sunshine which has also been a blessing to many people. The only fires we have on the campus are my stove in my sitting room, Mrs. Tsen's stove in her office, Mr. Chen's stove down in his sitting room and a little stove that we have placed in Mr. Chen's house where an Embassy police stays each night. Our offices in the Arts Building have no heat whatever.

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In my last letter I told you that we were getting ready for neighborhood women and children. I never dreamed that the deluge would be so great as it has been. We finally opened six buildings for them - could have opened more had we been able to manage them.- but the task of management was too great for our staff. We housed them in the Arts, Science and Smith Buildings, and in three of the dormitories. About December 17th when we had our peak load we think we must have had at least 9,000 or 10,000 people. Blanche thought the attic of the Science Building had a thousand women and children and the Arts Building attic the same. When we first started to take them in our ideals were very high for we assigned rooms and kept a very careful account of numbers, but when they began to pour in, especially in the mornings we had no way of counting. In those early days we also had some ideals of cleanliness and sanitation but we have also lost these, or most of them. We try to adhere to a few elemental rules but even those are abandoned at times. At first the servants for the various buildings tried to keep things clean and when they lost all use of their voices and became exhausted in the process of persuading people to be clean, they too gave up in despair.

You will be interested to know that Mrs. Tsen and her daughter-in-law and her four grandchildren are still living in the dormitory in which they have been living; Blanche, Mary Twinem, Miss Wang, Miss Hsuch and Miss Lo are living with me. Down at East Court are Big Wang and his family, Mr. Djao, Eva's teacher and his family, Mr. Chen, the assistant registrar, and his wife and two neighbors from the street west of Ginling and their families - the Swen's and the Tao's - I have known for many years. All these people in East Court have been a great help to us in many ways. Mr. Wang goes with me on all my official visits to the American Embassy and to the Japanese Embassy. His age and dignity are a great help in many situations.

If this letter is too dim for you to read you will know that it is because I am badly in need of a new typewriter ribbon. I would go to the Educational bookstore for one but that store no longer exists in any form. Ruth if you can do so I would be glad if you would go to the Royal Typewriter agency and get me one or two new ribbons for the office typewriter. When it comes I will bring that machine down from its safe hiding place and feel that once more I can write a decent letter. We realize now how we lacked foresight in days gone by.

This week Dr. Yuen's goat was sacrificed on the altar for food for ourselves and the servants. Without it we would be reduced to three kinds of vegetables for our noon and night meal. Mr. Riggs sent us three goats several weeks ago which have long since been sacrificed for the same purpose as the white one. I noticed yesterday that people in the safety zone were being sold a "dou" of rice per person at the headquarters of the International Committee for the Safety Zone. Many mat shed villages are growing up in vacant places in the safety zone and people are beginning to buy and sell at little stands. In fact Shanghai Road toward the American Embassy looks very much like Fu Dz Miao at New Year time; it is so teeming with people.

As soon as I find the time and the energy I also am going up to the South Hill residence to do a bit of looting for cold cream and soap. I wish that I could find hair nets also but none of those residents were so old fashioned as I am, unfortunately for me but not for them. I shall not attempt to go to the big dining room, for I do not want to disturb the sight there, but I shall feel free to go to the third floor and take away the wardrobes which carefully concealed the attic doors, I should have said successfully concealed, and I am almost sure that I will find soap and cream there. It is strange how free one feels in a situation like the present.

As for excercise, for a number of days I received it by running rapidly at times from the South Hill residence back to the laundry and then to the front gate and later on to one of the dormitories. This exercise frequently came at meal times as well, which was not too good for my health. Mrs. Tsen and I finally persuaded

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Mary Twinem to come over to live with us so that she could take turns with me in the running and since then life has been somewhat more normal for me. As I said above, she lives with me down at the Practice School. One other great help is that she plays for our numerous meetings and she helped us prepare for a very lovely Christmas service. We used an upper room down at my home and she decorated it beautifully. We had a number of groups in for meetings there.

I have not heard from any of you since the time that Yi-fang (Dr. Wu) left (December 3rd) and know nothing of your whereabouts. The proverb says "I live in the heart of a drum and do not know what is going on outside" describes me well. Somehow I feel that you are praying for us here, for a strength beyond our own is given us from day to day.

Letter from Ruth Chester in Shanghai January 13, 1938

January 13. We are so relieved to get this word from Minnie which just came today for it is our very first news of Ginling. I heard today a roundabout report that one of our buildings had been hit by a shell which may or may not be true. I infer that something happened to the west wing of the South Hill residence from Minnie's remarks about the dining room and the implication that the wardrobes were useful in concealing the attic doors, but one can only guess just what is meant. Letters sent by this means are not all that might be desired but are a whole lot better than nothing.

Plans here are developing rapidly and well I think and before long we shall be able to write details. It is probable that Soochow, Hangchow and Ginling will all locate close to University of Shanghai downtown and not very far from St. Johns, so exchange of classes will be very easy and our various partial curricula can be combined into a fairly good list of courses. There is so much to do that I don't know when there will ever be time to tell about it, but the doing must come first. We shall probably have at least 60 students and I hope more than that and we expect to have 13 or 14 members of the teaching staff here, so I hope our girls will feel a little bit more at home than they did last term. Dr. Wu has reached Chengtu for I had a telegram today from there, sent the 8th.

A faculty meeting tomorrow, and partial board meeting next week and three days of Council of Higher Education next week are among my activities in the near future. By the time these meetings and a few others that will get sandwiched in between, are finished - oh yes I forgot one of the "deans" of Soochow, Hangchow and Ginling on Saturday A. M. - I think we shall know what we are going to try to do this spring. We have deans meetings and presidents meetings of these three institutions, but only Soochow varies its personnel for Dr. Li is the only representative for Hangchow and I am so far doing it all for Ginling. There is a good spirit of cooperation and I think it is good for us all to have to work together a bit, though we should hardly have chosen these circumstances to bring it about.

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GINLING COLLEGE
Nanking,China

Letters from Miss Minnie Vautrin of Ginling College. Miss Vautrin has been in charge of the Ginling College campus and its thousands of refugees since the fall of Nanking on December 13th, 1938. These letters were written on January 10th and 11th, 1938 and received in New York February 18, 1938.

Monday, January 10, 1938, Nanking, China.

There is another chance to send mail to Shanghai this afternoon if I take it over to the American Embassy before 4 o'clock.

All is well on the Ginling campus today. As I write here in the office I can see groups of refugees scattered out on the campus taking advantage of the sunshine and warmth. Within the building there is the low hum of voices from the many refugees. As I said in a previous letter we feel almost deserted for we do not think that we have more than five thousand people left on the campus. Last night after our prayer service, Mrs. Tsen and Miss Wang counted those in the Science Building and found there were still 937 there - and in that building we have opened only six rooms including the attic. I really think that we have almost seven thousand with us but but one does not like to exaggerate. We have had about 18 births and more than 10 deaths. A child of 8 died of diphtheria this morning as Mrs. Tsen was having him taken to the University of Nanking Hospital.

If you came into my office and sniffed the air you would find it full of cigarette smoke for four military police have just come to call on me. They were unusually friendly and through the means of Chinese characters and with Mr. Hsia's help we carried on quite a conversation. The head told me that he is a small official near Tokyo. He showed me the picture of his wife and baby and wanted my picture to send to her - I gave him a small picture. While Mary Twinem was keeping my office this morning another group called - they were the higher officials. I was out at the time - went to Ninghai Road to see if I could get some rice for our staff for Mrs. Tsen's supply is growing small and we do not know what the months ahead hold in store for us.

You will rejoice with us over the news that there are nine foreign official representatives in the city - 3 Americans came first, and then 3 British, and today 3 Germans. All are most welcome to us as you can well imagine. While our difficulties on the Ginling campus have been legion, yet they have never been as difficult as at the University of Nanking, for they have taken in families and the men have been much harder to handle. Mrs. Tsen has been wonderful through it all and most brave in spite of her sadness. My personal teacher of Chinese has been splendid too and appreciates greatly the fact that he was permitted to live here - but certainly the appreciation has been mutual. He comes regularly to our prayer group which we now have every day and which has meant so much to all of us. It seems to me that the difficulties through which we have been have somehow made us understand God as we never could in times of peace and plenty. It was George Fox who said that "The light that shows us our faults is also the light that heals." I think that is also true of pain and tribulation.

Speaking of business transactions, I think I have already forwarded to you seven or eight installments of materials beginning with the first shipment of last August. I am wondering if it is safe for me to prepare another installment for you, and after it is prepared will it be safe to forward it to you? I am in no position to make a decision with regard to it and covet your opinion in the matter. I wonder how I could get it to my consumers in America and elsewhere. (Refers to a diary. Ed.)

This morning at Nanghai (office of International Committee), I discussed the

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question of when we can urge the refugees to go to their homes. It is not wise yet even in the Safety Zone, although conditions are very much more peaceful. They said that they were petitioning that section of the city to the south of us, that would mean west of Mo Tsou Lu and including Ming Deh compound, be made clear of soldiers first. If that can be done, then people can return there first as there was much less destruction there than in other parts of the city. Of course there will be the great problem of those whose homes have been burned and of those whose menfolk have been killed and have no means of support. Those problems we will have to work out gradually and I hope that we can do it constructively.

Do remember me most lovingly to Mrs. New and tell her that I wish she were here to help us, but of course I know that you could not spare her from the work in Shanghai. I am eager to know your plans for the second semester. Also remember me lovingly to Li-Ming (Mrs. Chen of the Physical Education Department), and her mother. I am sorry that she has had so many difficulties in health since she left Nanking. Tell her too that I know she was glad when Yu-Hwa, (Mr. Chen) and Mary (her sister-in-law) left Nanking but if I have wished for them once I have wished for them a score of times. And do remember me to all other Ginlingers when you see them. Tell them I have been glad a thousand times that I remained here for it has been so abundantly worthwhile.

The International Committee members have done valiant work. They will not be able to settle down to ordinary living later - if that time of peace ever comes. The fact that a German has been at the head of the committee has been a very wise idea. And how they have all worked - day and night for a time.

Tuesday, January 11,1938, Nanking, China.

What a feast we had last night when your big fat envelope was delivered to us containing a letter from each of you, from Yi-fang,(Dr. Wu), Mrs. Rhead and Abigail, and Florence's letter to Rebecca. If we had indigention in the night it was because we ate supper in such a hurry that we could get at the letters. After supper we gathered around the round table in the 400 living-room. (The furniture from the Faculty Dining-Room in the Central Building was moved over to the 400 living-room when we were clearing out that building for refugees, and that accounts for the round table). We read and read. There were Mrs. Tsen, Mr. Chen, Mr. Li, Mary Twinem, the day school teacher, Miss Lo, and Miss Wang, a student from the seminary, in my audience. There was so much of news in the letters that we now feel quite up to date on Ginling affairs and have had our dozens and dozens of questions answered. After I went down to my room at the Practice School I again read the letters for I have been aching for news of all of you. That is the second letter I have had now from Ruth Chester and Florence Kirk, and they came in on two successive days.

From 9 to 12 tjis morning Mr. Chen and I were in a meeting down at the headquarters of the International Committee of the Safety Zone. It is the first meeting that has been held of the heads of the Refugee Camps. I believe there are about 20 places where refugees are housed, and at the meeting this morning there were more than thirty present. Herr Rabe, the Chairman of the Committee, made a speech of welcome and then he left to go to his own work. George Fitch then made a speech of welcome and appreciation, and the rest of the time was spent in discussion of problems of the camp - which I can assure you are legion, perhaps ours at Ginling being the least difficult for we have only women and children. Poor Searle Bates has had such difficult ones, and of every description.

Our guard of five military police at the gate are proving more successful than we had dared hope. Unfortunately, the guard is changed every day so that each evening Mr. Wang and Mary Twinen and I have to go down to the gate and as tactfully

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as we know how we try to let the men know that we will be responsible for order and peace on the inside of the camp if they will patrol Hankow and Ninghai Road for us. Those awful days and nights when we were in great fear for the safety of the young women in our charge are beginning to grow dim in our memories now - even that unforgetable night of December 17th when 12 women were taken from our camp. As soon as I can I shall write "A Review of the First Month" and will let you know something of the experiences that I cannot write at this time.

Will you please tell Alice Morris that her chest of drawers was looted. It was down in the Chinese dining-room and that if she wishes to put in a claim for the things that were in it she is free to do so. The other day a representative from the Embassy came over and asked me if we wished to file a claim for college and individual losses. The college has lost so little that I said that we would not present a claim for I do not think it would be much over $200.00 mainly to cover the doors that have been smashed. Chang Siao-sung's, Dr. Wu Yi-fang's and Chen Pin-dji's chests of drawers were all looted many times but of course the Japanese are not interested in making good such losses. Neither could I file any claim for the losses over in Mr. Miao's house or Chen Er-cheng's house.

I think that I have not told you that Wei was taken on December 14th and did not return until December 28th. He is just now in condition to do light work. Dhang Szi-fu's son, who was caretaker over in Mr. Miao's house, was taken on December 16th and has never returned and I feel he was one of the hundreds of young men who were cruelly and ruthlessly shot or bayonetted during those first days. I have made several efforts to get the boy but have failed. The father is heartbroken about it.

Do tell Liu En-lan, and Wang Ming-djen and Dzun-mei and Miss Yen, (all members of the faculty. Ed.), how glad I am that they are in Shanghai. It is very comforting to know that you may be able to start a real freshman class down there the second semester, and that your faculty has grown. It is good to learn that you may have a hostel too. I shall be anxious to hear about the plans for the group that go to Chengtu. Keep me informed of any news that you get from them for I think that we shall be entirely cut off from them for a long time. We know practically nothing of what is going on in the world outside.

An industrial school of some kind for the many women whose only support has been taken from them is needed. We will need to teach such women to do something that will enable them to support their children. One sad woman who walked by my side recently said that she is left with five small children with no means of support whatever. And there are many such. I long for Miriam Null and Joy Smith and Etha Nagler. As for the Middle School, the day Dr. Wu's suggestion came, Mrs. Tsen and I were wondering if it would be safe to try to encourage the starting of a primary school. Just now the middle school for girls does not seem at all possible, but we cannot foresee the future these days.

With deep deep love to all and appreciation for your prayers. <u>They have sustained us</u>.

Summary of a letter written by Miss Vautrin on January 7, 1938. This letter was received in Shanghai January 14th. The summary reached New York February 18, 1938.

On the evening of the fourteenth came another letter from Minnie written on the 7th. She had gotten a batch of mail from us written on the 19th of December so no longer felt cut off from the world. Their peak of 10,000 refugees on the campus had decreased to 5,000 in the six buildings. At the highest point, refugees were packed like sardines along the covered ways and in the porches. When she wrote, - the 7th- she said it was the last day of registration for all men and women. "During these

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days of registration we have been able to serve rice only once a day but beginning tomorrow we shall serve it twice as formerly." Her rather ambiguous mentioning of the Chinese dining room meant, it seems, that there was frequent looting from the w ardrobes and other containers packed in that room. She said that room "was as nectar to bees. The four chests of drawers there... were most fascinating. If I found the bees there once I found them fifteen times."

Cable received from Miss Vautrin February 19th, 1938
Sent from Nanking February 18th by courtesy of the U.S. Embassy.

All going well on campus no cause for worry. Numbers diminished to approximately three thousand young refugees. Appreciate*Stella's offer but strongly urge completion of regular furlough. Her early return to Nanking unnecessary and probably impossible.

(* Stella refers to Miss Graves of the Music Department , who offered because of her knowledge of the Japanese language, to return at once to help with language problems.)

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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Letter and Report from Miss Vautrin
received in New York March 9, 1938

Letter written at Ginling College in Nanking on January 28, 1938

Word has come that the U. S. S. Oahu may be going down to Shanghai tomorrow or the next day and if that is true I am very anxious to get this report to you and through you to the others at home. My mind is not in a creative period and the interruptions are so frequent and the distractions so great that if I wait to do something better I may wait for weeks. .....

We have not received mail from the United States for a long time ..... We feel that much mail has been lost, perhaps when trains were bombed in November and December between here and Shanghai. I have had no letters of any kind, excepting some sent up by Ruth by messenger, since the first of December. The American Embassy seems quite willing to transmit radiograms. They now can send them from the Embassy - a concession granted them rather reluctantly.

This morning as I write I can hear the sound of heavy bombers going westward and my heart is heavy for I know that it means death and destruction, perhaps even our own students and friends. With regard to Nanking I feel that what is left is like the dregs stirred up in the bottom of the ocean. All the bad elements that are usually kept down in a well controlled society are now released and the underworld is having its chance. How a nation can build friendship and cooperation on such dregs I do not see.

A REVIEW OF THE FIRST MONTH -
December 13,1937 - January 13,1938

Confidential - Please do not publish

Explanation: My hope for days has been to write a very carefully worded report, but that hope has been given up due to the many interruptions that come each day. Each time I put aside a morning for this work it is finally used for other matters which seem at the moment more important. Have decided that if I am to get any report to you at all, it will have to be a very informal and probably disconnected one. Please forgive lack of unity and coherence. M.V.

Background: December 1,1937 - December 13,1937.

Our president departed from the College on the morning of December 1, although I think that her boat did not finally sail from Hsia Gwan until December 3. It was difficult for her to leave and even more difficult for us to see her go,but we felt it was for the best and certainly conditions since have proved that it was a very wise decision. For the twelve days following her departure we worked at top speed for there were many important things waiting to be done. Before our president left she had appointed an Emergency Committee consisting of Mrs.S.F.Tsen,Mr.Francis Chen and myself,and this small committee has carried the responsibility through these difficult days. It was fortunate that the committee was small for we could make decisions quickly, and we had to do that many times. Mealtime- for we all eat at the same table- was often used for meetings and trying to think out the next step.Below I will give

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some of the many tasks that we performed during those twelve busy days, and something of the conditions in the city during that time.

Putting up flags and proclamations: All day of December 1 we gave to selecting strategic places for the American Flags which Gwoh, the tailor had made for us, deciding where the proclamations furnished us by the Defence Commander of the Municipality of Nanking and also those that had been furnished us by the American Embassy should be posted. In the end we had eight flag poles put up on the outskirts of the campus, and the posters were posted at the gate and on all the outlying buildings such as the South Hill Residence, the laundry, the faculty houses for Chinese men and even up on the little house on the west hill. The large thirty foot American flag was still used in the main Quadrangle to let the aeroplanes know that the property was American owned. Previously Mr. Chen and I had finally found the old college sign boards used in the old Ginling and had them repainted - those boards that said "Great American Ginling College". One of these we hung at the gate, and one is in front of the Central Building. These we did not actually use until the Japanese entered the city.

Putting buildings in condition for refugees: For days and days our faithful staff of servants worked hard carrying all furniture to the attics or storing it in one or two rooms on the first floor. It was a tremendous job but later proved a very wise preparation. Altogether eight buildings were prepared, including the Practice School and the 400 dormitory. These latter two were never occupied because by the time the first six buildings were filled we had probably ten thousand refugees on the campus and did not have strength enough to manage more than that. Our ideals were very high in the beginning for we got out in poster form a carefully planned set of regulations that would help to make for healthful living, we trained groups of young people to act as scouts or ushers, we made a plan of the buildings and according to regulations furnished us we had room for 2,700 refugees in the eight buildings. On December 8 we receive our first group - people who had previously evacuated from Wusih and Shanghai and other places along the battle front and also those who were living just inside and outside of the Nanking city wall, as they were forced to leave by the Chinese military for military purposes and later many of their houses were burned. We could well have used a few more days in getting the buildings in order for after the deluge came we had no time to do any moving of furniture, or to plan regulations for living.

Hiding of valuables: The college vault gave us many anxious moments for if there was a long siege of the city there would surely be thorough looting of valuables and any soldier would know that an institution like Ginling would have a vault. We therefore decided to clear out the vault and leave the doors of both the vault and inner safe open. Many of the things we hid - I shall not tell you where for we may want to use the place again. Our money we divided, keeping part of it on the campus and packing the larger part in a case and sending it with some other valuables over to the American Embassy. We knew later that when the American officials at the Embassy would leave, these things would be taken down to the U.S.S. Panay. Our Emergency Committee decided that Mrs. Thurston's wedding silver should be placed in this same case. You can imagine our consternation later when we heard that the Panay was in the bottom of the Yangtze. Everything has been recovered by Russian divers since so we can smile about the matter now, but we did not smile about it then. Of the new Terrace House Building file I made two copies and hid them in different places.

The college incinerator was kept busy those days of preparation. Mrs. Tsen spent about two days clearing out papers that might be misunderstood, and she also spent many hours burning the receipts of the organization of which Dr. Wu had been the treasurer, lest that also be misunderstood. The Municipal New Life Organization which had rented our Neighborhood House for a few months in the autumn left us a rather big piece of work to do for they evacuated quickly and left all their teaching materials for us to destroy. Gwoh, the tailor who lives in our neighborhood also rented a room to them this past autumn and when they left they stored a large number of boxes in his little shop. They looked innocent at the time but as the Japanese army came nearer to

the city the tailor became more and more afraid of what might happen to him if these things could not be explained. Just two days before the army entered the city, he came over to see if I would go to his house and look into the boxes. This I did and later I called in Mr. Fitch, who was executive secretary or director of the International Committee for the Safety Zone. The two of us decided that it would be better if he destroyed all of the things. I shall never forget that picture of Gwoh and his good wife on December 13th. All day the two of them and all their relatives carried load after load of books and pamphlets over to our incinerator and there burned them. It was not until late in the night that they finished their task, but he was spared from possible misunderstanding and the thrust of an angry bayonet. On the night of December 15th we buried late at night what we had considered burying before - the garments that had been made by women of the city for wounded soldiers. We had been loathe to burn them because we felt that the poor of the city would need them during the winter - but on that night the need did not seem so great to us as the need to get rid of them.

Conditions in the City during this period: For weeks and weeks people of the city had been evacuating. The movement began with the wealthy and during that period every truck and car was used and tens of thousands moved up river to Hankow or on further to the westward. Then the middle class began to evacuate and finally the poor and for days and days you could see rickshas going past loaded with boxes and rolls of bedding and people. All who could possibly do so got out of the city, the poor going into the country, especially taking the sons and daughters of the family, leaving the old to take care of the homes. I have often wondered what has happened to these people who evacuated into the country districts for from the reports that we hear, the suffering and destruction in the country is even worse than it has been in Nanking, if that is possible.

During these twelve days there were constant air raids, and as the Japanese army came closer to Nanking there were no warnings - the planes just came and dropped their bombs - sometimes the whole rack at a time. During the last few days before the entry the shelling of the city was also terrific, in the southern part of the city especially. From my room in the Practice School it seemed to me that there was a fier pounding on the city gates and the city wall - so fierce that it did not seem possible for the age old wall to resist the onslaught of modern military machinery. It was als during these days that the burning began - first outside of the city as the villages were evacuated and burned for military purposes, and then the houses inside and outsid of the city wall were burned - again for military purposes. I often wondered if this method which prevented the Japanese army from entering by a mere twenty four hours was worth the while and the terrible suffering that it caused, not to speak of the loss especially to the poor. Each night the sky was red with flames as these homes skirtin the city wall were burned and it was during that time that our first refugees came. Within the city - it was Sunday, December 12, I believe that the Ministry of Communica tions was burned - they did that rather than to let the Japanese occupy that beautiful building. There was some looting by the Chinese soldiers, mostly of money from the stores. None of these calamities reached us in our peaceful little valley and we continued our preparations for the refugees.

On November 23, Dr. Wu took me to the reception which saw the formation of the daily Press Conference which took place until Sunday December 12. At these meetin in the headquarters of the Chinese-British Cultural Association on Peiping Road, there were of course western representatives of the various news agencies and papers; representatives of the police department, the defence commissioners office and of the mayor office. The mayor himself came to many of the meetings. I started going to these very interesting meetings on Sunday evening, November 28, and each night after that found Mrs. Tsen and me present, for through the meetings we could keep in touch with events in the city and also have conferences with people whom we wished to see. I should have mentioned that a goodly number of the missionaries of the city also attend ed and also a fair number from the business community and the various embassies. It

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seems to me now as I look back over those meetings that most of them were spent in making announcements either by the military or the chairman, director and secretary of the International Committee for the Safety Zone. The latter committee members kept pushing the Chinese military to get all military organizations out of the Zone as quickly as possible so that the Safety Zone flags could be put in place and cables be sent to Japan and to the world that preparations for such a zone had been completed.

You will have learned from other sources of the formation of the International Committee which in turn proposed, carried out all the plans for the formation of, and later maintained the Safety Zone in Nanking. To this group of men, business men and missionaries, the large group of Chinese in the Safety Zone owe a great debt of gratitude, for what measure of safety and protection they have had during these weeks of terrible strain and stress have been due to them. And I find that the thoughtful Chinese are not unmindful of this great benefit and are deeply grateful for it. Mr. John Rabe, a German business man, has been chairman of the committee and has been fearless and untiring and Dr. Lewis Smythe of the United Christian Missionary Society and a member of the faculty of the University of Nanking has been the secretary . I cannot go on to mention all the other members of the committee and their splendid work which has been carried on day and often times at night since early in December.

The First Ten Days of Japanese Occupation. December 13-23

When the first group of Japanese soldiers entered the walled city, we do not yet know exactly. We have heard that as early as December 10 a small group entered the old Tung Dzi Gate, now known as the Gwang Hwa Gate. There was very severe fighting in that section of the city for days and we are told that the Japanese troops entered the city and were repulsed a number of times and that the loss on both sides was very high A young Japanese official told me that the army actually entered at four o'clock in the morning of December 13. All night during the 12th retreating Chinese soldiers passed our gate, some begging for civilian clothes, others casting off their uniforms and fire arms into our campus. From the ominous silence we knew that something had happened. About two o'clock in the afternoon of December 13th the servant in charge of our South Hill Faculty Residence came running down the hill to tell me that the Japanese soldiers could be seen from our west hill - the one outside of our main campus. At about the same time another servant came running to tell me that a soldier had found the Poultry Experiment and was demanding two chickens. By means of sign language I tried to make clear that the chickens were not for sale and the man left. From the back of the campus I could see a number of men back of our campus. They were asking the people in the little huts back there to cook vegetables and chickens for them. No one on the campus slept that night and in my imagination I could easily interpret the sounds of the fire arms and the machine guns as the killing of the retreating Chinese soldiers. How many thousands were mown down by guns or bayoneted we shall probably never know for in many cases oil was thrown over their bodies and they were burned - charred bones tell the tale of some of these tragedies. The events of the following ten days are growing dim but there are certain of them that a life time will not erase from my memory and the memories of those who have been in Nanking through this period. Some of the most vivid of these scenes I will try to reconstruct for you.

For fully ten days, if not more, from ten to twenty groups of soldiers came into our campus daily; a few coming through the front gate but most of them breaking open side or back gates or jumping over our fence. Some of them were fierce and unreasonable and most of them had their bayonets out ready for use and on not a few of them I could see fresh blood stains. Our loyal staff of servants were on the job and as soon as a group came in they would run for me. My days were spent in running from the gate to the south hill or the back hill or to the poultry experiment or to one of the dormitories. Although an American flag or an American Embassy proclamation did not seem to deter them, yet the presence of a foreigner was of great help and many is the group that I escorted out of a dormitory filled with refugee women and children or from the south hill residence. It finally took so much energy that we decided that I should use my strength to save lives and not try to save things. During these days they often

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tried to take our servants saying that they were soldiers, but in every such case I was able to get the men from them excepting the keeper of Mr. Miao's home, the son of the Djang Szi-fu who works in the Biology Department. I was not there when he was taken for I could not leave the campus during those days.

The night of December 17 none of us shall ever forget for it is burned into our memories by suffering. Between four and six o'clock, since Mary Twinem had come over to see us, it was possible for me to escort two groups of young women and children over to the main campus of the University of Nanking where they were opening their dormitories for them. We were so crowded and so taxed in strength that it did not seem right for us to take in any more at that time. During my absence, two soldiers came in on bicycles, angrily tore the big American flag from its stakes in the main Quadrangle, and started to carry it off. Finding it too heavy they threw it on the ground in front of the Science Building. Mary Twinem was called and as soon as they saw her they ran and hid in the Power House from which place she sent them off the campus very much flushed and embarrassed. When we were just finishing our supper-we had persuaded Mary to stay for the night since it was late - the servant from the Central Building came running to the dining room and said that there were two soldiers at the front door trying to get in. Mr. Li and I went to that door and found the men pulling at the door and demanding that we turn over the soldiers "enemies of Japan". They refused to believe me when I said there were no soldiers, only women and children and they insisted on searching. I did not then know, but later learned that other groups were searching in other buildings at the same time. Finally by a very clever trick they succeeded in getting almost all of the servants and those of us who were responsible for the refugees out to the front gate and there they carried on what we realized later was a mock trial. They made us feel that they were searching for soldiers, but as a matter of fact they were looking for young women and girls. Fitch, Smythe and Mills appeared unexpectedly on the scene, the latter expecting to spend the night on the campus, and they greatly complicated the mock trial but did not defeat it. A little later they send off these three men and proceeded in their search for soldiers. Between nine and ten o'clock through a side gate they took off twelve women and girls and the officer at the gate with us took off Mr. Chen. It was not until they were gone that we realized that the trick was to take off girls. I did not expect to see Mr. Chen again for I was sure that he would be shot or bayoneted. That closing scene I shall never, never forget. Mary, Mrs. Tsen and I standing near the gate, the servants kneeling just back of us, Mr. Chen being led out by the officer and a few soldiers, the rustling of the fallen leaves, the shadows passing out the side gate in the distance - of whom we did not know - the low cries of those passing out. Mr. Chen was released at the intersection of Shanghai and Canton Roads, and six of the girls came back at five the next morning unharmed - both of these we believe were wrought by prayer. I think now I might have saved those girls but at the time it did not seem possible. Those of us at the front gate stayed there in silence until almost eleven for we did not know but what there were guards outside ready to shoot if any moved, and then we left for the back part of the campus. Almost every building on the campus had been entered and there was some looting beside the taking off of the twelve. That night I stayed down at the front gate house and you can imagine that there was no sleep for any of us the rest of that night. When I reached the Practice School before going to the gate house, I found Mr. Chen there and also Miss Lo. Soon the other helpers came in, for they with Mrs. Tsen's daughter-in-law and grandchildren had been hiding among the refugees. Never will I forget the little prayer meeting we had that night in that room at the Practice School. From that time on Mary has stayed with us and helped to carry the responsibility - especially of sending off soldiers. In addition to the twelve girls taken that night, three others have been raped on the campus and nine others have been prevented from the same fate by the appearance of a foreigner at the psychological time. I would that we could have prevented all such tragedies but compared with the fate in most refugee camps and private houses this is an exceedingly good record.

Another vivid memory was the military inspection on December 15 by an officer and perhaps one hundred men. They too were looking for soldiers and inspected us thoroughly. A machine gun was placed on the main road leading to the quadrangle, and had

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any soldier been in hiding and tried to steal away, you can imagine what would have happened to the women and children on the campus. We were told later that there were a number of machine guns and men on the roads surrounding the campus. We had been exceedingly careful not to let any men come on the campus excepting those of a few families whom we know and they are living down in East Court, and therefore we had no difficulty in passing this inspection. It is true that they tried to take several of our servants who had close cropped hair something like a soldier's, but in the end after identification they were released. The officer in charge of this inspection left us a letter signed and sealed with his stamp and this was of great use until it was torn in shreds and thrown on the ground by the petty officer who came on the night of the 17th and carried out the tragedy that I described above. This destroyed letter was soon replaced by another which was furnished me by a military attache in the Japanese Embassy and this has been invaluable in getting the soldiers out of the buildings and off the campus. If I go off the campus I leave this letter in Mary's possession and if she goes I have it.

Another phase of these ten days and the days that have followed has been the visits of the many civil and military officials. Invariably the former have tried to help us to the extent of their power and at times they have sent us Embassy police to help protect the thousands of refugees and ourselves by night; for two different periods the latter have sent us a guard of soldiers, and these have not always been a safe guard although they have helped. Our first guard consisted of 25 soldiers whom we placed down in the row of rooms occupied by Mr. Chen the assistant registrar - who had long since vacated them for a safer place. After the period of the Embassy police we had a guard of four soldiers a day. Each day when the new group came Mr. Wang and I and sometimes Mary would go down to get acquainted, to get the name of the petty officer in charge and to try to make it clear that if they would guard the outside of the campus, on the big roads, we would be responsible for the inside of the campus. The method worked very well and only on one night did we have any trouble. During this period the Japanese Embassy furnished us with 30 proclamations in Japanese and these we posted on all of our property and at the gate. These have helped a good deal but have not completely prevented soldiers entering the buildings on which they were posted. In fact the many groups who used to love to go into the south hill faculty residence had to go past two American flags, two American Embassy proclamations, three Japanese proclamations in order to get inside. We have kept one night watchman and our two former police now in civilian clothes on duty each night to report in case anything is amiss.

The Period of Registration: The registration of the people living in Nanking began at the University of Nanking on December 26 and lasted through the 27. All the men and women who were refugees on the main campus of the University registered during those days. Our registration started on December 28 and by inference we thought it was to be of the women living on our campus. That was not our fate, however. It lasted for nine long days and men and women came from all sections of the Safety Zone and even from the country. Tens of thousands came in four abreast, listened first to the lecture on good citizenship and then got the preliminary slip which enabled them to go to one of Mr. Chen Chung-fang's residences for the final step at which they were given a stamped and numbered registration blank with their name upon it. For the first few days it was limited to men. They formed in line out on Hankow Road and Ninghai Road as early as two o'clock in the morning and all day long they marched through the campus. It had snowed and you can imagine the amount of mud that these tramping feet brought in. This registration took place at first under the military officers. Two guards of soldiers came each time and each group had to have a blazing bonfire and for the officers we furnished two coal ball fires. At first I thought it would be better to protest this registration of men on our campus for this meant flinging our front gates wide open, and for the sake of the women we had been so careful to exclude stray men from coming in. However at the end of the first day it seemed best to endure the process for when men were selected out of the marching lines and accused of being soldiers, their women folk were usually present and could

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plead for them and thus many innocent men were saved. Although in the announcement the men were clearly told that if they would confess to having served as soldiers they would be pardoned and given remunerative work to do, we are not sure that the promise was kept but we rather suspect that their bodies are in the large mounds of unburied bodies outside of Han Chung Gate which we know came there about that time. Finally only 28 men were taken from the tens of thousands that registered at Ginling. I shall never forget how anxiously the women watched this process of registration and how bravely they would plead for their husbands and sons. Although the registration of women began on Monday January 3, yet it did not take place solely for them until Wednesday of that week and closed on Friday. How they feared the rough treatment of the soldiers, and how they cringed as they passed them to get the preliminary blank. A number of women were suspected of being prostitutes - and it was at that time that they were trying to start up the licensed houses in the city for the Japanese soldiers - but each time when the women could be identified they were released. During the last two days of registration of women it was put under civil officials and was carried on in a decent and orderly way. All the writing was done by Chinese men and the entire process was carried on in our quadrangle. I was given permission to bring our group of workers, both staff members and amahs, out in a group and the registration was quickly finished - and thus an ordeal which they had been dreading was passed. Women have found since to their sorrow that the registration blank does not mean protection to them and the men have found that it does not prevent them from being seized. Ginling has never had such a large registration in its history.

Ginling College as a Refugee Camp for Women and Children. As I mentioned before we began to take in our first refugees on December 8 and they were of two types, those who had come to Nanking from cities like Wusih, Soochow along the line of the advancing Japanese army and those who had to evacuate their homes due to the orders of the Chinese military. By Saturday December 11th, we had 850 living in the Central Building and one of the dormitories and we thought that our estimate of 2,700 was far too large. Up to that time the people had brought in their food with them and the rice kitchen which we had hoped to have was not yet functioning. By Thursday December 16 we had more than four thousand and we felt that we were as crowded as we could be; we did not have the staff to look after more and we felt that it would be better for the University to open dormitories and take in our over-flow. It was on the following day that I took about 1,000 over to the University campus. But we did not stop at 4,000, for we began to realize the terrible danger to women if they remained in their own homes, for soldiers were wild in their search for young girls, and so we flung our gates open and in they streamed. For the next few days as conditions for them grew worse and worse, they streamed in from daylight on. Never shall I forget the faces of the young girls as they streamed in - most of them parting from their fathers or husbands at the gate. They had disguised themselves in every possible way- many had cut their hair, most of them had blackened their faces, many were wearing men or boy's clothes or those of old women. Mr. Wang, Mr. Hsia, Mary and I spent our days at the gate trying to keep idlers out and let the women come in. At our peak load we must have had ten thousand on the campus. The big attics in the Science and Arts Buildings which we had cleared were favorite places for the younger women. Stairs and halls were so crowded that it was impossible to get through and even the covered ways were packed as well as all of the verandahs. People did not ask for a place inside but were content to sleep outside if only we would let them come in. We realized that young girls of twelve and that older women of fifty and even sixty were not free from mistreatment. I shall never forget the faces of the fathers and husbands as they watched their women folk enter the campus. Often times the tears were streaming down their cheeks as they begged us to "just give them a place to sleep outside". Women were faced with a terrible dilemna in those days - it might mean that in saving themselves from being raped they were risking the lives of their husbands and sons, who might be taken away and killed. Even during this period of danger we tried to persuade the older women to remain at home with their husbands and sons, even if it meant mistreatment, and let the younger women come to us for protection.

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This fearful and beastly treatment of women is still going on and even in the Safety Zone. Two days ago a young girl came running to me just as I was going out of the gate and plead with me to go to her home as there were three soldiers there at the time she ran away and they were looking for girls. Fortunately the girls were good runners and knew a short cut to our campus so by the time I arrived at the home the soldiers had left without having found the girls.

I suspect you wonder how we fed this vast multitude. The Red Cross on the day that the city was turned over started a Rice Kitchen just north of our campus and that is still furnishing two meals of soft rice each day to our large family. For a number of weeks they brought the steaming rice in to the campus where it was served in two different places on the main quadrangle. We had serving frames made and tried to teach the women not to crowd but to learn to take their turn but it was a difficult lesson for them to learn. Recently the method has been to serve it out at the kitchen and that is much more satisfactory, as it gives the women and girls exercise twice each day and it enables them to get the rice hot at any time they wish it. If they can afford it they pay three coppers a bowl for it; if they really have no money their case is investigated and they are given a red tag which means free rice. Many of the refugee camps have not been as fortunate as we in having a well managed rice kitchen so near at hand. As for hot water, very early we were able to get two men with big hot water stoves to move into our campus - they were glad to do so for it meant personal protection - so our women have had hot water at all times of the day. The cost is low so they can afford it. For those who were without bedding, fortunately we had a supply of comforters on hand, and these have been given to those who are in greatest need. Sanitation has been our biggest problem, especially when we had our peak load. We were non-plused with this problem for a time for it seemed insurmountable but we are gradually working it out so that the campus does not look as it did in those early days - especially in the mornings. If only we had some lime it would help. Dr. Reeves will be sorry to hear that the fish in the pond back of the Central Building have had a hard time surviving for that is the place where the women wash their toilet buckets. As for laundry, every morning and most of the day you can see the women washing out clothes especially for the children. Every bush and tree and every fence is covered with the washing during most of the day. Many would not recognize the campus if they came at this time.

Meetings for Women and Children. Religion has become a reality to many of us during these days of terror and destruction. Jesus becomes a friend who walks by your side as you go forward to meet a group of fierce men whose shining bayonets are marked with fresh stains of blood. From August on to the present time, every Wednesday evening and Sunday evening we have had a service for the campus and building servants. How they have loved to sing "O save my Country, Lord", and "We love our native land". During the peak of our refugee load and during the time of greatest danger to refugees and to men we did not hold these meetings but soon they were started again. They are now held in the South Studio, for the Science Lecture Hall was occupied by women and children for a good many weeks. It was also in August that we started our Wednesday and Saturday morning prayer group for staff members. These meetings have now become daily meetings excepting for Sunday morning. Words cannot express the value these meetings have been in strengthening and binding us together and giving us power to meet the difficult problems of each day. How real and vital prayer has become. About twelve are now attending our staff meetings. Our regular Sunday afternoon and Thursday afternoon meetings for women have been continued by Miss Lo. This week with the help of speakers from the American Church Mission we have started regular afternoon meetings for women. Each afternoon at two o'clock sees a group of about 170 women, mostly young - gathered in the South Studio. Only those over fifteen are admitted and no babies in arms are brought in. We take the refugee buildings by turn and admission is by ticket which we distribute the previous evening. Never have I attended more earnest meetings. At the same hour we also have a children's meeting over in the Science Lecture Hall which we have now cleared of refugees,

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by distributing to other buildings. The day school teacher conducts these meetings.

At Christmas time although we were in a period of great danger and we did not know what each day would bring forth, we had a number of special Christmas services - one for Mrs. Tsen's grandchildren whom we have learned to love and who have helped to keep us normal; one for the adults who have been helping us carry the burdens of the work and we included their families; one for all the college servants; one for the neighborhood women and still one other for the young people who acted as scouts in those early days. Mary decorated a north facing room on the sec ond floor of the Practice School and made it so beautiful that some say they will never forget it. There was an altar with a cross, a little Christmas tree with colored lights, a great bouquet of Heavenly bamboo with bright red berries, several large pots of poinsettias, the red Christmas cut-outs and the Christmas scrolls. Fortunately I had a heavy green curtain for the one window, and by putting a thick cloth over the transom we could not be seen either within or without the building. It was not always easy to keep our voices low when we sang the much loved Christmas carols, but we were not disturbed in any of our meetings. Later we were loathe to take down the decorations. The staff member in charge of each of the above groups planned the meeting so that no one person carried all the responsibility. We also had light refreshments for the children and young people although such things are not to be purchased these days and there are no stores open in the entire city and all our regular stores have been looted clean and many of them have been burned.

Without the work of a fairly large group of loyal helpers the work that we have been able to do would not have been possible. Mrs. Tsen has not only had charge of the food and general management of dormitory servants but she has been our nurse for the large group of refugees, has distributed the bedding to the poorest, and has been a wise counselor in meeting intricate and difficult situations; Mr. Francis Chen has had trying experiences because of his youth - in a situation where youth was a handicap - but he has always been willing to do all that he could to help; Mr. Li, his assistant has been willing to help in any way that he can - from supervising the sale of rice tickets to being general sanitray manager of the compound. He too had to remain in the background during the most dangerous days when young men were being taken out of the city. Mr. Wang, my personal Chinese language teacher, has really acted as my secretary, and has been invaluable in going with me to the Japanese Embassy on many trying visits and also in talking to the guards who have been sent to us from time to time. He also helps when high officials come for inspection or to visit. Just now he is giving most of each morning to writing data given to us by women who have lost either their husbands or sons. To date we have prepared 592 of these slips. You will be interested to know that 432 of these men were taken on December 16. Whether or not the handing in of these requests will be of any avail we do not know, but we can only do our part for these heart broken women. Miss Wang, the only member of the student body of the Seminary who has remained in the city, has been an invaluable help in many ways. She has been responsible for investigating the cases of those asking for free rice. Miss Hsueh, the Homecraft School teacher, closed our little school just a few days before the entrance of the Japanese troops and since that time she too has been a great help in all the investigation work and with the meetings. Miss Lo, the evangelistic worker who used to live west of the campus, is now living here and giving all her time and strength to helping and the fact that she knows the neighborhood women so well has been of great assistance. Mary Twinem, whom I mentioned coming on December 17, has been here ever since that time. One of us is always on the campus with the special letter given us by Mr. Fukuda. If in the night we have to go to the front gate she is with me. She and the three women just mentioned live with me down at the Practice School and the little sitting room there with the comfort of the stove is a place of relaxation and retreat. Blanche Wu lived in the Science Building until the noise from the refugees became too much for her and then she too moved down so that makes six of us together. Besides being busy with her poultry project she also helps with refugee work when it is possible. Mr. Hsia who lives at the front gate is very good

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in talking to the soldiers and he often escorts a party around. Mr. Djao, Eva Spicer's Chinese language teacher, who lives with his large family at East Court, is very willing to help whenever we need him. Mr. Chan lives at East Court and does writing for us when needed, but the sight of a soldier is almost too much for him. These are the members of the staff of workers. In addition there are the servants, who have been working hard through all the time of danger - what we would have done without them I do not know. They have willingly taken on the extra work - and no one not living on the campus can realize how heavy the work has been for them and how trying. We hope to give them an extra month's pay when it is over - if it is ever over. In addition we have had to take on extra servants so that we have two in each dormitory - many of these have been willing to work for their board because they felt they were safe here, but we hope to give them a tip. I might add that Tung Lao-ban the carpenter has also lived on the place as a refugee and has worked freely for us whenever we needed him.

The staff members have eaten together in the dining room of 400 and that has been a source of strengthening too - I mean all those who do not have families here. We have been in a quandary as to food. Before the fall of the city we did not put in too much food for fear everything would be looted and now we wish that we had put in more stores. For a number of days, at least two meals a day consisted of two kinds of beans and a green vegetable. At no time have we been hungry although I shall be glad when we can get nourishing food to add to the diet for all the workers. The Poultry Project has furnished us with a goodly number of geese and a few chickens which have helped out a good deal, and we have killed Dr. Yuen's goat and three others that were entrusted to us by Mr. Riggs. One of our Practice School Ponds furnished us fish for the whole staff once, which was a treat.

Destruction of College and Private Property. There was no looting by Chinese soldiers before they left the city, and so far there has been no looting by the "lao beh sing", i. e. the common people. The Japanese soldiers entered the South Hill Residence from ten to twenty times and found great joy in the four chests of drawers stored in the large dining room. Again and yet again we have found them there looting and have escorted them out. Dr. Wu, Dr. Chen, of the Biology Department, Dr. Chang of the Psychology Department, and Alice Morris, librarian, were the unfortunate owners of the property looted, however I do not think the loss was great as they had packed their best things to take with them. Although they went to the third floor of that house a number of times, yet they did not see the attic doors which had been covered by wardrobes. We are hoping that the things stored there will not be touched. Mr. Miao's house was looted and also Chen Er-chang's but how much the loss I have no way of knowing. Those houses are now occupied by refugees. Mrs. Tsen lost some things - her favorite fountain pen among them and some of the rest of us lost pens and gloves. Mr. Li had $55.00 taken from him while he was on the campus and also Mr. Chan's trunks and Mrs. Tung's trunk were searched and some things taken. Those are about all of the personal losses - and compared with the loss of many in the city they are very light. The total college property loss due to looting by the Japanese soldiers consists mostly of smashed doors and windows. Our greatest loss is due to the occupation of the refugees. Ten thousand cannot crowd into six buildings without injury to those houses. Walls will have to be refinished, woodwork repainted, screens replaced, locks and fasteners replaced or repaired. Trees and shrubs and lawns have all been injured, largely by the daily display of washing placed upon them. Our foreign friends have often laughed when they entered the campus and compare it with its former neatness. However the mothers with little children have had to do this washing and we have not wanted to prohibit it. Fortunately in this part of China, nature heals such scars very quickly and in a few years we shall not miss the shrubs that have been trampled or broken, although I have felt sad when a shrub that we have nursed carefully for more than ten years has been badly broken. We have also had some loss due to the nine days of registration which took place on the campus. Some chairs were broken and tables injured and shrubs trampled down.

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Wei Szi-fu, our college messenger boy was taken on December 14, and did not return until December 28. His bicycle was also taken at the same time as he was on his way to the University Hospital with a message to one of the doctors there. At the time he was wearing an arm band furnished for our servants by the American Embassy. We greatly rejoined when he returned safely. The son of Djang, the head servant of the Biology Department was taken on December 16 and he has never returned although we have made repeated requests for him. He too was wearing one of the arm bands at the time and was in the house which was clearly marked by an American Embassy poster and flying an American flag. The father has been broken hearted for in addition to this loss he does not know where his wife and four other children are as they were down near Wusih. I am fearful that the young man will never return as there were a good many men killed at that time, especially young men.

Surely we have much to be grateful for as we look back over the past months. The fact that we did not open college in Nanking was a great blessing. During these days I have said again and again I was glad that there were no students on the campus and that Dr. Wu had been persuaded to leave the city when she did. I am grateful too that Ginling has been able to shelter and serve the women and children of this great city as she has during these days of intense danger and terror. What the future holds we do not know, but I am confident that if we seek to know God's will for the College , he will guide us into still greater fields of usefulness in the bringing in of his Kingdom.

Cable from Miss Minnie Vautrin. Sent from Nanking on February 28, 1938 in response to a cable from the Board of Founders. This cable was transmitted through the courtesy of the U. S. Embassy in Nanking and the State Department in Washington D. C. and was received in New York on March 4, 1938.

"YOURS RECEIVED OF FEBRUARY 25. INJURY TO COLLEGE PROPERTY FROM SHELTERING REFUGEES ESTIMATED AT SEVEN OR EIGHT THOUSAND. INJURY TO COLLEGE PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT FROM LOOTING ESTIMATED AT THREE HUNDRED. LOSS SUSTAINED BY THIRTEEN CHINESE AND ONE AMERICAN FACULTY FROM LOOTING ROUGHLY ESTIMATED AT TWELVE HUNDRED. MONTHLY EXPENDITURE FOR REGULAR STAFF SALARIES ABOUT FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY. MONTHLY EXPENDITURES FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE SEVEN HUNDRED. DESIRABLE MONTHLY BUDGET FOR REFUGEES ESTIMATED AT EIGHT HUNDRED PERIOD PARTIALLY COVERED BY PRECEDING ITEM. ASIDE FROM COLLEGE APPROPRIATION NO DEPENDABLE AND CERTAIN INCOME. ABOVE FIGURES ARE ALL IN CHINESE CURRENCY. COLLEGE CONTINUES TO SHELTER APPROXIMATELY THREE THOUSAND."

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REPORT OF THE GINLING COLLEGE REFUGEE CAMP

February 18,1938

If all the regular Christian workers were at their posts in Nanking they would not be sufficient to meet the great opportunities that are open to us on every hand. Suffering and terror and destruction hage made hearts tender and in need of sympathy and comfort; the superficial veneer of society has been removed and many are ready to seek and know the truth and to face the truth as they have never been willing to face it in ordinary times; and for most people the ordinary duties of life no longer press upon them and there is time to study and to go to meetings. Unfortunately workers are far too few and immediate tasks too many so that we are able to meet these unprecedented opportunities in only an inadequate way.

With the cooperation of speakers from the American Church Mission on January 17 we began regular evangelistic meetings for the women refugees on the Ginling campus. There are six big buildings housing these refugees, but by means of a ticket system we have arranged so that each woman has an opportunity to hear the gospel once each week. Each afternoon in a small chapel that has been made available, about 170 women listen most intently to the speaker and learn to sing the hymn. This means that more than 1000 different women have the opportunity to hear each week. The order is excellent for only women of 16 or over are given tickets and no babies are admitted-the latter regulation is no hardship for the mothers as there are plenty of others to take care of the babies and little children. On Sunday afternoon the chapel is crowded with those who are Christians or who have attended Christian schools. At the same time that these evangelistic meetings are held, from 50-80 children from the ages of 9-15 years are gathered in the science hall and a children's meeting is conducted for them. These meetings are also by ticket so that every child has an opportunity to attend at least twice each week. This is the fifth week that these meetings have been held and people still eagerly clamber for the tickets when they are distrubuted on the evening previous to the meeting.

We are now in the process of organizing graded Bible classes and are hoping that materials ordered for this work will soon come from Shanghai. If the way opens, about the first of March we hope to open classes in industrial work and home hygiene. A small lending library of Christian literature has also been opened and we are now seeking for more literature for this library.

The staff carrying on this work consists of five regular staff members, who in addition have many other tasks, and 9 volunteer workers who give whole or part time. This group has met regularly each morning at 7:30 for a service of worship and prayer. The sustaining power of prayer has become a deep reality during these weeks of strain and suffering and danger, and we have all felt that friends everywhere were united with us in supplication for strength and wisdom.

The number of women and children refugees on the campus is still far greater than we can take care of with our present staff although our numbers have gradually diminished from ten thousand to approximately three thousand. Young, eager and active young women now comprise most of our group and they afford an opportunity for Christian service and teaching that is seldom given to us. We covet your prayers for wisdom and strength.

Sincerely yours,

Minnie Vautrin

RECEIVED AT

6 West 19th St.

7069

STANDARD TIME INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

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This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

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NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LCO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

Form 1601

Rec'd at Office
Sat. P.M. 2/19/38

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SD WASHINGTON DC FEB 19 1938 233 P

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GRIEST

ABCHICOL NEWYORK NY (GRIEST CARE ASSCTD BOARDS FOR CHRISTIAN

COLLEGES IN CHINA 150 FIFTH AVE)

TELEGRAM FROM NANKING FEBRUARY 18 TRANSMITS FOLLOWING MESSAGE

FOR YOU FROM VAUTRIN QUOTE [ALL GOING WELL ON CAMPUS NO CAUSE FOR

WORRY NUMBERS DIMINISHED TO APPROXIMATELY THREE THOUSAND YOUNG REFUGEES

APPRECIATE *Stella's STEEL AS OFFER BUT STRONGLY URGE COMPLETION OF REGULAR

FURLOUGH HERE EARLY RETURN NANKING UNNECESSARY AND PROPBABLY

Telephone Your Telegrams to **Postal Telegraph**

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DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LCO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

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1938

IMPOSSIBLE] END QUOTE

SUMMER WELLES ACTING SECY OF STATE

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[* Stella refers to Miss Graves of the Music Department who offered because of her knowledge of the Japanese language to return at once to help with language problems.]

Telephone Your Telegrams to **Postal Telegraph**

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING CHINA

WORK AMONG THE REFUGEES ON THE GINLING COLLEGE CAMPUS

If all the regular Christian workers were at their posts in Nanking they would not be sufficient to meet the great opportunities that are open to us on every hand. Suffering and terror and destruction have made hearts tender and in need of sympathy to see, and know the truth and to face the truth as they have never been willing to do in ordinary times; and for most people the ordinary duties of life no longer press upon them and there is time to study and to go to meetings. Unfortunately workers are all too few and immediate tasks too many, so that we are able to meet these unprecedented opportunities in only an inadequate way.

With the cooperation of speakers from the American Church Mission, on January 17 we began regular evangelistic meetings for the women refugees on the Ginling College campus. There are six big buildings housing these refugees, but by means of a ticket system we have arranged so that each woman has an opportunity to hear the gospel once each week. Each afternoon in a small chapel that has been made available, about 170 women listen most intently to the speaker and learn to sing the hymn. This means that more than 1000 different women have the opportunity to hear each week. The order is excellent, for only women over 16 are given tickets and no babies are admitted- the latter is no hardship for the mothers as there are plenty of others to take care of the babies and little children. On Sunday afternoon the chapel is crowded with those who are Christians or who have attended Christian schools. At the same time that these evangelistic meetings are held, from 50-80 children from the ages of 9-15 years are gathered in the science hall and a children's meeting is conducted for them. These meetings are also by tickets, so that every child has an opportunity to attend at least twice a week. This is the fifth week that these meetings have been held and people still eagerly clamor for the tickets when they are distributed on the evening previous to the meeting.

We are now in the process of organizing graded Bible classes and are hoping that materials ordered for this work will soon come from Shanghai. If the way opens about the first of March, we hope to open classes in industrial work and home hygiene. A small lending library of Christian literature has also been opened and we are now seeking for more literature for this library.

The staff carrying on this work consists of five regular staff members who in addition have many other tasks, and nine volunteer workers who give whole or part time This group has met regularly each morning at 7:30 for a service of worship and prayer. The sustaining power of prayer has become a deep reality during these weeks of strain and suffering and danger, and we have all felt that friends everywhere were united with us in supplication for strength and wisdom.

The number ofwemen and children refugees on the campus is still far greater than we can take care of with our present staff, although our numbers have gradually diminished from ten thousand to approximately three thousand. Young, eager and active young women now comprise most of our group and they afford an opportunity for Christian service and teaching that is seldom given to us. We covet your prayers for wisdom and strength.

February 18, 1938

Minnie Vautrin

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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING CHINA

WORK AMONG THE REFUGEES ON THE GINLING COLLEGE CAMPUS

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February 18, 1938

Minnie Vautrin

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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

March 1,,1938

TELEGRAM FROM NANKING FEBRUARY 28th, TRANSMITS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FOR YOU FROM MISS VAUTRIN: YOURS RECEIVED OF FEBRUARY 25th INJURY TO COLLEGE PROPERTY FROM SHELTERING REFUGEES ESTIMATED AT THREE HUNDRED. LOSS SUSTAINED BY THIRTEEN CHINESE AND ONE AMERICAN FACULTY FROM LOOTING ROUGHLY ESTIMATED AT TWELVE HUNDRED. MONTHLY EXPENDITURES FOR REGULAR STAFF SALARIES ABOUT FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY. MONTHLY EXPENDITURES FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE SEVEN HUNDRED. DESIRABLE MONTHLY BUDGET FOR REFUGEES ESTIMATED AT EIGHT HUNDRED PARTIALLY COVERED BY PRECEDING ITEM. ASIDE FROM COLLEGE APPROPRIATION NO DEPENDABLE AND CERTAIN INCOME. ABOVE FIGURES ARE ALL IN CHINESE CURRENCY COLLECT CONTINUES TO SHELTER APPROXIMATELY THREE THOUSAND END QUOTE .

CORDELL HULL SECRETARY OF STATE.

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Not to be printed or
broadcasted.

Written from the Practice School in Nanking
March 9, 1938, Wednesday P. M.

Dear Mrs. Thurston:

Your long letter of February 6 was more welcome than you know, for it was the first one I had received from you since the one written in July, 1936 from Tientsin. Your silence I could not explain, especially the fact that I did not hear from you after my father's death, nor after I was sure you had received my "From Day to Day" which I started especially for you last August. You check of $25.00 did not come through - but there is still hope, as on March 4, I received several letters of last November sent to Hankow for me. Undoubtedly a good deal of mail was destroyed last November and December due to the bombing of trains and I suspect some was burned here in this city as just before it was taken over, I understand that 600 bags were taken out of the main post office and stored in a small house. My long letter, a "Review of the First Month" has reached you by this time so I need not go over those horrors again. After your letter came I read it to Mrs. Tsen and Francis Chen down here in my living room, and on Last sunday afternoon I gave your loving greetings to the four foreign friends whom you mentioned in your letter. If they knew I was writing now they would certainly want to be remembered. Thanks so much for your Christmas cable which Ruth sent up on February 9 by gunboat. I have realized that you were"loving, sharing, hoping". I tried so hard to get a cable out about December 20, but it was impossible. It was only when the three representatives of our government came back on January 6th that we were able to get through. May I say that the "day by day" I have faithfully kept but I do not find the time and energy to copy it - and since I am getting farther and farther behind, I'm not sure that I shall ever get it copied.

You mentioned in your letter about the attitude of the men in N. C. to one lone woman who remained in the station. I have been most happily surprised this time. The Embassy never called me names or never tried to bring undue pressure on me. I took care to talk things over frankly with Mr. Paxton and not to ignore his official letters. I was glad that I had taken time one morning to go over and tell him that under no circumstances would I forsake the Chinese friends as long as they needed me and showed him how we mutually could protect each other here on the campus. He said, unofficially of course, that he wished he could take the same stand. Twice he called me in when he had a conference of mission representatives. My mission men did not try to make me go either, for Marx had already gone - and I am the senior of others in the Mission. Searle was always a help- as you know he would be. There have been five members of my mission in the 14 missionaries in Nanking, and wish there were more, for all five of us are tied up in institutions and do not have time to give to our churches. I cannot tell you how great that opportunity is now - a great open door within which we could do untold service through sympathy, understanding and helpfulness. If all our evangelistic men and women were here they could not meet this need.

Your silver? It went to the Embassy about December 1st, went to the Panay about the 8th, to the bottom of the Yangtze December 12, was brought up by divers sometime in January and later was brought back to the Embassy. I saw it over there soon after it came back, but have never opened the original bundle in which you wrapped it. Of the $1843. in bills which I sent over, $13.00 were lost- how I do not know. You see, we sent it over because we thought there might be a long, long siege and the three of us bearing responsibility did not want to be cumbered by material things. Only this past week have I started to use the safe again.

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MAR 9 1938

As you will know from a recent cable to America, Ginling College's losses have not been very great. From looting of Chinese soldiers - none; from looting by Japanese soldiers, a maximum of $300.mex; from damage due to nine days of registration $60.00; and from damage from housing refugees, 10,000 - 3,200 for three months, from $7,000 to $8,000. Individual faculty, 14 Chinese and Alice Morris - lost about $1,200. This latter is a very crude estimate for I have no idea of exace amounts. This small loss was due to my being here, for flags and dozens of proclamations - American as well as Japanese- meant practically nothing. Miss Lo's little house was looted but it was not destroyed. Your loan to her - the picture of"Christ in Gethsemane" was torn from its frame. She by the way is living here at the Practice School and helping with the work. She is not very strong and should be more careful of herself than she is.

Our refugee family is now about the same average age as our first student body - perhaps younger. We had, according to our last count, 3,200 which seems very few in comparison with our peak load. While our campus and buildings are said to be the cleanest camp in the city, yet we are pretty bad. Night soil disposal has been one of our biggest problems. We now have big trenches - one on the hill back of Central and one on hill back of Arts. Soon we shall have to be digging two more and covering these.

The Industrial School for Women whose husbands have been killed, we cannot handle now for we have too many others with us yet - teen age girls and those in their twenties. Instead we have started a big project - classes and Preaching services on "The Life of Christ". Ten sections with an attendance of about 500 were started a week ago Monday. This week we are starting four more sections, and we still have done nothing for about 500 young women who do not read or write. Miss Rachel Wang of the Seminary is heading up this work, and she is assisted by the day school teacher, Miss Hsueh, Miss Lo, and two Presbyterian refugees, Yang Ih-tsing and Wu Ai-djen. How we need more teachers and more classrooms for all we have now are the chapel building and the science lecture hall - all the rest are being used by refugees. Mary Twinem has been tireless in helping but now she is ill with bronchitis and in the hospital. In the afternoon we have a meeting up in the big chapel at which time one of the Episcopal clergymen speak - five of them take turns.(The Episcopal people are the only ones who have kept their church workers together and they are now doing a fine piece of work. John Magee and Ernest Forster rented three housed in the safety zone and stayed there with their clergy and families and some church members. The other missions let their people scatter and now both the Presbyterians and Disciples have not a single evangelistic worker here.- especially pastors). Yesterday afternoon we had almost four hundred at the afternoon meeting. How you would love to have stood in front of that audience. I wish our chapel were an easier place in which to speak.

We hope to culminate this project at Easter time with special talks during Holy Week and a pageant by the girls of the most advanced class. Eva has helped send me teaching materials from Shanghai. Oh, that we were better prepared for this work!

This morning as I sat in my office, who should be ushered in but Mr. Wang's son - your old teacher. I did not know him for he had grown a mustache and beard as so many have to make them look older. He said his wife and mother are up at Chaohsien, that their home near the circle was completely destroyed by bombs on September 25 and that half of the dugout in which he was seeking safety was also destroyed, that his business was also destroyed. He is going to try to get through to Chaohsien in a day or two. (I am going to try

MAR 9 1938

to send a letter by him up to Hopei for I have not heard from Winona Wilkinson since November.

Hwang Tai Tai is with Li-ming and Yü hwa in Shanghai. The rest of the Chen family are in Chungking, excepting Mary who with Li Mei-yün is in Chengtu. I wanted Mary and her mother to remain here but of course the family pressure was too great. Dr. and Mrs. Ho are with the Episcopal sisters in Wuhu I hear. I tried to send a letter to them recently - we are still cut off from up river. The Chen and Ho homes were completely looted but not burned. The latter is now occupied by Japanes soldiers. Handel Li and his family have been up near Huchow and we hear they have not been molested. Clergyman Tang of the Union Theological Seminary is in the former safety zone and has been doing a fine piece of work. We hear that tomorrow all property owned by former employees of the government (Chinese) is to be taken over. That means Grace Zia's home, I'm sure. She and the children are in Shanghai and her husband in Moscow.

"Big" Wang is now living down at East Court. We have been granted a fund for a staff for our camp by the N. International Relief Committee, and we have taken him and Mr. Djao, Eva's teacher, on the staff. Mr. Wang has been a great help to me and the whole experience has greatly deepened his Christian faith. His daughter, Hwei-lan, a girl of 17 who graduated from Ming Deh J.M.S. last June was one of the girls taken the night of December 17. It is not strange that his hair has turned gray in these months. Hwei-lan declares that she was not molested that night and she and five others were sent home the next morning. She spent the next month with about 1000 women in the attic of the Arts Building. How they loved that attic, for they felt comparatively safe there.

A few days ago a girl of 17 came to us, from Wuhu saying that she had been brought to Nanking about two weeks ago. When Wuhu was taken, her mother, father, older brother and wife and older sister were all killed and she was taken and has been used by them ever since. I now have her at the hospital. Her brother had never been a soldier but he had closely cropped hair resembling one.

As for building - it is impossible at the present moment to think of such a thing. With great difficulty we have found a mason who with two helpers are now repairing the roof of the Arts Building. The roof is on the Terrace House and all door and window frames are stored safely in dining room of 600. Tung Lao-ban was one of our refugees and helped us a great deal until he went home recently. Wang Bao-ling is said to be up near Hopei.

Causes for Thanksgiving? My first cause was that in spite of all persuasion I remained in Nanking to help Ginling become a Refugee camp - for it has been an untold blessing to thousands and thousands . Another is that Ginling is still American property. I hope it will always remain so - a generous loan to China.

Look out of the window with me. A late but very beautiful mantle of snow is covering the pine and cedar trees, and through it the tender green of the willows is peeping. Violets and "Welcome the Spring" are already in bloom and daffodils have sent their leaves up through the soil. I suspect that the spring blossoms are sorry now that they did not wait a bit longer. The Practice School is a lovely place - too lovely in spring time in such a sad, sad city.

Much love to you and Helen. Lovingly yours,

Minnie.

MAR 9 1938

Confidential

Please send me a Quaker calendar if you can get one conveniently. Each morning at 7:30 we have a prayer meeting for our staff. Prayer has been real and vital to us and we are grateful for this opportunity.

Older refugees from this section of the city are slowly going back to their homes. The region to our west is still pretty much a "No Man's Land".

I am going over to 3 Ping Tsang Hsiang for dinner tonight. They will come for me and bring me home.

Minnie.

0619

GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

LENTEN SERVICES AT GINLING REFUGEE CAMP

Our refugee family is now about the same average age as our first student body -- perhaps younger. We had, according to our last count, 3,200, which seems very few in comparison with our peak load. While our campus and buildings are said to be the cleanest camp in the city yet we are pretty bad.

(10,000)

The Industrial School for women whose husbands have been killed we cannot handle now, for we have too many others with us yet -- teen-age girls and those in their twenties. Instead we have started a big project -- classes and preaching services on "The Life of Christ." Ten sections with an attendance of about 500 were started a week ago Monday. This week we are starting four more sections, and we still have done nothing for about 500 young women who do not read or write. Miss Rachel Wang of the Seminary is heading up this work, and she is assisted by the day school teacher, Miss Hsueh, Miss Lo, and two Presbyterian refugees, Yang Ih-tsing and Wu Ai-djen. How we need more teachers, and more class rooms, for all we have now are rooms in the Chapel building and the Science Lecture hall -- all the rest are being used by refugees.

In the afternoon we have a meeting up in the big chapel, at which time one of the Episcopal clergymen speaks -- five of them take turn. Yesterday afternoon we had almost four hundred at the meeting. The Rev. Mr. Tang of the Episcopal Theological Seminary has been doing a fine piece of work.

We hope to culminate this project at Easter time with special talks during Holy Week and a pageant by the girls of the most advanced class. Eva has helped by sending me teaching materials from Shanghai.

Oh, that we were better prepared for this work!

Minnie Vautrin

Nanking, March 9, 1938

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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Letter and Report from Miss Vautrin
Received in New York, May 2, 1938.

The Second Report

A review of the Period January 14 - March 31,1938.

Confidential - Please Do Not Publish nor Broadcast.

A, Conditions in the City and Countryside: The Self-Government Association which was inaugurated on January 1st in the shadow of the old Drum Tower and which witnessed the resurection of the old five-colored flag to take its place beside that of Japan, has now been followed by the formation of a second government. It was scheduled for March 15, but was finally consumated on Marth 28. Tang Shao-I is reported to be the head of the new government, but he was not present at the inauguration. Just what the relation of the new government is to that which has been established in Peiping we are not certain. Some have said it is to supercede that government and be the future central government of China, others tell us that it is to be under the northern government, and still others say that the two governments are to be independent of each other. Dr. Macklin and Dr. Bowen would know the members of the new government far better than we do as many of them date back to the previous generation and are men who have not been active in the New China.

The International Safety Zone was formally abolished some time ago and the committee which controlled it has been changed into an international relief committee, the members of which keep exceedingly busy. It has taken on a large staff of Chinese workers which is busy distributing relief to the neediest families in the city. An effort is also being made by some of the members of the committee to encourage the farmers to go back to their farms and the gardeners to go back to their gardens and to get spring crops in and thus prevent a possible famine later on. Even the most uneducated country women have a favorable attitude toward it, and if a project is sponsored by this committee they at once have confidence in it. On Thursday, March 17, there was a very simple reception down at the headquarters when after some very sincere speeches, banners expressing appreciation were presented to the members of the committee. Rev. Hubert Sone has taken Mr. Rabi's place as the chairman of the committee. The former left Nanking about February 24th. All were genuinely sorry to have him leave for he had been a tower of strength during the trying months since November and he had greatly endeared himself to his co-workers both westerners and Chinese. The twenty-five refugee camps were gradually reduced to four, and in these remaining ones are mostly the young women who still feel that it is impossible to go back to their homes and also those who have been left without homes. Milk and cod liver oil is distributed in these camps regularly and an effort is being made to provide bedding for those who still come in having been robbed of every possession.

We no longer feel that we live in the "heart of a drum". As you remember, our first contact with the outside world was firmly established when three members of the staff returned to the American Embassy. Their coming made it possible for us to send radiograms to our families and to our organizations and also to send and receive letters by means of the gunboats. Soon followed the return of members of the British and German Embassies. At this time of writing, we are connected by train, bus and merchant boat with Shanghai and it is said that 600 Japanese civilians including women and children are now here. However no American, excepting Dr. Brady, has been permitted to come to Nanking to reside and to carry on business and missionary work, the reason given that it is not yet safe for them to do so. A very real and persistent effort has been made to secure permission for the return of doctors and nurses, but so far this effort has not been successful. Within the last few days

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permission has been granted for the return of Mr. Gale from Wuhu. There is great need for the return of the regular evangelistic workers and for the heads of the various missions and it is hoped that by repeated requests permission will be granted. The post office was supposed to be formally opened on March 25th and within a few days after that time it begun to function. I understand that there are seven branch offices now open in various parts of the city. I received my first letter from America on Saturday March 26, it having left there on February 28. Newspapers have just started coming through by train - we have not had them regularly since November 12, if I remember correctly. On February 21, I had my first ride in a ricksha, which was in the fourth ricksha which I had seen on the streets since about December 12th. There are a few carriages left in the city but many were demolished. Trucks and cars are at a great premium, the Embassies and the International Refugee Committee possessing the only ones excepting those used for military purposes. Two days ago I saw one of our former buses, where all the others have disappeared we do not know. Mary Twinem still has hope that she will be able to secure the return of her little Austin, but I fear it is a vain hope. Recently some have seen a little Austin painted a khaki color and rather suspect that it may be her car.

Police service which has been at a minimum has been gradually increased but it is not yet sufficient or courageous to prevent much lawlessness in the city. Looting by the military still continues but in a different form some what. The poorer people are still being deprived of bedding, and money and even coppers being taken now, and houses of the former well-to-do people which were fairly safe in the Safety Zone are now being deprived of rugs and radios and furniture. We do not see the wholesale burning of houses which took place from about December 17th to January 17th - it was on that date that I saw the last fire. The most distressing thing that now exists is the continued looting by the "lao beh sing", the common people. With no law and order in the city the poor and the lawless felt perfectly free to go into any house and take from it anything they wished. Outside of the former Safety Zone, many houses have been robbed of everything, even including doors and windows and floors. Within the last few days I have seen very good doors and windows for sale and that means that the demolishing process is still going on. Naturally our Chinese friends are distressed about this but there is nothing they can do about it.

From the middle of January to the middle of February, Shanghai Road underwent an evolution. It developed rapidly into a busy mart and literally scores and scores of little make-shift shops were hastily constructed along both sides of it. There were not only shops which sold every kind of loot, but also tea houses and restaurants. I remember passing one called "The Happy People" tea house. The street became so busy and crowded that one had difficulty in getting through it when walking. Then the order came that these shops must be taken down at once or they would be torn down, and just as quickly as the street had flourished so it receded into its former state. This development extended down into our neighborhood too. How I wish that I had some pictures of that mushroom development for you to see. During these days and weeks of free looting we longed to go to the homes of friends and salvage some of their possessions for them, but alas we had no truck or car, even if we had had the time and strength.

During this period of lawlessness in the city our campus has been fairly peaceful. At no time have "the people" come to loot or steal. Our soldier guard left us on January 14 and never returned. For many days we were fearful lest something should happen, but nothing beyond our control did happen to us. Three times soldiers came on mischief bent but were persuaded to go on their way. My calendar shows that military callers ranking from high officials to soldiers numbered seventeen groups. Most of them came to see the campus and the camp. We usually show them one or two buildings occupied by refugees first and then end the visit by taking them to the Administration-Library Building which now looks quite normal and is open for inspection. They are always pleased to see it and we are glad to show them a clean building.

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February 4 was set as the date when all refugees must leave the Safety Zone and go back to their homes. This proclamation was issued by the local autonomous government and was posted quite widely in the city. It brought consternation to the hearts of the young women on our campus and during the week preceding the date I could not go out on the campus without being beseiged by a large group asking if we were going to send them away at that time. Invariably we would answer that it was not our order and that our camp was open as long as their homes were unsafe for them. One day Mr. Mills called and his car was so surrounded by kneeling, weeping young women that he finally had to walk to his home and let his driver follow when he could extricate the car. Several weeks later this terrible fear and anxiety had not left the younger women, for when we gave a tea party for Mr. Rabi down at the Practice School, some of them heard about his presence and his plan to go home and they asked Mrs. Tsen to arrange for them to see him just before he got into his car. None of us expected what really did happen. Literally hundreds and hundreds surrounded him in front of the Science building and implored him not to leave the city but to remain on in charge of the International Committee. His assurance reached only a few ears and the crowd grew instead of decreasing. Mary Twinem took him out the back way and I tried to get the crowd of weeping women to go in another direction so that we could also extricate Dr. Rosen and Mr. Ritchie who were also guests at the same tea. It took more than an hour to bring conditions back to normal and in the meantime all three men had to walk to their homes and their cars followed later - much later. On February 4th no force was used to expell people from the Zone or the Camps and the day of tension and terror passed uneventfully.

China New Year came on Monday, January 31. Even the long weeks of terror and sadness did not prevent a certain amount of celebration and feasting. Some people were bold enough to use firecrackers in their celebration, although it had not been many weeks since the sound of a big firecracker would have made us start with fear and say "another civilian killed". In the afternoon Lao Shao, the old gardener, and I went out to look for some "lah mei", twelvth month plum. We wanted to go to the little farm house west of the Guling temple where we bought such lovely branches last year, but when we reached the street just east of the temple and saw that the hills and valleys beyond were a veritable "No Man's Land" we were not courageous enough to make the journey. We had passed five unburied bodies on our journey thus far and we knew that at the temple there would be many more. I also knew but did not tell Lao Shao that over in the little valley to the south of the temple beside two ponds were 143 bodies of civilians and unarmed soldiers - men who more than a month before had been cruelly burned and shot there. We came back home without the "lah mei" glad to get back into a crowd again. Few of us used freely the old greetings that are an innate part of the New Year celebration, somehow those happy carefree greetings would not come to our lips this year. The following evening Mrs. Tsen prepared a "big meal" for us out of the wonderful basket which our friends and co-workers had sent from Shanghai. How good it was to have pork once more and the other good dishes of food that accompanied it. I for one was glad to leave our steady diet of beans even for one meal.

On February 2nd I made my first visit into the southern part of the city. Mr. McCallum and Mr. Forster took me down to see the property of the Christian Mission first and then over to see the Episcopal compounds. The city was still lifeless save for the groups of soldiers that could be seen on many of the streets. Such terrible destruction had been meted out on our busy city! I cannot give the exact number, but of the best shops it seemed to me that almost 80% had been looted and then burned. More of the little shops were standing, but all had been looted clean of all goods. At our property, two of our school buildings had been burned and at the Episcopal compound the parish house had been destroyed. We passed a group of army trucks hauling loot, evidently from the northern part of the city for there was nothing left to loot in the section through which we passed. Just two days ago when I was again down in that section it looked very different. Life had returned to it and the older members of the community had returned and some of them were rebuilding little shops out of the remains of the big stores. The development that had taken place on Shanghai Road in

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January and February had been transferred to the "Street of Sorrows", excepting that not so many temporary shops had been built - the display was on tables and on the sides of the street. Patiently people are beginning to rebuild. Loot is still being bought and sold- it is the only way that people have of making a living for nothing is being created in the city as far as I know.

Conditions in the surrounding country are not as peaceful as in the city. Beginning late in January women began to steal their way in from the country villages, disguised in every possible way. To get past the soldier guard at the city gates was the dreaded ordeal. Older women came in first, having heard of the refugee camps, they came in first to find out if they were really existing. They begged us to accept their daughters and daughter-in-laws if they could get them into the city saying that for weeks and weeks they had been hiding them in carefully concealed holes in the ground or between double walls in their homes, but even in these places they were not always safe. During the past two weeks we have received more than five hundred into our camp from the country places and the University has received an equal number. In addition to the scourge of soldiers there has been the scourge of bandits and often when people try to come in they are robbed of everything they possess - money first, then bedding and even part of their clothing. Some of our Chinese friends who evacuated to the country places last autumn are now returning. The men come first to make sure that they can get in, they register with the local government, and they go back to bring in their families. During the last two weeks, Mr. Handel Lee, Mr. Shao Dehhsing and others have come. Just yesterday Wang Bao-ling's brother came from Sanho south of Luchowfu. They all look as if the past months have been months of strain and deep anxiety for themselves, and we realize that most of it has been worry for the women folk in their families.

B. Conditions in the Ginling College Refugee Camp. Our camps was one of the four selected to continue its existence by the Nanking International Relief Committee. According to the recommendation of the Committee we have organized into four departments or sections, namely, business, supervision, education and health. Having been granted a small allowance by the Committee for two assistants, and four servants for each one thousand refugees, we have felt justified in taking on extra staff. These have been mostly from our "invited" refugees such as Miss Rachel Wang, Mr. Wang and Mr. Djao, personal teachers of Chinese of members of the regular faculty, Mr. Chen, the assistant registrar and a Mr. Swen who is a neighbor who has been living down in East court. A new office has been started in the former guest room in the Arts Building and it is a busy place from morning to night. Mrs. Tsen has also invited three refugee women to assist her in distributing milk and cod liver oil. Keeping statistics up-to-date in a shifting refugee camp is no light task. During the first week in February we had a formal registration of all our refugees when the head of each family group was given a white cloth tag bearing her name and the number in her family group. These tags were sewed on by our workers with a special color of thread so that they could not be transferred to others when they wished to leave. According to that registration we numbered 3,200. By the middle of March our new staff felt that it was necessary to re-register all, and they prepared a lavendar cloth tag which has been given to each member of the refugee group excepting babes in arms. According to this registration our number is now 3,310. Mr. Chen who is head of the business department is now with his staff working on the very difficult problem of the free rice group. Naturally many people want free rice who can afford to pay for it, and so to separate this group from those who have absolutely nothing with which to pay is a most difficult task. The free rice group were the first given red tags; a month later they were rechecked and given yellow tags, and now a third system is being worked out and will be put into operation this coming week. If people were always sincere our work would be infinitely lighter and incidentally our dispositions would be better.

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After our refugees had been with us about three months we decided that we simply must work out some system whereby we could have baths. We had been playing with the idea before but were not able to get coal. We made our plan and presented it to the International Refugee Committee and they agreed to furnish us with coal and the funds for one fireman and two women to look after each house. For two weeks now, under Mrs. Tsen's supervision we have been operating two bath houses where 168 women and children can take baths each day. The price is four coppers for adults, two for babies and children, and nothing for those who are too poor to afford even this small amount. In addition to the joy this privilege gives to the women, it also gives a livelihood to five persons.

Our camp has also been granted a fund for cash relief and another to loan to individuals. Women who are very poor, whose homes have been burned and whose husbands have been taken are given a sum in cash when they are ready to go back to their homes. This helps them to start again and has been deeply appreciated by all who have received it. The loan fund has given loans to a number of women whose husbands are in other parts of China and are earning a salary. A good many women of this type have been left stranded in Nanking and as yet have had no means of getting funds from their husbands.

Mrs. Tsen who is head of the Health Department of our Camp has carried on very successfully the distribution of milk and cod liver oil for babies and children. Children who are undernourished are given this extra food each day, the three women who have been taken on as assistants in this department distribute the milk and also attend to the mixing of it. Both of these foods are furnished us by the International Relief Committee. Mrs. Twinem and Mrs. Tsen have also been responsible for the distribution in the other refugee camps and have spent many mornings visiting these other camps and getting the distribution organized. Under our health department we also have had three vaccination clinics when almost two thousand were vaccinated by Dr. Brady of the Christian Hospital Staff. During these long weeks of simple living we have had more than 30 deaths and 40 births on our campus. The disposal of the night soil is still one of our major problems, but we are gradually getting the problem solved. Fortunately we have a large campus so that we have room for the huge trenches which we have dug for this purpose. Dai, the regular college bell ringer, sounds a gong about eight in the morning and again at five in the afternoon and this is the time for the women to empty the buckets and clean them.

C. A Project in Religious Education:- For the six weeks from January 17 to February 26 we limited our religious work to two meetings a day, one for adults and one for the children. As I reported in my previous letter, five pastors from the American Church Mission very generously and faithfully came each afternoon during the week, excepting Saturday, and spoke. In dddition the women learned some simple songs. On February 27 we started another project, this time in the Life of Christ, which is to culminate in an early service on Easter morning and in a pageant that afternoon or evening, also in special services being held throughout Holy Week. Miss Rachel Wang is dean of our Educational Department and as such she has organized 23 classes according to educational ability, all of them studying the Life of Christ in one form or another. You will be interested in the classes so I will give you the details:-

2 classes or sections of Junior-Senior Middle School ability.
2 classes or sections of 6th grade elementary school ability
2 classes or sections of 5th grade elementary school ability
4 classes or sections of 3rd and 4th grade elementary school ability.
6 sections of those who have studied in private school a few years. These are divided according to age, some are children, some adults.
3 sections of adults who have never studied. They are being taught a Gospel Primer.
2 sections of illiterates from 18-19 years of age.
2 sections of illiterates from 12-17 years of age.

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These last two sections meet five times each week and are taught by Mr. Wang and Mr. Djao. Our enrollment is something over a thousand and our attendance each week is perhaps between seven and eight hundred. The older women try to attend regularly but if a baby is ill they have to miss and often they have to go back to their homes during the day or on some other errand. All the classes but the two I mentioned meet three times each week. In addition to lessons in the Life of Christ all are learning certain selected Psalms and hymns and other passages from the Bible. Miss Wang has selected the 23rd Psalm, the 121st, the Beatitudes, the Lord's Prayer. How they love to sing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and "Jesus Lover of My Soul". Just now they are learning Easter hymns, the one for this week being "The Day of Resurrection". The teachers have wanted to share with their students those hymns and scripture passages that have been of greatest comfort to them during these days of suffering. All of our teachers, excepting Miss Hsueh, the day school teacher and myself, are refugees, some of them were invited to come, to be sure, and yet they know what it means to be refugees. Our afternoon preaching service continues but now it is held in the big chapel. The attendance varies from 150 to almost 400 and is usually largest on Sundays. The topics for these meetings have been carefully selected by the five men who come to us from the Episcopal Church. You should hear a group of 300 refugee women sing. We take turns in leading the singing and in other duties, so that the work does not fall too heavily on any one person.

One of the difficulties connected with our class work was our lack of class rooms, for as you may realize, every room in the Arts Building where our classrooms are, is occupied by refugees. We have converted the North Studio into a very good classroom, the Grecian statues in that room which were stored there by Central University when they moved last fall, being gracefully draped with a big curtain. The stage of the big auditorium is also used as a classroom and makes a very good one indeed with space for more than forty chairs. Another class meets in the Chemistry laboratory which we never used for refugees, and many classes meet in the science lecture hall. After Easter we shall have a week's holiday and then begin work again. At that time we shall hope to add different types of classes such as poultry raising; personal, home and community hygiene; child training. We shall also try to teach some industrial work but that will need more of a staff than we have available now. Yesterday several of us went on an expedition to the South city to see if we could find some looms and stocking knitting machines. To our disappointment we found that they had all been looted. But where there is a will there is a way.

D. Another Project: Early in January we became conscious that many of our refugee women - especially wives and mothers were in deep distress because their husbands or sons who had been taken soon after the entry on December 13, had not returned. Many of these women were left with little children and often one or two old people and they had litorally no means of support - nothing they could do but beg and even that is impossible now in a community so poor as ours. Again and again they would come to us asking if there was anything that could be done to secure the return of these men, all of them civilians as far as we were able to ascertain. We finally went to the Japanese Embassy and talked it over with one of the more thoughtful officials there and he suggested that we furnish him with the facts and he would see if he could do anything with the military about it. From January 24 to February 8 we were able to secure 738 civilian records. These we handed in not only to the official with whom we had the first talk, but also to a higher official who had come up from Shanghai. As far as we know, nothing has happened for we have not heard of any men returning. In the meantime rumors began to reach us that there was a large group of civilian men imprisoned in the Model Prison over near the Central University. A trip over in that direction confirmed the rumor. The exact number of men we could not determine but we learned that men were there and in a pitiful condition. Soon the older women began to come to our campus saying they had gone to the front of the prison and had seen the men being taken out to work each morning in trucks. A number of the women have told us that they have actually seen their husbands and some of

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them have been permitted to talk to them. Again the pleas began to come to aid them in securing the release of these men. Chinese men in local government administration suggested that we have our women prepare a petition to be handed in not only to the head of the local government but also to the Japanese military. From March 18th to 22nd, 1245 women came in to sign this petition - most of them were very poor women and could only make a finger print underneath the name which was written in their behalf. Such a pitiful group of women I have never seen before. Most of them were poor, farmers, gardeners, coolies, little merchants; and most of them had had their only means of support taken from them. One woman had lost four of her sons; another had had five members of her family taken; another had lost three sons. There were a goodly number of young women who had been left with three or four little children and they could not possibly make a living for the children. It seems that the petition has bornsome fruit for now the women are asked to make another giving more data with regard to the time the men were taken, their occupations, etc. Tonight Mr. Wang is making the announcement in the dormitories and tomorrow six people will begin work on this new petition. It will take from three to five days to complete it as the women will come from miles out in the country. Such news spreads like wild-fire and the poor women come trudging in even if there is but a very faint hope. One of the greatest problems facing the people interested in rehabilitation work for this district is that of the women who have been left with no support and whose husbands will never return. I long for Ginling to help in the solution of this problem perhaps more than anything else.

E. Ginling Losses: Since the last report sent to you we have had time to secure facts with regard to the college and faculty losses. The loss to the college property from the looting of Chinese soldiers was nil; from the looting of Japanese soldiers not exceeding $$300.00. About fourteen faculty and two servants lost a certain amount from the looting of the Japanese soldiers and this we estimate at about $1,200.00. By far the greatest loss has come from the use of the academic buildings as a refugee camp, for the housing of 10,000 women and children even for a short time means much wear and tear on woodwork and floors. The best estimate that we have been able to secure sets the loss at about seven or eight thousand dollars, and it will probably be higher than that if our refugees continue with us through the coming months. I feel sure that somehow we can raise the money needed to put the buildings back in good repair, but even if we cannot raise the funds it is better for us to face the future with marred and soiled walls than not to have done this humanitarian service for the women and children who have come to us. We could not have closed our doors against them.

This letter is brought to a close with greetings to you from the members of the staff. You must not feel sorry for us thinking that we lack for food or social life. We can get the kind of foods now that we need to keep us well. Some of us have even been to two feasts during the past months, one at the Japanese Embassy, and another at the Hwei Wen Girl's School. Tomorrow, Mrs. Tsen, Mrs. Twinam, Blanche Wu and myself are giving a simple Chinese meal to a group of friends whom we are inviting to the South Hill Faculty Residence. This afternoon we went up and folded up the garments scattered in the living-room-since the looting we had never taken the time to do that. The big dining room we shall not disturb, but keep it for the enjoyment and amusement of our friends. Conditions in the city are such that more and more we are able to leave the campus and not feel that our three thousand three hundred will be in danger when we are away. This past week I have had my bicycle brought down from the attic and oiled and I have ridden it when going on an errand down to the South Gate. Mary and I are planning to ride out to the National Park very soon for the thought of the blossoms there is enticing us and it is difficult to resist, We have had some illness among our staff members but all are well now. Blanche Wu was ill with a very severe case of bronchitis and was in the hospital for three weeks. The day she returned Mary Twinem went over with the same malady and was also there for three weeks. Mrs.

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Tsen has had several very severe colds and has been confined to her bed for a number of days at a time. I have had a few days off but otherwise have been feeling very well.

Puh, the shrub man is busy with his work and the campus is beginning to look neat and clean once more. The Practice School campus is at its loveliest now and is a constant delight to those of us who live here. The little children who live at East Court and Mrs. Tsen's grand children are having great fun tending to the student flower garden at the Practice School. Every day they spend many hours there watering the flowers. Life would be so lovely if this terrible war and destruction would cease, and if families could be re-united and the nation go forward on its plan of reconstruction which has been so bravely started. The scores of heavy bombers which fly over us to the northwest each morning make us realize that the end is not yet and that destruction and terror and suffering continue.

Not many letters have come through from friends but those that have come have been deeply appreciated. If when you write you prefer to send my mail to our Shanghai office at Room 512 A, 133 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, I will receive it in good time. I fear that this general report must be accepted in lieu of more personal letters.

It is now almost noon. At one o'clock, Mrs. Tsen, Mary Twinem, Blanche Wu and I are having our Chinese dinner party up at the South Hill Residence. We have just prepared some great bouquets of daffodils for the living room. We are having all of the foreigners from 3 Ping Tsang Hsiang, Dr. Rosen from the German Embassy and two men from the American Embassy. It is our first real dinner party.

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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts made by the Ginling unit in Shanghai of letters from Mrs. Tsen, matron of Ginling, and from Minnie Vautrin. Mailed from Shanghai April 2nd, 1938.

Mrs. Tsen, January 30, 1938

The first three weeks I was worried about Miss Vautrin. She looked tired out. In the last few weeks the situation is better than before and she can get a little rest each day. She looks much better. No one can take her place as yet for we are not out of danger. We still have more than 5,000 refugees. The Self Government Committee (Japanese puppet government - Ed.) had a meeting the other day and wants the refugees to go back to their own homes by February 4th. Of course the young girls don't want to go home as some of them have been home and find the soldiers come to their homes even in daytime. Some of the old women went to their homes and they had trouble too. We don't know what to do with them. I know all our friends are praying for us. Miss Vautrin has a new name. All the refugees call her "Living Buddha".

Miss Vautrin, February 11, 1938

We were all so glad to get the good food which you sent - whether gift or order. I thank you. Tomorrow afternoon I am having a tea party for the workers and incidentally celebrating the coming of a son to Francis Chen's wife. I shall bring out the oranges and chocolates as a surprise to them. The clippings and the copies from the New York Times article had much news for us. The newspaper men were able to go about during those days when we were being deluged with panic stricken refugees. If you get any more please share them. I am so glad that the book club has started and those two novels have come. Mary Twinem and I have started The Wind from the Mountain. Today is lovely as to weather; the kind that comes in early spring. Yesterday Wei Szi-fu and I walked west on Canton Road to see what conditions are in the homes out in that direction. The last time I was out in that direction was December 11 and I remember seeing one of the houses burning then. Most of the other houses are now deserted, even Hu Da-ma's was vacant with doors standing wide open. I met a few old folk on the road on their way to the safety zone. They told me they go to their homes by day but back to the safety zone by night. As to conditions they say the soldiers are coming to their homes less often, but they still demand money and "Hwa Guniang". In one home we found four old men, some of whom I knew. I did not ask them if the bundles of wood which they had for sale the next day were looted doors and windows from good homes for I did not want to have them tell a lie about it. Older people who are not going back to their homes are making a mistake for they will soon have no homes left, if they have been so fortunate as not to have had them burned before this time. In many places we saw discarded Chinese soldiers uniforms. We saw one steel helmet which Wei said cost 8.00 dollars - enough to feed a poor woman two months.

Dai Szi-fu just came down to tell me that there were some Japanese officials up in my office to see me. I found them to be two military police and one embassy police. They said they had come to find out if any Japanese soldiers had been bothering recently. I was glad to report that today there had been none, yesterday none, and the day before there had been one. He asked about the one that day, and I had to say that he tried to take off one of our young refugees but that I was able to send

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him away without her. That incident was just west of Eva Spicer's living room.

Miss Vautrin, March 3, 1938

I have just come away from the afternoon meeting. We now hold them in the big chapel. Yesterday there were 250 present and today more than 300. Dr. Tang of the Episcopal church is speaking today. Every morning we have large Bible classes If we had more teachers we could have more classes. The latest count of our refugees is 3,200. The plan is to close all camps but the B.T.T.S., University of Nanking, University of Nanking Middle School, and Ginling. Girls are still coming in from the country where they say conditions are still very bad - especially for young women.

Mrs. Tsen , March 12, 1938

Blanche Wu came back from the hospital about two weeks ago. At first she did not look well but has recovered now. Before she came back Mrs. Twinem was sick in bed. As soon as Blanche came back I sent her to the hospital. She is still there and getting on nicely. Her sickness was just the same as Miss Wu. A week ago the weather was very warm. Now heavy snow and cold again. Children die so suddenly. Three on one day.

Miss Vautrin, March 12, 1938

Spring is here this afternoon. Our young refugees are jumping rope and gathering greens to eat. It seems a shame to have to prohibit the latter but they are digging up flowers as well. We still have about 3,000 refugees. Thanks so much for the candy. Am having our workers tonight and will serve it.

I was extremely interested in your enrollment statistics but they seem small indeed compared to ours - the People's College. Have just made a summary of our classes which will all be started by next week. We have 22 sections or classes with an enrollment of about 1,000 (1,043). All the classes meet three times each week. In addition we have a daily afternoon service with an average attendance of about 300, and additional singing class once each week for our highest group. The classes are studying the life of Jesus and this will culminate at Easter time in a pageant given by our highest class. Its much fun, but Oh, how we want more techers and more classroooms, and more good materials. This week we have converted our stage into a very nice classroom. Also the north end of the Chemistry Laboratory. The small library is the faculty living room in the Central Building - the room formerly occupied by our eleven old men refugees, who have now left. We shall begin a new project after Easter, but we do not know yet just what. Miss Wang Rui-chih, a seminary student, is dean of our project. How grateful I am that I persuaded her to stay. In spite of sorrow and loss there is an inner joy in our refugee family. Please give this report at your assembly - but warn them not to call it a school.

Miss Vautrin, March 21, 1938

About three days ago Wang Szi-fu turned up, looking thin and tanned. He and his wife went with Miss Grey to Wuhu and from there went into the hills. They have used up all they had and he is anxious for work.

The International Relief Committee has given us $200 CC for relief and $400 CC for a Ginling Loan Fund and these two sums are gradually dispursing. It is not easy to distribute cash wisely and it takes time. This fund when it is returned, will go into a Ginling Social Service work, and will be a permanent fund.

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I am becoming rabid on the Ideology of war as a means of solving international problems. What a waste and what a wanton destruction and useless suffering - almost always falling on the poor.

Confidential

We hear there are about 1000 men (civilians) over in the Model Prison and it is for their release that we are preparing a petition. So many of the women are poor and with the loss of their husbands or sons have lost their only means of support. One woman lost four sons and a brother-in-law; another lost three sons, and any number have lost two sons. One can only hope that their husbands or sons are in the prison, and that a petition will bring their release. Personally I fear that many of them are among the hundreds and thousands that were so mercilessly killed during those early days, and whose decaying bodies have only recently been buried in trenches out in some secluded spot. What can these women do but become beggars, and what is there to beg for in a country side that has been laid waste?

I have just been outside my office to find there are probably two hundred women who are standing out there waiting their turn to come in and register.

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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

APR 17 1938

Report of Miss Vautrin of the Religious Education Projects Among the Refugees on the Ginling College Campus, culminating with the Easter Services 1938.

SHARING "THE ABUNDANT LIFE" IN A REFUGEE CAMP

" I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly."

These were the words of the Master from which the Ginling College motto, "Abundant Life", was chosen during those years from 1912 to 1915 when a group of devoted Western women were dreaming dreams of an institution of higher learning for their sisters in China. They had very definitely in mind the education of keen and self-less Christian leaders for China's emerging womanhood. Little did those Founders realize that the institution they were then creating would also bring "Abundant Life" to more than ten thousand of the more lowly women and girls of Nanking a quarter of a century later. They builded more wisely than they knew.

From December 8, 1937 when the college gates were first opened to women and children refugees until January 16, 1938 there was little time to plan for other than the most pressing elemental needs of life - for food, clothing and shelter from the uncontrolled passions of men. The camp had originally planned to provide for a maximum of 2,750 refugees and had put in readiness the college buildings for this number, but when the "Reign of Terror" came to the great walled capital, and no woman was safe from harm, the gates of the college were flung wide and the distraught and frenzied women and girls streamed in until every available space within the buildings was tightly filled and at night even verandahs and covered ways were packed closely, head to feet and feet to head.

No tribulation nor terror can separate us from the love of God. Neither could the most intense suffering and sorrow blot out from our memories a response to Christmas as that season approached. Christmas came to our refugee camp, but because of the vast throng and the dangers, could be shared with only the members of the staff, their families, the score of young people who had acted as scouts in the beginning of the camp, the servants and a few neighborhood women. A small upper room which had but one window was found which was not being occupied by refugees. By covering the one window with a heavy green curtain and the transom above the door as well, the light could be turned on without fear. Many have said that they will never forget that little improvised Christmas chapel. There was an altar, a little Christmas tree with colored lights, a great bouquet of Heavenly bamboo with bright red berries, several large pots of poinsettias, while from the Christmas box in the attic were brought forth bright red Christmas cut-outs and three Christmas scrolls. Another Mary (Mary Twinem) had lovingly arranged this chapel for the worship of her Lord. Five simple Christmas services were held in that little upper room. While the singing of the beloved carols had to be in hushed tones, and while our hearts were sad because of the ruthless killing, the terrible suffering and the destruction which were still going on in the city, yet as we worshipped and thanked God for His great gift to mankind, the realization came afresh to some of us that only as men come to know and follow the Christ-child would peace truly come to this worn and war sick world. He alone can turn hate and suspicion and insincerity into love and confidence and truth.

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By the middle of January conditions were slightly improved in the city. There were fewer soldiers and an effort was being made to discipline those that were left. It seemed possible and desirable to the staff of the camp to share more generously the Christian message with the large family of refugees, For six weeks, six afternoons a week, including Sunday, meetings were held. Those in the small chapel were for women and girls over fifteen, and those in the Science Lecture Hall were for children. Each afternoon from one hundred fifty to one hundred seventy women were admitted to that little chapel -.admission being by tickets which were laboriously distributed in the crowded buildings on the previous evening. The refugee buildings were taken by turn so that each woman on the campus had the opportunity of attending once each week. Pastors came faithfully throughout that period, neither rain, nor snow, nor danger daunting them. They had carefully planned the series of talks so that each woman who was interested could hear six messages on the meaning of Christianity. In addition the women learned to sing and to love John 3:16 and Acts 4:12 both of which have long ago been set to a simple tune for just such audiences. They also learned "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and "All People that on Earth Do Dwell" They loved to learn to sing for the singing brought comfort to them. Those who are used to speaking at the ordinary evangelistic meetings in China would have marvelled at the attention and interest in this series of meetings. There were always plenty of women in the dormitories to take care of the babies and little children if the mother wished to attend, so no children and babies were allowed. One of the pastors one day asked his audience how many would like to become followers of Jesus and all hands went up. After that we did not ask lest personal safety and becoming Christians become confused.

At the children's meetings during those six weeks the children learned to sing "This is My Father's World" and other children's songs and they were also told stories from the graded Sunday School books by our Home craft School teacher who herself had been in great danger only a few short weeks previous. At both of these series of meetings had the helpers been more in number we could have done much more effective work, for the opportunity to give sympathy and comfort were unparalleled, but energy was still sapped by fear and in addition the many tasks of conducting a refugee camp for thousands were still bearing heavily on the little staff of workers.

Before the close of this first series of meetings it was realized that Holy Week and Easter would be a most wonderful climax for a second series and accordingly plans were started and gradually evolved into what was a most successful project in religious education. It was decided that in addition to meetings we should start classes, dividing those who wished to study according to educational ability. From among the refugees on the campus eight teachers including the dean were mobilized, three pastors volunteered to take classes, and with three members from the regular staff, a faculty of fourteen was formed. All classes studied the Life of Christ in some form, the advanced pupils using Mark, and the less advanced using the graded Sunday School material or a Gospel Primer. In all, twenty three classes were formed ranging from the senior middle school grade, of which there were twenty one pupils to illiterates of whom there were seven large classes divided according to age. The ages of all the pupils in the project ranged from nine years to thirty seven, but the large majority were teen age girls. In addition to the regular classes there was a special singing class of over forty members which met once each week and which began at once on the preparation of Easter music.

There being no book stores left in the city, several members of the College faculty in Shanghai were kept busy purchasing and sending teaching materials . Inexpensive books were either sold or loaned to the pupils. One hundred New Testaments were disposed of and even more were requested. Two large classes of illiterate girls ranging in age from twelve to seventeen years met five times each week but all other classes met three times. In addition to studying the Life of Jesus, the members of

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the staff shared with their pupils some of the great passages of the Bible and the great hymns of the Church which had strengthened and comforted them during the days of strain and stress. During those six weeks it was not unusual to pass a little group of girls or women in a bamboo grove reciting the 23rd or 121st Psalm, or another group out in the flower garden memorizing the Beatitudes or the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians or the Lord's Prayer. As women and girls walked to the rice kitchen to secure their simple meal of rice gruel, you could often hear them humming "Rock of Ages" or "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross". About the same time that the classes began, two bath houses were also started, and the combination brought a new spirit and a new look to our refugees. They began to take a pride in their neat appearance once again, and we no longer felt that all but the dregs had evacuated from Nanking. The total enrollment of the project was probably one thousand and out of this number approximately six hundred attended classes regularly through the six weeks.

One of the most difficult problems faced was to find classrooms. The Arts Building which contains most of the college class rooms was still full of refugees and there was not one available classroom in the entire building. By redistributing refugees one classroom in the Science Building was cleared out; the end of the General Chemistry laboratory formed a second one; and the big stage in the chapel-auditorium made a third one. The two big studios were quite easily converted into excellent classrooms by the addition of chairs. Movable blackboards were placed in these improvised classrooms and the class work began.

Simultaneously with the beginning of classes, the afternoon meetings were moved to the big chapel and any woman over fifteen could attend without a ticket. Each afternoon at one thirty the college bell ringer made the rounds of the refugee buildings thus reminding them that it was time to get ready for the afternoon service. From one hundred fifty to almost four hundred attended these meetings throughout the six weeks. Again five pastors willingly helped us out by preparing a series of thirty talks centering on the Life and Teachings of Jesus. In arranging for the order of the afternoon services we could now make use of the Psalms, the Beatitudes and the hymns which the pupils were memorizing in their class work. On Sunday afternoons pastors from other churches in the city were invited to speak. These pastors without exception were challenged by the large audience and were greatly impressed with the joyous singing and the attention.

The afternoon services throughout Holy Week and the three services on Easter Sunday were the climax which followed the six weeks project, and for these special services a combination ticket was mimeographed which was punched upon entrance to the chapel. Almost six hundred attended each service with the exception of the last performance of the Easter Pageant on Easter Sunday evening when fully one thousand attended including a number of invited guests. An extra performance of the Pageant was given on the evening before Easter for the younger children and for all older women who had not been able to attend classes during the six weeks but who were definitely interested. Extra tickets were prepared for this service and about eight hundred attended. This service was especially prepared for the children and it opened with the children in the audience singing "This is Our Father's World", a song which many of our young refugees have memorized.

It was my privilege to preside at the Good Friday service for refugees. The pastor in a remarkable way held the attention of that large audience of six hundred women and girls for more than an hour as he related the story of the trial and the crucifixion of our Lord and its meaning for the World. Through their own innocent suffering these women were being led to understand the suffering of God for the sins of the World. I shall never forget that audience and the way they sang "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" and "There is a Green Hill Far Away" both of which they had been taught in their morning classes during the previous week. There is no doubt that

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the entire series of Holy Week services made a tremendous impression on those who attended which they will never forget and which we hope will draw many of them later into some church.

Easter morning dawned bright and beautiful, a fresh clean world after a recent rain. The early morning service at six thirty, although planned for the out of doors, was held in the big chapel simply because it was realized that it would be impossible to control the crowd. The large audience was there by six thirty. In their class work during the previous week they had learned one Easter hymn, and the special singing class had prepared two others, so triumphant Easter music was not lacking. The sixth grade class gave a simple play portraying the disciples on the Resurrection morn, and the dean of the project gave a very thoughtful talk on "Change". Two different groups of pupils recited appropriate Bible passages.

The president of the Nanking Theological Seminary who with his family has recently returned from more than four months of sojourn in a village to the northwest of Nanking, gave the message to the audience on Easter afternoon. Escape from the terror of aeroplanes by day and bandits by night, and the long trek back to the capital and past the dreaded sentry at the city gate had deepened his faith and made his religion a more living and sustaining force. This triumphant note shone in his face as he talked about China's need of the spirit of the suffering and risen Christ. He too marvelled at the attention of the large audience of women and girls and the joyousness of their singing. The large dignified chapel itself had been beautifully decorated for the day by the young flower gardener. There were great bouquets of white spirea and iris and graceful sprays of wisteria against the background of the black velvet curtain, while on the speaker's table there was a bowl of gorgeous tulips. It is not strange that many of the refugees have responded with appreciation to the fact that the College has shared with them the beauty of the college chapel.

By seven o'clock on Easter evening the audience of fully one thousand were present to listen to the junior and senior middle school refugees present the pageant "From Darkness to Dawn, portraying the thoughts and suffering and the actions of Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathaea from the time of the crucifixion to the resurrection of Jesus, their Master. The cast had practiced for many weeks under the patient and inspiring direction of their teacher, the dean of the project, and also a refugee. Some of our guests, who have often attended plays at Ginling, said that they could easily imagine it was a cast of college students and the audience a usual college audience. Another said "It is the one bright spot in Nanking." We are sure the meaning of the pageant reached many in the audience of a thousand, but if it did not, its influence on the members of the cast will never be lost.

The last day of the project came, clear and beautiful, marred only by the sickening sound of the heavy bombers as they went to the northwest on their mission of destruction, mutilation and death. By eight thirty in the morning almost six hundred women and girls assembled out in the main quadrangle in groups according to classes and a little later the long line was formed which marched into the chapel, each group being headed by its teacher. Then followed the long program when each class demonstrated what they had learned. Some classes sang hymns, others recited the 23rd or 121st Psalm, the Beatitudes or the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians. Representatives of the younger classes told stories while the illiterates demonstrated how well they had learned to read or recognize characters. The program closed with the giving of simple prizes to the one member in each class who in addition to having perfect attendance had also made the most progress. As they marched out of the chapel joyously singing "God Loved the World" those who had helped to make the project a success could well feel grateful. To the dean especially it had involved much hard work and plannin

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The week that has followed has been called the spring vacation. During the time plans are being made for a new five-weeks project. In addition to the religious classes it is hoped that there will be classes in child and home hygiene, in child care and perhaps in poultry raising. For the older girls who ordinarily study in schools there will be classes in the study of Chinese and for a goodly number there will b e singing classes.

Those who have had the privilege of planning and carrying through this simple project in sharing a part of the Christian message and inheritance have often marvelled at the strength which was given and the seeming ease with which the insurmountable became surmountable. The little prayer circle which has met faithfully each morning and which has now grown to a circle of sixteen, we know has been one great source of strength. But we have been conscious that beyond this tiny circle there has been a larger one that has reached to our personal friends and the friends of Ginling and China in the uttermost parts of the earth, and these friends we know too have been sustaining and strengthening us with their loving thoughts and intercession in our behalf. A confidence has come that there is a Spirit at work in the world far stronger than the force of the mighty bombing planes that far above our heads wend their way each morning to the northwest as members of our little circle meet together. That Spirit will in the end be triumphant.

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit,
sayeth the Lord"

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GRIEST ASSOCIATE BOARDS CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA

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TELEGRAM FROM NANKING APRIL 29 TRANMITS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FOR YOU FROM VAUTRIN QUOTE DONATION FROM NEW ENGLAND COMMITTEE WILL BE OF INESTIMABLE VALUE WHEN CAMPS CLOSE END OF MAY SINCE OTHER FUNDS THEN EXHAUSTED. WILL BE UTILIZED ESPECIALLY IN CARING FOR NEEDY WIDOWS AND ORPHANS. WE HAVE JUST FORWARDED ARTICLE ON SIX WEEKS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROJECT AND WE ARE NOW STARTING A NEW PROJECT WHICH COMES TO AN END MAY 28. PROBABLY TWO TYPES OF WORK ON CAMPUS THIS AUTUMN, NAMELY, ONE FOR TEACHING WIDOWS AND ONE FOR LOCAL JUNIOR SENIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS. AS SOON AS PLANS ARE DEFINITE WILL FORWARD BUDGET NEEDS FOR BOTH TYPES. CHEN YU DJEN NEEDED IF SHE CHOOSES TO COME BACK. PERSONALLY CONSIDER IT UNWISE TO RELEASE CONSIGNMENTS TO HOGHTON MIFFLIN. STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU CARRY ON FOR THE SAKE OF BOTH WU YI FANG AND GINLING. YOUR HELP HAS BEEN DEEPLY APPRECIATED END QUOTE.

SUMNER WELLES ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE

1136P

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GINLING COLLEGE
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York.
May 5, 1938.

My dear Minnie:

On March 25th, Rex Wheeler and his wife had a small luncheon for Mr. and Mrs. Hall Paxton, at which I was one of the guests. I enjoyed them so much and it made me feel much closer to you to be talking with Mr. Paxton, who had gone through so much of the same sort of thing which you went through in 1927. Mr. Paxton very kindly offered to transmit for me a message to you upon his return, and so I am sending this letter and a gift which has come.

I think one of the most difficult things is not to be able to write freely and frankly, and so most of us don't write at all. Do not think from that that we are not thinking of you daily and constantly, with our hearts warm with love and admiration for you, and with our minds full with the hope that you will be given the strength and the wisdom to carry on, and help the many people who are looking to you for comfort and guidance. I wonder if you know how many of the foreign staff in this country and especially in this area have been helping us as they can.

Emily Werner shows the film every chance she gets and in spite of the fact that the Biblical Seminary still finds it difficult to pay salaries, she turns over to Ginling every personal fee that is given to her.

Edith Haight has been coming in regularly to help out with work here in the office. Her particular job for some weeks has been the setting up of the Ginling photographs in a large photographic album. She is rather shocked that we have so few. I sat next to Miss Sturtevant at a committee meeting in March, and mentioned Edith to her. Her face brightened at once, and she said, "A fine girl, she has a clear head and a soul within her. Edith has been doing her work at New York University and at Columbia. She expects to receive her Ph. D. in Physical Education from New York University, and she has been doing the Dean's course at Columbia. She has been carrying on her work, I gather, with A grades. She lives at the East side House Settlement, and teaches there in return for her board and room. She has a wonderful view from her room of the East River.

Kathleen Bond has also given us so valuable help, especially in getting out the calendars. She now has a job as companion to a lady in Reading, Vermont. She writes that the surroundings are beautiful, and seems to be enjoying her work.

Gratia, as you know, was not well from about the first of November and went to the hospital on December 22nd with a bad sinus condition. That cleared up by the end of January, but our judgement here was that this job is too hard for one of her slender physique. Not only is there a constant push, push, push, but there also was for her the emotional strain of mind, on account of the kind of news that was coming out of China. She was not very happy about agreeing with us, but that was natural, because her fragility is such that she must protect herself by refraining from facing with any reality, her own nervous and physical condition. I am so happy that she has found a position in a very good girls' private school, in the country. It is an ideal location, and she is the secretary to the head of the school, has a room and bath of her own in the school, a month's vacation in the summer time, a week at Christmas and a week in the spring. If the world over

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had been searched, she could not have found anything more ideal. Her address is, Care of the Knox School, Cooperstown, New York.

Ya-lan was in New York in March. She was looking fine and said she was feeling much better. She had not been very well last year. I suppose it was partly worry, but she apparently doesn't digest American food very well. She is hoping to remain in America next year, and do graduate work at New York University.

Shih Pao-chen is making a fine impression. I do not know any Chinese who has made more friends, more quickly than she has. She has a delightful personality.

Shen Dzu-ying is having a difficult time in her adjustments, and I fear is not very happy. I am wondering if that is her normal temperament.

Katherine Nangle has been very much interested in the Ginling material which has gone out from this office. Her husband is well established in the English Department at Yale. Some months ago she gathered together representatives of all of the organizations in New Haven, with the intent of putting on a civilian relief drive. Their first plan was a huge mass meeting, at which they expected to have a leading catholic and a leading protestant as speakers, as they wished to interest both groups in New Haven. Katherine wrote to me and asked for suggestions for a protestant speaker. I replied, urging Dr. Luccock, but unfortunately told Katherine of the Red Cross drive which was just about to burst upon us, so her committee decided that they would put on their drive through the Red Cross. The Red Cross drive was announced on January 25th, and from that time to this has been quietly choked. Katherine found in New Haven all kinds of cold water poured upon them by the Red Cross, and so the beautiful organization which she had started, did not get very far. She has however, persisted in smaller ways, and they put on some time ago a benefit for Chinese student relief. I am afraid, however, that it was money for the benefit of Chinese students in this country, many of whom are in desperate straits, because they have been cut off entirely from funds from home.

On April 1st, Katherine sent me a check for $20.00 from Mrs. Nathan Bronson, 438 Whitney Avenue, New Haven. She says, "Yesterday I went to deliver four tickets for the Chinese play and was so moving with Minnie's last letter as my theme that the lady reached into her handbag and told me to send twenty dollars to her to use where she thought best."

Katherine also wonders if small evening bags of satin with a few flowers scattered over them could be embroidered by your women, and made the vogue for next winter. They should be nicely finished and made to look expensive.

In sending out your report of the first month, I wrote to Mrs. Minnie Real of Secor, for the addresses of some of your friends whom I did not have. A nurse writes back for her, as she apparently is too sick to write herself. She spoke very pleasantly of you and seemed glad to be remembered by you and to have material sent to her.

Liu En-lan wrote to President Atwood of Clark, in relation to work there next year. He, personally assumed responsibility for a $200.00 fellowship for her and we have had here since last summer a special gifts for her for graduate work. Now, it seems that En-lan is interested in going to

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Oxford for study.

I also received sometime ago a letter from Anna Groff, one of the Lancaster nurses at St. Lukes'. It was the first personal letter of that sort that I have had from Shanghai, and drew hot tears to my eyes. Anna took out the $1000.00 for me for the land gift and she returned at Christmas time.

Dear Minnie, I certainly wish you were quintuplets. Nobody else on earth who has been connected with Ginling could have done what you have done this winter. When I knew that you were staying, I remembered the little prayer meeting that we had when Miss Kelly went to Shanghai to meet you in the fall of 1919. It was so uncertain whether you would come up to Ginling, and it seemed so important that you should. I had been there only a couple of weeks then, but I was well aware of the eagerness to have you and the fear lest you might not come. This winter I have wondered whether that decision had not been made just so that you could render this service. Then, too, I have wished so much that you could be here to do this tremendously important work. China has great, great opportunities here , if we could only understand and have both imagination and persistence enough to use them. This office very much needs someone who has the complete confidence of the field, as you have, and to whome they will send regularly add of the information, pictures, statistics, personal opinions, which make up the whole picture of the College in China.

We needed for instance, all the facts on the expenses of the college, and are quite thankful for those you cabled us, for this allocation committee, which is apportioning the emergency fund on the basis of the need, the underlying principle motivating the general objective in the Associated Boards office is still the report of the Burton Commission, In spite of the fact that at least two historical eras have been realized, or are being realized through since that in China. Now Dr. Dunham I hear, is raising the question, as are many others, as to whether there should not be a re-thinking of the whole situation in the light of the present realities. In the minds of some Americans there is very definitely the feeling that education cannot function under the new regime. On the other hand, in the minds and hearts of the Chinese here, there is more loyalty, enthusiasm, and interest in the China Colleges than ever before, and for good reason. I get so tired of this willingness on the part of so many of us to retreat and retreat and retreat. I am quite sure that we should keep our heads up, our backbones stiff, walk fearly and without fear. I learned how to make dogs stop barking at me, when I was a child, and it wasn't by running away. So we need someone here who has the qualities that you have, someone to whom the field will send all of their information, someone who has courage, someone who knows the situation, someone who will have the respect of the people here, and someone with your unusual organizing ability, and ability to put things through. So if your big family can ever spare you, just remember there is a big task here which has its importants in this whole picture.

Incidently, if you ever do get relief from the situation in Nanking, do plan on some long months of complete change and relaxation and rest. It won't be easy to rest up quickly, when you once begin.

With my dearest love to you,

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THE CHURCH IN THE OCCUPIED AREA
Using Nanking as an Example.

To the non-believer, the unique qualities of Christianity should stand out in bold relief as it passes through periods of persecution and testing. To the believers themselves, they can say with Paul, "For I know whom I have believed and I am persuaded that He is able to guard that which I have committed unto Him against that day." Religion indeed becomes a reality that sustains through long days of uncertainty and terror and suffering; an inseparable part of daily life. It is not something to be proved by words, and you no longer discuss or argue about it, but it becomes that which is essential for each hour of each day. Each sentence of familiar passages of the Bible becomes enriched with fuller and deeper meaning, that one was seemingly unable to comprehend in normal times and one understands why the great hymns of the Church have been passed on from generation to generation, and from century to century. Every phase of the Lord's prayer becomes a passionate desire, a separate prayer as it were which one utters over and over, and one begins to understand why Jesus taught it, above all other petitions to His disciples; while the power of prayer becomes so assured that believers feel themselves doing the impossible; they know they are being guided and sustained by a force that is not their own. Again with Paul they find themselves saying, "I can do all things in Him that strengtheneth me." May the message be increasingly true that has recently been brought by a friend from Japan, namely, that a Japanese soldier after his return to his native land bore witness of the power of Christianity for he had seen its fruits in human lives.

The first Challenge to the Churches in Nanking

After the beginning of the hostilities at Lukuochiao, for a number of weeks there was uncertainty. Surely war was not inevitable! As in the past, surely a way would be found to arrange for a temporary settlement at least. Thoughtful leaders and citizens in the capital knew that the country was not prepared for war, did not want war. After the fighting began in earnest in the Shanghai area, however, these same people began to feel that they must prepare for a long drawn-out struggle against hopeless odds, must even be prepared to sacrifice all, but none could imagine or foresee that the loss of one Japanese soldier would result in the breaking up and scattering of tens of thousands of families, the sad trek westward of millions of civilians, the destruction of billions of dollars of material wealth and the murder of thousands upon thousands of innocent civilians. By the middle of August bombing had begun on Nanking, and soon there were destitute and wounded to care for. The churches quickly awakened to the challenge and immediately formed a union committee which set to work to raise funds and plan for relief work. By the end of September the Nanking Christian War Relief Committee consisting of leading representatives of all the churches, the Y.M.C.A. and the Union Institutions was selected. This committee had regular three hour Sunday afternoon meetings for almost two months. It was a strong committee, headed by the President of the University of Nanking, and it immediately mobilized Christian forces to meet the need of the refugees who were then passing through the city in a stream of approximately a thousand a day. These refugees from the fighting area down near Shanghai needed food and they needed clothing and shelter. With the repeated and continuous bombing of the city there was also the great need of the wounded civilians and the destitute. Through the efforts of members of the committee an ambulance was secured for the Christian Hospital, and funds were solicited to help carry on the work of the hospital as its income gradually decreased with the evacuation of the wealthy patients. University students were organized to help bring in the wounded after the air raids. During this time the Christian women of the city did more than their share to solicit and make clothing for refugee and wounded soldiers.

By the beginning of November many wounded soldiers from the war area were being brought to the railway station at Nanking, preparatory to sending them to military hospitals in the city or on up the Yangtze. Immediately an energetic sub-committee was appointed to mobilize

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help and supplies for this work. The members of the American Church Mission which has a church center near the railway station did a most commendable service in the care of these frightfully wounded men who had given their all for their country and were receiving so little in return.

Throughout these discouraging and depressing months, as the air raids on the city continued and the retreating army was slowly drawing nearer to the national capital, services in the local churches continued. The writer attended one such service in October of which she writes in her diary, "This morning very soon after the service began, the warning siren sounded. The pastor announced that we would continue until the 'urgent' signal came. When it sounded in about ten minutes, the pastor said to the audience, 'Shall we continue or go to a dugout?.' One man in the audience replied, 'Continue' and we did so. Slowly the heavy bombers drew nearer. When the bombing could be plainly heard inside the city wall, the pastor stopped preaching and asked all to pray silently for peace. When the sounds of the bombing ceased and the planes had flown away from the city, the service continued. How meaningful were the prayers, the hymns, the sermon! Life is real, life is earnest these days."

During this time also daily union prayer meetings were being held, being conducted in turn in the different churches of the city. And from September on, daily at noon, all Christians were urged to unite in silent prayer for peace. Having passed through the Great War, and having spent one year of that time on furlough in America, the difference in attitude between the Christians of China and of the West could not but be contrasted. Here prayers were largely petitions for forgiveness for national and personal sins, for wisdom and courage for national leaders, for pity for destitute refugees and wounded, for an awakening of the leaders of Japan to a consciousness of their sins. Personally in all those long weary weeks I never heard a prayer of hatred for the people of Japan, no petition for victory in battle. If there seemed to be a lack of personal sacrifice of money and food and clothing on the part of some of those who had those comforts, for the sake of those who were in such dire need and for the sake of the wounded soldiers, we must remember the tremendous leadership and initiative that it took in the West to put across campaigns personal self-sacrifice and cooperation.

Evacuation and Its Effect on the Churches.

As the fighting lines neared Nanking in late November and as the Government authorities continued to urge people to leave, saying that the forces defending the capital would fight to the last man, the exodus was tremendous. All who could afford it for themselves and families went westward, many to cities as remote as Chungking and Chengtu in far Szechuan, some to nearer cities in adjoining provinces, while others could afford only to cross the Yangtze River and seek shelter in the towns and villages off the main highways. This exodus began with the well-to-do whose material wealth was conveyed to the river boats in automobiles and trucks, but it extended down to the poor whose roll of bedding and bundle of clothes were packed into rickshas and pulled by some weary ricksha coolie. Naturally this general exodus included many Christians and not a few pastors. Who could blame them for leaving, for whocould foresee what the future held in store? At best the city might be turned over without a struggle within the old wall, but at the worst there might be a long siege, with weeks and months of bombing and finally with fighting within the city itself.

In one Mission, all five of the pastors and their families evacuated, three of them still being in Chungking and two in or near Kweiyang. In another Mission eight of the pastors and elders doing work in the city and surrounding country all evacuated, but six are now back and busily at work. The American Church Mission followed the very thoughtful policy of securing four residences in the Safety Zone and in these residences housed almost 600 refugees, among them being many of their own Christians, their clergymen and lay workers. In these residences they were later able to protect not only their own people as many others and to carry on regular religious services and Bible classes when such services were tremendously needed, conduct special preaching services for non-Christians, besides having a force of workers at hand ready and willing to hold services in refugee camps and in the

Christian Hospital.

There were but two regular Churches within the area of the Safety Zone, and in these no Sunday services were omitted. One of these churches for several months sheltered about 200 of the constituency of that church from other parts of the city. In most of the other churches of the city the last regular services were held late in November with but a handful of regular members present and not even a pastor, for by that time all but three of the city pastors had evacuated with their families. Most of these churches did not resume services in their church homes until late in February or in March when people began to leave the shelter of the Safety Zone to go back to their homes. And what motley, unpromising audiences those first ones were! The old, the lame, the halt, the poor, many not members who had come to seek help of one form or another. Courage and fearlessness were their outstanding qualities for only those with such qualities would dare to live outside the Zone even in those days. They were mostly too old and too poor for soldiers to molest so they had ventured back to their homes, or what was left of them, to salvage what little might be still there, leaving the younger members of their families back in the shelter of the Zone. No missionary was optimistic about the future of the church in those days.

Christian Participation in the International Committee.

The story of the organization of the International Committee and its achievements through the formation of the Safety Zone is a thrilling one. The writer can say this with pride, for no woman was allowed to be a member of the committee. The initiative for its formation came from a missionary and the strong majority of its officers and members were from the missionary community, men who had to be separated from their wives and children for long months, often leaving them in places that were none too safe in order to carry on this humanitarian work for the poor of this great city. The chairman was a German business man however, who was a true colleague in all things, even to faithful attendance at the Sunday afternoon English service. The predominant fraction of all Chinese who carried heavy responsibilities in the Safety Zone, Refugee camps and relief work were Christians. This fact is doubly significant because so many of the Christian pastors, teachers, doctors and other important laymen had evacuated from the city.

The city fell to the conquering army on December 13, 1937. For perhaps a month, the Safety Zone which was about one eighth the area of the walled city, housed approximately 250,000, a few thousand perhaps remained in their own homes to suffer even more cruelly than within the shelter of the Zone. Seventy thousand were sheltered in the 25 large camps, 2/3 of these being in the 11 camps which were housed in Christian institutions. At the time of greatest danger there were 30,000 refugees at the University of Nanking being housed in academic buildings and residences; 3,600 at the Bible Teacher's Training School, more than 3000 in the Theological Seminary, and at least ten thousand women and children in the Ginling College buildings. Five months later, five of the remaining six camps still open were in these Mission buildings and they were housing at that time almost five thousand, mostly young women and children. Through the three summer months, the Ginling College camp continued to protect and care for almost 800 young women and girls for whom it was unsafe to return to their homes.

Through the years since their founding these Mission institutions have made many worthy contributions to the life of China through the training given ti its youth, but the service rendered through the shelter offered to the homeless and destitute and terror stricken during these months of instense danger is worth all they have cost the churches of the West. Walls and woodwork are scarred, paint has been rubbed away by countless feet, locks and hinges are broken and missing, but deep gratitude to the Christian Church of the West exists in the hearts of many who found shelter in the Safety Zone and the Mission institutions.

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The Christian Hospital

The record of the Christian Hospital is a most worthy one. It courageously met each new crisis that came to it through many months. First it cared for the mutilated civilians after the air raids, then for several months it received the more severely wounded soldiers and officers. After the bombing of the big new government hospital, those patients were all moved over to the Christian Hospital. When its Chinese staff of doctors and nurses left in the general exodus in November, it looked as if it would not be possible to carry on, but again the missionary staff bent to the task and a new force was mobilized. The missionary technician became dietitian as well as treasurer; a missionary evangelist was mobilized to be the business manager and for many months you could see him going from one disbanded hospital and health station to another salvaging medical supplies before they were looted or burned. Two missionary doctors and one Chinese doctor carried the tremendous load until February, working all hours of the day and the night. The one missionary nurse left on the staff, who in peaceful times does not take time to sleep, worked harder than ever. It was not uncommon to see her with a baby in each arm, trying in addition to soothe a third and even a fourth. After weeks of effort a third doctor was permitted to return in February. Chinese nurses were mustered from the highways and byeways but they were all of inadequate training and often of doubtful help. Throughout this period daily chapel services continued at 8 each morning in the hospital chapel for staff and patients. Many membersof the staff who previously had only been nominal Christians began to take their turn at leading services thus strengthening their own position as Christians and giving public testimony to their deepened faith.

Religious Work in the Camps

The limited program of Christian work carried on in the beginning in the camps housed in the Christian institutions was gradually expanded. During the early weeks all strength and effort had to be given to protecting the refugees, providing for food and bedding for the destitute and in trying to meet a few of the many other calls for all kinds of help. Several of the men missionaries for weeks during the coldest part of the winter worked like slaves actually trucking rice and fuel to the 25 camps, and one dares not think what would have been the tale had not these able-bodied men been at hand to help. With out their presence every truck and group of coolies would have been taken. Christmas came at a time when killing and raping, looting and burning and terror were still rampant in the city. As one missionary expressed it, it was "Christmas in hell." But even so there were a number of simple Christmas services held for small groups of workers and the message of that day was not forgotten. By January 17, daily religious meetings were started in the Ginling camp, and by means of a laboriously distributed ticket system, each woman in the huge camp who was interested was able to attend one meeting a week. Gradually but slowly as conditions improved in the city and as strength and energy returned to those who had been carrying such tremendous burdens during the first weeks of the occupation, and also as religious workers began to creep back into the city from their hiding places in the country, the religious program in the camps expanded. The eagerness of the people to hear a message of hope, their increase ability to understand the deeper truths of the Christian message greatly encouraged the Christian workers. Regular religious services were increased, Bible classes were started, even work for children and young people somewhat similar to that of primary school was undertaken in some of the camps. Because of the larger number of women workers available, and the fact that it was still not safe for them to go off of the campus, about March 1st the program of teaching in the Ginling Camp was enlarged. The services culminating in Holy Week and Easter Sunday in that camp deserve special mention.

For the six weeks before Holy Week, between 600 and 1000 were enrolled in classes studying The Life of Christ. These classes met three times each week and were definitely planned to prepare the young women to understand the great message of Holy Week and Easter. Not only did they study the life of Christ but five afternoons a week there was a preaching service using the teachings of Jesus as themes. Those who expressed a desire to attend the nine services for Holy Week and Easter Sunday regularly were given a special ticket.

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There was a wonderful responsiveness to the carefully prepared messages of those weeks. Suffering, sorrow, having life shorn of all but the absolute necessities, had made hearts tender and had prepared them to understand the suffering of God in Christ for the sins of humankind. Missionaries now out in the churches say there is a new response and interest in Christianity in the city. Had it been possible during the time this project was being carried on in Ginling to have conducted a similar one for men and boys in some of the other large camps, the response to Christianity would be even more marked.

The Autumn Program of the Churches.

During the late spring and all through the summer and autumn, missionaries have been gradually securing permission from the military authorities to return to their work in Nanking. In some of the Missions, Chinese workers have also been returning, but from all the Christian centers in the city the plea is for more trained leaders to meet the unprecedented opportunities. Here are some of the appeals from these missionary workers -

"The opportunities have never been greater, and people's hearts never more open than now. Their old security-religious and material- is gone. The Church has stood through everything and the spirit of Christ has been seen and felt by many. The dispersion of families, and the upheaval of normal family life has weakened, and in many cases removed the barrier which family custom and tradition erected against the acceptance of Christianity. Christ worked in "occupied territory." His Holy Spirit is at work mightily among us and we dare not sin against Him by refusing to carry on."

"If ever it was true that 'Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled' it is true today in Nanking. One of our members said 'I used to read stories about the work in Korea and concluded the Koreans were different from the Chinese. Now I think Nanking is in the midst of a genuine religious revival.' We are building new churches today, and the prospects are most encouraging. The Church is the one interest in many lives. Here they find joy and peace of heart and fresh hope for the future. We have more young people coming to all the services than we have ever had before."

"The responsiveness of the people is most remarkable. Failure to keep some of our best trained workers here under present conditions would be gross desertion."

"If ever the people needed help they do now. The soul of a people is in danger and if we can do aught to save it we should do so. The Church needs to stand here in this occupied territory as a constant challenge, all too inefficiently perhaps, but still to stand as a witness and a protest against the evil that has been and is being done here."

"I feel that Christian work probably never had a greater opportunity than at present in Nanking. All doors seem to be flung wide open to receive our message. About 260 inquirers are receiving instruction preparatory to joining one of our three churches in the city. Attendance at Sunday School is better than I have ever known it and students of all ages are responsive to religious teaching. One has a conviction that only the Christian message is adequate to heal and comfort the hearts of these people who have suffered so cruelly. The "Suffering Christ" and the fact that He lived his life in occupied territory and yet has a triumphant spirit challenge the people to also rise above their sufferings in the spirit of Christ."

"Surely if the people in this area ever needed the help that Christ can bring, and the sustaining power of Christian sympathy and hope, it is now. We must not fail them in this their hour of need."

"The Church seems to be the one trusted and stable institution in the city. Non-Christians even come to it asking that it perform the wedding ceremony for members of their families."

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Adaptations are being Made to Impoverished Conditions.

The Churches and other Christian institutions in order to more adequately meet the needs in the city have rethought their programs for the coming year. Schools that were formerly self-supporting and independent in finances cannot be so any longer. In most of the churches, schools and classes for little children have been opened with a larger attendance than was dreamed of. Tuition for such classes is very low compared with that of former years. Much more emphasis is being placed on activities, industrial work and religious teaching. In five different Mission institutions courses for destitute or semi-destitute young women and girls have been opened. The emphasis is being placed on home-training and industrial work in addition to religious teaching. On the Ginling campus they have a Homecraft Course for destitute women and their little children thus taking care of more than one hundred problem cases. In another institution 53 young women are enrolled in a lay-training course, in which the emphasis is being placed on training for lay-leadership. Since there is no Christian secondary school for boys in the city, three of the churches have opened classes in secondary school subjects and have most encouraging enrollments. At the University of Nanking campus, they have not only a flourishing primary school for children, and tutoring classes for junior high school boys, but also a special agricultural short course in which they make splendid use of their agricultural gardens and farms for teaching purposes. On the Ginling campus they have an experimental course for girls of high school age in which they give much time to practical training. The younger girls who cannot pay full fees, and there are many such, clean classrooms, dining rooms and wash dishes; older girls are trained to teach in the Homecraft Course. The same cry comes from all Missions and Mission institutions - for a greater number of trained workers to meet the unprecedented needs and opportunities. Parents are eager to have their children study under Christian auspices.

Changed Attitudes and a Deepened Spiritual Life.

Very often one has evidence of changed attitudes on the part of non-Christians, of deepened spiritual life and thought in Christian leaders and laymen. Needless to say there is deep appreciation of the fact that Christian workers and missionaries were the main reliance of the people in the hardest experience of their lives. The prejudices and indifference of the past decade seems to have been largely wiped away from eyes and hearts and there seems to be a longing for those things that religion alone can give. A very intelligent and competent young man of excellent education and experience in responsible positions, whose father is a leader in one of the other great religions of China, has become deeply interested in Christianity. He says that Christianity demonstrated its supremacy this year, its fitness to meet the most difficult need of modern times. Both in quality and quantity the Christian efforts stood out far in front of that of all other faiths. "Only the Christians really had the spirit to do something worthwhile" were his words in a recent conversation. Such young men need all the faith and courage that the Church has to give for the days ahead are filled with difficulties for them.

The pastors of the city too seem to have a more genuine religious faith than I have ever known them to have before, a deeper conviction that only belief in Jesus Christ as Saviour will bring redemption from the sins that have weakened their own country and that now are in control of the military leaders of Japan - the sins of selfishness and greed. But yesterday in talking to one pastor he told of how one of the city evangelists is now in jail, he thinks for no other reason than that he was doing street preaching. He has tried to get some warm clothing to him; but thus far has failed. In telling me about the case, he said that he was not fearful for the life of his friend, for he thinks he will not be injured. And then his face lighted up as he said "What a fine opportunity he will have to bear witness for Christ in that jail." They are all finding that they have to be

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more careful in their choice of illustrations in their preaching lest a spy be in the audience, but so far this has not been a serious hindrance to their work.

An interesting account of the experiences of a 74 year old Christian bears repeating. Last autumn when the bombing started in the city, she like many others left for a safer place. Her grand daughter being the wife of a university professor, went west with her husband taking with her three of the great grand children. She with three of the great grand daughters sought safety in a little village in a secluded spot thirty miles from a railway station. But even such a tiny spot was not left unmolested. It too was looted and burned and its women were hunted down. After a time the soldiers deserted what was left of the tiny place and moved on. This past summer when the tiny village was thought to be harboring guerilla troops, it was mercilessly bombed. During the looting, the old lady said that her two pieces of bedding were taken from her, and in the coldest part of the winter, at the point of a bayonet, she was forced to give over her fur inner garment. She told of how for many long cold months, her only bedding was rice straw - both for herself and her little great grand daughters. Her only food for herself and the little girls was what one fearless old lady of the village would beg from the soldiers. For three months she did not have a bath, and even at her age it was not wise to wash one's face or to comb one's hair too often. When asked how she came through that awful ordeal looking so well and strong and not one day older, she replied, "It was prayer. God gave me strength to protect the little girls." And looking into her radiant and grateful face one could not doubt her answer.

Opportunities for Reconciliation.

Opportunities to help the Japanese soldiers and officers to understand the real situation in China are not frequent, but nevertheless they do come. The pastors of the city, through the Nanking Church Council, ordered a large number of Bible portions in Japanese and began to distribute them as opportunity offered. They were soon requested to refrain from doing this, the reason given being that it would weaken the fighting spirit of the men. But other opportunities come to turn an enemy of China into a sincere friend as the following incident shows:

The grandson of a Japanese pastor came to Nanking as a soldier this past summer. While here he looked up a friend of his grandfather who is one of the pastors of the city, a radiant, dynamic, friendly man. Through this pastor he came to know and to deeply appreciate two fine Chinese Christian teachers who had returned to the city from long months of sojourn in the country. Both of these teachers are men of sterling qualities of character and the young soldier was aware of it. One evening this past September the young soldier turned up at the Pastor's home, ill and miserable and homesick. The pastor and his motherly wife put him to bed in a clean fresh bed, killed a chicken and made him some hot broth, delicious as only the Chinese cook knows how to make it, and tried as best they could to comfort and cure him. His letter of appreciation, uncorrected but with names omitted is given below -

September 16th, Nanking.

My dear Rev.---:

My heart is full of many many thanks to your kindness you showed and to the friendship your friends showed to me. I shall never forget.

I am sorry to tell that I am going to be sent to Shanghai tomorrow morning. Whether I shall stay in Shanghai until I'm recovered from it or I shall be sent back to Japan, I am not sure. But I must tell you that the latter case is possible, as many examples show.

If so, I am very sorry not to be able to say goodbye to you and to my intimate friends you introduced. But I believe that we are never divided in the friendship in Jesus, wherever we may be. I shall never stop praying for you, for your church and for your country. I assure you we shall see each other in the near future. Please pray for it.

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Has Professor ---- come back to Nanking? I wanted to see and talk with him a little more. I am very happy to have found in him one of my best friends in China. Please tell him of this happiness of mine and of my prayer for him and his family.

My dear Professor ---- has gone to the west. I feel so much sorry for him. I shall pray especially for him. Please give my best regards to his family. Also to Mr.-----.

In the end I must mention that you cannot imagine how highly I appreciated that home-like atmosphere you and your folks showed to me the other night.

May be God's blessings always upon you.

Yours in Jesus.

Signed by the Japanese soldier.

As the young soldier says, "We are never divided in the friendship in Jesus," and it is that fellowship alone which will in the end unite China and Japan, East and West. May the Church sacrifice more courageously to extend that fellowship until it unites all mankind into one great human family, one universal brotherhood.

Minnie Vautrin

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File Vautrin

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Letter from Miss Vautrin to Miss Whitmer
of the Ginling Group in Shanghai - May 10, 1938

(A typical letter from Nanking to Shanghai!)

There are scores of things that I would like to talk over with you this morning but I doubtless will forget to mention the most important ones in my haste to get the letter off. Perhaps it will be better to take them up item by item as one would in a regualr business letter although some of the items will not be very serious business. We are off-

Your return to Nanking: If you are not needed by over-worked folk in Shanghai, and if you can get the necessary pass, do come along as soon as you can. We have plenty here for you to do and you would love the absolutely glorious weather that we are having. I am sure too that you would refresh our souls. Am enclosing the copies of two letters that I have just written to you to the Japanese authorities- one to amilitary office and the other to the civil. It remains to be seen if either will be of any avail. I have in mind another that I will write if these do not bring forth andanswer soon. It was true that I suggested your coming long ago, and then when Mr. Mills felt that it was wiser not to put anything in the way of the evangelistic workers coming back I did nothing further about your coming. I hope now that you will push ahead and do all you can from your end to come up - that is, if Ruth does not need you in the office there. I feel that her claim should be the first one on your time and strength for I imagine that she is just at about the end of her strength.

Mosquito netting: I will reiterate what I have written in a previous letter, that is do nothing further about purchasing it. It seems that Lewis Smythe has been able to find the quality of thread from which he can weave a good net, something like the sample I sent to you, and therefore we prefer to get more, if needed, here in Nanking. The cloth that yousent for nets, we felt was rather heavy so Mr. Tsen is having it dyed by the laundryman and is having it made up into trousers for men and children out of the clothes for wounded soldiers whichwere left here in Nanking. Mrs. Tsen has the sewing work well organized and is doing a very helpful piece of work along that line.

Poisons: Mrs. Tsen will use the bedbug poison very soon now and I will give her all the detailed and careful instructions you gave to me. The others have been turned over to Lao Shao. Please send a carefully itemized bill for these chemicals as some are for his family use and some are for our faculty garden and we must divide accounts. You will be interested to know that Lao Shao is now in the University Hospital having gone there last week for an operation on his leg. I saw him on Sunday and he is much better now. His son who evacuated to the country north of Hofeihas returned with his wife and the old father is very happy to have his only son back safely. He was sorry many times that he let him go. When we asked him me last November what to do, I said that if he were my son I would keep him here, but that he and the son would have to decide. They decided in favor of going. I guess this does not come under the topic of poison but I will leave it there hoping that you will see there is a distant connection.

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MAY 10 1938

Order for Rachel Wang: Will either Joy Smith or yourself get the following for Rachel and either bring or have it sent to Nanking at the first opportunity?

12 years of the natural colored raw silk, not the cotton mixture, the kind that ordinarily sells for 40 or 50 cents per yard. She wishes to use it for pajamas. She would also like for you to get three packages of the fast color bias tape in the following colors,-medium green, rose or pink and light blue. Also purchase for her two copies of the book called "Jesus" written by a group of missionaries in West China. It really is selections from the New Testament and the one she wishes gives both the English and Chinese.

Check from Mrs. Thurston: By the next boat I will send a check of $25.00 gold from Mrs. Thurston which she says she would like to have used to make Christmas for the Ginling family. "I want the servants to have some word of greeting and some Christmas gift." The letter and check came on May 5, but still I think that it would be well to spend at least a part of it for the servants. I would suggest that you go to some store where you can get soap in boxes and that for each servant you purchase a box say, containing two cakes of Lifebuoy and one cake of that nicer soap called Boracic, I believe. I used to get it at Whiteaways . You would have to purchase about 30 boxes to have it go the rounds. You could give one box to Wang in Shanghai. I rather think it would be nice too, to give a New Testament to each of them. She mentions Han Sao-dz who is no longer here, but the gift could be kept for her. I am sure that she would also want something of the check given to Miss Lo whom she has been helping through the years. You could send the rest of the money up here and then we could distribute it as it seemed best. Our cook is in Wuhu now, but I am sure that I could get something to him. It would not hurt to give Wang a gift of money out of it as she was fond of him and he of her. If you want to put in some gifts for children I would give them to the children of the servants and it would bring happiness. You use your judgment about it. She would also want to have gifts for the others here such as Mrs. Tsen, Blanche, Mr. Chen, Mr. Li and Mr. Hsia.

Will you please cooperate with Eva and Florence in getting my various accounts straight. I will, on a separate sheet, give some suggestions and may decide to send that all down by boat including check for same.

Clothes for Minnie. Poor Minnie, is almost like the Wonderful One Horse Shay. Six years means that her wardrobe which might once have been in medium style and sufficiency is no longer so. During the last six months I have not as much as thought of clothes seriously. Fortunately I had several garments made in Shanghai about two years ago which keeps me from looking too bad. If that "light colored dress" which you think would fit me is still available please send it along. And please as Florence if she is keeping my copies of "Vogue" down there? If she is make her thoroughly ashamed of herself. Several times I have threatened to go over to the American Embassy to see if I could see some kind of styles in the Sunday edition of the New York Times which they take there. They say that Mei Hwa is back from the north country so that I can have something made if I can find the time to plan it. I do not need sweaters for I have several that can still be used. I do need some more hair nets - dark brown and single mesh. Florence is looking for some for me. I can't understand why they are so difficult to get unless it is that I am the last female wearing them.

Harriet's shrubs: The deodar has grown beautifully and the maples and the pines near the two new academic buildings. Some of the mimosa grew. The refugees have broken off most of the cherries and crab apples that we planted and we had to cut them low. Some of them may grow again. You must do the south hill around the faculty houses.

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Box 145

ITEM FROM REPORT OF GINLING COLLEGE REFUGEE CAMP -- May 13, 1938.

"Incident which is indicative of what is going on the city:

Happened last Tuesday night, May 10, at 10 p. m.

Place - this side of San Pai Lou at Dung Meng Diai

Liu Lao Tai-tai. More than 50 years old.

Two soldiers went to the home about 10 p. m. Could not force the door open and therefore went in through window. Found themselves in room of Liu Lao Tai-tai. Asked her to turn over young women. She refused and said she would notify their officer, the headquarters being not far away. When the old woman started to go out they stabbed her in the face twice and in the breast once or more. She died.

Question? If incidents like this are happening in many parts of the city and we by closing camps send home several thousand young women are we making matters worse? Can anything be done to prevent such incidents from happening? For instance can we notify the Japanese officials that these women are being sent home and that we now put the responsibility on them of controlling their soldiers? That all cases of misdemeanor will be reported to them? (And to the world?) I know that if I had a young daughter I would hate to make her go to the south or east part of the city to live.

Sincerely yours,

Minnie Vautrin. "

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File - Vautrin

Shangahi May 14,1938

Dear Rebecca :

It was comforting to receive your letter and know that our more recent letters have gone through and reached you in time for the meetings. I have wondered if the letters I sent off just before leaving Japan went through. We have information that mail is more strictly censored now than when I was there. At least that is true for anything that comes in from this way. Soldiers' letters were found to be quite revealing and that would not dO. I think I wrote you of some I had known to reach families of my acquaintance that certainly told the truth. People have written me tosend them whatever I can be direct method for they are wanting information. I have been able to get several batches in.

You have aske dfor the entire letter to be included when repaorting from Minnie's letters but that is not possible when there is so much of the letter pertaining to business that we must keep for reference. Again I am sending scraps from hurried notes that have not been written for any other purpose than to direct us to do certain errands.

Minnie April 26 to Ruth.-

"Yes,yes,all your letters and requests have been received-- and a thousand others in addition. Your special plea which came last night made me tighten up my belt, turn my alarm to 5:30 and resolve that I must plunge ahead faster or resign. As a matter of fact your requests asn Dr.Wu's and En-lan's were next on my list. This past week which was the spring vacation for some , I spent in helping make plans for the last five weeks of our Refugee Camp and also writing an article for Rebecca which I have just finished this morning before breakfast. Am sorry I have been so slow about your things.

Minnie April 29 to Ruth

"With regard to Wang Szifu"(table boy now Ruth and Florence' cook) B he is working daily on the difficult and complicated procedure of getting to Shanghai. He closed his 'Dou fu giang' business which I had helped him to start . He has now succeeded in getting all the necessary permissions from the government. Yesterday he changed his money into Yen to purchase his ticket. Today he is still trying to get a ticket. He will be down in a few days and will be most happy to work for his old 'lao ban'.

The £ 39.51 which has come to you, I would suggest that you put that into the same fund in which the $500.00 gold will go which has come from the New England Committee and about which Rebesca had notified me by radiogram. I do not yet know where the money is, but I hope it will come and can be used for the most needy of the young widows who will be left in the various camps after they close on May 31. The funds of the Nanking I.R.C. will have been exhausted by that time and there probably will be great need in some families where the husbands or sons,--the bread earners-- were taken and have not returned.

And now about my holiday. I do not for a minute want you to think of coming up snf postponing your own furlough. You take your well deserved rest. Here on the campus there are several who need a holiday, as Mrs. Tsen, Blanche , Mr. Chen and Mr. Li. Mary also must go as she had no holiday last summer. Very soon now I shall work out some schedule and think it will be possible to get them all in. I surely want a good holiday for I think I have not taken one whole day off since returning from Tsingtao last July 20th. That shows you the kind of body I inherited from my forbears. Where to go for a holiday is a question. Do you think I could get

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up to Peitaho ? I would like very much to have a chance to visit people who are conducting schools under the Peiping regime for it would help uus to know how to meet our problems here. If we get the extra grant in salary I shall be able to afford such a holiday, if not, then I will try to get a less expensive one. Would love either Peiteho or Tsingtao. If Harriet comes up it will be great for she can look after things that only a woman knows how to look after--the cleaning.

"It is about time now to get this letter off. Oh, I might say to you that we have presented both the Bee and the Oahu some very nice lettuce in return for all they have done for us, soyou need not feel under obligations to send chocalates or to invite them to a tea party. They surely have been good to us, and how we have used the Navy , we who aould eliminate wars and navies. "

" For some strange reason the siren has sounded to day. We have not heard it for weeks and weeks."

****

Minnie, May 1 to Harriet

"Your letter of April 29 has just arrived and before I go over to the chapel to the afternoon meeting I will send you just a word. Do not bother to send Bobinet now. We will first make up and dispose of the material previously ordered for nets. We do not know how easily we can dispose of these nets. In the meantime Lewis Smythe has gotten in touch with a man who has cotten thread and the former is now busy having his weavers make samples of cloth that may be possible for nets. Your box of gifts has come and been distributed, the last just ten minutes ago, when Puh Szi-fu and Tung Szi-fu came in for their possessions. An Oh Boy weren't they pleased."

(the follwing names will interest Mrs. Thurstan. We had not known Puh Sao-dz was there before)

Pun Szi-fu, Puh Sao-dz, Djang Szi-fu, Lao Shao, Siao Tung, Miss Lo, and members of the staff. There were watches, knives,and soap for the men. Enough cherry jam made in Michigan to give them quite a taste. Maple sugar and such. Of Puh she writes-

"Poor fellow has just heard that his home has been destroyed and his family has been scattered. Unfortunately he took his wife haome last fall and we know now that she would have been beetr here."

"Djang Szi-fu has lost his eldest son and does not know where the rest of his family is. He is so sad and broken hearted."

I shall enclose the letter that has just come from Minnie today. My letter of Dec.20 (and you will remember our concern for them during those days) has just reached her. Also Mrs. T's Christmas gift. Xmas messages have come to me very recently. We seem to be gathering up the tag ends. (I have made note of the errands before sending)

The letters have been sent now tothe civil and military authorities and it remains to be seen whether I get through to Nanking. I have arranged everything so that I can go on a moments notice.

The weather remains comfortable. We have had a very delightful spring. We shall do our best to see that Minnie gets the kind of a holiday she wants.

Reported by

Harriet

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See Picture. Vautrin 1938 (7

Staff of the Ginling Refugee Camp

"Those who served all or part of the time from December 8,1937-May 31,1938]

Back row,left to right: Miss Yang,one of the refugees who served in the Health Department under Mrs.Tsen's supervision. She distributed cod liver oil and milk to babies and children in the six refugee buildings.
Mrs.Wang- also a refugee who served in the Health Department.
Miss Wu Ai-djen,a refugee and a Bible woman of the Presbyterian Church. She escaped from the country into the city in February by disguising herself as a country woman and carrying a little child on her back past the sentries at the city gate. She taught classes in our Education division.
Mr.Chiang, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church,who helped most faithfully with the preaching and teaching during the three projects carried on in the camp.
Mr.Fan, a catechist of the Episcopal Church who also helped during the three projects,both teaching and preaching.
Pastor Pao Chung of the Presbyterian Church,who preached for us at a number of the Sunday meetings after he returned to Nanking. He also had a large class of enquirers for the last five weeks of the camp.
Rev.Ernest Forster, who both taught and preached during the three projects.
Dr.Tang of the Central Theological Seminary who helped throughout the three projects.
"Big Wang" as he is called by his students,a former teacher of the Language School who was invited to come to our campus when he realized that he could not take his large family away from the city last November. He has been invaluable for he has had the dignity and age which enables him to meet official Japanese representatives who have come. He also has been with me to the J.Embassy many times.
Pastor Chow of the Christian Church who has taught classes and preached for us ever since he returned to Nanking in the early spring.
Mr.Djao, also a personal language teacher who has lived with his large family down at East Court. He has been helping in the administration of the camp.
Mr.Chan,former assistant register. He is now helping in the business office of the camp or rather summer session.
Mr.Swen, an influential neighbor who has been with us since September. Formerly he was not very friendly to us or to Christianity,but now he says that we must use his school for religious work when it is safe for him to return to his home-which is located on a lonely street to the west of us.
Middle row,left to right: Miss Yang,also a refugee and a graduate of the Presbyterian Girls School. She first lived in the attic of the Arts Building but when conditions became such that it was possible for us to have religious gatherings we discovered her and invited her to help. She has taught many classes and been active in the religious work of the camp.
Miss Chen, a refugee who has helped Mrs.Tsen in the health work of the camp.
Miss Lo, the little evangelistic worker who "lived in a house by the side of the road and been a friend to man". She came to us last December and has been a very faithful worker ever since. She is not strong and has continually done more than she should have done.
Miss Blance Wu who has faithfully continued her work in the Poultry Project in spite of all odds. Only her geese had to be sacrificed for food for the staff of workers in those days when it was not possible to buy meat or eggs.
Mr.Francis Chen the business manager of the college who has been deeply interested in the work of the camp and gives himself unsparingly to it. There were a few weeks when his youth was a handicap but conditions are better for him now. He even tried to raise a moustache but was not very seccussful.
Minnie Vautrin who is deeply grateful that she has been able to be on the campus during the past six months but who also has longed to be with the Ginling of the west.
Mrs.S.F.Tsen, one of the committee of three who carried the heavy responsi ility of the college. She is fearless and very thoughtful which has made

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invaluable in the months that have passed. She has carried most of the responsibility for the health of the large camp has managed the distribution of milk and cod liver oil and latterly has had a clinic which looks like a first class insitution. Her duaghter-in-law and four charming and lovable grand children have been with us throughout the period. I have depended upon her judgment a great deal.

Mrs.Paul Twinnam. Mary was living over in her little home near the Drum Tower but came over to see us on December 17 and it was then that we persuaded her to come and help us. Always willing to go where the need is greatest she was willing to come to help us. At first she helped in sending out innumerable groups of soldiers who came onto the campus from every direction and later she has taught classes and played for our many meetings. Because she came to us her own home was looted but she never mentions that.

Miss Rachel Wang by a strange coincidence was persuaded to remain with us instead of evacuating with the other Seminary students. She has been invaluable as dean of the projects which we have carried on and has done exceptionally fine work in them.

Miss Hsueh Yu-ling, the teacher of our former neighborhood homecraft school. She carried on the little school until December 6 and then her pupils came over to be guides and ushers when we received our first refugees. She has done splendid work as a teacher in the many projects. She and Miss Wang and Miss Lo have all lived down at the Practice School dormitory.

Pastor David Yang of the Christian Advent Mission is most generous in helping us with classes and in preaching. His wife has just returned from Wuhu and they will move into one of the Men Faculty houses. We hear that Mrs.Yang is also a good worker which will be of help to us.

Mr. Li Hung-nein assistant business manager. Mr.Li has done many types of work in the camp and is always ready and willing.

The four girls who are seated in front on the grass are "little teachers". They are all refugees of the junior-middle school grade so that we have been able to have them teach classes. The one on the right is Mr.Wang's daughter. One of the four was taken from us on the night of December 17 but in answer to fervent prayer we believe, came back at five the following morning unharmed. For weeks after that terrible experience she hid in a dark corner in the attic of the Arts Building in terror lest she be taken again.

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G I N L I N G C O L L E G E

COMMENCEMENT, 1938

The graduation exercises for the Class of 1938 were held in two centers, 1300 miles apart, Shanghai and Chengtu.

Shanghai. Commencement events began with Class Day, for which the seniors accepted the hospitality of the McTyeire building. The program was simple but effective, modelled for the most part on certain features of Commencement at Smith College, such as last Step Sing.

The Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies were shared by the seven institutions co-operating in Shanghai during 1937-38. The Grand Theatre was lent for Commencement, at which W. W. Yen delivered a stirring address, full of hope for the future. Music was provided by the band of the Fourth Marines (American). Finally, there was a faculty-senior banquet to serve as a farewell to the graduates. Miss Liu En-lan was toastmistress and the speeches centered around the idea of "Roads", very appropriate in this time of rapid changes in personal and official plans.

The Class of 1938 will always remember the senior year with mixed emotions of regret and gratitude. The majors in English, History, and allied subjects will remember their search for books, the generosity of other parts of the war-time university in lending necessary texts, the hours of reading which were spent standing or sitting just anywhere because of lack of study-hall space. The girls who took their degrees in physical education and in laboratory science will recall in the years to come the strenuous efforts necessary to complete their credits in borrowed quarters and with very limited equipment. The enthusiasm of the newest addition to the department of physical education, Ettie Len-tay Chin, Smith 1936, was a definite asset. Those who studied with Miss Liu En-lan in Geography will think with admiration of the success with which her dynamic enthusiasm and her vivid descriptions supplied the teaching materials which under normal conditions would have been gathered in field trips.

Both teachers and students of Ginling's Shanghai Unit of 1937-38 will treasure the memory of a united life in study, in relief work, in the sharing of all sorts of meagre resources, in anxiety for family and friends, in longing for the beloved campus in Nanking, and in daily triumph over disturbing fears. As Acting Dean of the Unit, Ruth Chester, Smith 1914, contributed a poise and wisdom which will always be a part of this chapter of Ginling's history.

Chengtu. On the campus of West China Union University at Chengtu a smaller group of Ginling students was graduated. President Wu herself had given the Baccalaureate address for our hosts, and our own separate graduation ceremonies, marking the end of a year as guests on a friendly campus, were carried on very quietly in Vandaman Hall. The students in Chengtu seem conscious of the blessing of being in the part of China which is called Free, because it is untouched by actual fighting, and is considered out of range of the present conflict. They are devoting themselves with fine spirit to the requirements of their courses of study. *

* For details of the revised curriculum, see accompanying announcement.

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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Copy of letter written by Miss Minnie Vautrin
on July 1, 1938, and received in New York
July 29, 1938. (Written in Shanghai, China.)

Although it was terribly hard to get away from the campus and I did not think that I could possibly make it, yet I did manage to get down here for the "Class Day" and Commencement exercises. You will have heard in detail of all these exercises so I will not take the time to write about them. To me the Commencement exercises, or rather what they represented, were a triumph of the Christian spirit of courage and faith and patience - to have done less, to have given up, would have been to fail. After I heard about the decision to give up our unit here, I wondered often if we had made a mistake in trying last autumn to have work carried on down here; but I think as I attended the various functions, here, I was convinced that it was the right thing to have done at that time. Ginling could not have done less and should not have done otherwise.

I arrived here on June 23 in the evening, after having spent twelve and one half hours in reaching here. In fact I got up at 3:30 in the morning and left the campus at 4:50. My journey to our port city was the first that I had made since almost a year previous - so you know that we do not travel about any more than is necessary. Ruth and Florence met us at the station - I was travelling with three Chinese, and after passing through three investigations, we arrived safely at the apartment. Later in the evening I came over to Alice Morris' home where I stayed through Sunday and now I am living with Bishop and Mrs. Roberts. I can see how people returned to us last spring from Shanghai tired out from their visit in Shanghai. Friends are too cordial and thoughtful and do far too many things for one. I am at my room only for breakfast - the other meals are all out with special groups.

On the campus now you would find a busy but happy group. We have 800 either destitute women and girls, or young women and girls who live in dangerous places and whose parents are unable to make other arrangements for them. It is truly a "people's university" for we have classes that range in ability from illiterates to middle school students. There were 67 classes arranged before I left and there are probably more before this. There are more than 20 adult volunteer teachers and 15 "little teachers" from among our refugees. Seven subjects are being taught, namely, Chinese, a few classes in English, mathematics, history, music or singing, hygiene and classes in religion. All must study something - at least two classes. There is a big assembly every Saturday morning, and two big religious meetings each week, on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock. Miss Rachel Wang is in charge of the educational work during my absence. There is much enthusiasm and much learning. As soon as I get the time I want to write you another report and perhaps another article. My mind is too occupied now to do anything worthy of my theme.

The industrial-homecraft project for destitute widows and girls to which your gift of $500.00 gold will be applied will be started in the autumn. The women's club of Shanghai, of which Mrs. New's sister is the president is also interested and has given a grant. I am now working on the problem of assembling a staff although the problem is a very difficult one. Few will be willing to go back with me to help carry on such a project for they do not know what the future holds for our section of the country. The thing that I would like to have your office do for me, or some interested friends do, is the following:

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Help us secure samples of useful, simple things that are needed in every day life and that we can make from Chinese materials, and that women can learn to make. After our project is ended we hope these women will be able to start up in their homes once more and carry on the simple home industry and find local markets for their products. Of course we shall teach knitting and the making of simple garments for themselves and their children. We also want to teach the weaving of towels and perhaps cloth, providing looms for the latter if they are not too expensive. Will you get in touch with the Industrial Arts Department at Teachers College and see if they would send me samples of simple educational toys which can be made from wood or bamboo or tin cans. Will you also get in touch with Adelaide at Berea and see if she can get us samples of simple things like bags for school children, etc. which can be adapted to Chinese markets and raw materials. It may be you can think of other things that we can do. If you want to send samples of the "bag" you mentioned that we could make for some definite market that is already provided in America we would be glad to do the work, but I feel that the solution of this livlihood problem is to teach the women to be self-sustaining if all of us had to leave. I know if I give you and your interested friends the idea you will go beyond what my tired mind is capable of thinking out at this time. Beyond the mere teaching of the industry we want also to teach the women home and personal hygiene, child care and hygiene, and give them the hope and courage which comes from faith in a God who understands and cares and will cooperate and comfort. This summer we shall select the women and teen age girls for the autumn project. If you or your friends have helpful ideas send them along. Harriet Whitmer will be there to help and so will Mrs. Tsen and others.

The other project will be school work of junior-senior middle school grade for the girls in our section of China, and particularly in our city, who cannot afford to go elsewhere. We know that there are such girls, and we know that they will gladly come to us if we open up this type of work for they have learned to have confidence in our institution during the past trying months. There are girls who are coming in from the country districts having evacuated there last autumn. Where possible, families will send their daughters to schools in the far west or even down to Shanghai, but there will be many who cannot afford this and whose daughters will not be able to study unless we open our gates to them. I am now in the process of trying to get a staff for this work, but it is not easy for not many from this region want to go up to that region. I wish that I could give you a correct budget for this second type of work, but it is impossible at this time because of the many uncertain factors. You can rest assured that we shall keep the budget low. Where possible we shall try to have missions allocate their missionaries to us for the year - and they still continue the salary. We have already asked for Catherine Schutze of my mission to teach English. We will need money for scholarships for poor girls - most of the girls will be poor and certainly cannot afford to pay for their tuition. Some, perhaps many, will not be able to pay for their board. Your recent gift of $25.00 gold, which I appreciated very much, I think I shall put into this fund for destitute young girls who should go on with their education.

July 5. If I told you that I leave my room about 9 o'clock each morning and do not get back until about 10 o'clock at night you will know how busy I am. There is a certain amount of shopping that has to be done for I have been shut up in Nanking for eleven months and have run out of most of the necessities and my clothes are like the " Wonderful One Horse Shay", but most of my time is given to visiting with friends, including alumnae and students. I was to have sailed today, but the boat has been postponed to July 7 which gives me time to get off a few letters and to finish this one. I am planning to spend about four weeks in Peitaiho resting

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as much as possible and also getting in touch with people from Peiping and from Manchuria and learning something of their experiences of this past year - especially in the educational field. The fact that Harriet is in Nanking and that Rev, and Mrs. Ernest Forster are living in Eva's bungalow for the summer makes it possible for me to leave the campus and not feel worried about it. Mr. Forster is very good in handling difficult situations and he has been in the city for the past seven months - all of which counts tremendously.

Rebecca, I wish very much that we could persuade Dr. Wu to have an efficient secretary, a foreign woman of experience as a college secretary. She needs one so badly and yet she feels that it costs the college too much and that is one way she can economize. To those of us here, it seems the last method of economizing. She not only has to do the thinking for the college, but she is called on increasingly to give her time and thought to even larger and more pressing problems. From her picture she looks so tired and worn. I wish that we could get a special endowment for this particular salary so that she cannot economize on it. What do you think is the best thing to do about it? You talk it over with Ruth when she returns. (She is now planning to sail on the 30th on the Empress of Russia). I close this with very best wishes to you and a "God bless you and strengthen and guide you".

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145 Hankow Road
September 18, 1938

Mr. E. H. Cressy
CCEA
169 Yuen Ming Yuen Road

Dear Mr. Cressy:

In response to the suggestion that you made to me in September when I called at your office, I am now sending to you an appeal for funds sufficient to cover the budget for the experiment which we are now starting in the field of secondary education for the girls of this city. You will notice from the figures given below that it is for $15,000. Chinese currency, or approximately $3000.00 US currency. Strangely enough it is the same amount that our president and Miss Priest in West China sent in to Mr. Garside for the social and educational work on our campus for the year 1938-39. Our plans are gradually materializing and we here are becoming more and more enthusiastic as we explore the possibilities of this experiment in creative education. In general the plans are as follows:

Funds have already been given to carry on a six months' industrial-homecraft project for one hundred destitute women and older girls ranging in ages from approximately 18 to 30 years. The women are now being very carefully selected for this course, for we want to be sure to serve the most destitute of this community. The dean is a graduate of Ginling College and is a trained social worker having taken this training in our Sociology Department. The home-craft courses of the women will be largely taught by the students of the secondary school project as a means of earning the fees which they cannot pay - a type of work relief which we believe is better than free board and tuition. There will be training classes for these student teachers and thus while they are earning their tuition or board or both, they will also be receiving valuable knowledge in child hygiene, child training, home arithmetic, etc. as well as training in teaching. A simple nursery school and Mother's Clubs will also afford opportunities our secondary school grade students. The emphasis in the industrial work will be on theproduction of useful every-day necessities of the home that can and should be made of native materials. There will be training in sewing and making of garments, knitting, cooking, gardening, poultry raising, etc. As we plan we have almost come to the conclusion that for years to come in China, an industrial-homecraft school for the destitute or poor should be attached to every middle or secondary school to afford an experimental and social service laboratory.

As to the secondary school project for which we are trying to enlist your support in securing funds, on September 13 and 14 we gave our first entrance tests - we prefer to call them placement tests for we feel that we want to serve every worthy young woman who is fitted for this grade of work. One hundred and thirty took the tests and have been placed according to their ability. On September 21 we are giving the tests a second time for a few who did not know about the first tests. So far only 52 have been able to pay full fees which are but 50% of the former Practice School fees. Gradually a staff is being assembled, although it is most difficult - almost impossible, in fact, to secure teachers from other cities. The emphasis in this secondary grade project will be on the training for service to others of the community, especially the destitute women and children of the industrial-homecraft project whom we have with us. We hope this ideal will vitalize all the courses, especially the science courses and even the Chinese and history courses.

The budget needs are stated below. This letter is intended to reach you in time, to present these needs at the Hongkong meeting, but if it does not, I hope you will forward it to Mr. Garside with your approval or even recommendation. We have ventured on this project in faith, believing that in someway the $15,000.00 can be raised. My experience of the past ten months has taught me that if you really ask youwill receive.

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I might add that in addition to funds we would be most grateful for personnel - missionaries or Christian Chinese educators interested in experimenting along this path of creative education. We would welcome suchpeople for a long or a short stay with us.

With sincere wishes for the success of the Hongkong conference, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Summary of the budget for the Project in Secondary Education.

Receipts:

From fees for the two semesters	$7,300.00

Expenditures:

Administration and Business	$3575.92	
Operation and Maintenance	2180.00	
Instruction	6500.00	
Instructional expenses	500.00	
Boarding & Dormitory expenses	6703.00	
*Increase to teachers	3000.00	
		$22,458.92

Amount to be raised, approximately $15,000.00

* Teachers are now being given a living allowance only. Men with twelve dependent upon them are receiving but $50.00 per month.

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Tentative Budget
Project in Secondary Education
1938-39

Miss Vautrin's Budget

Summary for the Year, 1938-39 — $7,300.00

Receipts:	Student fees		
Expenditures:			
	Administration and Business	$3575.92	
	Operation & Maintenance	2180.00	
	Instruction	6500.00	
	Instructional expense	500.00	
	Boarding & Dormitory expenses	6703.00	
	Increase to teachers	3000.00	22,458.92
Amount to be raised			15,158.92

Detailed statement of the budget:

Receipts:			For Sem.	For Year
Application fees.	125 students	($2.00)	$ 250.00	$ 500.00
Tuition	50 "	$20.00)	1000.00	2,000.00
Board	100 "	20.00)	2000.00	4,000.00
Incidental fees	100 "	4.00)	400.00	800.00
Gifts for destitute students				
NCWRC ?				
Alumnae				
Through Faculty				
				$7,300.00

Expenditures:

1. **Administration and Business**

Salaries of staff:		
Francis Chen	50% of salary	$ 412.20
Mrs. S. F. Tsen	50% of salary	453.60
Vautrin	50% of salary	1176. 12
Secretary Y. T. Wang	Part time	240.00
Social dean Rachel Wang	Part time	300.00
Registrar and Mimeographer Mr. Chan		384.00
Office Expenses and Supplies		100.00
Admission expenses		30.00
Mimeographing expenses and supplies		200.00
General administration expenses		
Travel		50.00
Student social events		50.00
Publicity and printing		50.00
Hospitality. For guests and faculty		30.00
Cables and telegrams		100.00
		$3575.92

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2. Operation and Maintenance:

Proportion of college servants	10:7:2	$1,200.00
Repairs and general upkeep		100.00
Fuel for teachers' office		40.00
Light and water 50% of total		500.00
Electrician 50% of wage		240.00
Care of grounds		100.00
		$2,180.00

3. Instruction:

Biology		
One third Miss Wu's salary	?	480.00
New		600.00
Chemistry and Physics		600.00
Chinese		
Yeh Chang-Ho		600.00
Others: Y.T.Wang		400.00
History and Geography		
Wu Ching-Chien		600.00
Pastor David Yang & Others		240.00
Mathematics		
Shen Chang-Djao		600.00
Others		240.00
English		
G. E. Lui		600.00
Katherine Schutze. Allocated by UCMS		600.00
Music & Drawing and Home Economics		
Religious Director		
Rachel Wang Part time.		300.00
Others		200.00
Women's Problems (Social Problems)		200.00
		$6, 500.00

4. Teaching Expenses:

Mimeographing. Included above in Admin.	
Supplies and Materials	200.00
Library books and magazines	100.00
Industrial work supplies	200.00
	$500.00

5. Boarding and Dormitory Expenses:

Staff:	Superintendent inc. in Administration	
	Assistant	360.00
Wages:	Gwan at P.S.; Li in "500"	276.00
Fuel:	For two heating stoves	80.00
	"500" Bathroom heater 50% of 10 tons	175.00
	P.S. Hot water heaters 10 tons	600.00
Woman servant for teachers.		120.00
Toilet amah. Included in account 2		
Food, Kitchen wages, Kitchen fuel		4000.00
		$5611.00

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6. Medical Service		
Nurse		360.00
Medical Supplies		200.00
Clinic Amah		132.00
		$692.00
7. Incidentals		400.00
*Increase in amount paid to the staff		3000.00
	Total	$22,458.92
Amount to be raised	$15,158.92	
Approximate amount	15,000.00	

* It was decided by the Administrative Committee to pay what is called a living allowance to the teachers which was set at $50.00 per month. For a number this is too small an amount as they have large families dependent upon them and have had all their possessions looted. If this increase can be given it is very desirable. It is impossible to get teachers from sections like Shanghai to come up for this amount.

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145 Hankow Road
September 19, 1938

Miss Vautrin's Budget

Dear Friends:

The weather yesterday was perfect for the occasion. It rained steadily most of the day which meant that there were few civilians or soldiers on the streets. And as for the sound of planes - we heard none for there was not only a low ceiling of clouds, it was all ceiling. As far as I know there were no incidents in our city.

At last I have succeeded in working out a budget for the project in secondary education. There were so many unknown factors that I simply did not seem able to put anything certain down on paper. Now that we are getting nearer to the realization of the project, items become clearer. On the following sheets I have given you both a (1) Summary of the budget and (2) a Detailed Statement. Have also included a copy of the letter which I have sent to Mr. Cressy and which I hope that you will approve. The budget for servants I will explain in more detail later. Perhaps I had better take the items up one at a time.

1. The total needed for this budget in addition to the estimated fees of $7,300.00 is $15,158.00. You will notice that I have placed parts of the salaries of college staff on this budget in the case of four of us, Francis Chen, Mrs. Tsen, Blanche Wu and myself. Perhaps I have placed a higher proportion than I should so that in case we cannot raise the amount these proportions should be revised. Up to the present 52% of those who have registered have promised that they would pay the regular fees which are $46.00 per semester. Of the rest, some will not be able to pay anything while others will be able to pay only board or board and miscellaneous fees. Miss Wang has had a private conference with each individual girl as she has come to register and tried to get her to be willing to pay as much as it is possible for her family to pay for her. It is splendid that the estimate sent in by Dr. Wu and Elsie agrees so closely with the actual budget. Harriet is not helping with this project but is giving what time she has to the industrial-homecraft budget. In conclusion shall we say that if the $15,000.00 can be raised for us in America, that in general we shall keep to this budget, if it is impossible to raise this amount that the budget will have to be cut as much as possible.

2. With regard to the college, campus, electric light plant and kitchen servants, Mr. Chen, Mrs. Tsen and I have tried to make each project and the college itself bear a fair proportion of the wage. We first took the entire list and worked out the proportion of time of each that seemed to be given to each of the three. The proportion seemed to be 10 to the college, 7 to the secondary education project and 4 to the industrial-homecraft project. Then Mr. Chen took this proportion and assigned the servants according to it. I shall send you this list after I have had the time to check it more carefully with Mr. Chen. By this method we think that we can keep within the amounts allowed by the Chengtu budget. In the electric light plant it seems impossible to cut to one man. Also three men are not enough for this large campus, for three are kept fully occupied on just the immediate campus and shrubs and have no time for all the outlying parts of the campus such as the fences, paths, etc.etc. Of the $1000.00 allowed for electric light, I have placed $500.00 of it on the secondary education project because they will light two dormitories and $250.00 of the remaining to each of the others, that is, the industrial-homecraft project and the college. This reduces the cost to the college to a very reasonable amount.

With regard to policemen, we have secured positions for them, and will get along with two watchmen, the one for the north border of the campus and the other for the south border. Our policemen were very doubtful assets for some time.

I believe in my last letter to Elsie, I asked her to let me know when the new salary scale should begin. I began it from July 1st according to the instructions in the July 4th letter but if that is not correct I can make further adjustments.

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SEP 19 1938

It is still raining today and no one is tempted to go to the street unless absolutely necessary. Katherine Schutze arrived from Shanghai this afternoon; also Dr. Daniels and Dr. Bryay and his family. Dr. Trimmer is going to Shanghai very soon to have a holiday and to bring his family back with him.

As soon as I can get to it, I shall work out the tentative budget for the Industrial-Homecraft Project for I know that you will be interested in it. Since Mr. Marx has consented to be treasurer for this fund I shall not have to bother you with it in West China. We have enough money to cover the cost of this if we use the one big gift that we received from Shanghai women and the other from the New England Committee. By the way, Elsie, Mr. Marx says that he has not yet received either of these two checks from you. Will you kindly send them to him just as soon as you can for we already have had to make several large expenditures for this project, the one being for rice and the other for the temporary kitchen which Mrs. Tsen is planning and which is nearing completion. She has done a fine job on it and it will be a truly model kitchen.

Turning again to the budget, to the Receipts section, you will see that I have listed gifts there. I am intending to write to the N.C.W.R. Committee here for funds to cover the food for those students who cannot pay for their board. Also several gifts from alumnae and faculty have already come in which have been turned over to Mr. Marx. He can later give them over to the secondary education project when they are needed for destitute students.

We now feel that all of our West China group have arrived in Chengtu safely although we have not yet heard definitely. It is a great relief to have them there at last after having been so long on the road. Now that the trip is over, I am glad that they have had the experience and glad also that they were in Hankow for those weeks. Word has come to us of the death of Miss Koo's father. We will try to persuade her to come here for a rest.

I close this letter with love to each of you. If others on the campus knew I was writing they would want to be remembered to you and to send their greetings, too.

(Signed) Minnie

0666

Vautrin

FROM LETTER OF MRS. HORTON DANIELS

NANKING - 4 NOVEMBER 1938

The work Minnie (Vautrin) continues to carry on now at Ginling is thrilling. She has taken 100 of the most destitute women between the ages of 20-35 and has them on the campus in what she calls an Opportunity School. About 30 children are with them and a small school is run for them in the lovely social hall. The women live in the NE dormitory, sleeping on the floor. They are fed twice a day, doing their own cooking. They have courses in cooking in groups of four for a month at a time so they are taught how to prepare good, balanced meals at a minimum cost. Mrs. Tsen is a past master at this. They have been taught gardening and have a fine stand of cabbage. We met a group starting out with their buckets and hoes. They have classes in sewing to teach them to make their own clothes, and one in knitting. They have set up looms and are teaching them weaving and later they hope to make cloth. They also have stocking machines and are knitting these. Minnie is anxious to get any kind of small industry going so that with this all round sort of practical education they can eventually be self supporting. These women are all without any means of support with no male members of their family alive.

Then she has a high school of 145 girls. The only one in the city. It is a practical education along with regular classes. Many are on work scholarships, cleaning their classrooms, etc. They are a fine lot of girls. The Annual Founders' Day exercises were held Sunday (and the service in the lovely chapel combined with our foreign service was a typical Ginling affair, but it wrung my heart to realize all that is gone, while at the same time it was grand to see Ginling carrying on a fine program of real helpfulness here in this needy city, while the real Ginling is out west in cramped and borrowed quarters, now being subjected to air raids. Ming Deh is doing a similar sort of work on a smaller scale under Mrs. Chou Ming I beside the primary school, as all the schools are now doing, each with enrollments of 300 on up to 500. An early morning prayer meeting, followed by breakfast in the South Hill residence was a lovely beginning of the day when some of us who had formerly had connections with Ginling gathered together for prayer and fellowship.

So I could go on, but an end must come. Daily I am impressed by the crowds in the streets, the business and life coming back, the steady courage of these people. They are under control, to be sure, but they must live. Many feel we are aiding in furthering the occupation by being here and helping, but we are serving a needy humanity who ARE HERE and need us.

1452
8716
0667

Received in N.Y. 11/5/38.

Copy being sent to Dr.Wu.

145 Hankow Road
The Campus
November 10,1938

Miss Tyler's visit
Plans
Yenching

Dear Rebecca:

Even now I am not able to write for you and for Dr.Wu the kind of report I want you to have,but am hoping that after the financial report is made out for the months of September and October that I shall be able to get at a write-up on the work we are doing on the campus this autumn. I bravely started out with the hope that I could get to you a weekly newsletter, but long ago I had to give that up for lack of time. Now that work is getting started I hope that I shall have a little more time.

Am enclosing some hastily written copies of the programs we have planned for the Founders' Day Breakfast on Sunday morning November 13th at the South Hill Faculty Residence, and also of the more formal exercises which we have planned for Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. There will be twenty one of us at the Sunday morning service, and perhaps not more than one hundred foreign and Chinese guests at the afternoon service. In addition we shall have the 104 women in the Homecraft Course and the 145 teen age girls in the Experimental Course,together with the staffs of the two courses. There will be no processional or recessional. On the same day there will be a service of remembrance in Shanghai and through a telegram which has just been handed to me I learn that they are having a service at St.Stephen's in Hongkong where Mrs.New is the moving spirit. Am so glad that she feels well enough to plan for it.

Will try to send you a copy of an article which I wrote this last week end for Ronald Reese of the National Christian Council If I do not get it off in this mail will try to do so in the next. Will you kindly share it with Mrs.Thurston.

We had such a nice visit with Miss Tyler who arrived safely last Saturday afternoon and left at 6 o'clock on Monday morning. Although her visit was very short yet we had carefully planned it so that she could see the maximum of Ginling and Nanking. Here was her itinerary

November 5,	3 p.m.	Arrived in Hsia Gwan with Dr.Price
	3:30	Arrived at the Ginling Campus
		Spent the rest of the afternoon seeing the Campus
		Also a ball game on the athletic field.
		(Foreigners in Nanking,diplomatic,missionary business men, English,American,Chinese.)
	6:30	To the Bates home for supper and a Mission meeting
"	6,7:30	Breakfast with Harriet and Blanche and Katherine S.
		Seeing the Poultry Experiment and Gardens.
	10:	To the Churches of the city- St.Paul's, Christian, Methodist and Presbyterian, B.T.T.S., Seminary, Union
	12:30	Dinner party in "400" dormitory with Daniels,Mills, Lily Ho's parents. Hwang Li-ming's husband.
	2:30	To the National Park with Mr.Smythe of American Embassy and Harriet--- and a J.Gendarme.
		Tea at the American Embassy.
	6.30	Supper at South Hill with members of our staff.

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NOV 10 1938

Katherine and I took her down to Hsia Gwan on Monday morning in a car we had secured from the International Relief Committee. She was so interested in every thing which she saw while here and I am sure that her visit was very much worthwhile both from the standpoint of Ginling and her own appreciation of the conditions on the campus and in the city.

The main reason for writing this brief letter at this time is to have you get in touch with Chen Yu-djen. Will you find out from her what she really wants to do- remain in American for the second semester. go to our Unit in West China if they feel there is a need for her there, or come here to this campus? There is not doubt about the need here and the welcome she would receive and the contribution she would make. If for any reason she thinks it better for her not to come here, I would appreciate knowing just as soon as possible for I would want to try to get other help. We are now very much in need of several good women workers in the upper course, one to head up the curriculum and help in supervising the practice teaching of the Experimental Course girls who are teaching in the Homecraft Course: one to look after the social life of the girls and the religious program- the work carried by Miss Wang before she went to Shanghai to finish her work at the Seminary. In other words we are much in need of both an academic dean and a social dean. We could have one of our men do the former but we have wanted to keep the place open for Miss Chen, for that is the type of work for which she has been especially preparing.

If Miss Chen is interested in coming to the work here, it would be a very <u>great advantage</u> to have her visit some institutions like Berea, Hampton and perhaps other institutions of the secondary school grade where the students do much of their own work and are also able to earn their fees. Almost 100 of our 145 girls in the Experimental Course are earning all or part of their fees this year, and I imagine that conditions will not improve much during the coming five years-or even more. This semester the girls are earning their fees by cleaning classrooms, washing dishes, etc, but by next semester I hope that the weaving projects will be sufficiently under way so that some of them can earn money in that way, and then we could have all the girls-those who pay fees and those who do not-do the cleaning work. We have found thus far that it is very valuable in training them. Do you think it would be possible for Miss Chen to visit a few outstanding institutions like Hampton? If funds cannot be found in any other way I would be glad to have one month of my salary taken.

Rebecca can you also let me know if there is a fair possibility of raising the budget for our work here that I sent to you some time ago. It was approximately $15,000. Chinese currency, perhaps a little more than that. Three thousand gold at present exchange ought to be sufficient. If it cannot be raised I shall have to make certain cuts before the second semester.

All is going on well here, and we have a staff that is cooperating splendidly. You would smile at the people we have been able to gather from the high ways and bye ways. Just this week a young man of 35 who was a former primary school teacher came to the city-utterly destitute. His wife and mother had been killed by bandits, leaving him to take care of his three little sons. In order to help him we we have encouraged him to start a neighborhood poor school. He now has more than 120 children enrolled. I must close this now.

Kindly share with Mrs. Thurston. Mrs. Yen and Naomi if they remain I was writing. Appreciately, Minnie J. Vautrin

0669

Series A

Bulletin No..17

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts from letter written by Miss Minnie Vautrin dated "The Campus" November 10, 1938
Received in New York December 5, 1938.

Even now I am not able to write for you and for Dr. Wu the kind of report I want you to have, but am hoping that after the financial report is made out for the months of September and October that I shall be able to get at a write-up on the work we are doing on the campus this autumn. I bravely started out with the hope that I could get to you a weekly newsletter, but long ago I had to give that up for lack of time. Now that work is getting started, I hope that I shall have a little more time.

Am enclosing some hastily written copies of the programs we have planned for the Founders' Day Breakfast on Sunday morning November 13th at the South Hill Faculty Residence, and also of the more formal exercises which we have planned for Sunday afternoon at 4 P.M. There will be twenty-one of us at the Sunday morning service, and perhaps not more than one hundred foreign and Chinese guests at the afternoon service. In addition we shall have the 104 women in the Homecraft Course and the 145 teen age girls in the Experimental Course, together with the staffs of the two courses. There will be no processional or recessional. On the same day there will be a service of remembrance in Shanghai and through a telegram which has just boon handed to me I learn that they are having a service at St. Stephen's in Hongkong where Mrs. New is the moving spirit. Am so glad that she feels well enough to plan for it.

Will try to send a copy of an article which I wrote this last week end for Ronald Rees of the National Christian Council. If I do not get it off in this mail, will try to do so in the next. Will you kindly share it with Mrs. Thurston?

We had such a nice visit with Miss Tyler who arrived safely last Saturday afternoon and left at 6 o'clock on Monday morning. Although her visit was very short, yet we had carefully planned it so that she could see the maximum of Ginling and Nanking. Here was her itinerary.

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	3.30	Arrived on Ginling Campus Spent the rest of the afternoon seeing the Campus, also a ball game on the athletic field. (Foreigners in Nanking, diplomatic, missionary, business men, English, American, Chinese.)
	6.30	To the Bates home for supper and a Mission meeting
November 6,	7.30	Breakfast with Harriet and Blanche and Katherine S. Seeing the Poultry Experiment and Gardens
	10	To the Churches of the city - St. Paul's, Christian, Methodist, and Presbyterian, B.T.T.S., Seminary, University.

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12.30 Dinner party in "400" dormitory with Daniels, Mills, Lily Ho's parents, Hwang Li-ming's husband.
2.30 To the National Park with Mr. Smythe of American Embassy and Harriet - - and a J. gendarme.
Tea at the American Embassy.
6.30 Supper at South Hill with members of our staff

Katherine and I took her down to Hsia Gwan on Monday morning in a car we had secured from the International Relief Committee. She was so interested in everything which she saw while here and I am sure that her visit was very much worthwhile both from the standpoint of Ginling and her own appreciation of the conditions on the campus and in the city.

All is going on well here, and we have a staff that is cooperating splendidly. You would smile at the people we have been able to gather from the highways and byways. Just last week a young man of 35 who was a former primary school teacher came to the city - utterly destitude. His wife and mother had been killed by bandits, leaving him to take care of his three little sons. In order to help him we have encouraged him to start a neighborhood poor school. He now has more than 120 children enrolled. I must close this now.

Kindly share with Mrs. Thurston. Mrs. Tsen and Harriet and Blanche would want to be remembered to you, if they knew I was writing.

Invitation and program of Ginling College Founders' Day Breakfast, South Hill Residence, November 13, 1938.

You are cordially invited to attend

A Service of Intercession
and
A Founders' Day Breakfast

on Sunday morning, November the thirteenth,
nineteen hundred and thirty eight
at
Seven thirty in the South Hill Faculty Residence. Please reply.

Service of Intercession 7:30 A.M.
Leader Miss Wu Dzing-hsien, 1923
Hymn, "O God, The Rock of Ages" Number 440
Announcements
Scripture Reading Miss Lin Mi-li, 1936
Thanksgiving and Intercession:
Thanksgiving for the Blessings of the Past Miss Moffet
Intercession
For loyalty and courage for the present Mrs. Tsen
For vision, strength and steadfastness for the future -Dr. Bates
For the alumnae Miss Vautrin
Hymn, "Lead On, O King Eternal" Number 282
Benediction Rev. W.P.Mills

8 A.M. Fellowship Breakfast
College Songs - Reminiscences

0671

GINLING COLLEGE
Founders' Day Remembrance
Nanking, China
November 13, 1938
4 p.m.

Prelude
Invocation
Hymn, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" — Number 21
Scripture Reading and Prayer — Rev. David Yang
Anthem, "Be Still, My Soul: The Lord is On Thy Side"
Announcements
Solo — Rev. Paul R. Abbott, Jr
Address — Rev. W. P. Mills
Founders' Day Song — Quarette
Special Prayer for the College — Rev. Ernest Foster
Hymn, "Faith of Our Fathers, Living Still" — Number 339
Benediction
Postlude

0672

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Dear Rebecca:

Thank you so much for your share in the nice fruit, butter, cheese and coffee which Miss Tyler brought to us. She was a peach for bringing and you were all most thoughtful in sending it.

Love. Minnie

0673

Invitation and program of Ginling College Founders' Day Breakfast, South Hill Residence, November 13, 1938.

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Thanksgiving for the Blessings of the Past			Miss Moffet
Intercession			
For loyalty and courage for the present			Mrs. Tsen
For vision, strength and steadfastness for the future			-Dr. Bates
For the alumnae			Miss Vautrin
Hymn, "Lead On, O King Eternal"		Number	282
Benediction			Rev. W.P.Mills

8 A.M. Fellowship Breakfast
College Songs - Reminiscences

0674

An Experiment in the Field of Secondary Education
The Experimental Course
The Ginling Campus
1938-39

(Written on the ~~Ginling~~ Campus, December 3, 1938)

In an attempt to meet the need of the local girls of middle school age who had been forced to spend most of the academic year of 1937-38 in refugee camps or in hiding in isolated villages or towns off the main avenues of communication, it was decided to plan a project especially for them. Just how many such girls there were we did not know. Between fifty and sixty had lived for many months in the large Ginling Refugee Camp, and from conversations with them we knew there was a keen desire to study and avoid wasting another year. How many more had been in other refugee camps or in private houses in the former Safety Zone, or would be able to find their way back into the city from their hiding places, we did not know. There was also the question of finances for such a project, for certainly few families were left in the city who would be able to pay regular school fees for their daughters. A self-supporting project as in former years was not to be thought of. Last but not least, were the equally difficult problems of curriculum and staff. The ordinary middle school curriculum with its emphasis so largely on the learning of subject matter from textbooks, and its college preparatory aim, seemed unreal in the world of reality in which we were living. Certainly such a curriculum was not fitted for an impoverished community like Nanking which was poorer by two hundred and forty six millions of dollars than it had been a year previous, a community in which few would have the opportunity to go on to college. With many unanswered questions in our minds, we bravely started out to plan, knowing at least that the need was a reality and that there was space on our unused campus to carry on such a project.

Choosing a Name: In order to be free to experiment it was decided not to open a regular middle school, but rather an experimental course for girls of junior-senior middle school ability. The hope was that in this way we could put much more emphasis on "productive education" and in teaching those skills that are of value in this locality at the present time. We wanted also to be free to put much more time and emphasis on character training. Those girls who preferred to follow a regular middle school curriculum were urged to go to Shanghai or, if possible to the West.

Selecting the Students: By the middle of September, very simple placement tests had been prepared in Chinese, English, and mathematics, supplemented by a brief test in mental ability. To our astonishment, 157 finally took these tests - they were repeated a number of times as small groups in the country hearing about them would find their way into the city. By September 26th a partial staff had been assembled and class work was started. About the same time, the Christian Hospital was able to secure a superintendent of nurses who very much desired to start a class in nurse's training. Twelve of the more advanced girls who had qualified for our course were transferred to the nurses' training course, leaving a total of 145. One college dormitory and the former Practice School dormitory are being used to house these students.

Fees: The matter of fees proved to be as difficult as was anticipated. Knowing that it would be impossible to charge pre-war fees, before applications were received the fees were reduced by 50 per cent. During the time of receiving applications and again during registration each student was interviewed privately and urged to pay as much as her family could afford. She was told plainly that a method of work-relief was being planned by means of which students would be asked to work for all unpaid fees, and at the same time would be required to take less academic work. The final

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results as shown below were better than was expected:

Those able to pay full fees	55 students	38%
Those unable to pay any fees	10 "	7%
Those able to pay part fees	80 "	55%

The schools from whichstudents had come are given below:

Government Schools	72 students	50%
Christian Schools	55 "	38%
Private Schools	18 "	12%

The range in educational ability is from Junior I through Junior III and from Senior I to Senior II, making five educational groups in all. Several who qualified for Senior III were not accepted but urged either to go to Shanghai to the cooperative Christian Middle School or to enter the Nurses Training Course.

Work-Relief Plan: Students who cannot pay any of their fees, which amount to $46 for a semester, are expected to work 23 hours each week and to lighten their academic load accordingly. As a matter of fact we have not yet been able to plan more than 15 periods per week of work-relief, but students know that they may be given opportunity during the coming summer to make up for the hours they lack now. Those who pay part of their fees do less work. The two lower classes wash dishes, clean diring and guest rooms, and classrooms. On Saturday afternoons from 1-3p.m. is "big cleaning" when ceilings and walls are cleaned, windows washed and floors mopped. After the "big cleaning" teachers grade the results. These grades will appear in their final semester reports along with the grades of other courses. Standards for the daily and weekly cleaning have been worked out carefully for them. Much improvement has been made during the past two months not only in ability to do the work well but also in the attitude toward it. The problem of providing and caring for dish and dust clothes has been no simple one for such a large group of workers. There is great need of a capable college graduate to supervise this work relief and make it of the maximum value in character training.

The three upper classes instead of doing manual work, teach the women in the Homecraft Course and the children in the Nursery School. The teaching is under the supervision of Miss Lin Mi-li (1936) the dean of the Homecraft Course. A group of 26 girls are doing this teaching. They have regular teacher's meetings and are paid for their careful preparation as well as the time spent in teaching.

Experiments: Through teacher's meetings and a special staff retreat, a desire has been stimulated to teach more than books, and to prepare these young people, as fully as possible, to live creatively and thoughtfully in their changed environment. There is a desire to make them conscious of some of the many problems that confront them and to prepare them for the solution of these problems. Only a beginning has been made, but some results are already evident. In all courses there is an attempt being made to put the emphasis on the practical, and in developing an ability to use what is being learned. A few examples will make this clear.

Biology Courses: Gardening, both vegetable and flower, is a regular part of these courses. Students are now learning to salt for winter use vegetables that they themselves have raised. They have learned to cure persimmons, salt eggs, make vinegar, get rid of insect pests and a little later on they will study the raising of poultry and sericulture. They are about to begin experiments in the use of ovens in baking.

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Chemistry Course: In chemistry they are already experimenting with the making of lye from wood ashes, the making of dyes, soap, hand lotion, ink, etc. We were very fortunate in securing a man trained as a chemical engineer for this work.

A course in social problems has been substituted for college algebra and a course in flower arrangement takes the place of drawing. Washing of vegetables and salting them for winter use have been substituted a number of times for the period in physical education.

Every Saturday morning there is a general assembly when one class explains and demonstrates what it has learned that is of general value to all. A schedule has been made for the semester so that each subject will have an opportunity. The following demonstrations have already been given in this Saturday morning "Mutual Help Association"

A Comparison of Three Methods of Curing Persimmons.
Household Pests and How to Get Rid of Them.
How to Arrange Flowers Attractively
How to Make Oil Colors. [redacted]

To stimulate creative ability, a prize has been offered to each class for the best original essay on the chrysanthemum. Also for the best poem and the best drawing. These prizes are to be offered the end of this week. Students were encouraged to study the chrysanthemums in the moonlight, when the dew was on them, ~~etc.~~ and at other times.

In order to help students to realize that habits, attitudes, interests and ideals are as of great value as knowledge of books, a grading system has been adopted for the academic courses that is somewhat of a departure from the one usually used. It consists of three divisions, namely, Excellent, Satisfactory, and Repeat, or rather the Chinese equivalents for these terms. At the same time a list of good habits and attitudes is being formulated on which students are to receive points. Among other traits the list contains the following -

Willingness to bear responsibility.
Ability to cooperate with others in worthy enterprises.
Sincerity and truthfulness.
Helpfulness, thoughtfulness, and kindliness.
Interest in health improvement, ~~Etc.~~

These two systems of grading are being used this semester as an experiment with the thought in mind that they are to be improved next semester. Since the whole project is an experiment, the staff seems eager to experiment in both methods and organization.

The Staff: Well-trained men, who because of heavy family responsibility were not able to evacuate westward last autumn a year ago with their institutions, but did evacuate into nearby villages and towns, have gradually returned to the city. From such men it has been possible to assemble a well-trained staff. The fact that these men have been wanderers and in hiding with their families for many long weary months makes them keen to get into constructive work again. The great lack is for experienced college women who can take such courses as physical education, hygiene, and music and also help in the supervision of work-relief and dormitory life. The United Christian Missionary Society has loaned us Miss Katherine Schultze for the year, which is a great help. For singing we have two friends of Ginling who are volunteering their services, namely, Mrs. Wang (Hwa Ying-deh) and Mrs. James McCallum. Of the former college staff there are five on the campus, all of whom are helping in the project. Miss Blanche Wu (1923) is giving an intensely interesting and practical course in biology, Miss Whitmer is teaching two courses in flower arrangement and is supervisor of the cleaning of classrooms, Mrs. Tsen not only is in charge of the food for the project but also gives her time to granting permissions for absences from the campus - no easy task in these days in our city. Mr. Francis Chen is treasurer and

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business manager while Mr. Li Hung-nien who is Mr. Chen's assistant, has generously volunteered to teach recreation since it has not yet been possible for us to secure a well-trained person for the physical education. This is now the base-ball season.

Religious Education: Twice each week there are two chapel services which all students attend, although up to the present no mention has been made of compulsory attendance. Two very fine pastors of the city take turns in leading these chapels. They also teach the one period each week of required Bible Study for each class. All three of these periods are carefully planned, and for this semester center on the Life of Christ. On Sunday evenings the students are in full charge of the service, the classes leading by turns. Some evenings the program has consisted of singing and of a number of short talks in which students tell of some of the valuable lessons that have come to them during refugee days. There is much more opportunity for religious nurture than we have been able to give and our regret is that we do not have a well-trained consecrated full-time person for this work at this time when youth is thinking so seriously of real values, and there are so few outside activities to detract and scatter interests.

In order to help our students to think of those even less fortunate than themselves, every Friday the noon meal consists of rice and beans. On Friday, too, each class has its weekly meeting with its two advisers and at that time an offering is taken for others Sixty dollars have already been raised. A small amount of bedding has been purchased and sent to the Home for Cripples and Orphans in the southern part of the city, and just as soon as they can be procured, straw mattresses will be purchased for all the children in this Home. An attractive poster indicates the weekly offering.

The Future: If the necessary person can be secured for supervision next semester, we would like to have all students share in the housekeeping activities - the cleaning of classrooms, of dining-rooms and halls, and the washing of dishes, since it is already apparent that those girls doing that work this semester have learned much about cleanliness, cooperation, and faithfulness in doing an assigned task. We hope that by that time the industrial work can be well enough started so that those needing to earn their fees can do so by learning to weave towels, stockings and cloth. We would like to do something creative in industrial arts, such as the designing and weaving of a book bag or a scarf - but that takes initiative that we do not now have.

We are already dreaming dreams for the year 1939-40. If other organizations or Missions decide that it is advisable to open regular middle schools for girls of this region, would it be possible for Ginling to continue an experiment in creative education for a selected group of girls of middle school age, preparing them in all available ways to become constructive members of society and leaders in an impoverished community?

The Ginling Campus
December 3, 1938

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Series A

Bulletin No. 19

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

A HOMECRAFT - INDUSTRIAL COURSE

A Project in Rehabilitation for Destitute Women and Girls

The Ginling Campus
1938 - 39

(Written by Miss Vautrin, November 29, 1938)

The Need: Eight months' experience in managing a refugee camp for women and girls brought the realization that the winter of 1938-39 would be a difficult one for many. There would be many women in the city whose husbands or fathers or elder brothers had been killed or taken and would never return, there would be many whose homes had been burned and whose meager possessions looted, there would be many others from homes so poor that rice could not be afforded for all. The conviction gradually came that the large campus must be used to rehabilitate a group of such women and to send them out with new hope and courage for the dark future. By September plans were made to open an industrial-homecraft course for a group of approximately one hundred women and their children.

Selecting the Neediest: The problem of selecting was a most difficult one. Had all been allowed to register who desired to do so there would have been many hundreds. As it was more than two hundred fifty registered, and from this number the one hundred were finally selected. In order to select one hundred of the neediest but most capable women and older girls between the ages of 18 and 30, several weeks were used. Fortunately some very valuable questionnaires were available which had been filled in by the women in the early spring when they had come to the campus to sign a petition for the release of their husbands or sons, and from this large number of questionnaires of more than twelve hundred, a first selection of five hundred was made and then a selection of one hundred. After this selection, each individual case was investigated, either by an investigator from the International Relief Committee staff, or by a trained social worker who is the dean of the new project. Those young women who wanted to enter such a course and who could pay even a little for the training were sent to other institutions in the city which had opened similar work - for the sincere hope was to limit the project on the Ginling campus to those who were destitute, or so very poor that this coming winter would be most difficult for them. The group finally selected is described by the following facts.

100 women and girls ranging in ages from 16 to 37, with the large majority, 74, being from 17 to 25 years of age.
30 children belonging to the above women. Their range in age is from 1 year to 12 years. Twenty being from 3-6 years of age.
5 blind girls who have no place to go and no support.
2 children who have been placed in a good Christian home, but are being supported by the project.

Their home and financial conditions are:

50 entirely destitute with no income and no support, but are dependent upon others for a mere subsistence. Of these, 17 had their fathers, or brothers, or husbands taken or killed at the time of the capture of the city and 23 of the others are either fatherless or widows.
50 come from families whose income ranges from $3.00 to $12.00 per month and often the family is one with many children.

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The Curriculum: The curriculum consists of three large divisions as follows:

a. Learning to live together.
b. Classroom courses in general education and home training.
c. Training in homecrafts and industrial work.

Learning to Live Together: Under the supervision of Mrs. S. F. Tsen of the College staff, and with the assistance of two former refugees of the Ginling Camp, the women are being taught how to cook for the large family of one hundred and thirty-five and how to take care of their rooms. The one hundred women have been divided into four groups of twenty-five. Each group takes full responsibility for cooking for one month, and those who do not show at the end of the month that they know how to cook well will be given another month of training later. For less than two hundred dollars, four little model kitchens were built and equipped and in these four kitchens the cooking is done. This past week they have been busy washing and salting the vegetables from their own garden. In the autumn they cut their own fuel from some of the college hills. Although their food is very simple, consisting of but one vegetable and rice at each of two meals, with meat perhaps once each week, yet the women have grown sturdy and fat and all look improved in health. Saturday is cleaning and bath day. On that day no regular classes are held, but the women and children have an opportunity to take baths and wash their clothes and bedding, and give their rooms a thorough cleaning. The dormitory rooms which used to accommodate two or three college students are now occupied by four or five of these women. They sleep on the floor as in refugee days and have no chairs or tables in their rooms. Life is very simple but deeply appreciated.

Classroom Courses: The women have been divided into six groups according to educational ability. The highest group is of the 5th and 6th grade ability, the lowest consists of women and girls who have never studied before. Of the former there are 23 and of the latter there are but 8. The courses planned for them consist of Chinese reading and writing, Child, Home and Community Hygiene, Child Training, Singing and Bible. For the advanced classes there is some history and composition. Over in the lecture hall of the Science Building they have chapel five times each week, and one general lecture. Home arithmetic is also studied by all.

A most interesting staff has been assembled and one that is deeply interested in the project. For some of the teachers, the small salary given is a great blessing for some of them were also destitute or badly in need of earning. Three of the teachers are volunteers who donate their services without salary. The dean of the course is a Ginling graduate, a young woman who majored in sociology and had training in social service. The teacher in home arithmetic is the wife of a pastor, a woman who had many years of experience in a primary school. Twenty-six of the students in a secondary education project are doing practice teaching in the Homecraft Course as a means of paying their fees, and these girls are all under the supervision of the dean of the Course.

Training in Homecrafts and Industrial Work. It takes time under ordinary conditions to start any kind of industrial work, but under present conditions it seems painfully slow. However, the end of two months of effort sees the following work started at least:

a. Sewing and Knitting. These are being supervised by the former head of the college neighborhood day school. Each one of the one hundred women, during the six months' period on the campus will be expected to learn how to do common sewing and knitting. One group of twenty-five will be found each morning learning to knit in the sunny room formerly used as the plant pathology laboratory. They are learning how to make mittens and gloves, socks and stockings, bloomers and

sweaters. As soon as the yarn comes from Shanghai some will learn to weave scarfs. In the afternoon another group of twenty-five can be found upstairs in the former general physics laboratory where they are learning to cut out and to make inner and outer garments for themselves and children, - if they are beginners, they practice first on old cloth, if they have had some experience they work on new materials. Just now the teacher is having two very gay charts made, and on these the names of the women and their grades for each garment are to be written.

b. Weaving. This has been a most difficult piece of work. We supposed that, having secured the loom, work could begin, but that is far from true, for there are innumerable small fixtures for the looms, besides the great difficulty of getting the raw materials for the weaving. Mrs. Tsen has given weeks of time and thought to this work and now both the towel weaving and the stocking weaving are well started. Four looms have been purchased and set up for the weaving of towels and the half time of a capable weaver of experience has been secured. The women have learned to set up the looms as well as the actual weaving. As soon as possible cloth weaving will be started also. Three machines for the weaving of stockings have been purchased, and the full-time services of a very fine Christian weaver have been secured. The weaver used to have a little factory of his own at Chapei but his factory was burned and all his equipment destroyed so he was glad to come to Nanking to teach in the Homecraft Course. Without the services of one of our alumnae in Shanghai, Miss Dju Yu-bao, 1924, the weaving work would not now be started for she spent many hours searching for the weaver and assisting him in getting all the necessary materials.

c. Gardening. Fortunately the campus is large and there were a number of unused corners and hillsides. Miss Whitmer of the Biology Department was deeply interested in supervising this work and as mentioned above after a little over two months of work, the women are now eating and salting for winter use the vegetables which they themselves have raised. Regular college gardeners have done the teaching - and with their experience they are excellent teachers, for vegetable and flower raising is not theory with them. Most of the women know nothing of gardening, of the first group of twenty-five only one had ever worked in a garden before. After the first soreness in muscles has worn off, the women are enthusiastic, and they carry water and hoe and dig with joy.

In addition to the above large undertakings, two women are assisting Miss Wu in the raising of poultry, four are learning how to make and sell bean milk under the supervision of Miss Lin, the dean of the course, and eight others are learning how to manage a little cooperative store which has found its home in the two glass cases under the stairs in the Recitation Hall. These women are learning how to keep accurate accounts and at the end of a given period will get experience in dividing profits in true cooperative style. Each person who purchases at the little store will receive a part of the profits.

During the first three months of the six months' course all are expected to learn all types of industrial work, but the hope is that during the last three months there can be some specialization, in which each woman will select the thing that she wishes to do for a living and allowed time to really become adept in that one process as far as possible. During that period the women will also be mentally prepared to want to go out and try out the new skills which they have learned and which has been a generous gift to them.

The Nursery School: One of the brightest and happiest spots on the campus is the little nursery school which is being conducted in the large guest hall in the building given by the students and alumnae of Smith College. The little school is being taught by Miss Gin a young person who had some training as a primary teacher, but it is also being supervised and assisted by Miss Lin and Miss Whitmer. There is much singing and there are games and handwork in addition to the learning of Chinese characters. A number of the students from the secondary education project do practice teaching there also. From eight to nine each morning on these sunshiny days the children can be seen out on the campus playing group games; at nine o'clock they have their first meal, at the time when their mothers eat. Then you will see them at work in the guest hall. They have been taught to change their shoes when they go into the room in order to keep the floor clean, this being a part of their education. In the middle of the day they have an extra meal which their mothers do not have - or rather a lunch which consists of bean milk, a cookie and their daily dose of cod liver oil. After that they go for a rest - two alcoves have been prepared for them in the guest hall. In the afternoon after their nap they have more school work and then they have their last meal - again with their mothers. The children are exceedingly good and very polite. How they will miss the life here on the big campus when the time comes for them to leave us next April.

Financing the Project: A generous gift from a group of Chinese women in Shanghai made possible the starting of the project. This will have to be supplemented by part of the fund given by friends of China in America. The gifts have made it possible for us to put the emphasis on teaching rather than on the effort to make the project self-supporting. It also made it possible for us to select those women who could pay absolutely nothing for the training which they are receiving.

The Future: Already some of us are beginning to think of the year 1939-1940, and are wondering if it will be possible to select a group of the most promising girls from a number of villages and farms and prepare them in every possible way to go back to their villages to bring new life and new hope. Such training might be far-reaching in its influence, and we have faith to believe that if we are prepared to give such training, others will be led to finance it.

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Series A

Bulletin No. 20

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

An Experiment in the Field of Secondary Education
The Experimental Course
The Ginling Campus
1938-39

(Written on the Campus, December 3, 1938).

In an attempt to meet the need of the local girls of middle school age who had been forced to spend most of the academic year of 1937-38 in refugee camps or in hiding in isolated villages or towns off the main avenues of communication, it was decided to plan a project especially for them. Just how many such girls there were we did not know. Between fifty and sixty had lived for many months in the large Ginling Refugee Camp, and from conversations with them we knew there was a keen desire to study and avoid wasting another year. How many more had been in other refugee camps or in private houses in the former Safety Zone, or would be able to find their way back into the city from their hiding places, we did not know. There was also the question of finances for such a project, for certainly there were few families left in the city who would be able to pay regular school fees for their daughters. A self-supporting project as in former years was not to be thought of. Last but not least, were the equally difficult problems of curriculum and staff. The ordinary middle school curriculum with its emphasis so largely on the learning of subject matter from textbooks, and its college preparatory aim, seemed unreal in the world of reality in which we were living. Certainly such a curriculum was not fitted for an impoverished community like Nanking which was poorer by two hundred and forty six millions of dollars than it had been a year previous, a community in which few would have the opportunity to go on to college. With many unanswered questions in our minds, we bravely started out to plan, knowing at least that the need was a reality and that there was space on our unused campus to carry on such a project.

Choosing a Name: In order to be free to experiment it was decided not to open a regular middle school, but rather an experimental course for girls of junior-senior middle school ability. The hope was that in this way we could put much more emphasis on "Productive education" and in teaching those skills that are of value in this locality at the present time. We wanted also to be free to put much more emphasis on character training. Those girls who preferred to follow a regular middle school curriculum were urged to go to Shanghai or, if possible to the West.

Selecting the Students: By the middle of September, very simple placement tests had been prepared in Chinese, English, and mathematics, supplemented by a brief test in mental ability. To our astonishment, 157 finally took these tests - they were repeated a number of times as small groups in the country hearing about them would find their way into the city. By September 26th a partial staff had been assembled and class work was started. About the same time, the Christian Hospital was able to secure a superintendent of nurses who very much desired to start a class in nurse's training. Twelve of the more advanced girls who had qualified for our course were transferred to the nurses' training course, leaving a total of 145. One College dormitory and the former Practice School dormitory are being used to house these students.

Fees: The matter of fees proved to be as difficult as was anticipated. Knowing that it would be impossible to charge pre-war fees, before applications were received the fees were reduced by fifty per cent. During the time of receiving applications and again during registration each student was interviewed privately and urged to pay as much as her family could afford. She was told plainly that a method

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of work-relief was being planned by means of which students would be asked to work for all unpaid fees, and at the same time would be required to take less academic work. The final results as shown below were better than was expected:

Those able to pay full fees	55 students	38%
Those unable to pay any fees	10 "	7%
Those able to pay part fees	80 "	55%

The schools from which students had come are given below:

Government Schools	72 students	50%
Christian Schools	55 students	38%
Private Schools	18 students	12%

The range in educational ability is from Junior I through Junior III and from Senior I to Senior II, making five educational groups in all. Several who qualified for Senior III were not accepted but urged either to go to Shanghai to the cooperative Christian Middle School or to enter the Nurses' Training Course.

Work-Relief Plan: Students who cannot pay any of their fees, which amount to $46 for a semester, are expected to work 23 hours each week and to lighten their academic load accordingly. As a matter of fact we have not yet been able to plan more than 15 periods per week of work-relief, but students know that they may be given opportunity during the coming summer to make up for the hours they lack now. Those who pay part of their fees do less work. The two lower classes wash dishes, clean dining and guest rooms, and classrooms. On Saturday afternoons from 1-3 p.m. is "big cleaning" when ceilings and walls are cleaned, windows washed and floors mopped. After the "big cleaning" teachers grade the results. These grades will appear in their final semester reports along with the grades of other courses. Standards for the daily and weekly cleaning have been worked out carefully for them. Much improvement has been made during the past two months not only in ability to do the work well but also in the attitude toward it. The problem of providing and caring for dish and dust cloths has been no simple one for such a large group of workers. There is great need of a capable college graduate to supervise this work relief and make it of the maximum value in character training.

The three upper classes instead of doing manual work, teach the women in the Homecraft Course and the children in the Nursery School. The teaching is under the supervision of Miss Lin Mi-li (1936) the dean of the Homecraft Course. A group of 26 girls are doing this teaching. They have regular teacher's meetings and are paid for their careful preparation as well as the time spent in teaching.

Experiments: Through teachers' meetings and a special staff retreat, a desire has been stimulated to teach more than books, and to prepare these young people, as fully as possible, to live creatively and thoughtfully in their changed environment. There is a desire to make them conscious of some of the many problems that confront them and to prepare them for the solution of these problems. Only a beginning has been made, but some results are already evident. In all courses there is an attempt being made to put the emphasis on the practical, and in developing an ability to use what is being learned. A few examples will make this clear.

Biology Courses: Gardening, both vegetable and flower, is a regular part of these courses. Students are now learning to salt their vegetables for winter use, vegetables which they themselves have raised. They have learned to cure persimmons, salt eggs, make vinegar, get rid of insect pests and a little later they will study the raising of poultry and sericulture. They are about to begin experiments in the use of ovens in baking.

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Chemistry Course: In chemistry they are already experimenting with the making of lye from wood ashes, the making of dyes, soap, hand lotion, ink, etc. We were very fortunate in securing a man trained as a chemical engineer for this work.

A course in social problems has been substituted for college algebra and a course in flower arrangement takes the place of drawing. Washing of vegetables and salting them for winter use have been substituted a number of times for the period in physical education.

Every Saturday morning there is a general assembly when one class explains and demonstrates what it has learned that is of general value to all. A schedule has been made for the semester so that each subject will have an opportunity. The following demonstrations have already been given in this Saturday morning "Mutual Help Association:"

A Comparison of Three Methods of Curing Persimmons.
Household Pests and How to Get Rid of Them.
How to Arrange Flowers Attractively.
How to Make Oil Colors

To stimulate creative ability, a prize has been offered to each class for the best original essay on the chrysanthemums. Also for the best poem and the best drawing. These prizes are to be offered the end of this week. Students were encouraged to study the chrysanthemums in the moonlight, when the dew was on them, and at other times.

In order to help students to realize that habits, attitudes, interests and ideals are as of great value as knowledge of books, a grading system has been adopted for the academic courses that is somewhat of a departure from the one usually used. It consists of three divisions, namely, Excellent, Satisfactory, and Repeat, or rather the Chinese equivalents for these terms. At the same time a list of good habits and attitudes is being formulated on which students are to receive points. Among other traits the list contains the following -

Willingness to bear responsibility
Ability to cooperate with others in worthy enterprises.
Sincerity and truthfulness.
Helpfulness, thoughtfulness, and kindliness
Interest in Health improvement.

These two systems of grading are being used this semester as an experiment with the thought in mind that they are to be improved next semester. Since the whole project is an experiment, the staff seems eager to experiment in both methods and organization.

The Staff: Well-trained men, who because of heavy family responsibility were not able to evacuate westward last autumn a year ago with their institutions, but did evacuate into nearby villages and towns, having gradually returned to the city. From such men it has been possible to assemble a well-trained staff. The fact that these men have been wanderers in hiding with their families for many long weary months makes them keen to get into constructive work again. The great lack is for experienced college women who can take such courses as physical education, hygiene, and music and also help in the supervision of work-relief and dormitory life. The United Christian Missionary Society has loaned us Miss Katherine Schultze for the year, which is a great help. For singing we have two friends of Ginling who are volunteering their services, namely, Mrs. Wang (Hwa Ying-doh) and Mrs. James McCallum. Of the former college staff there are five on the campus, all of whom are helping in the project. Miss Blanche Wu (1923) is giving an intensely

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interesting and practical course in biology, Miss Whitmer is teaching two courses in flower arrangement and is supervisor of the cleaning of classrooms, Mrs. Tsen not only is in charge of the food for the project but also gives her time to granting permissions for absences from the campus - no easy task in these days in our city. Mr. Francis Chen is treasurer and business manager, while Mr. Li Hung-nien who is Mr. Chen's assistant, has generously volunteered to teach the recreational periods, since it has not yet been possible for us to secure a well-trained person for the physical education. This is now base-ball season.

Religious Education: Twice each week there are two chapel services which all students attend, although up to the present no mention has been made of compulsory attendance. Two very fine pastors of the city take turns in leading these chapels. They also teach the one period each week of required Bible Study for each class. All three of these periods are carefully planned, and for this semester center on the Life of Christ. On Sunday evenings the students are in full charge of the service, the classes leading by turns. Some evenings the program has consisted of singing and of a number of short talks in which students tell of some of the valuable lessons that have come to them during refugee days. There is much more opportunity for religious nurture than we have been able to give and our regret is that we do not have a well-trained consecrated full-time person for this work at this time when youth is thinking so seriously of real values, and there are so few outside activities to detract and scatter interests.

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C
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145 Hankow Road
December 5, 1938

Dear Dr. Wu and Rebecca:

Weeks and weeks have passed without this letter being written and this report being sent - why, I do not know. Each day seems to have so many immediate tasks that the more remote ones never seem to get finished. Day after day I have said, "Now I must write to Rebecca and Dr. Wu today" and yet the day passes without my even getting to the typewriter.

We were happy indeed to have Miss Tyler visit with us although her stay was only about 36 hours. How much she got out of the hours here I do not know for we may have filled them too full for her to get any correct ideas - I hope not. We are equally anxious to hear what Mrs. Thurston's plans are, for through Anna Moffet we know of the word from Chengtu to the China Council in Shanghai and their cabled reply to the Presbyterian Board in America. If Mrs. Thurston should decide to come to Nanking she would be more than welcome. The suggestion of being in Shanghai I think a good one and it may appeal to her. If she should come to Nanking I would suggest that she live in Eva's bungalow where she would be perfectly independent in her manner of living. She is not particularly interested in living frugally, and Harriet is trying very hard to do so, so I do not think they would enjoy living together. I am still living down in the Practice School dormitory, entirely Chinese, and I feel that for the present I must live down in that end of the campus. Please let us know the final decision as soon as it is made.

My main purpose in writing this letter is to talk to the two of you about Chen Yu-djen. What has been her final decision? If she prefers to remain on in America to do more study, or if the Unit in Chengtu feels that her contribution should be made there, or if she herself prefers to go there, all these, or rather any of these would be accepted here in the right spirit, although I personally feel that there is a very big need for her here in the upper course on our campus. I have not written to her recently about any work so would be glad if one of you would do so. As you know, Rachel Wang decided to go to Shanghai to finish her work in the Seminary and we reluctantly bade her goodbye. I think the real reason was that we did not offer her enough and I did not feel we could give her more than we were giving the men with large families - that is, a living wage for them.

If Miss Chen decides to come back to the work here, she would be greatly helped if she could visit a few schools where a work-relief program is carried on for students, like in Berea, Hampton, etc. and also if she could return by way of Europe and visit some folk schools, especially the Högvalla School for the training of rural women leaders near Helsingfors, Finland. The folk schools at Haslev in Denmark would also be fine for her. There may be other schools of that type in other countries like England, but I do not know of them.

As I mentioned in my previous letter, I would be glad to be permitted to postpone my furlough for the present, since I am in perfect health and I do feel that I am needed here, since we are still in the experimental stage, and next year will still be experimenting. The two write-ups I am sending you are not too good, but at least will help.

With much love to both of you,

Affectionately,

(Signed) Minnie

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Dup This is text for which is in X-mas card folder

MV

Christmas on the Ginling Campus
-1938-

Excepting for the little destitute children in the Homecraft Course,,and the neighborhood children in the Sunday School and half day school, no plans were made for a "Merry Christmas." Although outwardly conditions in the city are much better than a year ago, and physical danger is largely past, yet the thought of the terrible agony of wounded soldiers on the battle fields, the daily danger in which people in the western part of China are now living,the deprivation and suffering of the great number of refugees who have gone westward and the general mental and physical suffering all over the great nation, - all these made a "Merry Christmas" impossible for any thoughtful person in this part of China. However, we did want to share with the women and girls with us, most of whom are in a Christian institution for the first time, the inner meaning of the Christmas message, and plan for them a Christmas eve and day which would linger in their memories.

A simple Christmas Pageant had been planned that would use the passages in Luke and Mathew telling of the birth of Jesus, and the Christmas hymns we wanted them to learn. Representatives of all on the Campus were made a part of the pageant, ten-age girls, destitute women and their children, members of the staff and their children, and the college servants. The various groups began to prepare their parts early, for all were expected to memorize them. It was hoped to have the pageant out in one of the gardens, so the shepherds could come down from a hill near by and the wisemen came up the long path from the east, and Mary could ride up to the inn on a donkey and where we could have one large Christmas tree with a great star above it. However the weather changed just a few days before Christmas, and the out door plan was reluctantly given up, and the College Chapel substituted. There was only one rehearsal - that on Friday evening, December 23rd. The program at 6:30 on Christmas Eve was as follows-

Hymn - O Come, All Ye Faithful, Joyful and triumphant
By the Angel Choir (SeniorI&II)

Prophet - Isaiah 7:14 ---------- Mr. Y. T. Wang
Hymn - O Come, O Come Emmanuel.---------- The Angel Choir
Prophet - Matthew 2:6 ---------- Pastor David Yang
Scripture Verses - Luke 2: 1-5 ---------- Junior III
Pageant - Mary and Joseph Arrive at the Inn (Yang, the janitor in the Science Building was Joseph, one of the destitute women was Mary, and a little destitute girls was Mary's maid)
Hymn - O, Little Town of Bethlehem
By the Choir of the Homecraft Course
Scripture Verses - Luke 2: 6-7 ---------- Junior III
Pageant - Appearance of the Holy Family at the Door of the Inn
Hymn - Holy Night ---------- The Angel Choir
Scripture Verses - Luke 2: 8-15 Story of the Shepherds
(By the remainder of the women of the Homecraft Course)
Hymn - While Shepherds Watched their Flocks. ------- Junior II
Pageant - Shepherds Worship the Christ Child. (Four boys, sons of menbers of the staff, and two christian campus servants were the shepherds)
Scripture Verses - Matthew 2: 1-12 Story of the Wisemen.Jun. Ia

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Pageant - Wisemen Offer their Gifts to the Christ Child (Pastor Chiang, Mr. Chen and Mr. Li made very excellent kings. One at a time, they came up the long aisle, singing a verse of " We Three Kings of Orient Are."
Hymn - The First Noel ---------- Junior Ib
Pageant - Nursery School Children Offer Gifts to the Christ Child. (The older children in the Nursery School went to the lower platform, knelt and offered their little gifts and then faced the audience.)
Hymn - Away in a Manger. ---------- The Nursery School
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Breakfast was a real birthday one, with long noodles of longevity and several other special dishes.

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Last but not least were the parties for the three groups of Experimental Course students. One group met with their teachers in the living room of the South Hill residence, another in the living room of "400" dormitory, and still another in the dining room of the Practice School dormitory. For an hour and a half they played games and then they had ~~theyxhad~~ refreshments too. When the lights blinked at nine o'clock giving the first warning, all were sorry the evening had been so short. For many, Christmas was a new experience. Though the varied activities and services it was our hope that the prayer of St. Francis which had been translated into Chinese and placed in a bulletin board where all could see, would become the prayer of each of us during the Christmas season.

Lord, make me an instrument of Your Peace!
Where there is hatred, let me sow love,
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to ~~to~~ understand;
To be loved, as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Written by Minnie Vautrin
January 4, 1939.

Please share with Helen Priestley, Mary V. Thayer and others interested

Miss Priestley please send to Miss Mary Thayer 218 Park St. West Roxbury
Miss Thayer please send to Mrs Reardon
Mrs Reardon to Mrs Williams
Mrs Williams to Henry B. Calder

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CHRISTMAS ON THE GINLING CAMPUS
-1938-

Miss Vautrin's Foreword

No plans for a Christmas which could be called Merry were made, except for the little destitute children in the Homecraft Course, and the neighborhood children in the Sunday School and half day school. The thought of the terrible agony of wounded soldiers on the battle fields, the daily danger in which people in the western part of China are now living, the deprivation and suffering of the great number of refugees who have gone westward and the general mental and physical suffering all over the great nation, - all these made a "Merry Christmas" impossible for any thoughtful person in this part of China, although outwardly conditions in the city are much better than a year ago, and physical danger is largely past. However, we did want to share with the women and girls who ate with us - most of whom are in a Christian institution for the first time - the inner meaning of the Christmas message, and plan for them a Christmas eve and day which would linger in their memories.

How well this purpose was accomplished, the story of the attached pages tells.

The Editor

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CHRISTMAS ON THE GINLING CAMPUS
-1938-

As the central theme of our Christmas celebration, a simple pageant had been planned that would use the passages in Luke and Matthew telling of the birth of Jesus, and the Christmas hymns we wanted the members of our community to learn. Representatives of all on the Campus were made a part of the pageant, teen-age girls, destitute women and their children, members of the staff and their children, and the college servants. The various groups began to prepare their parts early, for all were expected to memorize them. It was hoped to have the pageant out in one of the gardens, so that the shepherds could come down from a hill near by and the wisemen come up the long path from the east, and Mary could ride up to the inn on a donkey and where we could have one large Christmas tree with a great star above it. However the weather changed just a few days before Christmas, and the outdoor plan was reluctantly given up, and the College Chapel substituted. There was only one rehearsal - that on Friday evening, December 23d. The program at 6:30 on Christmas Eve was as follows:

Hymn - O Come, all Ye Faithful, Joyful and triumphant
By the Angel Choir (Senior I and II)
Prophet - Isaiah 7:14 - - - - - - - - - - Mr. Y. T. Wang ("Big" Wang)
Hymn - O Come, O Come Emmanuel - - - - - - - The Angel Choir
Prophet - Matthew 2:6 - - - - - - - - - - Pastor David Yang
Scripture Verses - Luke 2:1-5 - - - - - - - Junior III
Pageant - Mary and Joseph Arrive at the Inn (Yang, the janitor in the Science Building was Joseph, one of the destitute women was Mary, and a little destitute girl was Mary's maid)
Hymn - O, Little Town of Bethlehem
By the choir of the Homecraft Course
Scripture Verses - Luke 2:6-7 - - - - - - - Junior III
Pageant - Appearance of the Holy Family at the Door of the Inn
Hymn - Holy Night - - - - - - - - - - - - The Angel Choir
Scripture Verses - Luke 2:8-15 Story of the Shepherds
(By the remainder of the women of the Homecraft Course)
Hymn - While Shepherds Watched their Flocks - Junior II
Pageant - Shepherds Worship the Christ Child - (Four boys, sons of members of the staff, and two Christian campus servants were the shepherds)
Scripture Verses - Matthew 2:1-12 Story of the Wisemen - Junior Ia
Pageant - Wisemen Offer their Gifts to the Christ Child (Pastor Chiang, Mr. Chen, and Mr. Li made very excellent kings. One at a time, they came up the long aisle, singing a verse of "We Three Kings of Orient Are."
Hymn - The First Noel - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Junior Ib
Pageant - Nursery School Children Offer Gifts to the Christ Child. (The older children in the Nursery School went to the lower platform, knelt and offered their little gifts and then faced the audience.)
Hymn - Away in a Manger. - - - - - - - - - - - The Nursery School
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At the same hour over in the lecture hall of the Science Building the women of the Homecraft Course met with their teachers. They too had a service of praise and prayer. The plain room looked festive with its Christmas tree, its Christian scroll on the background of a red satin banner, and its lighted candles. Miss Lin, the dean of the course, was in charge of the service. This is the only Christmas that group will be together, for long before next Christmas their course will have been finished and they will have left us to go out to start life again.

Breakfast was planned to have a birthday atmosphere. Long noodles symbolizing longevity and several other special dishes were served.

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Written by Minnie Vautrin
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