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Ginling
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Wu Yi-fang

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Ginling College 25th Anniversary Committee

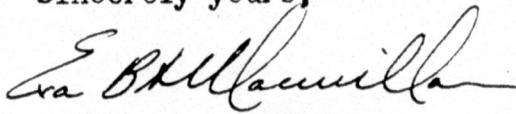


150 Fifth Avenue
New York New York
13 January 1941

Dear Mr. Parker:

A cable message from President Wu Yi-fang received this morning reports that she has made Clipper reservations to bring her to America in mid March. This decision is conditional upon the war situation, and is approved by the Directors of the College in China.

Sincerely yours,



Mrs. T. D. Macmillan

Mr. J. I. Parker
150 Fifth Avenue
New York N.Y.

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Confirmation Copy

Ginling College, Chen-tu
January 13th, 1941

Dear Mrs. Macmillan,

If I wish to catch the air mail tomorrow, I can send you only a few lines today. There have been too many interruptions which kept me from doing the things I planned to do.

First of all, I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of December 7 and 21, and I was very glad to hear of the good report about Wu Suen-i's work at Merrill-Palmer School, and about her visits to Berea and Pine Mountain.

Your cable in regard to my trip was received many days ago. Since the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors in Chen-tu was to meet, I did not try to send you my reply at once. In the meantime, Miss Priest made inquiries about the possibility of Clipper seats. The Executive Committee met on January 8. The following is their action on this matter:

"Voted to approve of the plan for President Wu to make a short trip to the United States in the spring with the provision that before she leaves Chen-tu the whole matter will be reviewed to be sure there is no chance in war conditions to question the advisability of the trip."

Briefly, I may say that the members present gave this question their serious consideration. They fully appreciated the reasons back of the invitation from New York, and would have readily voted unconditionally to approve my going if it were not because of the uncertain war situation in the world. I consulted the Faculty Executive Committee and we all felt the same way that if I took the trip, I should be back not later than June 1. I have also consulted Bishop Ward, and he said that he was in support of my taking the trip, but it would be with the provision that I may be kept from returning for a year or so. I hope you will kindly consider the viewpoints from our angle, that is, when we are faced with all sorts of uncertain changes, the Board wished me to be cautious before starting on the journey. It was after the board meeting that the American Express in Hong Kong replied that there was a Clipper seat available, and we have replied making a reservation on the Clipper sailing February 28 from Hong Kong to Honolulu, and from Honolulu by boat which will arrive in San Francisco on March 14. After this reservation was made, we sent the following cable: "Reserved Clipper arrive March fourteenth." Directors approve trip conditionally depending war situation." I am sorry that we are still unable to give you the final word, but I hope you will be patient with this war age, and will kindly sympathize with the uncertain situation we are facing. I shall certainly cable you whether or not I am to start on this journey.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ Li-fang Wu

IF./k

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In the original file
Confirmation Copy

Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan
January 15, 1941

Dear Miss Griest,

Somenow, I have not written to you for weeks, and I have not even answered your good letters of November 15 and 22. I am very sorry for this negligence and unintentional delay.

I fully intended to write to you in regard to Miss Josephine Fuller right after your letters came. The first thing I did was to show your letters to Ruth to get her reaction, and to see if it would be ethical for Ginling to approach her. It happened that we were interrupted when we were to discuss this matter, and then I forgot about it. Personally, I do not feel it wrong for Ginling to take this matter up with Miss Fuller, that is, if her professors at Wellesley now recommend her to go into Physical Education work. If I remember correctly, the post-graduate Physical Education course at Wellesley is two years, and we hope by then the war will have ended, and if she is the one to be invited to our Physical Education department, there will be no question about her coming to China. In regard to her relationship with Cheeloo, I feel that since they had no contract or verbal understanding, we could at least approach her. I have a high regard for these young people from Oberlin, so I would not like to miss the opportunity of securing Miss Fuller, if she should be free to consider another opening. From the women students of Cheeloo, I have the impression that Mrs. Yu is not doing a great deal for them. Mrs. Yu may not be definitely needing a full time English secretary. However, if there should have been an understanding arrived at between Mrs. Yu and Miss Fuller, I have no doubt that Miss Fuller would surely let you know, then we can drop the matter.

The two departments that are in a serious condition and need additional strong staff members are Physical Education and Sociology. Recently, Mr. Ho, the chairman of the National Committee on Physical Education in the Ministry of Education, visited Chengtu. He talked to me and Ettie Chin, telling us specially that he wished us to keep up and develop our Physical Education work. This fall, even just for the special short course, the work is more than the staff of three can carry. I was thinking of Miss Chang Hwei-lan, and wondered if she had already accepted the invitation from the government normal college for women. She has never replied to my letter which was sent through you last summer. If the condition around Shanghai should take a turn for the worse, and the Christian Colleges should consider moving, then Hwang Li-ming and Miss Powell may be able to come up to Chengtu. Perhaps you know Miss Powell is the new instructor helping Li-ming. She is a Chinese girl adopted by an American family in Hankow. We have heard of women missionaries being refused a passport to come to China. Mrs. Rhead wrote that you had written to her that it would be impossible for her to secure a passport. This will mean that we cannot expect American teachers to come out next summer. Of course, if by a miracle the war clouds should clear up in the spring, then we will have an entirely different situation.

For our Sociology department, it really has been carried along these last three years by the momentum started by Merib Mossman, and we just must secure a strong leader if we wish to have a good department at all. How I still wish that Miss Mossman could return to us! I know her family situation very well, and understand how she was pulled to stay in the States. Now with the uncertain condition during the war time, I could not even open the question.

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JAN 15 1941

From our present foreign group, Dr. Reeves is expecting to return with her friends, the Meyers of Boston, next summer. Miss Florence Kirk has been granted her regular furlough by the Board of Directors at the end of this school year. At first, we wished her to extend her term of service for one year, but she was anxious to take up graduate work, and we can never be sure if the war condition would not continue longer than one year. Further, Alice Chang joined our faculty in 1937, and she also would like to get her leave after a few years for further study. So we finally recommended to the Board of Directors for Miss Kirk to have her furlough at the regular time. She has applied for scholarships at these institutions: Radcliffe, Columbia, Yale, Northwestern, and the University of Iowa. I am sending letters of recommendation directly, but I wish that our office in New York could help in getting a scholarship for her. I do not know whether this kind of assistance for our faculty falls on you or Mrs. Macmillan, so I am mentioning this to you both. Perhaps Florence has written to Mrs. Macmillan directly about it.

You must have heard that a number of missionaries are evacuating from the coast to the interior. Soon after Florence's furlough was decided upon, we heard that Miss Mary Lamberton wished to come to Szechwan. She is not a regularly appointed missionary, but has been teaching in St. John's for about ten years. Her younger sister is a regular Episcopal missionary nurse, and Miss Mary Lamberton stayed on to teach after coming out to visit with her sister. Since Bishop Roberts wanted single women to evacuate, St. John's feels it would be better for Miss Lamberton to do the same. Miss Lamberton is a graduate from Bryn Mawr, and has had teaching experience in America. Since joining the English department of St. John's, she has taught various courses, and has been the assistant head of the department. When we realized the uncertainty of inviting a new American to come out by September '41, we decided to invite her during the absence of Miss Kirk. She is planning to leave Shanghai with some nurses by the end of January. For the spring term, she will be teaching in the University of Nanking.

I am glad to tell you that Miss Li Jen-kuei has written that she is flying from Hongkong on January 20, and we have made a plane reservation for her from Chungking. Mrs. New has just written me that she found Miss Li to be a fine and capable woman. We are looking forward to welcoming her, not only as an addition to the faculty in general, but for the English department she is very much needed in relieving the heavy teaching load of the present three faculty members.

You will be very glad to hear that Miss Lung Asiao-yun is doing fine work in starting the department, and in holding the interest of the students. She has recommended a class mate of hers from Tenching to come by the second term to help her. I am very glad that this new department is starting in such a good spirit, and with such a large number of majors. If we count the tentative decisions of the freshmen, Sociology is still the largest department with English next and then Home Economics. I do want to take this chance to tell you once more how grateful I am to you for your efforts in securing Miss Li and Miss Lung.

With out Music department, we better face the fact that we should not expect anyone from America next fall. I shall reply to Mrs. Rhead's letter very soon, and I will again express our expectation for her to come out when the war situation permits. As for Miss Rhodes, this is also too early for her to tell if she needs to go home by the end of this year. She seems to enjoy life here, and is preparing for a concert to be given per-

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JAN 15 1941

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haps in April. She says that, because she had not played the piano for eight years, she needs time to gradually get back into practice in order to be able to perform. Recently, she has consented to play once or twice in friends' homes after dinner, and those who have heard her all thought she played beautifully.

Miss Lu Shih-tsang is applying for a Barbour Scholarship, and if she succeeds Miss Sutherland expects Shen Dzu-ying to come to Ginling for a change. Since she returned from New York and went to St. Hilda's in a small hsien in Yunnan, she has not seen a piano. It is now a year and a half since she returned. She will be very happy to come for a change.

From Mrs. Macmillan, you must have heard of my correspondence with her in regard to the invitation from the Founders for me to take a trip to America. Briefly, I may say that all the people I have consulted, including the senior members of the faculty, board executive committee, and several other friends, feel that I should respond to this call, but only on one condition - that I am certain of being able to return before June. Among the faculty, we have discussed the question very thoroughly and we felt I must not be absent for too long a time. This makes it difficult to make a definite decision, notwithstanding the war situation. The Clipper reservation from Hongkong is on February 24, and we have to be definite about the trip a month from now. How I wish we could have a seer who could tell us of the things to come!

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Lu

YFW/v

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Confirmation Copy

Cinling College, Chengtu
January 15, 1941

Dear Mrs. Macmillan,

I sent you a hurried note on Monday with the expectation that it might be able to get on the Clipper of this week. I wish now to write you in regard to graduates applying for scholarships in America.

Miss Mu Shih-tsang, of our music staff, has sent in an application for a Barbour scholarship for 1941-42. Miss Sutherland told Mrs. Macmillan about this possibility, so we hope that she may present her recommendation to the Barbour Scholarship Committee.

Miss Florence Kirk is anxious to secure a graduate fellowship when she expects to take up graduate study by the fall of 1941. This is the last year of her five-year term, and the Board of Directors has granted her a furlough from next summer. She has sent in Applications for admission, and also applications for fellowships, to these institutions: Radcliffe, Columbia, Yale, Northwestern, and Iowa University. She consulted Dr. Penn and others who know about the graduate work of the English department in these institutions before sending in the applications. It may be necessary to have additional recommendations sent from our Founders in order to secure financial help. Miss Kirk hopes to be able to work for her doctor's degree, and if it should be possible to complete it within two years, the College will be willing to consider extending her furlough for another year. This will show you how she will need financial help because, if I understand correctly, mission boards usually do not grant furlough salary for the second year of furlough. Since I care to Cinling, we have not had a case of a foreign faculty member staying on for a second year in America, so I do not know what our Board of Founders will decide to do in regard to the salary for the second year. While this matter does not need to be decided upon until perhaps a year from now, yet whatever financial assistance Miss Kirk may be able to secure from the institution this year will help toward her expenses if she should stay for the second year.

Mr. and Mrs. Cressy have come to make their home in Chengtu, but Mr. Cressy will divide his time between Chungking and Chengtu. The National Christian Council is establishing an office in Chungking. The National Committee of the Y. M. C. A. and that of the Y. W. C. A. are both opening offices in the west. It is very clear that all these organizations want to be prepared for any emergency if the headquarters should have to leave Shanghai. The four presidents invited the Cressys to dinner last Thursday, and he reported on his work, and that of the Associated Boards. He brought up the question of reorganization of the Associated Boards into a single board, but there was not enough time for discussion. This Friday evening, we are to have a longer conference with him. He told us about the report he presented to the Associated Boards last spring. He had a copy with him which is being circulated among the presidents. I shall certainly give my attention to studying it when it comes to our office. Mr. Cressy said that the Christian middle schools in Shanghai had considered a possible way of carrying on their work in the outlying country places near Shanghai if they should find it impossible to carry on inside the International Settlement. With regard to the universities, they have not come to any definite decision although they have considered seriously the possibility of facing an emergency.

Sincerely yours,
/s/ Yi-feng Wu

YFW/k

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January 16, 1941

Dr. Wu Yi-fang
Ginling College
Chengtou, Szechwan, CHINA

Dear Dr. Wu:

I believe you composed the letter of November 21st, signed by four Presidents at Chengtu, which dealt largely with the revised budget for the four Universities.

In essence this is an earnest plea for the full realization of funds allocated to the combined work at West China. We note that the revised budget, which in no way affects the US\$17,500.00 allocated by the Associated Boards, is quite in keeping with the purpose of the Associated Boards in allowing you to make expenditures of this fund in agreement with each other.

Greatly enlarged plans are in the making for an intensive campaign covering the next few months, with the hope that the entire budget of the Colleges will be secured and possibly more. However, we do not wish to be too optimistic. By the time you arrive in America plans will be more definitely worked out, and you will learn in person as to the success of such procedure. Undoubtedly plans for the use of your time will be perfected when you arrive and possibly it is too much to expect that a portion of that valuable time shall be accorded a mere treasurer. Possibly, however, the good Lord will whisper that such time is not wholly lost. Anyway, in the event that you come to America, we shall give you a most hearty welcome.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B
Via China Clipper - 1/20/41
c.c. "President Coolidge - 1/19/41

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January 24, 1941

President Wu Yi-fang
c/o American Express Company
4 Des Voeux Road Central
Hongkong, China

Dear Dr. Wu:

Attached hereto are the minutes of a joint meeting of the Executive and Promotional Committees of the Associated Boards held on December 30, 1940.

The principal item is that concerning the United China Campaign and refers entirely to promotional plans in the United States. The details of the plan are not included with this letter in order to save postage, but at such time as the final arrangements are made, any important items concerning the organization which will be of interest to you will be forwarded.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

JIP:VW
Enc.

Copy to: Miss Elsie M. Priest

Via S.S. "Pres. Pierce"
from San Francisco, Calif.

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Confirmation Copy

Ginling College, Chengtu
February 3, 1941

Dear Mrs. Macmillan,

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of December 29 and January 10. I was very glad to hear of the trip which Wu Suen-i took to visit institutions in the south. After her year and a half in America, and with her background of rural work in China, she should be greatly benefitted by visiting such centers of social and rural extension work. I certainly am grateful to Miss Sweeny and others who have made the arrangements for such a trip for her.

In regard to Mrs. Kwan, I wish to tell you that I have showed your reply to her. She understands that she must first get herself well established in her studies before she plans any concerts. She also sees your point that she should not count upon earning money if the grant is made for full-time study. In regard to her travel and other personal expenses, she will let you know very soon. I am sorry I am unable to give you a definite answer in this letter. One other thing I made very clear to her is that this plan of hers should be fully supported, and agreed to, by her husband. Dr. Kwan is now the president of an agricultural college in Hupeh Province, and he left Chengtu early in December.

I was much interested to receive a copy of the recorded speeches of myself and other alumnae. It shows ingenious planning and careful selection of material. We are all interested to know whose voices were recorded as ours. We understand fully how you like to include the locality of Yunnan in the recording, but we are sorry to have to tell you that Wu Kwei-sze's school is in Szechwan. However, since you did not mention that well-known Bulison School, I hope it would not distress Miss Wu's Methodist friends if they happen to hear from the record of her being located in Yunnan. I assure you that you have my full sympathy in the very difficult task of meeting publicity needs from limited supplies of information from us. Shen Dzen-ying (Gwendolyn) has returned from New York to primitive conditions in a small town in Yunnan where St. Hilda's is being carried on. The trouble with our alumnae is that there are hardly any that enjoy writing, so even when they have a very interesting story to tell about their own work and experience, they just do not find time in their busy program to write down any statement. In connection with the 25th Anniversary plan of the alumnae, I will try to get some accounts. If they should be in Chinese, I will have to get them translated for you. Thus far, there has been only one account sent in, and it is a very long and interesting one.

Now to come to the big question of my going or not. I wish I could give you the final decision now. I have made a reservation on February 13 from Chengtu, and on February 19 from Chungking to Hongkong, so there are not many days left for consideration. However, because of information I have received, I must again consult the members of the Board Executive Committee. From Harry Price, the cable reply said "Somewhat uncertain" which indicates that the situation is not clear for him to make a definite recommendation. Here in China, I was told by one who knows Japanese conditions, that most likely there will be an active campaign again in the spring, either in the north-west or in the south with the objective of cutting our international lines of communication. If Japan should be kept from carrying out her southward

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expansion program because of the firm attitude of America, she will want to end the China war if at all possible. If so, Kunming will become a real important objective for Japan. There is the report that the Japanese warships are getting near Haiphong. When we are getting information such as this, we cannot help being hesitant in leaving Chengtu for several months.

If after my consultation with the Board, the final word is to cancel the trip, it will be a great disappointment, not only to you but also to myself. I have wanted to go and help a little in your strenuous labors for the College, and I have wanted just to see the Founders and report more fully on the conditions and problems as we face them here in China. I can easily understand how you and Mrs. Morrow would be disappointed after you have planned to have me there in the spring. The hardest thing to face is the possibility that nothing may turn out to justify our caution. If there should be a definite turn for the better or worse, it would be much easier to decide. When I consulted Bishop Ward, his advice was that I should plan to take the trip, but it should be undertaken with the provision that I may be kept from returning for a year or so. Yet from the internal conditions of the college and its relation with other institutions on this campus, it is not quite fair for me to leave everything on the Faculty Executive Committee for such a long time. I am writing you these considerations so that if you should receive a disappointing cable this letter may help you to understand the reasons for the decision, and that it was made after thorough consideration.

When I wrote to Ambassador Johnson for Mrs. New's visa, I enclosed a personal note asking for his advice in regard to my trip. I made it clear that I was not asking him in his official position, and that I would not hold him responsible for any prediction he might make. Even with this explanation, he answered that under the present circumstances it would be a foolish person that would say whether I would be able to return before June without difficulty. My problem will be much simpler if our group here are ready to face the possibility of my staying away for an indefinite period.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

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Confirmation Copy

Ginling College, Chengtu
February 3, 1941

Dear Suen-i

I am very glad to hear from Mrs. Macmillan of the good term you had at Merrill-Palmer, and of the interesting trip to see institutions in the south. It is splendid that such a trip was arranged for you to enable you to see the various types of work that is being done in America. After you have been in America for a year and a half, you will be able to get much more out of such a trip than if you had made it earlier. Furthermore, you are familiar with the actual rural conditions in Kiangsi, Honan, and Szechwan, so you will be able to judge much better in your selection of emphases on those things that can be adapted to our need. From the schedule of your trip, you must be getting to Ithaca by now to start the work of the second semester in that well-known center for Home Economics.

There is a Professor Love on the faculty of the College of Agriculture there who served as exchange professor at the University of Wanking for two different periods. I wish you could get in touch with him and his wife, because I am sure they were in Wanking while you were at college. I wonder if you happen to have heard their daughter play the harp. People in Ithaca will also ask you about Miss Yung Hsiao-yun, who left there last summer to come to Ginling to teach Home Economics. She is starting the department in a very good manner, and we are very glad that there are many girls majoring in this department. For this spring term, we have invited an additional instructor, also a Wenching graduate, who specialized in Dietetics in P.U.M.C.

I wish to tell you briefly of the plans we are making in regard to our rural program. We have found out during last fall that we need to reconsider the location of our rural project if we wish college girls to receive more benefit from actual work at the station. With the rising cost of living, ricksha fare to Jenchow has gone up to around \$100 for the round trip. Furthermore, since Jenchow is not a rice-producing area, the living cost there is even higher than in Chengtu. The staff of the University Rural School have found it difficult to have their families live in Jenchow, so their second-year students have been transferred to Chengtu. They are thus able to reduce the staff remaining in Jenchow. The hsien government has also found it difficult to maintain their project for the extension work and there is the possibility that the extension program of the University may have to be reduced.

When Miss Highbaugh came to Chengtu for the Founders Day celebration, we had conferences with her, Dr. Frank Price, and Dr. Lewis Smythe, and we have come to the conclusion that we could do two things. The first is to find other agencies, such as the Canadian Mission and the Szechwan Public Health Administration to take over some of the work we started, and to maintain a much reduced staff of our own in Jenchow. The second is to find a new center much nearer to Chengtu, and to have our rural station as the experimental laboratory for some of our Sociology and Home Economics majors. We hope to locate such a place during the spring, and if possible, we hope to start some work during the summer vacation. This is the work I am looking forward to you taking up on your return. I would like very much to have your suggestions, particularly in regard to certain conditions that you may

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consider essential in that locality for this type of work. The most encouraging and challenging situation is that the rural people are ready and actually welcome such projects being carried out in their locality. This is distinctly the result of the war, and rural workers are benefitted by such receptive attitude of the country people.

I am very sorry to tell you that we shall not be able to keep Miss Highbaugh after her period of two years is over. The Methodist Mission in Szechwan want very much to start rural projects and they asked for Miss Highbaugh even from this spring. We kept to our original agreement of the two years, but have to let her go by the end of June. Miss Chester has just been in to see me, and she said it was again a very successful program that was put on in Jenschow during the New Year holidays. There were fourteen students and five faculty members that went to Jenschow this year. During the first two days there were over twelve thousand people that came to see our exhibits. It is a great pity that the University people were not able to repeat the kind of program they put on a year ago. However, it speaks well for our work if so many came just to see our exhibits.

Time goes very fast, and you should make your return plans very soon. It seems to me the best one to help you is Mr. C. E. Evans, the treasurer of Ginling Board of Founders. Last summer when Miss Sutherland, Miss Liu En-lan, and other new faculty members came to China, Mr. Evans made all the reservations for them. Now because of the war conditions, there may be unexpected changes in the boat sailings, so it will be much easier for Mr. Evans to keep in touch with the travel agents in New York. Since it takes time for you to come to Chengtu from Hongkong or Rangoon, I would suggest for you to start from America as soon as you can after the school year. I am writing to Mrs. Macmillan and will ask her to get in touch with Mr. Evans in giving this help to you.

With best wishes for your work in Cornell.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

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Ginling College, Chungtu
February 8, 1941

Dear Mrs. Macmillan,

I enclosed I am sending a letter to Miss Lodge, but I do wish to add a few lines to you.

First of all, I wish to assure you that we have tried our utmost to find it possible for me to make the trip. I realize fully that, after you have looked forward to my coming, it would be very difficult for you and your Anniversary Committee to go ahead with the work. However, I do hope that with the very clouds gathering and the sea bars close to the ground, you might have come to some conclusion even without my writing to you. Somehow, to say the very least there might even be the possibility of a seasonal change in the Pacific in April. One specific point that was brought out by several Chinese members of the faculty was in regard to the cost of the trip in relation to the total amount of the campaign. I remember writing to you confidentially some time ago of this Chinese attitude toward promotional cost, and, as I feared, this was brought up openly. Under normal conditions, I would like to try to help our group understand the need of promotional work in order to secure additional contributions. But under the present circumstances when they feel keenly the need of an increase in the budget for the college because of the rising cost of everything, they would consider the travel expenses quite an additional relief to the college needs if we had the money and it could be applied to the College budget. Both Miss Priest and I have been waiting anxiously to hear from the Associated Boards about the results of this year's campaign and the allotment assigned to Ginling.

I have looked forward to seeing you and talking to you in person about my college problems, but now I have to look forward to that sometime in the future. But I do wish to assure you that the decision of cancelling the trip was definitely made for the sake of the College. There are too many factors involved, and I cannot go into details in a letter, but you can trust to the fair and considered recommendations from our persons as both Chester and Dr. Djeng Hsing-lan. Since these two will be the ones to take over most of the administrative duties, I do respect their judgment. I do feel very sorry that the circumstances are such that your well-made plan cannot be carried out. I will try to write to Mrs. Morrow, and I hope she will understand the reasons for our decision.

With regrets and the hope that you will help Mrs. Morrow and Mrs. Hoskins to appreciate the reasons for our decision.

Sincerely yours,

Y. F. W.

YFW/k

0790

Chengtou, China.
Feb. 11, 1941.

Dear Mrs. Morrow,

Mrs. Macmillan must have sent you the disappointing news after she got our cable. I am unable to express adequately my very mixed feeling after the decision was made. I was much disappointed that I could not come to help a little and to express our gratitude to you and other friends, but I was also relieved that I was to stay on this side of the Pacific and would be here if and when any emergency might come to face our work in Nanking or Chengtu. I am very sorry indeed to disappoint you, particularly because you have been carrying this work for Ginling in addition to the many demands for your leadership in war relief for Europe. The only thing I can assure you is that both the Faculty Executive Committee and the Board Executive Committee gave very thorough consideration of the many factors involved, and their conclusion was reached for the good of the college under the present circumstances. If only we could be sure that I would be back by the first of June, there would have been no hesitation at all for me to start on the journey. But of course, no one we consulted could be sure that no big change would come in the Pacific region in April or May. Under the difficult situation of making a clear cut judgment, it was natural that we compare the needs for me here in China and over there with you. Then it became clear I am glad to say that under your leadership my failure to appear in New York would not affect the campaign in any way. We felt very bad of course not to be able to give you any help, but for the college you will be, we hope, generous enough to forgive me in attending to the need here which can not be met by others. If the war had not interrupted my efforts of building up a permanent faculty - and marriage had not taken away some of our women - it should have been much easier for the president to be away for three or six months.

I better take this chance to give you some good news to encourage the large number of friends that are working hard for Ginling's sake. During the winter vacation, I received so many letters asking for graduates that I felt embarrassed to answer we have no graduates available for positions offered. We had only five girls that were irregular and finished in January, but I could easily have placed over thirty. Just this afternoon one of our graduates gave me the message that her principal wanted her to tell me that he would take any girl I recommended and he is in urgent need of an English teacher. The president of a Government University wrote and wanted me to find a Dean of Women from among our graduates.

A week ago the Women's Committee of New Life Movement held a short training course for their rural service teams and there were six Ginling women on the Staff. Mrs. Li Sie Wei-pen (1930) is the one in

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FEB 11 1941

charge of the division of rural service, one is a capable inspector, and four are supervisors of the teams. Mrs. Li wanted at least four more to serve as supervisors. I had to disappoint her so I asked why she did not make inquiries of large universities where there are students graduating in winter. She said very few would go into the hard work of rural service, and if they did they did not last long. Then she told me that when she first took Ginling girls and sent them to the country, other people warned her that these ladies could not lead such a simple and hard life, but now after a year and half many others have dropped out for one reason and another and all Ginling girls - except one for health reason - are still on her staff!

With sincere regrets and kind personal regards.

Gratefully yours,

Yi fang Wu

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Confirmation Copy

Ginling College, Chenstun
February 18, 1941

Mr. C. A. Evans
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

file

Dear Mr. Evans,

I wish to thank you very much for your letter of January 16th. Mr. Garside has sent a reply to the joint letter of November 21st, but I am sorry that another joint letter has already gone to him with another revised budget for the Joint Funds. From that letter you will know of the additional need of funds to complete the Chemistry building, and we figured on a higher rate of exchange in order to cover this enlarged budget after the second revision. We greatly appreciate your sympathetic understanding and your efforts in raising the total amount of the campaign.

In regard to my trip, I am very sorry it has to be cancelled after the planning in New York and the preparation here, but I wish to assure you that the final decision was made after very serious consideration of many factors involved and for the good of the College in the long run. If I had come to New York, I certainly would wish to have had a conference with you on the financial matters of the College. It is a very important phase of the College administration, and it is even more important during this war time when there are all sorts of unexpected and emergency needs. Now I have to look forward to sometime in the future to talk with you about College affairs.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Si-fang Wu

afw/k

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In the office file

Confirmation Copy

Ginling College, Chengtu
February 18, 1941

Dear Miss Griest,

I wish to thank you very much for your letter of January 10th. Although I have not time to send you a real letter today, I would like to have a few lines written to catch tomorrow's air mail.

There have been many visitors to Chengtu, such as Miss Woodsmall of the World Y.W.C.A., Dr. Kepler and Dr. Stanley Smith. We are expecting other prominent guests, such as the Currie party, and the Sydans of Life Magazine. For the Currie party, I have already spent much time in telephoning and in making plans with the other presidents for our reception for him.

We here in Chengtu were also much impressed with the program of the Anniversary celebration in New York. Abigail certainly has done a splendid job and some of the faculty even suggested that we should have it put into Chinese for our Alumnae. Personally, I rather feel that it is best to keep it in the original and we may use it where there is no language difficulty. I do appreciate very much all that Mrs. Macmillan and Mrs. Morrow are doing for the anniversary campaign. I feel very badly that I could not go to New York and give a little help for my part. But as I have written to Miss Hodge and Mrs. Macmillan, it is really for the good of the College in the long run that I have to give up meeting the need in America. Perhaps you have read between the lines in my letter to Miss Hodge that there are personnel questions that I should stay with our group to help solve them gradually. The main reason is, of course, the uncertainty of war. From the news that has come after the final decision was made, we feel more justified than even then. While I do feel sorry not to have the privilege of being with you and others, I do feel relieved that I shall be on this side of the ocean, and be here if any emergency should come.

I am very glad to tell you that Miss Li Han-luei arrived in Chengtu on February 6th, and we are happy to see her. She impresses me very favorably although I have not had the chance yet to really get to know her.

In regard to faculty needs, how I wish we could have here Bob Rossman and Edith Wright with us, but with the war, I do not think there is any need of requesting anyone to come from America in the summer. The Board Executive Committee is meeting on Friday. If we should have definite decisions in regard to faculty needs, I shall write to you after the meeting.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Li-fang Wu

rw/k

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Confirmation Copy

Ginling College, Chenstu
February 18, 1941

Dear Mrs. Macmillan,

Your January 21st Clipper letter was received after the final decision was made and a cable and letters had been sent to you. I appreciate just the same your thoughtfulness in sending this advice. From the postal mark, this letter reached Hongkong on January 31st and Chenstu on February 10th. This shows the irregularity in the air mail from Hongkong to Chenstu. However, after the decision was made, the general situation on the Pacific has turned more tense, so even if I had delayed making the decision, it would have been the same. Will you please express my thanks to Miss Lodge, Mr. Evans, and Miss Tyler who joined you in sending this message to me. I wish to assure you all again that we sympathize with your wish, and I would have taken the trip if the needs in China were not comparatively more urgent.

After the renewed advice from the American consuls, I am afraid that Mrs. Thurston and Miss Whitmer may not be able to stay longer in Hanking. The new administrative committee, consisting of Chinese, will surely prefer to have me in China. There is also the Physical Education work in Shanghai that will have to be considered if the Christian colleges there should have to modify their program or have to another place. Again and again it has turned out that nothing is definite in war time, and we should be ready to meet with emergencies.

One serious problem that the four institutions on this campus are facing now is the need of increased subsidy for the Chinese staff. The living cost is practically ten times that of two years ago and the amount of the cash and rice subsidy combined is only partially meeting this sudden increase. The government universities are increasing their salaries, and even the mission middle schools have increased after their mission conferences in the winter in order to hold their teachers. The four presidents met again last Saturday, and we have decided to increase the cash subsidy for this term. While the final sum is not definitely decided and will be again only a small amount, it will show that the administration is making an effort to help the faculty.

After such disappointing news, I better tell you something more interesting. As in former years, we again received many letters asking for our graduates to take positions in schools and other organizations. One alumnus of 1938 came here for his winter vacation. The principal of that large middle school asked for more teachers from Ginling, and said that he would gladly invite anyone I recommended. He has had two of our graduates teaching and he is much pleased with their work and wants more of our girls. He even sent his daughter to Ginling last fall after she had a year as freshman in a national university. She is majoring in English and expects to help teach English in her father's school. Miss Sie Wei-peng, head of the rural service division of the Women's Committee of the New Life Movement, was in Chenstu the end of January and held a short training program for our rural service teams in this region. There were over one hundred girls gathered, and Mr. Dean Masian-lan, Thobbe Job and myself were all invited to speak to them. There were altogether six Ginling graduates, four of whom are supervisors of these teams right in the rural places. Miss Sie was very proud to tell me that when she first

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FEB 18 1941

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invited Ginling graduates she was warned that the Ginling "ladies" would not be able to stand the hard life in the country. However, after one and a half years it turned out that our Alumnae are the ones that are still there. The only one that had to resign did so because of a health problem which she had even before she went to the country. Now because the other supervisors have not stood up so well, Miss Sie is ⁱⁿ desperate need of more Ginling graduates to help her. //

The Board Executive Committee is meeting on Friday to adopt the tentative budget for 1941-42. I wish to have this ready to send to New York before I go to Chungking to attend the meeting of the People's Political Council. You may already know that on this council of two hundred and forty there are fifteen women members. Dr. Chang Siao-mei and myself are the two Ginling graduates. We were also members of the first People's Political Council that was convened in July 1938, and enlarged to the present council in January. Now Mrs. Pih-sin Hsieh Wu (the well-known poetess Ice Heart) and Miss Hsen tao-swen of Changsha are new appointees. //

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

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Also copy sent by regular mail,
via S.S. "Pres. Grant"
from San Francisco, Calif.

February 21, 1941

VIA CHINA CLIPPER

President Wu Yi-fang
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechuan, China

Dear Dr. Wu:

Sometime ago we sent to you a suggested calendar for items which should be sent to the New York office during the year. At that time I promised to send reminders as each particular item comes due. I am writing now to call your attention to two of these matters.

1. Reports for the Annual Meetings of the Boards. The following annual meetings of the Boards will be held during the week of May 12: Associated Boards, Cheeloo University, Fukien Christian University, Ginling College, University of Nanking, West China Union University, Yenching University. Any reports which you wish to make to any of these meetings should be gotten off at once, so that they will reach us in time for preparation for the meetings and circulation to the members of the Boards with the agendas.

2. Lists of Faculty Members to be on Furlough this Coming Year. Will you please send us, so that we may receive it not later than the middle of June, a list of all faculty members, both Western and Chinese who expect to be in America during the coming year, together with addresses where they may be reached? In the past we have found considerable difficulty in making up an accurate list of those who are in America on furlough, and your cooperation at this point will be very helpful.

Mr. Evans sent to you early in January a request for the budget for the year 1941-42. We hope that this has been forwarded, as the presentation for plans for next year at the annual meeting will depend very much upon the budgets sent in. The presentation of your needs for the coming year is a part of this budget and is necessary for the consideration of our plans for next year which must be acted upon at the annual meeting.

We will greatly appreciate your cooperation in all of the matters mentioned above.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

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GINLING COLLEGE

CHENG TU, SZECHWAN, CHINA

室公辦長院
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Rec'd M. E. H. 3/3/41
February 24, 1941

Miss Margaret E. Hodge
Mr. C. E. Evans
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City
New York

Dear Miss Hodge and Mr. Evans,

Last Friday the Board Executive Committee in Chengtu adopted the tentative budget for 1941-42. Miss Priest will send it on with her explanations. I wish to add only a few comments.

The total of this budget reaches the highest figure in the history of Ginling, \$508,136.70, and the largest shortage, amounting to \$187,391.70. I was really shocked to see these figures, yet this amount included hardly any increase in the personnel or program of work. The increase is practically all due to the higher cost of living. Prices started to increase rapidly last September, and we have no idea what they are likely to be by next fall. The only way we could decide to make the budget was to calculate the expenses according to the present costs, with a little increase. For the salaries, we put down only the cash subsidy and the rice subsidy that were actually given in January. We know that there will be a considerable increase by next September, so we put down a lump sum of \$50,000.00 as the amount for additional subsidy to the faculty to meet the increase in the cost of living. However, this is a very moderate and conservative figure. After the budget was made, the four presidents met and decided to grant an additional cash subsidy of \$20 per month for every Chinese member on the faculty and staff. This had to be done because of the actual need and the increases made to the teachers of the mission middle schools. According to the price index compiled by the department of Agricultural Economics of the University of Nanking, the figure is over nine hundred as compared to the prices of 1938. This means that one dollar is worth only eleven cents.

This serious economic question is faced by all educational institutions, both Christian and national. With Ginling, if people should calculate the cost per

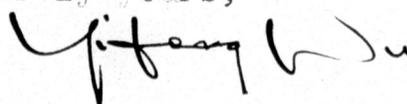
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1941

capita of the students, then we would be criticized as spending too much money on two hundred girls. As I wrote to Miss Hodge and Mrs. Macmillan before, because we are a college for women only, we must face the fact that our student enrollment is not to be compared with the large enrollment in co-educational universities, and comparatively, we may seem more expensive. However, unless we sacrifice the standard of our work and admission, we cannot have sudden increases in the student number. The four presidents will take up the question of tuition some time late in the spring. Most likely there will be some increase made, but this is too early to anticipate the possible amount that may be realized from this source. At the same time, the presidents are applying to the Ministry of Education for an increase in their annual subsidy to the private universities and colleges. We are inclined to think that we shall be notified in March whether the ministry will be able to make increases.

I do not need to tell you that we feel very sorry to send you a budget with such a high figure of shortage to be raised. We fully appreciate the difficulties the Associated Boards have in managing the campaign year after year, and this shortage is after we have counted the \$6000 from the Sustaining Fund. Miss Priest is sending you a statement on how the income in U.S. dollars is to be expended. From that you will see that after the salaries for western faculty, permanent equipment, and the expenses in New York have been deducted, there is not much gold left to be exchanged into Chinese currency to meet the college expenses in general. This shows that we need to study the various items and their relation to each other. If you should have questions to ask Miss Priest or myself, please do not hesitate to write us.

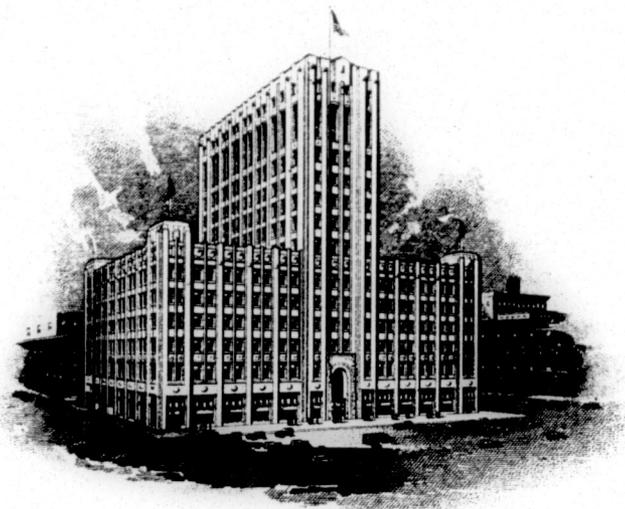
Sincerely yours,



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The Detroit Free Press

MICHIGAN'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER

ESTABLISHED 1831

DETROIT

February 27, 1941

Ginling College,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

Mesdames:

We have at hand the mimeographed sheets of suggested program material in relation to Ginling's 25th anniversary year.

The Free Press Sunday Graphic, the paper's rotogravure magazine, is interested in preparing a full page of pictures with approximately 400 words of text on phases of Ginling's quarter-century and would appreciate your co-operation.

As you know, there is a definite "Michigan angle" in President Wu Yi-fang's affiliation with the University of Michigan.

Accordingly, we would like from you the following: a selection of photographs (Section VII or Item 18 of the publicity sheet) showing pre-war Ginling, refugee work in Nanking, the trek to West China and Ginling in Chengtu; the sketch of Wu Yi-fang's life and any other copy or pictures, including one of Wu Yi-fang, which you think may be suitable. In addition, will you please give us a record of such assistance as Michigan has given Ginling, such as scholarships. We believe Kalamazoo College has provided at least one scholarship, for example, but would like you to check.

If Mrs. McMillan is in the office, this letter might be brought to her attention, since I have had the pleasure of meeting her in Detroit.

The Sunday Graphic schedule naturally is planned weeks ahead. Consequently, the sooner we have this material from you, the sooner the Sunday Graphic editor can arrange for it to be published. Incidentally, springtime pictures of Ginling might be timely.

Cordially, *Helen Bower*
Helen Bower, Book and Art Editor

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Chungking, China
March 25, 1941

Dear Mrs. Macmillan:

Four weeks ago I came here to attend the People's Political Council meeting. My date of return was postponed from March 18 to this morning, and then was postponed again yesterday. Mainly it is because of the work of the Women's Committee of the N. L. Movement and other associations such as that for the War orphans. I am on the Executive Committee of practically all these organizations, so the secretaries wish me to help them to settle some questions while I am here. Confidentially, it is the Lady that wished me to stay a little longer and I can not very well decline to help. I telephoned to Chengtu yesterday before definitely deciding to stay one week longer. At the college, they will ask to have the Presidents' meeting postponed one week, for they are to take up important questions which Mr. Cressey would like to write on a report to the ABCCC before your annual meeting.

I have not written to you a single word all these weeks, but since I won't have Lillian Kirk to take letters for another week, I must send you a short note by this week's Clipper.

First of all, I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letters: two of February 3, one of February 19, and one of March 1.

Mrs. New's Trip. Before I left Chengtu I got a letter from Mrs. New telling me about your cable and her difficulty in securing passages. After I reached Chungking I wrote her that I would still urge her to continue her effort in getting passages and told her that the Executive Committee of the Directors elected her to represent the College when she went to New York. On March 1st, I got Djang Hsiang-lan's letter sending me the telegram from Mrs. New from Hongkong. I was very excited and happy that she was then already on the ocean sailing for America. The next letter from Hsiang-lan told me that they wanted me to cable you, and Mrs. New's own letter explained how the thing happened. It certainly is a miracle how the vacancies came just after your letter arrived and how even her doctor consented to her taking the trip. I was much relieved that Mrs. New could be there to represent the College and me, for after my own decision I had been hoping that she could go. I trust that she has told you about the action of the Board Executive Committee in Chengtu, that is, asking her to represent the College in New York. As for myself personally, of course, there is no question whatsoever for her to be my representative, not only because she is my best friend, but because of her whole-hearted devotion to Ginling. The only disadvantage we put her under is that we have not supplied her with full written reports on the College work. In fact, I should have used "I" instead of "we", for I have not sent Board members a report for quite a while. So, if Mrs. New should be hesitant about College conditions, it is entirely my fault. I am aware of it and want badly to reform, but as the Genetics professor in Michigan said it: "Well, it is my genes, I can't help it!" However, I fully realize my responsibility and although very late I'll try to write her some of the important program of work and of our problems, before our Founders' meeting in May. In fact, I have written to Miss Chester and Djang Hsiang-lan to write to Mrs. New or yourself during my absence.

Now a word about Mrs. New's health. From her recent letters I understand that she is unable to work under strain, for her heart has not completely recovered. She seemed to dread specially to address large audiences. I always feel that her biggest contribution will be in personal contacts with potential donors or friends; in fact I wrote her that she would be splendid in speaking to Club meetings or small parlour groups in private houses. I am inclined to think that her strength will gradually increase, but she must not overwork at the beginning. And you should not be fooled by her looks. While in Hongkong she often could not sleep for the whole night after some strain in the day. Mental strain is always harder than physical. So, I would wish you to keep an eye on her and to insist upon her telling you the truth so that she will be able to keep up her good work for Ginling for a long time. Furthermore, it is harder for her to adjust to different environment, especially noise and foreign food, than I am able to. Even during her student days in Whittier Hall, she broke down because she could not eat nor sleep. Rebecca will be able to tell you what Mrs. New went through in

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25 March 1941

1923. So I am writing you frankly about it in order to help you to know how to take care of her health. When she has to work in New York, will it be possible for her to stay in some house where it is rather quiet? For instance, Mrs Lobenstine's? If not necessary to live in New York, would it trouble Miss Margaret Mead too much for her to go to Plainfield? I don't know at all if my suggestion is just impossible, but I hope only to show you that that side of the question should be considered in order to help improve her health condition.

Some questions in your letter of February 3rd. There is no doubt that we wish to keep the formal relation with Mrs. Kuan at least during her year of study, and I am sure she would like to have the status of a professor (assistant professor) in Ginling. I am sorry to have been slow in answering you how much she could provide for herself. The fact is that she has no funds herself and I have tried to secure the travel expenses for her and have not yet succeeded. I can not ask for College money, for she is not likely to return. Although I have not given up hope yet, I cannot tell you now how much she will be able to provide. After I go back, I'll consult her and will write you. In the meanwhile, if you have good prospects of a scholarship (tuition and living expenses) you may tentatively say that she is to provide her travel expenses. If you cannot get such scholarships, don't try to find college friends to provide the scholarship. Her husband is working in Hupeh and the National Conservatory is trying hard to get her, so I said she is not likely to return.

Wang Yin-ying was Dr. Reeve's student in Biology. I don't think she is exceptionally bright but she has shown strength in overcoming personal and financial difficulties, in completing her medical training. Helen Loomis knows her intimately and I'll send you her college transcript.

In regard to your letter of March 1st, I greatly appreciate your writing me frankly on the question of promotion and humbly beg your forgiveness in my failure to provide you with absolutely necessary material for publicity. As for my remark about Wu Gwei-sze, I did not mean it at all as a criticism.

I have been interrupted several times and I must stop now. I wish to send a few words to Mrs. New too.

Sincerely yours,

Yi-fang Wu

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Dear Mrs. Macmillan, Mailed to respective colleges
Will you please send the enclosed letters, for me
about sent my letter to Pres. Constance directly - I
thought her father part in her's celebration in U.S.
Personally I am inclined to think that it is better
to work on some of the universities than Radcliffe
for Florence. She is rather all-around - a woman
and not particularly brilliant in her academic
work. So, it seems that she better not go to
Radcliffe, but I can not tell her this way.
The Am. Express in H.K. has just written that
they received a clipping from H.K. to Honolulu on Feb.
26, - a from Honolulu on S.S. Matsonian March 7
Sorry have to stop. Y. J. Wu

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Wrote
Mrs. Macmillan
3/17/41
gdp

March 15, 1941

President Wu Yi-fang
c/o American Express Company
4 Des Voeux Road Central
Hongkong, China

Dear President Wu:

Our Committee on Scholarships met recently and made allocations of the funds for the year 1941-42. The Committee had before it a request from the Secretary of the Founders, asking for assistance for Miss Wu Mao-i. The Committee has been able to give this favorable consideration, and has made a grant to Miss Wu of \$300.00.

I am sending this information on to you, so that you may know what grants had been made to Ginling faculty members by the Scholarship Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

JIP:VW

Via S.S. "Pres. Coolidge"
from San Francisco

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Copy for Mr. Evans.

150 Fifth Avenue
New York New York
17 March 1941

Dear Dr. Wu:

Five dollars has been added to the Ginling Field Account representing a five-dollar bill which was handed to Dr. Brown, formerly of Wuhu, when he was recently in Michigan. This comes from a friend of yours, whose name Dr. Brown has promised to give me, but which has not yet reached us. A confirmatory note from Mr. Evans will be sent along when he is writing to you and to Miss Priest.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. T. D. Macmillan

EBM:ef
President Wu Yi-fang
Ginling College
Chengtu
Szechuan
China

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April 3, 1941

Dr. Wu Yi-fang
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan, CHINA

Dear Dr. Wu:

I am acknowledging your communication addressed to Mrs. Macmillan wherein you enclose letters for various universities in connection with the application for Miss Kirk. These have been mailed and covering letters accompanied by the application form forwarded by Miss Kirk.

After reading your comments, I casually did some questioning from those who know Miss Kirk. The conclusion was that Iowa State would probably be better than any other institution, but the applications have been sent to all of those mentioned.

We will let you know further developments.

We have been spending some time during the last couple of days in an effort to secure some woman to temporarily fill Mrs. Macmillan's chair. We are hopeful of obtaining a very competent person very shortly.

Very Sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

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PAID
OFFICE

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April 3, 1941

President Yi-fang Wu
Miss Elsie M. Priest
Ginling College
Chongtu, Szechwan, CHINA

Dear Friends:

We are enclosing copies of the minutes of the Executive and Promotional Committees of Ginling College held on March 24th.

The morning of March 24th was given over to the Finance Committee and the entire afternoon was consumed in discussion of the various items as set forth in these minutes, together with a number of matters which were not included in the docket. I presume you all have seen meetings like this.

The principal item of discussion was that regarding Mrs. Maxmillan's resignation and before action EP-200 was voted about everything pertaining to this episode had been covered with great diligence. As a side comment, our office has received just one communication of condemnation which, however, in my opinion was not a self-inspired criticism. The tremendous relief which this resignation has brought is ample evidence of its fitness. We had hoped that temporary arrangements might have been consummated whereby the situation would be filled until July 31st, giving ample opportunity for consideration of new candidates. We are still working on the problem and will report progress later on.

PROMOTION. There is a slight error in the minutes as the report on mailings did not include a second mailing to all of the blue booklet prospects, but only to contributors who had not responded during this past year.

TEMPLE OF ACCUMULATED ELEGANCE. This indeed was an achievement and brought forth general praise because of the high plane and character of the sale. Too much praise cannot be accorded to those who conducted this affair.

FINANCES. Items under this head were given further consideration during the latter part of the meeting.

EXPENSES OF ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE. Action covering the loan of \$3,500 to the Anniversary Committee was taken in the Finance Committee meeting and approved under EP-204.

DRAMATIC ORATORIO FESTIVAL. This enterprise promises to be profitable, as well as entertaining. The Dramatic Oratorio Festival Foundation is the organization sponsoring this production, and in the past it has been widely acclaimed. This year, however, there was a desire to have some organization reap the benefits and Mrs. Ross was quick to take advantage of the situation.

CHRIST CHURCH. Mrs. McCormell has been doing a great deal of work in lining up the women in connection with the meeting on April 15th, and undoubtedly there will be a large attendance. The offering will be for the benefit of Ginling.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The action in granting Dr. Lobenstine a leave of absence can hardly become operative as he is a representative of the Nanking Board as appointed by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

President Wu
Miss Priest

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4/2/41

A new representative is being elected by the Presbyterian Board, consequently Dr. Lebenstine's leave of absence will become an automatic resignation.

MRS. NEW. Very careful thought was given to the possible use of Mrs. New in various activities in the East and action EP-202 finally prevailed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS. The minutes of the Finance Committee have been sent to the field dwelling upon these various actions which need not be repeated here.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B
EKCS.

Via China Clipper
c.c. via air mail to Pacific Coast
"President Pierce"

APR 5 1941

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April 5, 1941

President Wu Yi-fang
c/o American Express Company
4 Des Voeux Road Central
Hongkong, China

Dear Dr. Wu:

Attached hereto are the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee of the Associated Boards held on February 27. A number of items herein do not call for special note. However, you will be interested in the development of the program of the United China Relief. In votes E-1161 and E-1162 you will see how closely related to this work is our own program. Mr. Garside has been given leave of absence in order to direct the United China Relief campaign and is, therefore, for the time being, not available for any of the work in our office. Votes E-1165 and E-1166 indicate the steps which have been taken to take care of the readjustments in the offices of the Associated Boards.

Also attached is the official schedule of the annual meetings of the Associated Boards and several of the individual Boards of Trustees. This, of course, will be reaching you too late for any messages which you may wish to send to the annual meetings, but notice was sent out sometime ago regarding such reports and you no doubt have already sent these to us.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

JIP:VW
Enc. 2

Copy to: Miss Elsie M. Priest

Via S.S. "Pres. Hayes"
from San Francisco, Calif.

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April 5, 1941

President Wu Yi-fang
c/o American Express Company
4 Des Voeux Road Central
Hongkong, China

Dear Dr. Wu:

Attached hereto are the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee of the Associated Boards held on February 27. A number of items herein do not call for special note. However, you will be interested in the development of the program of the United China Relief. In votes E-1161 and E-1162 you will see how closely related to this work is our own program. Mr. Garside has been given leave of absence in order to direct the United China Relief campaign and is, therefore, for the time being, not available for any of the work in our office. Votes E-1165 and E-1166 indicate the steps which have been taken to take care of the readjustments in the offices of the Associated Boards.

Also attached is the official schedule of the annual meetings of the Associated Boards and several of the individual Boards of Trustees. This, of course, will be reaching you too late for any messages which you may wish to send to the annual meetings, but notice was sent out sometime ago regarding such reports and you no doubt have already sent these to us.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

JIP:VW
Enc. 2

Copy to: Miss Elsie M. Priest

Via S.S. "Pres. Hayes"
from San Francisco, Calif.

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Confirmation Copy

Ginling College, Chengtu
April 9th, 1941

Dear Miss Griest,

I have just received Mrs. Macmillan's Clipper letter of March 22nd, and I am so shocked to hear of her resignation. She did not tell fully about what happened, but only referred to the reorganization of the office of the Associated Boards. I cannot see how the campaign and other work for Ginling is to be carried on when Mrs. Macmillan left the office so suddenly. I cannot tell in words how sorry I am for what has happened. Perhaps other letters will follow to give us more information about it.

I have been waiting anxiously for word from Mrs. New or from New York about her arrival. Now Mrs. Macmillan mentioned that the first word she had of her actual arrival was that the Smith Club in Southern California was getting Mrs. New to help. I do not know if you and Miss Hodge have heard that Mrs. New's decision to take the trip was entirely for Ginling. Enclosed I am sending you a copy of her letter to Mrs. Thurston written on the President Coolidge between Hongkong and Shanghai. You know Mrs. New and her temperament well enough to understand that she should be given work for Ginling after she has made such a tremendous effort in answering the appeal from New York. You may have gotten in touch with her by this time, but I wish only to tell you of the fact that it was not her own personal plans that took her to America. Her whole-hearted devotion to Ginling is well known to you so it will be a pity if, because of this sudden change in the New York office, our Board of Founders could not make use of her.

I have taken the liberty of writing to you personally because you knew her through your days together at Columbia. Please excuse me if our Board of Founders has made arrangements and this is entirely unnecessary.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

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April 10, 1941

Dr. Wu Yi-fang
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan, CHINA

Dear Dr. Wu:

I am acknowledging your letter of February 24th addressed to Miss Hodge and myself, and which elaborated upon the 1941-42 budget.

We have tabulated these figures and aligned them to conform with other budgets received to be presented to the Associated Boards' Finance Committee which will meet at an early date.

The story which you tell with such vividness affects all of the budgets of our China Colleges and places before us a challenge for greater effort to sustain this work.

We are embarked at the present time on a venture of raising a large sum for China Relief and it is our sincere hope that sufficient funds will be received to cover our requirements for next year, but the movement is hardly under way and none can tell the outcome under these very trying conditions. The world is facing the worst period in its history. Those who are in a position to best judge state that the war will be the most devastating that civilization has known. It is even predicted that North Africa will be the eventual battle ground with American troops playing a major part. I cannot see that far in advance, but neither am I in a position to dispute such arguments. If it is true, our efforts in the future must be redoubled and multiplied as Christian education in China must continue.

May the good Lord be with you in the part you are playing in this great enterprise.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

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Confirmation Copy.

Ginling College, Chengtu
April 12, 1941

Miss Margaret E. Hodge
Chairman
Ginling Board of Founders
New York City

Dear Miss Hodge,

The annual meeting of the Board of Founders will soon be held with the meeting of the Associated Boards. I wish to report on some of the important things of this school year.

Increase in enrollment. As it happened after March 1927 and February 1932, the student enrollment dropped in 1937, but increased steadily from 1938 when the college opened in Chengtu. Last September the total enrollment was 206, including 9 students in the Physical Education department in Shanghai. This was more than expected in the summer and was significant, because there was a new normal college for women opened by the government, and all the universities in China are co-educational.

This increase made the dormitory very crowded and it was hard on the women faculty who were moving out, but the rooms rented for them were not available in September as it was agreed to. Some had to double up in the small rooms and some made several shifts in the homes of friends. All lived in such temporary quarters until the rooms were finally ready in December. And it was not easy to start housekeeping in the midst of the tremendous rise of prices last winter.

New developments. The proposed department of Home Economics was established last September and it proved to be very popular, for it became third largest in the number of students majoring in it, with Sociology leading the list and English the next largest. As it was reported to you before, much consideration was given to this question of a new major in Home Economics, because of the original understanding that Yenching give Home Economics and Ginling the Physical Education. However, with the present condition in China, it was impossible for the Yenching graduates to meet the need in West China, and this proposal was presented to the presidents' meeting in Hongkong in the spring of 1939. The Woman's College of West China University wanted to cooperate in this, but has not been able to secure a teacher as yet. There are several lines of work which graduates from this new department may go into, namely, teaching in middle schools, dieticians in hospitals, social workers for the rural families, etc. From the large number of students going into this department, it is clear that we are meeting a real need.

Dr. Liu En-lan returned after having secured her doctorate in Oxford, and she has re-started the department of Geography. She is an active worker and a stimulating teacher. Geography is the subject not offered in any other Christian institution and only in a few government universities. We have often received requests for Geography teachers in middle schools and for workers in the research institutes in this line.

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APR 12 1941

For the Physical Education students in Shanghai, we established a hostel for them. As presented by Mrs. Chen Hwang Li-ming, it serves a double purpose. It provides the dormitory for the girls, some of whom are from other cities, and it serves as the center to build up the Ginling spirit among the girls. Much consideration had been given before undertaking this extra expense. However, with our Christian purpose of developing the whole person of the student, we find it essential to have this hostel in order to train the girls in group living and in developing some extra-curricular activities. It also provides a meeting place for the Alumnae and thus enables the undergraduates to have more contact with the graduates in various kinds of work.

Cooperation among the institutions on the West China campus.
 This is the third year since the standardized curriculum issued by the Ministry of Education has been in force, so it means that only the senior class is following our old requirements for graduation. For the other three classes, the courses are more similar among the institutions than before. Departmental heads of the same subject had conferences together before the courses were offered in the different institutions. There is, therefore, much closer cooperation and more exchange of students in electing courses in other institutions. The following statistics will show the number of Ginling students electing courses in other universities and the students taking courses in Ginling.

Spring 1940

<u>Institution</u>	<u>No. of students</u>	<u>Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Ginling to University of Nanking	38	23	162
Ginling to West China	20	6	47
University of Nanking to Ginling	28	5	114
West China to Ginling	12	4	40
Central University to Ginling	1	1	4

Fall 1940

Ginling to University of Nanking	35	17	161
Ginling to West China	64	21	277
Ginling to Cheeloo	2	2	7
University of Nanking to Ginling	23	7	57
West China to Ginling	17	3	53
Cheeloo to Ginling	5	3	15

Cooperation with government organizations. For two summers, when the Provincial Educational Commission organized summer institutes for middle school teachers, several of our professors helped in the preparation and instruction. Professor Yu Kai-shih, of the Mathematics department, is giving much help in improving the teaching of mathematics in middle schools, both through conferences and through a special publication. Dr. Liu En-lan has been requested by the Szechwan Science Apparatus Company to cooperate with them in preparing maps and charts for use in middle schools. Recently, Dr. Chen Pin-dji has been asked to cooperate with the University of Nanking in responding to the request from the Air Defence Commission to make a study for preparation against chemical warfare, her part being connected with the possible use of injurious germs. Dr. Lung Cheng-fu has just made a trip to Chungking to attend the conference called by the National Compilation Bureau in

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APR 12 1941

deciding on the Chinese terminology in social science. Mr. Sung Hong-kong is preparing a text on Organic Chemistry in Chinese for colleges and universities.

Government grants. Last fall prices of commodities increased rapidly and much hardship was caused among the salaried group. The Ministry of Education subsidized the government universities in making a large grant to the faculties. For the Christian and private colleges and universities, the Ministry also made a special grant. Ginling received \$80,000.00. The four institutions on this campus then gave a rice bonus to the faculty and staff. For the calendar year of 1941, the annual grant to Ginling was increased from \$10,000.00 to \$18,000.00. The Executive Yuen made a special appropriation of one million dollars to the colleges and universities that moved into Szechwan. This was given because of the sudden increase in the cost of living. From this appropriation, Ginling received \$30,000.00. It is for the calendar year of 1941 and one-fourth of it is for students. This special grant will help the college in meeting the expenses of the increased cash subsidy for the spring term, and also the rice bonus.

Extra-curricular activities. In addition to the regular extra-curricular activities during the school term, our students took part in the other projects during vacations. Both in the summer of 1940 and the winter vacation this year, groups of students went to the Ginling Rural Service Station in Jenchow. They rendered much needed help in the local training projects and our own program of extension work. They gained a great deal through the direct contact with the rural people. In the three-day exhibit on home improvement at the China New Year, about 17,000 country people came to see the various exhibits. Last summer a special student corp was organized under the auspices of the Border Service Department of the Church of Christ in China. About eighty students went to the western border of Szechwan and carried out an educational and health program in four different centers. Of the fourteen women students who went, ten were Ginling girls, and of the five women advisors, four were Ginling graduates. Our students made the journey on foot in the same way as the men because of the high cost of transportation. Rev. Newton Chiang, the captain of the group, spoke very highly about the work done by our group throughout the trip. In student conferences, our girls contribute their share. Take the winter conference for instance. It was organized by the Student Christian Movement in Chengtu and five of our students joined. One of our students was made the chairman of the conference and had the heavy responsibility of running it. In regard to the academic standing of our girls, we are happy that Miss Hsiung Ya-na received the Sociology award of \$300.00 National Currency in the government competitive examinations given last August. A total of seventy-five colleges and universities took part in this examination and only two awards were granted in each department.

Alumnae record. The alumnae statistics we made last November showed that they have gone into wider fields of service than before the war. Of a total of 469, 121 have gone on with advanced study. It seems to me this is a very high percentage among women graduates from any institutions, and it indicates also the active work our graduates are engaged in. There are 203 in educational work, including 53 in teaching or administrative work in colleges and universities. The next largest group is medicine and nursing and next comes the group in various kinds of religious and social organizations, such as the Y.W.C.A., the

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APR 12 1941

New Life Movement, the Association for War Orphans, the Chinese Industrial Cooperatives, rural service institutions, and government offices or research institutes. It is very gratifying that Ginling graduates have earned such high prestige that we never have difficulty in placing graduates. Now with still greater demands for well-trained women workers, we are actually embarrassed because we are unable to meet the many calls for our graduates. Two instances may be mentioned as illustrations. Last January I received a letter from the principal of a large middle school for boys and girls not far from Chungking. He said that our two graduates teaching there had done so well that he wanted more to fill the vacancies on the staff. He had his own daughter transfer from National Central University to Ginling, because he wanted her to receive the same kind of training that we gave the two graduates in his school. Recently, I met Miss Evelyn Mary Chen, of the class of 1929. She is warden of the Friends' Receiving Home for Children in Shanghai and was sent by the Friends' Mission to the interior to see the work of the mission, especially in regard to children's work. She is the first Ginling graduate to work in this mission, and she has done so well that Mr. Silcox wanted to have another graduate as substitute while Miss Chen took this long trip. However, all our graduates in Shanghai were working and there was no one available. Last January there were only five girls that completed the college course, and yet there were over thirty positions open for them.

Work on the Ginling campus in Nanking. Mrs. Thurston may have reported to you that the work has been going on steadily in spite of the consular advice for evacuation and the possibility of an emergency to come if the general situation on the Pacific should be changed. Mrs. Thurston intends to stay on as long as possible, but Miss Whitmer is following the advice from her mission board, and is making a reservation to go home to America. Mrs. Thurston has made plans and she recommended that a Chinese committee be appointed to be in charge of the work and campus if she herself has to leave. From all the information we have been able to secure, there is the possibility that such work as our Experimental Course may be permitted to go on, even if an emergency should come. Since there are other mission groups in Nanking, our group will keep in close touch with them and thus will not be left entirely by themselves.

Problems to be considered. The first one is financial, which has become serious in this unusual economic condition of war time in China. In normal years before the war, the regular income of the college was never enough to meet the minimum expenditure and the shortage in the annual budget was around \$30,000.00 National Currency. The price index is practically 1000 in Chengtu now, and the biggest increase came between October and February. When we prepared the tentative budget for 1941-42, we hesitated to present it with the total of \$508,000 and a shortage of \$186,000. Yet, as Dr. Lewis Smythe expressed it at the Board Executive Committee meeting, the budget was conservative and gave rather moderate allowance for continued increase in cost of living. Even if we figure the rate of exchange at 20:1, the shortage means US\$9,300. We hate to come to our Founders with the request for such a large amount, for we fully realize how much harder it has become for the Founders and Associated Boards to raise the Sustaining Fund as the war situation in Europe has turned worse. There are usually only two ways of solving the problem of a large deficit, either to cut the program drastically or to seek for the funds necessary to carry on the college work.

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APR 12 1941

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This leads to the next question if Ginling is meeting a need and has a place as the only union college for women in the whole program of Christian Higher Education in China. If the answer is in the affirmative because of her record, then the budget is necessary in order to maintain the standard and give the adequate training. I meet with constant calls for Ginling graduates in various kinds of women's work and it is a challenge to us to carry on.

With best regards to you and the members of the Board, I am

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

VFW/1.

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Confirmation Copy
Original by Trans-Pacific Clipper

Ginling College, Chengtu
April 19, 1941

Miss Margaret E. Hodge
Chairman, Ginling Board of Founders
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Miss Hodge,

I am very sorry that in my last letter I forgot to report on the religious activities in the college. This year we have a special committee which takes charge of arrangements for chapel talks and other religious activities. They also cooperate with the student chairman of the Devotional Committee. This spring there have been a series of six discussion groups with six faculty leaders. Each faculty member prepares a special subject in this series and the students rotate in going to the six groups. After this series is finished, we are to organize some groups for Bible study. On Easter Sunday, seven of our girls were among the thirteen students that were baptized at the morning service. This is the largest number of our girls to join the church at one time. Last Christmas there were two girls baptized. Of the nine, three are seniors, two are juniors, one is a sophomore, and three are freshmen. The chairman of the Devotional Committee is Shen Pei-lan, daughter of Bishop Shen of Sian. She is a fine girl and there are a group of Christian students that have it on their minds to help in realizing Christian life among the students.

There is a typographical error in my last letter which should be corrected. The special grant from the Ministry of Education last November was \$8,000 National Currency and not \$80,000.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

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Confirmation Copy

Ginling College,
Chengtu
April 21st, 1941

Mr. C.A. Evans
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City
New York

Dear Mr. Evans,

Your letter of March 18th was received several days ago. I greatly appreciate your writing to me promptly in regard to Mrs. Macmillan's resignation. It was a great shock to me, and I have shared your letter with Miss Priest and Miss Chester. It is certainly regrettable that Mrs. Macmillan left so suddenly in the midst of the Ginling campaign and toward the important closing month of the campaign for Sustaining Funds. For the college especially, she has given devoted and whole-hearted service in building up a wide circle of friends. As you said, it will be very difficult to fill the vacancy on the Associated Boards' staff. While I do not know what it was that led to Mrs. Macmillan's resignation, it probably was due to the reorganization of the Associated Boards' office because of your joining the China United Relief and Dr. Garside's going to that office for five months. I can easily understand how you and others must be carrying extra work because of this rearrangement of duties. I can also imagine what a difficult task Miss Hodge has in arranging for the carrying on of the special work for Ginling. I expect to hear from her soon.

Mr. Parker wrote to the presidents on February 21st asking that reports of the colleges be sent to New York and that names of faculty going on furlough should also be sent. I have written to Miss Hodge and reported informally about the conditions this year. Enclosed I am sending one additional sheet. Will you please send it to her.

As for faculty on furlough, Miss Florence Kirk is the only one that is definite thus far. She has booked her passage on the President Coolidge sailing from Hongkong on June 14th. She definitely plans to spend her furlough for advanced study and has applied for scholarships at several universities. Thus far, no definite reply has been received. Dr. Reeves is retiring at the end of this year. She expected to sail with her friends Mr. and Mrs. Myer from Boston. However, no definite booking has been secured as yet. Miss Rhodes has not quite decided whether she is to stay on during next school year. From Nanking, Mrs. Thurston intends to stay as long as possible, and if she should have to leave Nanking, she will go back to America. Miss Whitmer has written that when she has to leave China, she wishes to go back to America. Her father died after she returned from her last furlough, and her mother is not very well. So we can easily understand how she would wish to be with her mother during the time she cannot be in Nanking.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

Original via Trans-Pacific Clipper

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Confirmation Copy

UNIVERSITY
AUG 1 1941
NEW YORK

winning College,
University
April 1st, 1941

Mr. C.A. Evans
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City
New York

Dear Mr. Evans,

Your letter of March 18th was received several days ago. I
greatly appreciate your writing to me promptly in regard to Mrs.
Macmillan's resignation. It was a great shock to me, and I have
shared your letter with Miss Felt and Miss Chester. It is certainly
regrettable that Mrs. Macmillan left so suddenly in the midst of the
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for Sustaining Funds. For the college especially, she has given
devoted and whole-hearted service in building up a wide circle of
friends. As you said, it will be very difficult to fill the vacancy
on the Associated Boards' staff. While I do not know what it was
that led to Mrs. Macmillan's resignation, it probably was one of the
reorganization of the Associated Boards' office because of your joining
the China United Relief and Dr. Gertrude's going to that office for five
months. I can easily understand how you and others may be carrying
extra work because of this reorganization of duties. I am also
what a difficult task Mrs. Macmillan has in arranging for the carrying on
of the special work for giving. I expect to hear from her soon.

Mr. Parker wrote to the president on February 21st asking that
reports of the college be sent to New York and that Mrs. Macmillan
be asked to resign. I have written to Mrs. Macmillan
and reported informally about the conditions this year. Unless I
am sending an additional sheet. Will you please send it to her.

As for faculty on faculty, Mrs. Macmillan is the only one
that is definite thus far. She has booked her passage on the president
College sailing from Boston on June 15th. She definitely plans to
spend her summer for advanced study and has applied for scholarships
at several universities. Thus far, no definite reply has been received
from her friends at the end of this year. She expected to stay
with her friends in New York. However, no definite
looking has been secured as yet. Mrs. Macmillan has not quite decided
whether she is to stay on until next school year. From talking, Mrs.
Macmillan intends to stay as long as possible, and it should have
to leave New York, and will go back to America. Mrs. Macmillan has
written that when she has to leave China, she wishes to go back to
America. Her father died after she returned from her first faculty, and
her mother is not very well. So we can easily understand how she would
wish to be with her mother in America and she cannot be in New York.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. ...

WJW

Original via Macmillan's office

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Ginling College, Chengtu
April 21st, 1941

Dear Miss Griest,

Your Clipper letter of February 6th was received only a few days ago. Evidently, it did not come by Clipper but by ordinary mail across the Pacific and from Hongkong. Several of the questions you raised have already been answered in some way, but I wish to write you again, particularly in regard to candidate work. This is to make sure that you have all the information.

In regard to Chang Hwei-lan, I wrote to Mrs. New and asked her to get in touch with you and to write to Chang Hwei-lan directly. Mrs. New got to know her quite well during the winter of 1938 when Hwei-lan helped on the clothing committee in Shanghai. Since Chang Hwei-lan has never written to me, it may be easier for her to tell Mrs. New frankly what her reaction is in regard to our invitation. Somehow I had the impression that she is not to continue in Physical Education, but is to shift into some other line. Mrs. Chen Hwang Li-ming has written and asked for sabbatical leave for next year. She has carried heavy responsibility and has been under great strain during the past four years, and we all realize she needs the rest. However, with the uncertainty facing the future of Shanghai, we are just unable to let ^{her} have the rest if the Physical Education work can be carried on in that region. It is, as you wrote, a very serious difficulty to secure adequate teachers for our Physical Education department. I have talked with Ruth and Ettie Chin, but we do not seem to have solved the problem. I am glad to know about Edith Haight, but I agree with you that when she has to take care of her mother, there is no possibility for her to come to China.

In regard to the Sociology department, I am interested to read what you wrote about Miss Mossman. I know she is ambitious and is keen for professional achievement, so perhaps it is only wishful thinking on my part that she return to Ginling. As for the condition of social work, it is becoming the same in China as you said it was in America. There is even a new department created by the government on social work. There are many demands for well-trained people in social work. Take Mrs. K. C. Kao Wu for instance. I invited her to come last summer, but she did not accept because of family reasons. As soon as I heard that her sister, whom she had to take care of, died in the winter, I extended my invitation again. Recently, I have heard she has had many other attractive offers, so I do not know at all if she will come to Ginling. I have written to Mrs. New to find out more about Ong Hwei-lan. Two years ago, when she thought of returning, she expressed a desire to come to the interior, but Mrs. New strongly recommended that she should have some experience in other institutions before we had her join our faculty. She is a girl with genuine desire to serve, but she is rather unsteady and immature in her judgment. Unless we have a strong experienced professor to direct her, it will be rather difficult to leave it to her to train the students. I do not know if you met her when she was in the East. It will be a great pity if we cannot strengthen our Sociology department. This department has still the largest number of students majoring in it, and we have had some good students in it..

I should tell you that there is one promising student in Sociology that I wish to secure and opportunity for advanced training for in America. She came from Baldwin Girls' School and completed her college

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course last January. Last summer, she was one of the two girls that we sent to take part in the competitive examinations given by the Ministry of Education for the purpose of encouraging scholarship. The results were announced only recently, and we are happy that she received one of the two awards in Sociology. Since there were over seventy colleges and universities that sent students to take part in these examinations and most of the institutions have a Sociology department, we are gratified to have Miss Hsiung receive this honour. The award means a prize of \$300. Miss Hsiung has written that she wishes to give \$100 to the department for buying books of general reading in Sociology for the students. Since we are so desperately in need of well-trained people in this field, I am inclined to plan to have Miss Hsiung go to America in the summer of 1942. I shall discuss this with her in the summer to make sure if it is rural work that she would like to have advanced training in. In the meantime, will you please secure information when convenient as to what institutions offer the best training along this line.

I am very sorry if I gave the impression that I thought giving a recital is an essential requirement of the music staff. We had heard that Miss Rhodes plays well, so we thought she might be interested in giving a recital, but we certainly understood how she could not do it when she was out of practice because she had been doing a different kind of work during the last few years. Miss Sutherland thinks that Miss Rhodes is able to give the students something that cannot be given by many others, and she hopes very much that she will stay for another year. Thus far she has not quite decided, although Ruth told me that she seemed to be inclined to stay. Your cable came during our spring holiday, and Miss Rhodes was away for the vacation. I talked with Ruth and Catharine, and will talk to Miss Rhodes soon. Both Ruth and Catharine felt that your proposal would not influence her decision. When Miss Rhodes first came, she made it clear that she was not to be one of the missionaries, but would live according to her own standards. She expressed frankly that she was taking this year more like a half vacation. So besides her teaching, she spends the rest of her time doing the things she enjoys most, such as sewing, learning to paint, etc. She has gradually come to appreciate the life of missionaries, and both Catharine and Ruth feel there is the possibility that she will do more for the students in the second year. However, they are not sure what her reaction may be in regard to the grant from the Episcopal Board.

One other thing I should report to you is in regard to Miss Butler. When I was in Chungking, Bishop Ward wired Miss Priest from Shanghai asking whether Ginling is still interested in having Miss Butler. Miss Sutherland was strongly in favor of Miss Butler's coming, so Ruth wrote me to Chungking, and I wired to Bishop Ward that we would welcome her. However, the Methodist conference is over and no word has come from Shanghai, so we do not know at all if Miss Butler was appointed to Ginling. We are quite upset in hearing from Mr. Yeh that Mrs. Lucy Yeh is planning to stay on in America. Mrs. Kwan's husband has gone to Hupeh province and is now the president of an agricultural college there, so Mrs. Kwan is going to join her husband now that her plans for going abroad are not likely to materialize. We have several good students taking voice, so we shall be in a very bad position without someone in that line.

You asked about Miss Florence Kirk's plans of study during next year. She wrote about her plans to Mrs. Macmillan a long time ago, and she has sent her applications for scholarships and I send the recommendation letters. I do not know how much Mrs. Macmillan has done from her office or what

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APR 21 1941

prospects there are of securing a scholarship. I am afraid it will be pretty late by the time this reaches you for you to do anything to help, but I do hope that she may be granted a scholarship from among the applications she sent. She has booked her passage on the President Coolidge leaving Hongkong June 14th. We hope that nothing may happen before then, and she will be able to take that boat.

This brings me to the question in regard to Miss Li Man-kuei. She has done fine work and is well liked by the students, and I like her very much from the several times I have talked with her. But, her former teacher, Mrs. Wu (the famous Chinese poetess, Icy Heart) urged her to go to Chungking and take the position of head of the editorial and publicity department of the Women's Committee of the New Life Movement. Madame Chiang invited Mrs. Wu to this position last September, but she is a frail lady and from the beginning she had said she was not strong enough to do anything and she would be looking for someone to help. When Miss Li passed through Chungking, Mrs. Wu right away wanted her to take over the work, but Miss Li was very clear and definite in saying that she must come to Ginling. She even did not speak to me about this before I went down to Chungking on February 25th. Mrs. Wu told the whole thing to Madame Chiang, and Madame Chiang asked me to consider letting Miss Li go to do this work after this year is over. Evidently, Mrs. Wu told her about the travel expenses, for the Madame even mentioned that of course she would repay to the college what we had paid to bring Miss Li to Chengtu. The only thing I could say was this: First, we invited Miss Li because our English department needs her and we still want to keep her, and secondly, when there are other offers made to Miss Li, we cannot keep them from her, and the determining point is whether she prefers teaching to writing or writing to teaching. I have had a good talk with her since my return from Chungking. She has not decided, and she said she enjoyed taching our girls, but frankly, she was looking to writing as her own line rather than teaching. She mentioned two Chinese women that may be interested in teaching English. From these two points, I am inclined to conclude that she is rather drawn by this other offer from Chungking. It is a great pity that, after all the effort in securing her and all the adjustments the English staff made last fall for her, she may be giving Ginling only one term's service. The trouble is that there are too many positions open for the capable and well-trained men and women. The Christian institutions seem to be the losers, because many of their faculty are being attracted away.

I do not need to tell you that we were grieved to hear of what happened to Minnie. After the courageous fight to overcome her own depression, this recurrence must be a great disappointment to her. Your letter to me and to Dr. Reeves have given me the only news we have received thus far. I am very anxious to know how she reacted to the return to a hospital. I, too, feel that Minnie will have a complete recovery, and perhaps we have only to be patient, and to believe, as Dr. Woods said, that Minnie's strong personality will require a longer period for her to get out of this state of mind. Poor Minnie, she even thought of me and how I need to have a rest, but my situation here is very different from what Minnie faced in Nanking. I have many helpers with whom I can consult when problems arise, and I have a different types of work which mean a change for me. Minnie kept her troubles to herself, and the personnel problem is very often the most difficult and discouraging problem to face. Really, the war can be blamed for the major portion of the personnel problems. While in Nanking, I never had some of the problems I have to deal with now. I suppose it must be partly because of the great strain, both mental and physical on account of the war

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I do not know what to say in regard to Mrs. Macmillan's resignation. I have received two letters from her and one from Mr. Evans, but still I do not know what actually happened. It certainly was a great shock to hear of her leaving the office at this important time of the year, both for the Ginling campaign and for that of the Sustaining Fund. Furthermore, Mrs. Macmillan has built up the interest in and the support of the college during the last few years, and how can she be dropped out of it so suddenly? This must have been a terrible experience for her after all these years of devoted work for the colleges, and especially Ginling. And for the work, I do not see how any other person could be discovered to do even part of what Mrs. Macmillan has been doing. Do please let me know how she is herself. From some of your earlier letters, I sensed that the workings at the Associated Boards' office were not as they should be, and I am afraid it was this question of joining the United China Relief that brought about this question of reorganization of the office arrangement of the Associated Boards.

Sincerely yours,

YFW/k

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

Original via Trans-Pacific Clipper

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April 23, 1941

President Wu Yi-fang
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan, CHINA

Dear President Wu:

We are in the midst of a publicity movement with the hope of securing large sums, although totally inadequate for relief in China. United China Relief, Inc. is the organization carrying the burden of publicity and, above all things, they need information and assistance.

I am in receipt of a communication from Dr. B. A. Garside, Executive Director of United China Relief, urging us to ask the foreign members of the staff in our China Colleges to write as many letters as possible telling of the situation and needs in their particular locations, and sending such letters where they will get the widest attention here in America. This also applies to Chinese staff members who have friends in America, and the request is that special attention be given on focusing this work during the next few months. Such letters should be informative as to conditions and needs, not only in the institutions themselves but in the surrounding areas. It might be helpful also if some of these letters were sent to home town editors and other places here in America where they would get the widest distribution and publicity.

If anyone finds it difficult to write to a large group, our office shall be glad to receive such letters and mimeograph them, and mail to such lists which may be submitted to us by individual staff members. SPEED IS IMPORTANT.

Mr. Henry R. Luce, a member of the Campaign Committee for United China Relief, Inc., and his wife will leave on the Clipper which will carry this letter to those in Southern and Western China. They will endeavor to obtain last-minute information for campaign purposes, but the intimate everyday contacts of you good people is necessary to give the right flavor to publicity. Please keep your constituency well informed.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS,
Acting Executive Secretary and
Associate Treasurer.

CAE/B
Via China Clipper - 4/26/41
c.c. via air mail to Pacific Coast -
"President Garfield"

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JOINT OFFICE

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Confirmation Copy

Ginling College, Chengtu
May 3rd, 1941

Dear Miss Griest,

After several conferences with Liu En-lan, I have decided to write to you to see if you could possibly secure some help for our Geography department. Briefly, I may tell you that the Geography department is in need of an additional instructor, and we wonder if Clark University may be able to send a young man to help Dr. Liu. I did not write before to ask you to look for a candidate because I thought it out of the question to get a woman teacher to come out under the present war situation. First, we have tried to find qualified people in China, and that has not proved feasible. It is because few universities have a Geography department, and so there are not many people trained in this field. Also, there is suddenly a large demand for workers trained in Geography in addition to being able to teach in middle schools.

Our second step was to try to see if En-lan's professor in England could help her to find some woman to come out, but communication takes so long and travel is so uncertain that we cannot expect to have anyone here by next fall. For meeting the immediate need, we have increased the number of assistants to three, hoping that some of these may be trained to take over the beginning course by next fall. However, En-lan has found this will not be possible, and we would certainly prefer to have an instructor or another professor to take complete charge of certain courses. Undoubtedly, this is the way to develop the department, but it is the war situation that has kept us from planning for the normal expansion of any department. As a last resort, we thought there might be the possibility of a man being interested in coming to China at this time. It may be easier for the State Department to give a passport to a man than to a woman. However, I realize fully that this is very late in the season and capable graduates may have already received appointments for next year. But it seems to us we better make the inquiry before giving up the idea entirely. En-lan needs specially someone in the field of Physical Geography. In fact, other branches, such as Economic Geography cannot be given by a newcomer from America. When we thought of securing a man, we had another idea in mind, that is, some ambitious student may take this opportunity to make a study along certain lines in this vast region, and it is much easier for a man to join investigation or research parties that have been sent by various government of ices or research institutes. From the financial side, when the college offers the travel, we should ask for a term of three year's service. This will mean two complete summer vacations for taking trips if he should wish to.

In regard to Esther Rhodes, I wish I could write you definitely today. Briefly, the situation is like this. When she came out, there was the understanding that her brother was to support the mother. Now both her mother and brother write her that she is to decide for herself whether to stay for another year. However, she read between the lines in her mother's letter that she had to draw on her savings to meet her expenses and most likely her brother has done no more than pay the tax on the house. So Esther feels obligated to go back for her mother's sake, and she has written her mother of her decision to return this summer. However, if her mother should write back asking her to stay, then Esther will. Since this is a family question involving financial obligations, I find myself unable to do any persuading. I can only tell her that from the college we wish very much for her to stay on because a new faculty member can always contribute much more by the second year. From the viewpoint of teaching, I have told you before that Miss Sutherland definitely feels that Esther

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MAY 3 1941

has a special something to give to the girls. I am very sorry to confess that I have procrastinated in not answering the cable in regard to the Episcopal contribution. We, of course, would want very much to receive this gift, and yet, Esther is not certain she will stay on, and I feel hesitant to ask for the contribution if she should not. Catharine has suggested that Esther stay through this summer in order to continue giving lessons to Hu Shih-tsang and Seng Dzu-ying (who has just replied that she would come to join our staff) and also one this June's graduates. Esther is ready to do this, but it does mean quite an additional expense to the college, so we are just giving this question our serious consideration these days. This evening Mrs. Kwan is giving a recital, and Catharine accompanies her, so I am waiting till this is over before having another thorough conference with Catharine and Esther.

I should report that doctors in Shanghai advised against Miss Butler coming to the interior because of health reasons. We have not received any official communications in regard to this decision and Catharine heard of it indirectly. Hu Shih-tsang has not had any word from Ann Arbor, so this means she has not secured the Barbour Scholarship and will be here another year. The most serious situation will be in voice training because Mrs. Kwan definitely is going to join her husband in Hupeh, and we hear that Mrs. Yeh is not returning.

I suppose you and Mrs. New must have considered the question together of Chang Hwei-lan, and I suppose either you or she has corresponded with her. I am very anxious to hear of the result. Could you please send me a cable message telling whether she is coming or not.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

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Confirmation Copy via air mail to Hongkong. Original by Clipper.
Ginling College, Chengtu
May 7th, 1941

Mr. C. A. Evans
Treasurer, Board of Founders
Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Evans,

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of April 3rd, and a copy of your letter to Miss Priest on April 2nd, and also the minutes of the meetings of the Finance Committee and the Executive and Promotion Committees.

In reading through this material, I am much impressed with the careful planning and active work put in by the members of the various committees. It certainly must have meant a great deal of study and re-planning after Mrs. Macmillan's sudden resignation. You have presented the financial condition clearly, and also the activities of the Promotion Committee. We are much indebted to such members as Mrs. Hoss.

In regard to financial difficulty, I am inclined to think that we in Chengtu and you in New York tend to be in the same kind of mood. We are desperately pressed because of the necessity of increasing expenses due to the high living costs. With you, you have to face the difficulty of raising funds year after year, and now it has to be done in the midst of all sorts of appeals because of the big war in Europe. One thing I wish to assure you of is that we on the field are very cautious in the spending of funds, and we fully appreciate the very difficult task you in New York have in carrying on in our behalf. In fact, I do not need to write much on this point because you must know of this from our previous correspondence.

Perhaps I may tell you how the presidents are considering one major question these days. We have spent practically the whole of three weekly meetings on this one problem of increasing the salaries or subsidies of the faculty. The simple fact is that the living cost for April is three times that of last August. The salaried people are the group that have the most difficult time in managing a living, and the government universities are increasing their salaries. Another factor is that there is a great demand for experienced people in various lines in the government offices and government universities. This means that our faculty are having attractive offers from outside when our salaries are hardly enough to meet the minimum living needs. The presidents have, therefore, given careful consideration to this question, and we have decided to make some increases in the basic salary, but still keep the subsidy system. This is because we consider the present living cost as abnormal because of the war, and we feel that the salary scale should not be revised according to such unusual prices.

As for the faculty themselves, they certainly have shown good spirit. Take, for instance, the special subsidy granted by the government to middle schools and colleges that have refuged into Szechwan. I have reported that Ginling received \$30,000. This special grant was meant as relief for the faculty and one-fourth for the students. Some of the Chinese private universities in Chengtu have distributed this subsidy in cash to the individual faculty. President Chen, President Liu and myself have given this matter very careful consideration, and

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since we hoped for an additional grant from the government when we continued the rice subsidy for the spring term and also increased the cash subsidy, we found it necessary to use this special grant to meet these items which are not in our original budget for 1940-41. At first, some of the faculty on this campus expected the same thing as was done by private universities. However, after the president explained the situation to them, they accepted our decision without question.

In regard to Miss Kirk's applications for scholarship, I am very sorry to hear that Mrs. Macmillan had not sent them earlier. I am very anxious to know if it was too late for the institutions to give her application due consideration. As I wrote to Mrs. Macmillan, Miss Kirk will definitely need the scholarship aid in order to carry on with her advanced study. This was why I suggested that a special effort should be made at one or two institutions that are likely to consider the granting of a scholarship.

I have read the Executive Committee action in regard to Mrs. New's trip to the East. I understand perfectly how the Board decided not to incur any travel expenses for promotional work when you are already short of funds. From Mrs. New's side, she originally planned to take the trip on her own, and she did not expect Ginling to meet her travel expenses. After I gave up my trip, she decided not to go alone. It was distinctly in response to the appeal from New York that made her suddenly start on the trip. In her letters to me, she told me of the meetings in New York and at Smith that she was expected to attend for the sake of the college. From this, I am inclined to think that she was going East entirely for Ginling. I do not know if she is finally to attend the annual meeting, but I am merely telling you the actual condition as I know it, so that you may decide if the Board should reconsider the question of granting travel expenses to Mrs. New.

With best wishes to you and the prayer that you may have successful meetings.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

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Confirmation Copy

Ginling College, Chengtu
May 7th, 1941

Mr. Joseph I. Parker
Secretary
Associated Boards
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

*File
9/11*

Dear Mr. Parker,

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 15th, and I wish to thank the Committee on Scholarships for having granted \$300 to Miss Wu Mao-i for 1941-42. This will be a great help toward meeting her expenses during her next year of study in America. We are counting upon her return to our faculty, so your grant to her is a gift to her as well as to the college.

With deep appreciation and best wishes for your meetings of this week.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

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Ginling College, Chengtu
May 19th, 1941

Dear Miss Griest,

I am unable to describe in words the feelings we have had since the cable message came from Mr. Evans telling of Minnie's sudden death. We dreaded the significance of the word "suddenly" and then on Friday evening Miss Priest heard on the radio from Shanghai that Mr. Marx had released the news that Minnie had taken her own life. No matter how hard we try to take this whole thing philosophically and put the blame on the war, we cannot help thinking about what led to the breakdown last May and what actually happened in Indianapolis before the tragic end. The latest news we had about Minnie was from your letters saying that she had a relapse and was taken back to a hospital in Indiana. Indirectly from the Banking Notes and Notices, we heard Miss Schutze had written to Hanking that Minnie was back at work in the headquarters of the United Christian Missionary Society. Most likely it was another serious relapse and the depression was more than she could overcome. That is what makes it so hard for us when we think of all that Minnie has given in serving others, and we cannot understand how she could consider her life a failure.

We held a Memorial Service for Minnie yesterday afternoon. Although we had not enough time to prepare, we wanted to observe the day when the funeral would be held in Michigan. Her favorite hymn, Sing we of the Golden City, was sung by some of the choir girls, and Florence Kirk read her favorite poem about Tai Shan written by Eunice Tietjens. Luther Shao was asked to preside and he gave appropriate scripture readings and led the prayers. As tributes, Ruth spoke as a colleague, and she also told briefly a few facts about Minnie's life. Chang Siao-sung, chairman of the Chengtu Alumnae Association, represented the Alumnae. Djang Hsiang-lan spoke as a student in Education, giving a tribute to Minnie's ideals in Education and what she contributed in building up the education department and the practice school in Ginling. Lewis Smythe represented the college board and also her own mission, and I spoke from the college administration. Because of the broadcast from Shanghai telling how she died, Ruth, Lewis Smythe, and myself gave serious consideration and finally decided that Dr. Smythe should speak frankly and tell how she had the breakdown last May and how the relapse of such melancholia must have led to the last step. I also had to mention this fact because even in the Chinese papers in Chengtu it was reported in a news despatch from Shanghai which told about Minnie's death. There were about two hundred present at the service, and practically all Minnie's friends from Hanking and all the Alumnae were present. It was a beautiful service although by no means adequate to express the honour we all wanted to do her.

The next thing we must turn our thoughts to is to plan a memorial to be established in her memory. However, as several of the Alumnae said, the most important thing is for us in Ginling to try harder to carry out Minnie's ideals for the college and in realizing her Christian spirit of service. No one can come up to the tireless and persistent giving of herself, but we do wish to keep alive her spirit among us, so that she might not have given her life in vain. I am not writing separately to Miss Hodge, but if you wish, you may share this letter with her.

MAY 19 1941

It was only recently that the Meyers and Dr. Reeves got word that the American Express had succeeded in booking passages for them on the President Taylor sailing from Hongkong on June 17th. It has been very hard for Dr. Reeves and us to face the fact of retirement. She was the one that originated this regulation which was adopted by the Board in China and in America, and in my position as president, I have to follow it and cannot stretch this point further after the Board of Founders has been liberal enough to grant extension of service for two years. However, we are all human, and we cannot help sympathizing with Dr. Reeves when she has to leave all her friends in China and return to America with no relatives to go to. For two reasons, I have come to the conclusion that it is best for her to return this year, and then after we have returned to Nanking we would be only too glad to invite her back to the campus as the retired professor. First, from the viewpoint of her health, it really is time that she had a change. Last year she had several attacks of malaria and she was pulled down. Although she has got over the affects she certainly has aged and has many more wrinkles. While she herself thinks she is in very good health, several of us feel it is time for her to have a change, and her last furlough was in 1931-32. Secondly, there is the relation between the college and her Methodist Board. When our Founders were strict in fixing the retirement age and in granting no extension, the W.P.M.S. is more lenient in this regard. If we should consider this only from the viewpoint of Dr. Reeves and of wanting her to stay on in China with friends after her retirement from the college, it would appear to the Society as if the college is not appreciating Dr. Reeves. Anyway, this question was faced when Bishop Ward was here in the winter of 1939, and so the college requested the extension of Dr. Reeves' service to Ginling and did not support her own idea of going to some other Methodist station in Szechwan. I have found it very awkward in my position, and I certainly have had very mixed feelings. Personally, I would wish so much for her to stay on in China, especially during this war time when she feels uncertain how long it may last and how long she will have to wait in America before she will be able to return. On the other hand, in my official position, I have been advised to be business-like and that it is better for Dr. Reeves to return to America and establish her status as a retired professor. You have written to ask about her plans for next year. I am sure you will wish to do what you can in helping Dr. Reeves find a suitable place to settle down.

I am sorry I have to attend a meeting now and cannot write more at this time.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

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M. Evans
150 Fifth Avenue
New York New York
29 May 1941

Dear Dr. Wu:

Mr. Evans has referred to me for partial answer your letter of May 7th. He will be writing you about matters which concern the financial aspects of Mrs. New's trip to the east.

Your deep concern for Miss Kirk and the scholarship she hopes to have next year we can readily understand. Immediately after Mrs. Macmillan's resignation, Mr. Evans took up the matter of applying for scholarships, sending letters to the following universities: Columbia, Northwestern, Yale, and Iowa State. A refusal has come from Columbia, Northwestern is giving the application consideration. The other two have not replied and we have little hope of favorable action.

Within the last few days two other approaches have been made, one to the University of Iowa and one to Vanderbilt University. We realize it is late in the year to be making these applications, but hope to be successful in securing something which will give Miss Kirk the opportunity for study she is seeking.

Mrs. New will be writing you about the Board of Founders Meeting held May 27th. It was a great joy to have her at the meeting. The Memorial Service for Ginling's beloved Miss Vautrin was especially meaningful as Mrs. New told of the funeral service and her share in it. Not only did she represent the College and the Board of Founders, but in her contacts with the Vautrin family she rendered a fine missionary service. You know of the unhappiness and lack of sympathy there has been on the part of Miss Vautrin's family. Mrs. New quite won their hearts and left them with attitudes toward the magnificent service Miss Vautrin rendered to China quite different from anything they had previously had. What a help it would have been to her if they could have felt that way while she was living her life for China.

The plan for proposed unification of trustee boards of China Colleges was given careful consideration at the meeting. That, too, Mrs. New will interpret for you. We all realize there are both advantages and disadvantages in the setup under consideration and Ginling has a large stake in it. The plan is by no means ready for adoption yet. The individual boards are simply being asked to study the plan in its present form and appoint representatives to work together in developing it further. You can see that this method of procedure will mean that the special problems of each board will be presented and attempts made to safeguard certain rights and interests which seem vital to the welfare of the institution involved. There is much to be said in favor of a unification plan if it can be worked ~~out~~ happily out happily for all concerned. One realizes that Ginling, because of its setup, its relationship to Smith College and the increasing interest there, is in some ways in a class by itself. A copy of the minutes of the meeting will be on its way to you soon. You will see from them the points raised and will know that Ginling's interests are to be well looked after.

Miss Griest has received letters from you and Dr. Liu En-lan, setting forth the need for reinforcing the geography department. Dr. Liu has done splendid work in getting such a department under way, and we hope some sort of assistance will be forthcoming. In normal times such an opportunity as the one Ginling offers would not go begging very long. But we all know that present conditions may prove a very real barrier in getting someone to go out.

In your letter to Miss Griest you inquire about Chang Hwei-lan. She has written you her plans for next year and you probably have her letter by this time.

Be assured of my interest in you and your work and my desire to help in any way I can.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Wu Yi-fang
Ginling College
Chungku, China

Mrs. Charles H. Corbett, Acting Secretary

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Miss Hodge
file

Ginling College, Chengtu
May 30th, 1941

Dear Miss Hodge and Miss Griest:

I am sending you copies of my letters to Miss Walmsley. After the action of the Board of Founders a year ago, I certainly will not do anything contrary to your decisions. Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan told Dr. Chester that Miss Walmsley had written to her saying that she had her travel money ready and that she will have her year of leave of absence in 1941-42. She definitely plans to come to China, and she needs only the proof of a specific position for the application of her passport. This was why I wrote the two separate letters. As you will note from the letters, I promised only one term's work and did not offer any of the privileges as a foreign member of the faculty and I am offering only a Chinese salary. Because of her secure position in Milwaukee, I shall take care that the college will not in any way affect her return to America after the leave of absence expires.

In regard to the need for her in Nanking, I hardly think it is a practical question to be discussed under the present circumstances. Since Miss Vautrin's death, I have been thinking about the future of our program in Nanking if the war drags on. Miss Whitmer is not a good teacher for English, and she has made tentative bookings to return home because of her home Board. It may be possible that she will stay longer because Bishop Ward seems to be more lenient than the Board. I am sure this problem is also one that is on your mind and that you will watch the policies of the State Department. It seems clear that we should try to keep the projects going on the campus as long as possible and the question is how to do it.

We have been waiting eagerly for the minutes of the annual board meeting, and I do hope you have had satisfactory meetings of our own Board and the Associated Boards.

Sincerely yours,
s/ Yi-fang Wu

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Ginling College, Chengtu
May 30th, 1941

Dear Miss Walmsley,

Enclosed I am sending you this formal letter which I hope will help you to secure your passport from the State Department.

I wish now to tell you more fully about the actual need on our staff. Miss Spicer was expected to return next fall after her year of furlough, but, because of the war situation and the long time it took her to return home last summer and the long time it will take her to travel back to China, she has written and asked for leave to have one more term. This means she will not be back with us until February for the spring term, so we are short one foreign faculty member for the fall term. We are very glad to hear from Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan of the possibility of your spending your year of leave of absence here in China. If you can succeed in securing your passport and will be with us, we shall arrange for you to teach English and shift one of the English teachers to give the History courses which we expected Miss Spicer to teach. For the students, we will be happy to have you teach English because of your long experience of teaching English to the Chinese girls, and because you had such good results with our freshmen in 1928 and 1929.

In regard to your travel and salary, I am sorry that we shall not be able to take you as one of our regular foreign staff for the simple reason that such items have not been put in the budget. We shall be glad to offer you the same amount as we will be paying the Chinese women professors. Living costs have gone up more than ten times that of three years ago, so the Chinese salary will not be sufficient for you to live on foreign food. Hsiang-lan has told me that you would not expect more than just enough for your living expenses. However, from the viewpoint of the college, I feel I should take up such matters of business when we extend our invitation to you.

In regard to the spring term, it is too far away for me to say whether there may still be the need for you to continue in Ginling. But even if we shall not be able to keep you, there will be need for contract teachers of English either in the other institutions on this campus or in some of the government universities.

From the news in the papers, I am afraid it is getting more difficult for the State Department to issue new passports to American citizens to come out to China. Miss Chester and I talked about Mrs. Thurston's need for you in Nanking. We realize that it is practically impossible for you to get a passport to Nanking. However, we decided to mention this in the letter so that if there should be any change in the American policy you may make use of that opportunity and may succeed in going to help Mrs. Thurston. I did not put that as more urgent than the need in Chengtu because I did not want to handicap you in getting the passport to West China. I am sure you understand the whole situation, and I hope this formal letter of mine may help you in carrying out your plan of returning to China next year.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ i-fang Wu

YFW/k

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Ginling College, Chengtu
May 30, 1941

Dear Miss Wamsley,

I am very glad to hear from Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan that you will be able to leave your work and family to return to China in the fall. Here in Chengtu, we have a vacancy on the staff of the English department, and we have not been able to find any person in China to fill it. You were such a splendid teacher when you were with us before that I hasten to write and invite you to return to Ginling by next September. The student enrollment has been growing since we moved to Chengtu and the English department has become the second largest major among all the departments. We shall be very happy if you will consent to fill this urgent vacancy on our faculty. The fall term starts with registration on September 12th and 13th and classes start on September 15th.

Speaking of our needs, I cannot help wanting to tell you that for the work on our permanent campus in Nanking, there is even a greater need for you. Ever since the fall of 1937, the middle school has been carried on under the name of Experimental Course, and they wish to have such an experienced teacher as yourself to teach the English and also to help the principal with some of the administrative duties. As you know, Mrs. Thurston is the chairman of the committee in charge of the property and the different projects going on in Nanking. She will no doubt want very much to have you join her if she hears of the possibility of your coming to China in the fall. However, because of the ~~possibility~~ international situation and the advice from the United States' State Department for evacuation of American citizens from East China, we have refrained from sending you an invitation to return to Nanking. Now when there is this need on the college faculty in Chengtu, I do want so much to invite you back. I have seen missionaries returning to West China from America throughout this year, so I trust there will be no question raised in regard to your coming to Chengtu.

With best wishes and waiting anxiously for a favorable reply.

Sincerely yours,

s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW:k

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May 31, 1941
Ginling College,
Chengtu, China.

Letter of recommendation
for Miss Esther Rhodes.

To whom it may concern:

Miss Esther Rhodes came to fill and emergency need in the music department of Ginling College for the year 1940-41. We are grateful that she was willing to make the trip at this time of uncertainty and of difficulty in travel. She leaves now only because of family reasons.

Her work has been an inspiration both to her coworkers and to students, whom she has led to a new regard for tone quality and interpretation. Not only through her teaching but by her own excellent performance she has brought us much stimulation. She has been most generous in sharing her ideas with all those who were interested. We indeed regret her leaving us at this time.

Sincerely,
Catharine E. Sutherland
Catharine E. Sutherland.
(Head of Music department)

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Confirmation Copy

Ginling College, Chengtu
May 31st, 1941

Mr. C. A. Evans
Treasurer
Associated Boards
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Evans,

Yesterday afternoon I received the following cable from you:
"Through correspondence with Rhodes family have not discovered financial considerations necessitating Esthers return. Decision rests with her." I turned it over to Miss Rhodes at once. She came to see me and we had a thorough conference, but I am sorry to say that her final decision is still to go home this summer. Briefly, I may say that her decision was arrived at somewhat like this. She wrote home early to ask for advice as to whether she should return home this summer. Both her mother and brother replied that it was up to her to make the decision. About the middle of April, from one of her mother's letters, she found out that the mother was spending the little savings account she had, and from her sister-in-law's letter, it seemed that the brother is most likely to be called to camp by July. It was because of the combination of these two things that Miss Rhodes decided to go home this summer. Miss Sutherland still urged her to stay through the summer so that several of the music majors and music staff could continue taking lessons from her. This is because Miss Rhodes is specially good in teaching tone quality and Miss Sutherland wished very much that the girls could receive more benefit from her.

While we were still considering this question of her staying a few more months in China, Miss Rhodes had another letter from her brother with a letter of her mother's to him enclosed. The mother admitted in that letter that she had had a shock (perhaps a slight stroke). Her most recent letters to Miss Rhodes showed something very different from her usual normal letters. This was what led Miss Rhodes to decide definitely to go home on the President Coolidge, the same boat that Miss Kirk will be on. They both are leaving by air on June 3rd. From the above, you will see that it is not only the financial support of her mother that made Miss Rhodes decide to go. The other two factors are the probable call for her brother to enter military service and her mother's health condition. Aside from the home conditions, there is a question in regard to Miss Rhodes' health. Very recently, the doctor who has been attending her this year told Miss Sutherland that it is better for the college not to urge her to stay on. This is because she has been affected by the change of climate and has not got over it. I am very sorry that Miss Rhodes is not able to serve the college longer, but considering all the factors involved, it seems to me we better accept her own final decision.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

YFW/k

YFW

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