

166_3096

UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

Huachung
Corres.
Coe, John L. 1946 Jan-Aug

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1011

C
O
P
Y

Hua Chung

January 8, 1946

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
c/o The Church Missions House
281 Fourth Avenue
New York City 10, U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Wei:

My last letter to you was written some weeks ago. I had intended to write you earlier, but there was the usual rush of events over Christmas. Last week Dr. Bien asked me to write a letter to Mr. Lyford, and so I did not write you at that time. As I wrote you, I asked Mr. Allen about the money which you refunded to him. Writing under date of December 17, 1945, he gave me a copy of the card signed by you and filed with the vouchers there.

"Aug. 8	Cash advance		\$20,000.00
	Returned by Dr. Wei		<u>18,000.00</u>
	Balance outstanding		\$ 2,000.00
Sept. 1	Trav Chex \$10=	12500	
	Rs 18/8	<u>5820</u>	18,320.00
Jy 20	Catherine	<u>20000</u>	
21	do	<u>20000</u>	40,000.00
Jy & Ag	board	<u>120,800</u>	
Add Sep	board	<u>9,900</u>	130,700.00
			<u>\$218,620.00</u>
	Cash returned		<u>3,500.00</u>
	Balance		<u>\$215,120.00"</u>

He further writes on December 29:

"Re The Dr. Wei \$30,000 I wonder if you would ask him the source of it, ie., if money I advanced on a IOU there would be no record; when he returned it the IOU would be destroyed. I have failed to bring the thing to my memory, and I cant believe that I would have received \$30,000 without writing a formal receipt for it as that is the way money gets into the account."

If there is anything else that I can do for you in this matter, please let me know.

Since I last wrote you, I have received a long letter from Dr. Fenn, dated December 1. This letter cleared up many of the points which I had been uncertain about earlier. He stated that the sums Dr. Bien mentioned to me, and which I wrote you and Mr. Lyford, for rehabilitation etc., were what he was asking for Hua Chung from UCR and the Associated Boards. He is on his way to Shanghai and expects to make a hurried trip to New York in February, I suppose to clear up the question of rehabilitation monies for the colleges. You will probably see him there and get more information than we have been able to get here. I wrote him a letter, sending it to Shanghai, summing up certain points. I have already sent a copy of this letter to Mr. Lyford and am enclosing a copy it with this letter. Dr. Feen went on to say that the grant to Hua Chung from UCR for 1945-46 was \$16,000,000. 35% of the UCR grants were being paid during the first six months on the expectation that living costs would be higher during the second six months. In addition to this there are the grants from the British Aid to China and the Association for China College in Great Britain. If these gifts should continue somewhat the same rate as last

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

10 12

year, I estimate that we should receive somewhere around \$25,000,000. from UCR and the British sources, in addition to our regular income. The recent rise in exchange to 1300 and the rumors that the government may stabilize exchange at somewhere around 1300 will, of course, increase our income for the year. Prices after their rise in early December slumped somewhat, and rice has been holding steady at 900-1000.

I suppose that you have already heard that the English Department will be facing a crisis next autumn. Miss Burr has told Dr. Bien that she is leaving for Fukien as soon as the academic work of the present year is over. She has had a number of telegrams from Fukien, urging her immediate return, but she decided the finish this academic year with Hua Chung. Further, Mr. Constantine has just had word from Mr. Heady that the Synod of the Methodist Church of Hupeh has decided that Mr. Chamberlayne should go to Chungsiang next autumn. I understand that Mr. Rattenbury has been in correspondence with you about the probability that Mr. Tregear will return to China to join Hua Chung next autumn. The question of where the Pinoffs are going, as far as I know, is not settled. This would look as though the Methodist Mission considered that its quota of two missionaries to the college would be filled with Constantine and Tregear. Mr. Chamberlayne has been a hard worker and entered into the activities of the college. It might be a good plan if you were to write Mr. Rattenbury, asking whether or not it would be possible for Mr. Chamberlayne to remain with the college for the autumn term of 1946 to fill in the English department until the return of Miss Bleakley. Also, the Rev. Carl Liu is expecting to go to America next fall.

There is little further to report in regard to the moving plans. Dr. Taylor reached Wuchang early in December and has taken up his residence on Boone Compound. He has sent a report to Dr. Bien about the condition of the college buildings. A copy of this report was sent last week by Dr. Bien to Mr. Lyford. In it Dr. Taylor says that if material and labor were available, the college buildings could be put into condition in two months. No estimate of the cost of rehabilitation was given by Dr. Taylor. Dr. Bien has written asking for this.

Dr. Bien has not been able to make definite arrangements with the military transport people as yet. It looks now as though our best plan would be to charter either through the highway administration or the military for the trip to Kunming. Then rail to Tsanyi just beyond Kutsing, and truck from Tsanyi to Henyang. Rail from Henyang to Wuchang. A semi-official company is advertising to take people to Tsanyi to Henyang, allowing each person 50 kilograms of baggage, for \$117,000. There are reports that they are working on the railway to Indo-China, but the latest information is that it will not be ready for use before sometime in the autumn or next year. Our present estimates for the trip as outlined via Kunming, Tsenyi, and Henyang are as follows:

140 people at \$220,000 /	.....	\$30,800,000
60 students at \$141,000	.....	8,460,000
7 truckloads Hsichow to Kunming at \$1,000,000	.....	7,000,000
3 truckloads Kunming to Wuchang	.....	7,210,000
remaining equipment Kunming to Wuchang via rail and sea	.....	6,000,000
overhead and contingency	.....	2,000,000
		<u>\$61,470,000</u>

The rail fares Henyang to Wuchang are merely an estimate based on comparison with Kunming to Kutsing. It is also merely an estimate as to the cost of moving the remaining equipment from Kunming by rail and sea. It is also an estimate for the number of students.

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1013

The figures for the faculty are based upon present information in regard to bus and rail fares, and include a subsidy for living costs en route. The figures for the students are less because it is expected that some or all of these students will be able to pay at least part of their way, and also it may be possible to send them by a cheaper bus fare from Tsanyi to Henyang because they will not be allowed as much baggage as the faculty. "Overhead" is the matter of expenses of people who may have to go to Kunming to make arrangements for accommodations at the various stopover places.

The general plan is that the faculty and staff and their families will be transported through to Henyang and thence Wuchang, as outlined above. Essential college equipment will be taken over this same route, and every effort will be made to cut this down to an absolute minimum. The rest of the college equipment and books and extra luggage for the faculty will be stored in Kunming to be sent out by rail and sea when that route opens. This has not been decided, but is the result of an unofficial talk between Dr. Bien and me. The Transportation Committee will be meeting within a few days to draw up rules and regulations governing faculty transport. They have already drawn up and published with the approval of the Senate rules in regard to students. Preliminary student applications for transport are to be in not later than the middle of this month.

The Christmas week passed over well, and everyone entered into the spirit of it. Mrs. Coe has already sent a letter to Mr. J. E. Whitney at "281" telling of the events of the week, and I am sure that you can get a copy from him if you wish.

Registration for the second term was held last week Thursday, the 3rd, and classes started without delay on the following day. So far the number of students is something over 200, with a number of latecomers trailing in. Some of the freshmen students did not bother to take their examinations at the end of the first term and have simply dropped out. Three freshmen were requested not to return because of the lowness of their grades.

Yin Chung-fu is leaving the college very shortly as his papers are nearly in order for his trip to America. In order to plug the gap in the Physics department Dr. Bien has appointed Mrs. John Yang (Hwang Chieh) for the second term. This is partly necessitated by the fact that Mr. Shen of the department of Mathematics has not been heard of since August, and Mrs. Yang will be teaching half mathematics and half Physics, as Dr. Bien is carrying a light load so that he will be free when necessary to go to Kunming to make contacts in regard to transportation.

Peter Kao will do only halftime work and receive two-thirds salary and subsidies during the second term. Dr. Bien is trying to arrange for some sort of a grant for him from the International Relief Committee in Chungking. You have no doubt heard that the announcement was made on Christmas Day of the engagement of Mr. Kao to Miss Yang Chin-hsien.

I trust that you have had my earlier letters in which I raised certain questions about next year and the necessity of an early decision by you people in New York in regard to them. Mail from the States continues very erratic, though the service between here and Kunming has improved slightly. With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(signed) John L. Coe

1014

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

COPY

HUA CHUNG (CENTRAL CHIN) COLLEGE
WUCHANG, CHINA
Temporarily in Hsichow
Via Tali, Yunnan, China

January 15, 1946
L-42

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford
54 Dana Place
Englewood, New Jersey, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Lyford:

Will you please at your convenience send a check for U.S.\$15. to Mrs. Ruth Earnshaw Lo. This is to be sent at the request of Mr. Ying Fa-lu of the Department of Chinese in the college. I believe he is writing Mrs. Lo about it, and he has paid me the equivalent in Chinese currency. As I wrote Dr. Wei under date of January 8, Dr. Bien has made some progress in regard to moving plans, although final arrangements may not be made for another month or so. It looks now as though our best plan would be to charter either through the Highway Administration or the Chinese military for the trip from Haiakwan to Kunming; then by rail to Tsanyi just beyond Kutsing; and truck from Tsanyi to Henyang; rail from Henyang to Wuchang.

There are a number of companies, some private and some semi-official, running on the Tsanyi-Henyang route. One company advertises to carry people for \$117,000 each, allowing 50 kilograms of baggage, and 15 to a truck. Another company advertises to carry people over the same route for \$80,000, but allowing each one only fifteen kilograms of baggage. Dr. Bien has written to some of these and has had an encouraging reply from one, saying that they would be able to handle a certain amount of cargo during April; and that if we would make prior arrangements, it would be possible for them to give us at least 10% discount, and possibly a 20% discount. They also quote figures for carrying cargo. Our present plan is to ask that the faculty register with the college administration not later than the end of the first week in February, stating whether or not they desire to travel with the college, or independently. The number of students who desire to travel with us will be by that time fairly well determined, as their preliminary applications must be in before then. All departments before then are to submit a list of books and apparatus which must travel with the college, and apparatus and books which are not urgently needed at the opening of college. It is proposed that this second lot will be left in safe keeping in Kunming, to be forwarded when cheaper means of transportation should be available.

Our present estimates based on what information we have, and estimating the rail fare at the other end from Henyang to Wuchang, are as follows:

140 people at \$220,000.	xx	\$30,800,000.
60 students at \$141,000.	xx	8,460,000.
7 truckloads Hsichow to Kunming at \$1,000,000.	xxxxx	7,000,000.
3 truckloads Kuning to Wuchang	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	7,210,000.
remaining equipment Kunming to Wuchang via rail and		
	seaxx	6,000,000.
overhead and contingency	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	2,000,000.
		<u>\$61,470,000.</u>

I would not estimate that about 100 students will apply for transportation from the number who have already applied. Probably one-third to one-half of these will need some help. This may be slightly lower than the number we originally put into our summary. It is probable that after we have the figures in at the beginning of February, Dr. Bien will send someone Probably Mr. T'an Jen-i, to Tsanyi to make more definite arrangement with

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

10 15

January 15, 1946.

the truck companies from there.

The number of late registrants in the college has swelled the enrollment for this term to over 240. The last day for registration will be Thursday of this week, and the total may go to around 250. The students seem to have come back ready to get down to work, and certainly the work of the term has gotten started more quickly and easily than I have known it for a long time.

Night before last I had notice from the bank in Hsiakwan that they had received a remittance for our credit of \$1,414,576. from Chengtu. Details of this will undoubtedly be received from Miss Priest within a few days, and I will let you know of them.

We have just received word from the Ministry of Education in Chungking that the application of our freshman science students for government scholarships (which cover board and lodging) has been turned down for this year. For the previous two years we had been granted scholarships equal in number to one-half the science students in the entering class. This scholarship replaced the government loan, which had been given to students from occupied areas for several years previous. The reason for the rejection is that a recent order has been put out by the Ministry of Education, saying that these government scholarships would, starting with this year, be restricted to students in national institutions. From information which I have been able to gather, it would look as though the present tendency of the Ministry of Education was to discontinue as largely as possible subsidies in any form to private institutions. For instance, at the meeting in Chungking attended by Dr. Bien last September, it was stated by a member of the Ministry that there was little likelihood of any government assistance forthcoming to help private institutions return to their original places. It would look as though this tendency reflected the policy of the present Ministry of Education. If accompanying this tendency there should be a certain relaxing of the present rigid requirements by the Ministry in regard to curriculum and requirements for graduation, it would be a good thing.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

/s/ John L. Coe.

P.S. I do not expect to have to make heavy demands for funds till we are nearer ready to move. Our present estimate of \$61,000,000. for moving would amount to about US\$46,000 at present rates. There is indication that the financial capital will move by early in the spring. The government has sent up several trial balloons about a new official rate but so far there is nothing definite. If UCR or the associated Boards thru Fenn send us travel money, then I won't have to draw so heavily on you. There are often indications that travel charges particularly further east may drop after China New Year but we cannot bank on that. I hope to be able to give you more definite word later. By some time in March I will be drawing more heavily on you if UCR funds do not come.

/s/ JSCoe

1016

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

95 She Liu Kai, Kunning. Jan. 22, 1946

Dear Mr. Lyford, just a line to say that Jim accompanied me & H. A. Kwan last Friday, and I came up to Kunning by public bus with one of our young staff members, Mr. Yin Chung-ju. It was a horrid trip taking three days. The bus was old and constantly broke down. Late on the second day we had a bandit scare, but actually nothing happened. Of course, we have been much spoiled by having had the American army on the road for two years. Now no more comfortable hostels and no more friendly Americans in good vehicles to give one a lift gladly. It left me feeling very lonesome. However, the road is still in good shape — the local inns were not too bad — the food in the roadside inns was good and not too expensive.

If I could get away, I should try to get through to Hankow, but I would seem to be just too late for any army ^{air} transport. There are some 100 odd US boys still in Kunning, but they are very shortly to leave. Rep. Gilman needs office help pretty desperately in Hankow — and the college needs more letters out of Wuhan. We receive so little mail in Hsichow. We have never felt so isolated. Of course, I may get off in a good truck for Central China, but I know of nothing now — and bus travel certainly takes it out of one. Commercial plane lines are booked up months ahead.

In the meantime I shall help out the Allies here in Kunning — they need some office help here. It is comfortable here — and I am enjoying the hot tub baths, electricity, and quiet wireless service — far more comfortable than Hankow at the moment! Not to mention a good radio and news.

With best wishes from

Everyone was well when I left Hsichow.

Mary Coe

(We hope I wrote!)

1017

Hua Chung College,
Hsichow,
Feb. 9, 1946.

L-43.

From Coc

Mr. Cliver S. Lyford,
54 Dana Place,
Englewood, N. H.

Received March 13
F. C. ...
Mar 15, 1946

Dear Mr. Lyford,

The present term seems to have been going forward in good shape and most of the students are working hard. We had only one day of holiday at the time of the lunar new year which was a week ago. Only a very few of the local students went home for the day. We have had a long dry spell of it here so that the weather has been fine and in many ways has been the warmest winter which we have had since I have been here.

Last week there was a bit of excitement. Dr. Hwang's oldest son, his second child, came down with an attack of appendicitis which at first seemed mild but suddenly became acute. The child was rushed to the hospital in Tali and operated on just in time. When I was in Tali yesterday they said that the boy was coming on all right. He had rather of a close call.

We are working ahead with plans for moving and I expect that Mr. Tan (or someone else if Mr. Tan is not willing to go) will be starting for Kunming within a week or so to see what sort of arrangements can be made there. We are still in somewhat of a quandry over the route to be followed. We have not been able to get sufficiently accurate information about the route out through Indo-China to be able to make a fair judgement in regard to it. If we were to go that way, it would involve a rail trip of more than 200 kilometers south from Kunming, then a truck trip to the border and then rail to the coast. However there is the report that Haiphong harbor is not yet clear of mines, and there are no regular sailings from Haiphong. Also there is the very uncertain political situation in Indo-China. There are a number of transport companies operating the overland route from ~~Kunming~~ Changyi to Hengyang and that should not be too bad if we get started in time. If we should decide on that route quite a number of the faculty have said that they will travel on their own.

We have had very few reports from Hankow and Wuchang. The latest information which we had was that the union school arrived there in January and have managed to get into some of the buildings. They hope to rush into more and open school there on the fifth of March. The college and school buildings are mainly occupied by the military and the residences are occupied by refugees. However there is little chance of being able to get them out and keep a place vacant very long. Our best hope is to find enough room to crowd into for the moment and then rush out from there. It may not be overly comfortable but there is nothing else for it. If the college were to wait here until everything were in perfect order in Wuchang we would wait a long time and by then there would not be enough left of the college to be worth moving. This part of the country is gradually settling back to its status of prewar days and will probably become more and more isolated. Kunming is rapidly losing its wartime boom characteristics and ere long will no longer be the most expensive place in the ~~country~~ country to live in. Instead of mails from abroad coming in via that route, no one here knows just how they are coming in and certainly we are getting very little at the moment. The International Radio office in Kunming is closing down which will mean that it will take even longer for cables to get through. The rail system between here and Kunming is functioning in a very creaky manner, sometimes letters cover the 250 miles in a week and more often they take two weeks.

So far we have received no estimate from Dr. Taylor of the cost of repair and rehabilitation in Wuchang. Dr. Bien wrote him before the end of last year asking for very specific ~~xxxx~~ information and a copy of the letter was sent later and so far no answer has come.

The college is beginning to dispose of some of the things here which we are not going to take with us. We signed a contract yesterday for the sale of the power plant to the Tali Middle School. They are to attend to the moving of it and all the wiring when we go. They paid down one third of the price and seemed pleased with the business. We are getting \$600,000 for the whole business. It would not be possible to duplicate

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1018

Mr. Cliver S. Lyford, Feb. 9, 1946. L-43.

[2]

it for anywhere near that figure, but some parts of it are nearly worn out and it would have been impossible to take it with us. Dr. Bien and myself figured that it was better to get something for it rather than just to have to discard it. If we put too high a price on some things we just won't be able to sell them and then when we go it would be a matter of leaving them behind. The same thing goes for the two pianos which have long outlived their real usefulness. We have hopes to getting \$200,000 each for them. Some of the older scientific apparatus will probably be sold at prices which will at least approximate or be slightly higher than its original cost. It is the problem of cutting down the amount of stuff to be transported as much as possible and also the more stuff that is disposed of, the risk of loss en route is cut down by that much.

A I wrote in my last letter to Dr. Wei, Mr. Allen sent me word that \$5,000,000 was being received in Kunming for our account from UCR but so far I have received no further details in regard to it. A remittance of \$1,568,220 came in ~~XXXX~~ from Chengtu before the end of January but I have received no details of it. I have written Dr. Fenn asking how fast and how much we can expect remittances from UCR for travel and ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ rehabilitation but so far no answer has come.

In this out of the way corner we are trying to follow the exchange situation as well as we can. Up to the present there has been no official announcement of a new official rate, or the introduction of a new unit of currency. Since mid-December there have been various reports of what the new official rate was to be and also the new unit of currency. The reports have varied all the way from 1000 to one for the US\$ up to over 1500 for the US\$. My feeling is that if they set the rate at the lower limit of around 1000 to one they will have difficulty in holding it, unless they are prepared to rush through a fairly drastic deflation. From what I have been able to learn it would look as though a rate of several hundred higher would be more in line with actual conditions. Then there is tied up with it, the question of Hongkong and the Hongkong currency with the British as I understand it pushing for a rate of around 1000 to one which will benefit the position of Hongkong. It is reported that the government ~~banks~~ are moving their head offices from Chungking to Shanghai sometime next month and it may be that shortly after that, there will be some clarification of the present situation. Mr. Allen sold at 1300 in December and then he sold at a lower rate last month somewhere around 1200. I have done no college business since the 1300 rate in December. The rate dropped in January when there were rumors that it would be fixed around 1000 but the latest news we have had is that it has risen slightly again. I hope that before it is necessary to make definite plans for next year in regard to salary and subsidy scales that something definite will have come out. Reports we have had from Hankow would indicate ~~xxx~~ the cost of living there is somewhat cheaper than it is in Hsichow for most things. Fuel is more ~~xxx~~ expensive there, but that should be remedied by summer when transport will be able to bring in more in the way of coal. Our prices here remained fairly steady through January and then after China New Year they have jumped somewhat. However the first few markets immediately after the New Year are small markets and it is a bit early to tell whether the rise of the last week will be permanent or not. If the war were still on, we could be quite certain that it would be permanent but conditions have so altered since last August that it is hard to predict. Prices have not yet worked their way back to the peak of last summer. In terms of foreign currency we are better off than we were a year ago.

mainly better flying & see what the public reaction is.

Mrs. Coe had a somewhat slow trip up to Kunming which was none too comfortable. She had slight hopes of being able to fly out from Kunming to either Hankow or Shanghai but the last word I had from her (written ten days ago) was that she was still in Kunming. I hope that she will get through there very shortly and then we may be able to get a bit more information about conditions there.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

John L. Coe

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

10 19

FAST

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
FOREIGN	DOMESTIC
FULL RATE	FULL RATE
CDE	DAY LETTER
DEFERRED	SERIAL SERVICE
RADIO LETTER	NIGHT MESSAGE
PRESS	NIGHT LETTER



DIRECT

TO OBTAIN THE
BENEFIT OF RCA
DIRECT SERVICE
THE VIA "RCA"
MUST
BE INSERTED BY THE
SENDER
OF THE MESSAGE

RADIOGRAM

RCA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

A SERVICE OF RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA
TO ALL THE WORLD - BETWEEN IMPORTANT U. S. CITIES - TO SHIPS AT SEA

Send the following Radiogram subject to the conditions, regulations and rates as set forth in the applicable tariff of RCA Communications, Inc., and on file with the regulatory authorities.

CABLE NLT MAR. 21, 1946

21

Via

PICKETS
AMCHUMISS
SHANGHAI (CHINA)

WE HOLD SIXTYTHOUSAND DOLLARS FOR HUACHUNG MOVING AND REPAIRS PAY
COE OR GILMAN ON DEMAND.

JAMES WHITNEY

Acct of: Dom. & For. Miss'y Soc'y
281 4th Ave.

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1020

C
O
P
Y

P.S. - Just received another check for 281 Fourth Avenue
\$100 from Mrs. H. Guerry as a New York 10, N.Y.
special for Hua Chung, thru March 21, 1946
J. L. Coe for use as a scholarship

C-15

Mr. John Coe
Hua Chung College
Hsichow, Via Tali
Yunnan, China

Dear Mr. Coe:

My letters have been few and far between as I have been relying on Mr. Lyford to keep you informed. It has been very hard to find time to do all the things that should be done.

Now I have to write, as Dr. Wei handed me two checks - one for \$150.00 and the other for \$20.00. He received these from Mrs. A. B. Duncan of Waco, Texas, with the following request: "To be sent to Dr. Wailing Taai, Hua Chung College, through John L. Coe, for Miss Wai-Sen Taai's education in Hua Chung." I have deposited these checks in the National City Bank Reserve Account and credited to "Specials," the same way we handled the payment of \$100.00 you made to Miss Liu Yun Yung.

The Rev. J. H. Andrews stopped in the office the other day and presented your receipt for \$2,745.00, which we paid. You authorized me to make this payment in your letter L-16 dated November 8, 1944.

Mr. Lyford received a letter from David F. Anderson, a copy of which is enclosed, regarding the payment for \$600.00. Mr. Lyford never did receive Mr. Anderson's letter of November 10. We are, however, making the payment as requested by Mr. Anderson.

We have opened an account on the College books here, crediting it with all sums received to cover expenses in connection with the moving of the College. We are sending the following cable today to Claude Pickens in Shanghai: "WE HOLD SIXTYTHOUSAND DOLLARS FOR HUACHUNG MOVING AND REPAIRS PAY COE OR GILMAN ON DEMAND. - JAMES WHITNEY."

In my letter to you (C-9 dated February 19, 1945), I wrote about the return of the \$100.00 check you requested us to send to Mary Richards. Please advise me what we should do about this payment, as I am still holding the check as outstanding.

Miss Hsiao was in recently to see Earl Fowler and asked for a statement of all the money she had on balance in our office. In preparing this statement, we included the \$2,525.29 which was deposited with you as per your letter L-36. She plans to use most of these funds to purchase some Government securities.

Dr. Wei is a very busy man and meets very often with Dr. Sherman and Mr. Lyford, planning ways and means to secure the necessary funds for the moving of the College.

You probably heard from Claude Pickens, Arthur Allen or both that George Laycock is not returning to China. He was offered a very fine position in Secretary Forestall's office in the Navy Department in Washington and is very happy in his new work. We had advice from Claude Pickens that the Allens are in Shanghai and will be leaving shortly for the United States and a well-earned vacation. We look forward to seeing them.

Enclosed please find a statement of the receipts and disbursements as of today (March 21). With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

John Greiner

JG/jts

1021

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

Hua Chung College,
Hsichow,
April 2, 1946. [57]

L-46.

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford,
54 Dana Place,
Englewood, N. H.

Received April 22

Dear Mr. Lyford,

I had intended to write this letter last week but kept putting it off seeing that I hoped to have definite word about the contracts with the trucking people. However Mr. Tan has still been delayed and we are hoping that he will be back any day now. Apparently his biggest difficulty was the slowness of the remittances ~~xxx~~ from Shanghai in getting through to Kunming. We had written and telegraphed in what we thought was plenty of time but things were held up. I had a letter from Shanghai of March 20th saying that they were sending money off in a day or so, but up to the 25th or 26th Tan had not received it. Also Tan in his telegram to Dr. Bien indicated that he would be able to sign the contracts as soon as the money arrived. He also indicated that the prices were up considerably over the ~~xxxxx~~ quotations we had had a couple of weeks earlier. If they are up too much it will mean that it will cost us more than sixty million for the move. As soon as we know definitely that the contracts are signed and when the trucks are due here, we will cable giving the dates and also a revised estimate of the moving costs if that should seem to be necessary. I am sorry to have to be so indefinite about ~~xxx~~ this matter just now, but Tan's delayed return accounts for it. Both Dr. Bien and myself are very anxious that things be settled as soon as possible.

✓ Look up
Will you please at your convenience send a check for US\$225. to Mrs. P.V. Taylor, 1118 West New St., Lancaster, Pa. This should be charged against the repair account as it is a refund to Dr. Taylor for some money which he advanced in Wuchang. He has sent us a couple of accounts so far and is getting ahead with repairs etc. very well. The whole matter of these accounts will be straightened out when I get back to Wuchang.

Your two cables to Dr. Bien in reference to available funds for moving etc. were both received over a week ago and he was greatly cheered with the word which was in them. This morning he had two letters from Dr. Wei (of February 25th and March 2nd). This was the first word he had had from him in months and he was very much pleased in having it. It will certainly help along having that word.

In reference to your cable of March 18th, so far we have not received the second remittance from UOR of twelve million. I have written to them in regard to it and will let you know when it arrives. However I may not be able to let you know very soon as I told them that if the money had not already been sent to hold it to be sent to Hankow. This whole problem of moving expenses, repair expenses etc. I will clear with you as soon as things are completed. Meanwhile I will draw on Pickens in Shanghai for funds as they are needed.

In your cable of the 18th you said "faculty rehabilitation basis as Coe Fern discussed but payable only after arrival Wuchang." As Dr. Bien has written you it will be a matter of making some payments on this account shortly after arrival in Wuchang. His present proposal is unless definite word has been received either from you or from the Associated Boards through Fern or someone else is to make an advance payment say of \$150,000 to each faculty member upon arrival in Wuchang and simply say that the total amount due each person will be settled ~~xxxx~~ later. As both of us have written it is not at all desirable to spread these payments out over too long a period or to make any of them on such a basis as suggested above unless absolutely necessary. Also to simply send us a sum of money for division among the faculty by the executive committee ~~prote~~ with rules and regulations to be drawn up by them would be unadvisable. I know that Dr. Fern originally planned on making only a quick trip to the States and expected to be back in a few months in which case he might be back by May with concrete proposals for such a matter.

In my letter to Fern in reference to this matter, I only suggested principles and

1022

did not get down to real figures. After talking the matter over with Dr. Bien and with his approval I am making ~~the~~ following suggestion:

Make a basic payment of C\$250,000 to each member of the faculty and staff. Figure points for each man, on the basis of his rank, length of service, and also if he has more in his family than five counting himself. Points to be reckoned as follows: Rank, four points for each rank, i.e. four for junior lecturer or assistant, eight for lecturer, twelve for assistant professor, sixteen for full professor.

one point for each year of service with Hua Chung counting the present one. (where a man had part of a year of service, half or more to count as a full year). one point for each member in his family over five.

Then pay in addition to the basic grant of C\$250,000 C\$10,000 for each point a man has.

This scheme is based upon the premise that the total grant per individual would average for the institution somewhere around C\$400,000. The principle of what the total rehabilitation grant per individual should be is something which will have to be settled on the basis of what the other colleges are doing under recommendation of the Associated Boards and also upon what funds are available. If on the other hand, the total grant per individual member of the staff were to run around C\$800,000 then the above figures could simply be doubled. The thing is that we should plan to do the same for our people as the other Christian colleges are planning on doing. A point system like the above seems to Dr. Bien and myself to have certain advantages and eliminate some of the ~~disadvantages~~ unfortunate features which have led to complaints when other sums of money have been divided and subsidies figured.

But the above scheme does not answer the question of the following two classes:

- X a) members of our faculty who may be with us till the thirty-first of July and then will no longer be in the employ of Hua Chung. Should they receive anything in the way of rehabilitation?
- 100.5 X b) members of the faculty who may join us starting with the beginning of the new Academic year on the first of August? A possible way out for ~~this~~ this case would be to give ~~to~~ them some percentage of the basic grant say fifty to seventy-five and then not count their points. (This is merely a suggestion and would cover for them the question of basic furniture).

In making the suggestions outlined above, I realize quite well that wiser heads than ours here may have already worked out a much better scheme which will be all to the good. If that is so, ~~by~~ nothing need be said about the suggestions above. I hope that either such a scheme has been worked out in New York or Fenn is returning with some sort of a plan which can be put into effect. ~~Then~~ I will be only too pleased if one of these two things should occur. If on the other hand, neither of these things has occurred, it is our suggestion that you and the executive committee of the founders should go over the plan presented above and if you approve cable your ideas to Dr. Bien in Wuchang sometime after the 15th of May. He would then put them into effect on the basis of ~~the~~ the amount of money available which information should be in the cable, paying them in installments as might be directed. This would strengthen his hand as coming from the Board of Founders. He has not discussed the matter with the ~~Board~~ Executive Committee here and is holding off. In case it should seem wise from your viewpoint there in New York and from that of the Associated Boards not to make a definite announcement of a scheme at the present time Dr. Bien will plan to go ahead on the basis of payment of C\$150,000 to each member of the faculty and staff as I mentioned on the first page of this letter. I would estimate that in any scheme adopted we would have to provide for around 50 members. As I wrote earlier a sum of around C\$400,000 ~~per~~ per staff member should be aimed at as a minimum and a higher figure would be desirable.

Dr. Bien has written you at some length in regard to the whole subsidy salary problem, so I won't repeat here. I think that it will be possible to keep on with our present scheme by increasing the multiple of ~~our~~ payment for the balance of the present academic year. Then if beginning with the next academic year a scheme more or less uniform for the Christian ~~colleges~~ colleges could be adopted, ~~based~~ with a salary and a ~~subsidy~~ subsidy based upon the local index of the cost of living it would make things much simpler. I believe that Dr. Fenn had some such idea in mind

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

when he wrote me in January. If there is to be a change along that line it should be put into effect at the beginning of August.

Examinations are in progress this week and will be out of the way by Friday. Commencement will be on Saturday. Already considerable progress has been made with the packing of college equipment etc. Most of the library is already packed and a considerable portion of the scientific apparatus which is going back with us. Quite a bit of that has been sold especially glass ware which would not travel at all easily. We have been able by using old boxes or wood from bookcases ~~an~~ etc. to find enough wood for boxes without having to purchase any at the present time and I think we will have enough to finish off the packing. The biggest expense at the moment is that of nails which are costing well over US\$1 per pound. Three members of the faculty who have their families in other places ~~xxxxxxxixingxx~~ and are travelling alone, expect to leave tomorrow. A group of the faculty whose homes are in south China will also be travelling by themselves. The students who are travelling with the college, will be divided into three groups, the first group will consist of men students who are receiving a subsidy of the entire cost of transportation back to Wuchang, and they will travel with the freight trucks and look after things there under the supervision of two of the junior members of the faculty Mr. Yang and Mr. Wang. The women students and the men students who are being subsidized to the extent of seventy per cent of their transportation will travel with the passenger trucks and will help the truck leaders and in the case of women students help with the children. The third group will consist of students who are paying their own way. At the present time there are thirty-five in the first group, seven women and 14 men in the second group, sixteen in the third group, ~~xxxxxxxixix~~ ~~xxxx~~ five or six women and the rest men. These numbers may be subject to slight alteration at the last moment. This does not mean that these will be all of our present student body who will be with us in Wuchang, as undoubtedly a goodly number of them will be planning on travelling by themselves later on.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

John L. Cox.

P. S. Dr. Bien has just read over this letter and he asks particularly for cabled instructions in regard to a and b on page 2.

One or two of the @ class may be landing in Wuchang with us and he will need to know how to handle their cases.

It is particularly in regard to (b) that he is concerned. One or more of these people ~~may be already~~ probably will be in Wuchang upon our arrival and will be asking him about the matter and he would like to be able to answer them.

Under (b) the biggest question is in regard to people who were formerly with the college, have been gone for a number of a years and are expecting to be back in August, with the college in August. They formerly left of their own free will. One is in Wuchang now and one ~~actual~~ ~~may~~ ~~be~~ ~~there~~ ~~by~~ ~~June~~ ~~pe.~~

1024

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

C
O
P
Y

Hsichow

66 Poyang Road
Hankow
April 12, 1946

Mr. Earl Ballou
Associated Board for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ballou:

When I went over to Wuchang on the 9th of this month, Dr. Paul Taylor had received a long cable signed by "Ballou", which he showed to me. It was very much garbled, but we deciphered it thus:

RICHARD BIEN CARE PAUL TAYLOR HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARDED AIRMAIL. IN VIEW
INTIMATE CRITICAL RELATIONS THESE RECOMMENDATIONS (are) TO FORM
THE MAJOR SUCCESS FINANCIAL CAMPAIGN. URGENTLY DESIRE CONSIDERA-
TION DIRECTORS' EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, EARLIEST POSSIBLE AFTER
RECEIPT, SO THAT THEIR ACTIONS (may) REACH US BY EARLY MAY.
THEREFORE, KNOWING THE DIFFICULTIES OF COMMUNICATIONS AFTER CON-
SULTING WEI, RECOMMEND, PENDING RECEIPT OF THE AIRMAIL, YOU MAKE
PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEETING BALLOU

We had previously had word from Hsichow that the college there were anxious to have a Board of Directors reconvened. With the receipt of the above cable, since Dr. Bien is still in Hsichow but presumably about to start the college's moving east, so Bishop Gilman here in Hankow has notified the various cooperating units in the college to report their Directors. When the above-mentioned letter arrives, we shall try to call in the Directors who can get here quickly.

For the consideration of your letter it would, of course, be desirable to have Dr. Bien here -- and Mr. Coe too if possible as he is the treasurer. Therefore, I sent off the following wire, which I hope they will receive in Kunming while passing through that city, but I fear they can do nothing about hastening their arrival here in this center:

BALLOU CABLED BIEN URGING DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONSIDER
AIRMAIL LETTER ENROUTE GIVING PLANNING COMMITTEES RECOMMENDATIONS
STOP REPLY MUST REACH NEWYORK EARLY MAY STOP GILMAN NOTIFYING MIS-
SIONS REPORT DIRECTORS.

We know that the first party from the college hoped to leave about the middle of April from Hsichow, trucking all the way to Wuchang. If every arrangements worked perfectly, presumably the first party could be here by early May sometime, but we have had no definite word of their date of departure.--and communications in this country are such that it is most unlikely that the college can get through without many delays. I believe the various parties of the college in transit mean to wire us their progress along the road. I feel sure that if Dr. Bien and Mr. Coe can manage it, they will get here as soon as possible..

Sincerely yours,

(signed)

Mary Richards Coe

(Mrs. John L. Coe)

1025

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

Hua Chung College
Hsichow
April 14, 1946.C
O
P
Y

(Rec'd May 3)

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford
54 Dana Place
Englewood, N. J.

Dear Mr. Lyford,

As we cabled you the middle of last week, Mr. Tan returned with the contracts all signed and things were all fixed. Mr. Tan returned on Monday evening and things are pushing since. The delay in Kunming was due to the fact that it took the Bank twelve days after the money was turned over to it in Shanghai, to send it by telegraphic transfer to Kunming. Mr. Tan was simply waiting for the money. The whole plan is this, six trucks chartered from the highway people are supposed to arrive here on Monday afternoon. In addition there are two trucks chartered from Hsiakwan. Loading will take place on Tuesday. Approximately half of the faculty here and their families and of the students going with us will travel in this group. Four trucks are mainly for college personnel and their baggage, with a few students, who are being partially helped on their way, on each truck to help. There will be about twenty people on each truck. With the baggage it will be a load of a little less than three tons. The other four trucks will be loaded with college equipment and will have five students on each truck who are having all their way paid back to Wuchang. The second half of the college will start a week later, only there will be only three freight trucks in their group and four personnel trucks. We hope to be in Kunming by Friday or Saturday evening. Then we will have the first three days of next week to attend to matters in Kunming. The whole group will stay out at the new Methodist school 12 kilometers out of Kunming and the trucks will deliver everything right there. Then some of us will go into the city to stay. Then on Wednesday evening the twenty-fourth it is expected that the railway will send down two cars to the siding near the school and we will load the equipment that evening and then everyone will board the cars in the morning. They will be pulled around the city and attached to the express to Chutsin that morning. We should arrive there by the middle of the afternoon. Then the other trucks should meet us at the train and load there. We will stay that night in Chutsin and then be off for the east the next morning. It will be three days to Kweiyang with a day lay over there. Then another seven and a half days to Changsha. These truck schedules are very elastic and so we don't count on getting through in ten and a half days from Chutsin. The company, however, does expect to make it in fifteen days or less in that they will make a refund to us if they take more than fifteen days. Then from Changsha it will probably be a matter of loading the people and things onto a large boat to be towed down by launch to Wuchang. The railway is only functioning slightly and Dr. Bien and myself will probably go down as soon as possible to Wuchang by rail. This all sounds very well on paper and we hope that it will work out as well. But to show just how things may go wrong, our experience of last evening is a good guide. A telegram came in to Dr. Bien from Kunming saying that the highway people had started ten trucks down in this direction for us on Thursday. The thing is that we don't know whether they have changed their original agreement with us and have sent the trucks to all come here tomorrow or whether they were just sending all to Hsiakwan at one time and only six are coming up here. I saw Dr. Bien at quarter of six and he showed me the telegram. I then went to see Tan who was sick with a bad stomach and could do nothing. Finally I fixed it with Dr. Bien that we would send someone to Hsiakwan this morning to find out what was what and see that only six of the highway trucks arrive tomorrow. That took me from six to quarter of eight to see all the people and arrange. Then this morning we had another conference before sending the man off. I

1026

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

(2)

hope that everything will be all right. Tan was better this morning and said that he thought that they had merely taken advantage of the opportunity to get all the trucks down here. I hope that is the case. Tan is much better this morning and is around all right. But if we had good telephone service to Hsiakwan it would not have been necessary to send someone down. Tan did a most excellent job of it in negotiating the contracts and the figure is very close to our earlier estimates.

For the highway trucks we are paying \$452,000 per truck and supplying 104 gallons of gasoline per truck. (The gasoline cost us on the average of \$2,000 per gallon bought last fall and even if you figure it according the rise in exchange it would only be \$4,000 per gallon. If we had more gasoline we would have chartered more trucks in this way, but that is the limit of our supply for ten trucks.)

In addition five trucks have been chartered from Hsiakwan at a total cost of \$970,000 per truck from here to Kunming.

The train fare per person will be somewhere around \$2,500 each. Then Tan made a contract for carrying 180 people and 36 tons of equipment and baggage from Chutsin to Changsha at a cost of \$550,000 per ton. We will have to pay extra if we have more people than that or more baggage and freight. The rate is \$5,500 per ton kilograms. However, we get nothing back if we run light. I rather expect that we will run a bit light as more stuff has been sold than we expected and it is not too easy to estimate some things. However, we got such favorable terms in the contract that it is worth our while. The figures I have quoted above are approximate figures not to the last dollar in some cases. In addition to this there will be the living subsidy to the faculty en route, the payment to the few faculty members who went by themselves, and the cost from Changsha to Wuchang. Also there will be carrying charges at the various terminals and overhead, etc. However, putting everything in, it would look as though there was a good chance that our total cost of moving would run slightly under sixty million dollars which was our earlier estimate. I will give you the detailed figures as soon as I have been able to work them out in Wuchang. Both Dr. Bien and myself are pleased that our earlier figures are working out as well. At one time I had been afraid that the cost might run nearer seventy million than sixty. In our cable of this last week we did not mention the cost again, as we had mentioned it earlier and knew that it had been approved for our estimate of January and as we expect to be slightly under that we felt it not necessary to state that.

On Tuesday of this last week Dr. Bien had a confidential order from the Ministry of Education saying that they had made a grant to us of C\$100,000,000 for moving and rehabilitation. There was no indication with the order as to when the money would be coming or under what restrictions it would be when it was received. As soon as we know anything more in regard to it we will let you know. So far Dr. Bien is not discussing the matter with people here as he knows that as soon as he does some people will have it spent twice over and until he knows the regulations in regard to it, he is keeping the matter dark. However, it should be a big help when it comes.

During the week I also received a remittance from Chengtu from Miss Priest, which was made up of the following:

British United Aid	\$ 400,000
British firms, £300	2,160,000
United China Relief March	919,502
UCR-faculty aid	209,550
	<u>\$3,539,052</u>

We do not know what restrictions there may be on the money from the British firms.

It is with some regrets that we are leaving here, as I doubt if anywhere we could find a better climate and this place has some advantages. But to keep

a college here permanently would be very difficult. We are too cut off from everything and the faculty would not stay on for any great length of time. I have enjoyed the mountains very much and shall miss them when we go back, but it will be for the best of the college to get back to central China. We have sold a good bit of science equipment which would have been difficult to move such as chemistry glassware. Yesterday I received a check for over two million for Chemistry stuff. I imagine our total from sales will run to at least four million and possibly higher.

If I get a chance will pen a line to you from Kunming, otherwise my next letter will be from Wuchang or Hankow. Now to go back to packing.

With best wishes,
Yours sincerely,

(Signed) John L. Coe.

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

C
O
P
Y

American Church Mission
Kweiyang
May 1, 1946

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford
54 Dana Place
Englewood, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Lyford,

My last letter to you was from Hsichow. I have forgotten the number of it and the duplicate is packed in the files which are on the truck. Please excuse my writing by hand but my typewriter is also packed.

6p 17
We left Hsichow two weeks ago this morning. The trucks arrived on Monday evening and the better part of Tuesday was taken up in getting them loaded. On Wednesday morning a little before nine we pulled out. There were four personnel trucks and four freight trucks. Three freight trucks left the evening before for Hsiakwan. It was a chilly cloudy day with some rain as we drove down the valley. As we came opposite the headquarters of General Wang just outside Tali, the trucks halted. We were all invited in to a feast which delayed us till early afternoon. The delay had its compensations as Dr. Bien was able to get from the general papers to help keep yellow fish off the trucks. Yellow fish is the term in this country for what you know as hitch hikers. They come in three classes: (a) the military yellow fish who may be very obnoxious and demand a ride frequently at the point of a gun, (b) yellow fish who have an understanding with the truck drivers, are picked up and dropped outside of towns and allow the drivers to earn something on the side, (c) casual yellow fish who hail the truck at the roadside. It was mainly against the first class that we wanted help. We arrived at Hsiakwan by mid-afternoon and spent the night there. The next morning was still rainy and things were slow in getting started but all were off by a bit after ten. I was on the truck with the convoy leader which meant it stayed behind the others. One of the freight trucks early on showed it was a weak one which meant slow progress. We covered slightly more than forty kilometers and then stopped for lunch. That afternoon we passed over a section of the road for which peace came too soon last summer. American army engineers were widening that section in August. They had done part of the work but not put on the surface when peace came and they left shortly after that. As a result about 20 km. of road were a mass of slushy mud. The freight truck made heavy work of it and was 3 hrs. in going 20 km.. We got in at dark 80 odd km. from Hsiakwan. The weather was clearing and we had no more rain as on the two first days. We made better time on the third day and crossed the high mountain ranges. Saturday, the fourth day, was better still and we reached TienNan the Methodist School outside of Kunming on Saturday evening at dusk. The first stage of 444 km. from Hsichow to Kunming was over. Sunday some of us went into Kunming and then Monday - Wednesday were busy days for Dr. Bien and myself as we arranged money, permits, etc.. By Wednesday noon all was complete and we went back to TienNan that afternoon. The freight gang was already moving the heavy stuff to the railway siding. Shortly before five two third class coaches were backed onto the siding. By ten that nighty all the freight and heavy baggage was loaded, /Early the next morning ninety-seven of us jammed ourselves into the cars.

1029

I was sitting on a bed roll next to the top of the car. The cars were hauled around to the main Kunming station and attached to the express train to Chutsin. We were able to get ten second class tickets for some of the ladies and ten other people moved to another car so we made out all right for the 160 km. trip to Chutsin. We were there shortly after three. The trucks were slow in arriving and it was after dark before we had finished loading. We spent the night there and in the morning drove 15 km. to Changyi where the company headquarters were. It was evident that Dr. Bien and myself were in for an argument with the manager. We were fairly certain that our total of freight, baggage and people was below the rated capacity of the trucks he supplied. We spent two or three hours there. He said we would have to take off 3 tons of stuff as not to overload. However in the end we left a ton and a third to come with the second group, or if they have the same experience by an extra truck. That means extra cost but it is something that cannot be helped. On the road a couple of the drivers now say they have less than 2 tons, where they are supposed to have 3 tons. It is just one of those things which couldn't be helped and I consider it fortunate we didn't have to leave more stuff. These old trucks are fortunate to keep going at all. We finally left Changyi at three and made Pingyi 66 km. out at dusk. Our truck proved a slow goer and we were about the last in. We started the next morning early and going down the first big hill the brake bands burned out. That meant a two hour delay while they were changed. We pushed on and finally reached Pu An for a day's total of 130 km. The country was a succession of narrow deep valleys which had to be crossed. The engineering on this section of the road was none too good and the grades are pretty steep. We had to stop half way up some of the grades to cool the engine. Dr. Bien's truck broke down during the day and the company sent a jeep out with replacement parts. On Sunday morning it was decided that the truck I was on in charge of Dr. George Bien and one freight truck would push on slowly as the others would probably come one more rapidly. We made An Nan on Sunday, climbing the twenty-four turns of the road to An Nan without trouble. Then Monday we made An Hsiun and by yesterday noon reached Kweiyang. For the last 150 km. of the road, things flattened out a good deal and we made the last 97 km. in three hours and a half. The other five trucks are not yet in but we expect them this evening. If they get in then we should get away on Friday for Changsha.

In Kunming I had two letters from Miss Prust. In the first one she said our travel grant from UCR was \$53,000,000. In the second she said UCR had had to cut all grants for travel an average of 9% so ours was only \$48,274,000. \$35,000,000 of this has already been received. I have no further information about the grant from the government. As soon as I have it I will let you know.

The second half of the college should have left Hsichow a week after we did, and should be leaving Kunming tomorrow if they are on schedule. I am afraid that the total cost of moving may come slightly over \$60,000,000. but I cannot tell till I know how much it will cost us from Changsha to Wuchang and also how much extra Tan may have to pay for freight. I will let you know as soon as possible.

1030

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

Mrs. Coe has sent me extracts from your letter of March 30, which went to Hankow.

Sunday, May 5. Everyone got in here last night and we expect to leave tomorrow. No accidents but just truck break downs. We have heard the second party left Chutsin on Friday the 3rd. so they were on schedule so far.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(signed)

John L. Coe

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1031

C
O
P
Y

38 Poyang Road
Hankow, Hupeh, China
May 6, 1946

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
c/o Rev. Noel B. Slater
China Christian Universities Assoc.
58/9 New Bond Street
London W1, England

Dear Dr. Wei:

Since writing the two letters yesterday, I have returned to Hankow and am taking up things here.

First, let me say that a wire came in from John from Kweiyang to the following:

AMCHUMISS HANKOW LEAVING KWEIYANG SIXTH TRUCK BREAKDOWN
CAUSED DELAYS NO ACCIDENTS COE

So that is that.

Then yours and Mr. Lyford's cable of the 3rd (I judge) for Dr. Richard Bien in refaculty rehabilitation came in, and I will hold that here, although a copy of this letter I shall send off to Changsha, for it may meet them there -- and cheer them on their way. (Will copy the cable!)

I now give you a copy of a letter from Mr. V. L. Farnham, supt. of the Evangelical Church Mission, Changsha, to Dr. Taylor, written on April 29th.

"At our recent mission meeting we discussed the matter of our Mission cooperating with Hwa Chung College was discussed at length, and the following action was taken:

'Whereas the Missionary Society in its program for Evangelical Missions, has recorded its interest in active participation in the support and conduct of union Christian institutions--with Evangelical missionaries to serve on the staffs of these institutions--and

Whereas the Mission has been informally approached by Hwa Chung College with regard to our cooperation,

Voted that we recommend to the Board of Missions cooperation with Hwa Chung College, on a temporary experimental basis, as follows:

(a) A grant of US\$1000 yearly.

(b) Supplying of one missionary teacher on the staff.'

I do not know if either of the members of the Commission, or Dr. Talbott spoke to you about this during their recent stay in Hankow or not. If they did not you can consider this an initial approach, and I would be glad if you would refer it to President Wei, or others there charged with the responsibility of dealing with such matters.

Our Board of Missions must act on this matter, and, no doubt, would contact your Trustees in America, should they favor it.

1032

What we recommend may not meet your requirements for an affiliation, or cooperation, even on a trial basis. If not, it opens the way for an approach and our Board can make whatever revision is necessary. I might add that the members of the Commission just here are very much in favor of this step which we have taken, and there is every reason to believe that our Board will act favorably if Hwa Chung desires it and do not make requirements too difficult for our Missionary Society to meet."

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Mary Richards Coe

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1033

FAST

DIRECT



RCA



RADIOGRAM R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

A RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA SERVICE

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

FORM 112-B.R.-TA-144

TEL. ALGONQUIN 4-7050

RECEIVED AT

45 E. 17TH STREET NEW YORK 10, N. Y. AT _____

18 AM 10 57
STANDARD TIME

Address

MAY 18 1946

BR450 ZD FE2623/CR118 HANKOW VIA RCA 15 18 1300

LC FENALONG NEWYORK USA

FIRST HUACHUNG GROUP ARRIVED CHANGSHA SIXTEENTH SECOND EXPECTED

NINETEENTH

JOHN COE

DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN
MISSIONARY SOCIETY

MAY 20 1946

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

*Copies made x
distributed -*

Forwarded to Wei - Mr. Leyford - Dr. Franklin - Mr. Whitney - J. E. Jones

TELEPHONE HANover 2-1811

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

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1034

C
O
P
Y

Info. Mr. Fowler ✓

As from 38 Poyang Road
Hankow, Hupeh, China
May 19, 1946
L-48

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford
54 Dana Place
Englewood, New Jersey, U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Lyford:

My last letter to you was written by hand in Kweiyang, during the early part of our trip, and I hope this has gotten through to you. On Monday, the 13th, we arrived at Paoch'ing in Central Hunan and found about 90 trucks waiting ahead of us to be ferried across the river at that point. We immediately made arrangements for all the people to cross the river and got them settled in inns in Paoch'ing. I then talked the matter over with Dr. Bien, and it seemed wisest that I should leave the party at that point and come on as quickly as possible to Wuchang. I took a bus from Paoch'ing early on the morning of the 14th, which landed me in Siangtan (thirty miles from Changsha) early that afternoon. I was not able to get a bus from Siangtan to Changsha that afternoon, but I was promised passage on a steam launch at six o'clock the following morning. I staid at an inn on the water front, and the man who was looking after me called me at half past twelve in the morning to put me on the boat. The boat pulled out shortly before three o'clock, and I arrived at Changsha about six just as the sun was rising. I went immediately to Yale-in-China and staid for a day there with Dr. Dwight Rugh. Dr. Rugh and Mr. Lao very kindly made arrangements, so that I was able to get a ticket for next-day's train to Wuchang. The big bridge on the railway five miles north of Changsha was destroyed during the war and had been replaced with a temporary trestle structure. However, this trestle was wrecked by flood early this month, so now it is necessary for all passengers going by train to go by boat from Changsha out five miles to the other side of the wrecked trestle. There it is possible to get tickets, and there are theoretically two trains a day. The day I went the slow train, made up of a regular locomotive and old freight cars, was not coming in. However, the "Express," which consists of a truck fitted with small rail wheels and pulling three small cars, was leaving at seven o'clock. I was fortunate through the kind efforts of Dr. Rugh and Mr. Lao to be able to get a seat on this. There were no seats in the cars, and all the passengers crowded in and sat on their baggage. We made the trip through to Yochow, 80 miles away, by shortly after two the next morning. The train then staid there until about half past ten. There were different reports that it would not go that day and that there were bridges between there and Wuchang which were out. When it finally pulled out at 10:30 A.M. it ran through with very few stops, and made the 140-mile trip in a little less than seven hours, which was good running time even in the pre-war days.

Last night a boat came in from Changsha with the heavy baggage and equipment which had travelled with the first college group. The rivers are in flood now, so that they were able to come down in very good time. The people on the boat were not certain as to just how soon the personnel who were in Changsha would be able to come down by train. According to reports which we had in Changsha, the second group of the college were coming through a little faster than the first group, and unless there was undue delay at the river ferries in Hunan, they should be in Changsha today or tomorrow. Yesterday I sent a cable from Hankow saying that the first group had arrived at Changsha and that the second group were due on Sunday.

1035

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

May 19, 1946

Aside from a number of delays due to truck breakdowns, the trip of the first party has been without undue incidents. We took longer than we expected, but it seemed wisest to keep the party pretty well together, so that it meant longer delays for some people while one or two trucks were fixed. There was some sickness among the people enroute, but nothing more than was to have been expected. So far I know relatively little of how affairs have gone with the second group, but I believe that under the efficient management of Dr. Hwang P'u things have gone well, and from the reports that we have had they were coming through a little faster than we did. As soon as Dr. Bien gets here, we will send fuller reports.

On my arrival here, Mrs. Coe handed me a copy of your letter of March 30 to Dr. Bien, which deals quite largely with the question of finance. I am not in a position at the present moment to give you final figures as to the cost of the college moving, but I still expect that the total will be around Chinese \$60,000,000. A further remittance of \$10,000,000. from Miss Priest has been received on this account. This makes a total of \$45,000,000 I have received so far. As soon as all the reports come in, (Mr. T'an was looking after the financial affairs for the second party and he will be staying for a time in Changsha with his family, but I have asked him to send down his figures as soon as possible), I will send off to you a complete report.

I have not yet had time to go over with Dr. Taylor the accounts in regard to repairs and furnishings, and so I am not in a position to quote any figures in regard to that. Dr. Taylor has been working hard here and has things well in hand.

Dr. Fenn is back in Shanghai, and he has sent up a questionnaire to be filled out by us in reference to the faculty. My assumption is that upon receipt of this questionnaire, he will then be in a position to start the distribution of funds for faculty rehabilitation. I am very pleased to know that he is back in China and that the whole question of allocation of faculty rehabilitation funds is being decided by a body like the UCR, and is not left to the individual decision of each institution. In all probability when Dr. Bien gets here, we will make some small distribution of rehabilitation funds to the faculty on the basis that any distribution now will be deducted from what ultimately comes through Dr. Fenn.

In reference to drawing on the college reserves, the situation is this. \$50,000,000 was sent to me in Kunming for moving expenses. So far \$11,000,000 has been sent from Shanghai to Hankow, which has been used chiefly by Dr. Taylor. Up to the present I have had no statement from Mr. Pickens as to the rate of exchange for this. This does not include the US\$7,000. which was exchanged for the purchase of land. As soon as I have a complete picture of this, I will let you know. Because of the fact that UCR has paid up so promptly, this amount of \$45,000,000 for moving expenses, I now have a considerable balance on hand in Hankow. How long this will last will depend upon how fast UCR money for faculty rehabilitation comes in. Prices are a great deal higher here, and it will be a matter of making a radical increase in subsidies.

I do not expect to have to draw too heavily on Mr. Pickens in the immediate future for college needs unless the situation in regard to land purchase should turn more favorable than it is at the present moment.

1036

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

May 19, 1946

I have been quite pleasantly surprised to find that the condition of the faculty residences is better than I had expected. While the buildings show the effect of the lack of upkeep and repair for a number of years, thanks to the strenuous efforts of Dr. Taylor most of them have been put into fairly good condition.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) John L. Coe.

Copies to Dr. Wei and Mr. Fowler
JLC/MRC

P.S. - Since writing the above, Dr. Wei's letter of May 4th has come in. In reference to your comments on your estimate of US\$275,000 for reconstruction and rehabilitation the following is the situation as I see it:

1. moving - will cost somewhere around C\$60,000,000. largely covered by grant from UCR of \$48,274,000. (I am writing Fenn today to ask if there is any chance of covering the difference.) In regard to moving it should be made known that we estimated C\$60,000,000 for it in November, sent a breakdown figure of slightly over sixty million in January, and despite rising prices have held fairly well to it. I am afraid now the total may go a bit over \$60,000,000, as, because of the delays en route, it may be necessary to increase the living subsidy a bit.

6. faculty rehabilitation - will be controlled by funds from UCR and paid under regulations from Fenn so this should be self-balancing.

4 - 5. books - science equipment is being handled on your end.

2. temporary repairs - I am not certain how far this will run, but will try to keep within your estimate.

3. the same goes as for 2. How much are the library stacks being bought in N.Y. going to cost including freight. I assume their cost is to be part of this item.

1 - 6 refer to same items as yours of Mar. 30 to Dr. Bien.

Monday noon. - I have just purchased one steel wall cabinet and 2 steel filing cabinets for the college offices at \$85,000 for the filing and \$175,000 for the wall one. They look like a good buy and decent wooden ones would cost about the same.

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1037

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford,
54 Dana Place
Englewood, N. J.

Dear Mr. Lyford,

I wrote you a week ago upon my arrival here and will report the events of the past week. Dr. Bien together with the first party of the college arrived on Tuesday the twenty-first after a slow uncomfortable trip down from Changsha by boat. It was saddened with the sudden death of Mr. Che of the Philosophy-Chinese departments who died suddenly on the first night out from Changsha. He had not been feeling well for several days and it was treated for malaria. During the first night out he seemed to develop a cold which turned into pneumonia, which took him about three in the morning. It was a deep shock to those of the party. We know that the second party has arrived in Changsha but have no further details. We expect that they will be here within a few days. We will keep you informed of developments. Some of the houses which we had hoped would be ready for occupancy are not quite ready and so there has had to be some last minute shifting of people but everyone who has arrived is housed and that will go for the people arriving within a few days. The thing which has saved the situation for the moment is that some of the families have stayed over in Hunan.

Dr. Bien after making a careful study of local prices and conditions on Friday decided that the only thing to do was to pay a rice subsidy for the month of May of 600% of the basic as prices are a great deal higher here than they were in the west. That will mean a payment of a total of at least 1200% of the basic for the months of June and July unless rice prices should drop very much, of which there is little chance before the harvest. Of course if prices should rise, we may have to increase that figure. That will probably mean a bit of deficit for the year and as soon as I have a good idea of what the deficit is likely to be, I will take the matter up with Fenn. We have come from one of the cheaper places in the country to one of the more expensive ones.

In regard to faculty rehabilitation, we have filled out the questionnaire which Dr. Fenn sent us and sent it off. I carefully enumerated all the special cases which Dr. Bien had had me refer to you earlier. We should have an answer on this before long as airmail to Shanghai takes only a day down. It is certainly a great pleasure to be where it is possible to communicate quickly with others.

We have just received notice that the government grant of a hundred million for rehabilitation etc. was sent by the Ministry of Education to Hsiakwan late in April. Before we left Hsichow, the Ministry was notified we were moving and also the Central Bank in Hsiakwan was requested to transfer any government remittances to Hankow, but they seem to have ignored our requests. We have just sent off a telegram to Hsiakwan in regard to this. We should have the money ere long. So far Dr. Bien has not received detailed instructions in regard to this money, but he says from what he has heard from other institutions that there should be a grant of C\$350,000 per staff member. In our case that would mean using about twenty million of it. Then it may be a matter of charging the difference in our moving cost between the actual cost (probably about sixty million) and the grant from UCR of \$48,204,000 to this. However there is nothing definite as yet.

Dr. Bien has authorized me to pay as an advance on rehabilitation the sum of \$250,000 to each faculty member here. In the doubtful cases this money is not being paid until we have a ruling from Dr. Fenn in the matter.

Since writing you last week, I have had a report from Mr. Pickens in regard to the money exchanged for the college. He reports a total of US\$39,100 exchanged between the 20th of March and April 26th. This includes the money for the land. It was done at varying rates, mostly between 1960 and 1980, though there was one of a relatively small amount at 1870 which brings the

average down. So far about twenty-five million has been spent on repairs and furniture. (As soon as I can get a division of this figure from Dr. Taylor I will let you know.) Nearly twelve million was spent on the purchase of one piece of land adjoining the practice school. At the moment we are negotiating in regard to a piece of land between the city wall property and the practice school. This piece amounts to about 75 fang and while desirable is not absolutely essential. Negotiations had been under way for some time and on Friday the middleman came in to see us. We told him that our last offer would be \$40,000 per fang and I have heard that the owner is now willing to sell at that figure. (The property purchased earlier was at \$55,000 per fang.) This will mean an expenditure of around \$3,000,000. When I get an opportunity I shall see what can be done in regard to two or three small pieces which stick in the Boone compound and which are far more essential to us. If we can get hold of this government money of a hundred million within the next couple of weeks and Fenn sends us from Shanghai the money for faculty rehabilitation I should not have to draw heavily upon you for some time to come. It should be remembered that up to the 20th of March, I had done no exchange business since December and thus some of this money recently exchanged will be against running expenses for the year. Yesterday I had the opportunity to exchange about US\$1200 at 2400 and I decided to take advantage of it as the rate was higher than I had been able to get earlier and will thus bring our average up.

The buildings are getting into fairly good shape, except for the replacement of glass which will still be a considerable item. Not much college furniture has been gotten as yet and when we get into furnishing the laboratories we will run into money. My feeling in regard to furniture is to spend a bit more now and get things which will stand up for some time, rather than get makeshift things which will go to pieces after a year or so. In Hsichow when the college first went there, the furniture was made too cheaply and as a result we were constantly patching up or replacing things which were breaking. As I noted in the postscript of my last letter, I have gotten two filing cases and a steel cabinet for the college here in Hankow. While they may cost a bit more than wood, they will far outlast the wood and will be more satisfactory to use as the workmanship here at the present time is quite inferior. It is our idea to as soon as possible get an estimate of the cost of furniture needed and then see how much of it we can get from the money allowed us for such in your estimate of reconstruction and rehabilitation, namely US\$40,000. Also it would help us to know how much of this sum is being spent on library stacks in New York as noted in one of Dr. Wei's recent letters.

Will you please send a check for US\$1,644. to Mr. Chao Chi-tsuin, c/o Dr. J. M. Webber, U.S. Fiber Crops Laboratory, Riverside, California. This should be charged to the college account and I will handle the business in the usual way.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Fowler and will ask him to pass on the above information about this remittance to Mr. Greiner.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) John L. Coe

Dear Earl,

Will you please pass on the request in the last paragraph of this letter to Mr. Greiner and ask him to send the check on.

JLC.

1039

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

average down. So far about twenty-five million has been spent on repairs and furniture. (As soon as I can get a division of this figure from Dr. Taylor I will let you know.) Nearly twelve million was spent on the purchase of one piece of land adjoining the practice school. At the moment we are negotiating in regard to a piece of land between the city wall property and the practice school. This piece amounts to about 75 fang and while desirable is not absolutely essential. Negotiations had been under way for some time and on Friday the middleman came in to see us. We told him that our last offer would be \$40,000 per fang and I have heard that the owner is now willing to sell at that figure. (The property purchased earlier was at \$55,000 per fang.) This will mean an expenditure of around \$3,000,000. When I get an opportunity I shall see what can be done in regard to two or three small pieces which stick in the Boone compound and which are far more essential to us. If we can get hold of this government money of a hundred million within the next couple of weeks and Fenn sends us from Shanghai the money for faculty rehabilitation I should not have to draw heavily upon you for some time to come. It should be remembered that up to the 20th of March, I had done no exchange business since December and thus some of this money recently exchanged will be against running expenses for the year. Yesterday I had the opportunity to exchange about US\$1200 at 2400 and I decided to take advantage of it as the rate was higher than I had been able to get earlier and will thus bring our average up.

The buildings are getting into fairly good shape, except for the replacement of glass which will still be a considerable item. Not much college furniture has been gotten as yet and when we get into furnishing the laboratories we will run into money. My feeling in regard to furniture is to spend a bit more now and get things which will stand up for some time, rather than get makeshift things which will go to pieces after a year or so. In Hsichow when the college first went there, the furniture was made too cheaply and as a result we were constantly patching up or replacing things which were breaking. As I noted in the postscript of my last letter, I have gotten two filing cases and a steel cabinet for the college here in Hankow. While they may cost a bit more than wood, they will far outlast the wood and will be more satisfactory to use as the workmanship here at the present time is quite inferior. It is our idea to as soon as possible get an estimate of the cost of furniture needed and then see how much of it we can get from the money allowed us for such in your estimate of reconstruction and rehabilitation, namely US\$40,000. Also it would help us to know how much of this sum is being spent on library stacks in New York as noted in one of Dr. Wei's recent letters.

Will you please send a check for US\$1,644. to Mr. Chao Chi-tsun, c/o Dr. J. M. Webber, U.S. Fiber Crops Laboratory, Riverside, California. This should be charged to the college account and I will handle the business in the usual way.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Fowler and will ask him to pass on the above information about this remittance to Mr. Greiner.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) John L. Coe

Dear Earl,

Will you please pass on the request in the last paragraph of this letter to Mr. Greiner and ask him to send the check on.

JLC.

1040

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

38 Poyang Road,
Hankow.
May 27, 1946.

L-49.-G.

Mr. J. M. Greiner,
281 Fourth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Greiner,

Thank you for your letter of March 21st which was here & waiting for me when I arrived here in Hankow ten days ago. Thank you for the statement of college accounts. In reference to that US\$100 to Mrs. Mary Richards, I have ~~written~~ written about the business but heard nothing. Possibly Mr. J.H. Andrews may know something of the matter, and until you hear further from me,

This morning I sent off a letter to Mr. Lyford, (L-49) in which I asked that US\$1,644 be sent to Mr. Chao Chi-tsuin, c/o Dr. J. M. ~~Webber~~ Webber, U.S. Fiber Crops Laboratory, Riverside, California. However the person who asked me to arrange this payment, came in this evening and wished to change the amount, to US\$644 (six hundred forty-four only). If Mr. Lyford or Mr. Fowler come to you in regard to this request of mine in L-49 please alter the amount to the lower figure. I am sorry over the mixup, but the gentleman here changed his mind after asking me yesterday to get the letter off as soon as possible

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

John D. Lee

CHECK
NEVER CAS
J. H. Cam

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1041

Huachung

June 10, 1946

Dr. Arthur M. Sherman
242 E. 19th Street
New York , New York

My dear Dr. Sherman:

The enclosed is a copy of a letter that Dr. Wei received from Mrs. Mary Coe sometime before he left for England. Perhaps you have seen a copy of this before.

After my last meeting with Dr. Wei he sent me a note in which he said that he hoped that the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees would take action regarding the proposition suggested in this letter and send the reply to Mrs. Coe. Mr. Lyford is leaving for his summer holiday on the fifteenth of the month so there is not much time left. Some action should be taken just as soon as possible so that we can let Mrs. Coe know the attitude of the Executive Committee regarding the Evangelical Church Mission joining Huachung on a temporary experimental basis as follows:

- (A) A grant of U.S.\$1000 yearly.
- (B) Supplying of one missionary teacher on the staff.

Please let me know what you want to do about this.

Very sincerely yours,

J. Earl Fowler

JEF:O

1042

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

38 Poyang Road
Hankow, Mupoh, China
June 19, 1946
L-51

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford
54 Dana Place
Englewood, New Jersey, U. S. A.

(Received at Jaffrey 7/6
Circulated)

Dear Mr. Lyford:

I did not write you last week, as I was waiting for the meeting of the Board of Directors, which was held last Saturday. There was a good attendance at the meeting with eleven Directors present out of a total so far nominated by the missions of 15.

The Minutes of the meeting will be sent within a short time. It is certainly good that the Directors are once again functioning. All of the men present took a keen interest in the affairs of the college.

The most important actions were as follows: Having gone over the report of the meeting held here at the end of April, they approved the actions of that meeting and went further by sending a communication to the Associated Boards, asking that as soon as possible Hua Chung be given an opportunity to carry out its Ten-Year Plan.

The other action of importance was on the question of the subsidy scheme. With our return to Wuhan, it had become evident that a wholesale overhauling of the plan was necessary. Both Dr. Bien and I have been writing to Dr. Wei for sometime in regard to this. Dr. Wei, in a letter written before he left the United States, approved the idea of following the government scheme for payment of university people. If we were to adopt another scheme which paid approximately the same amount of money, we would still have dissatisfaction among our faculty who are not very good at figures. Therefore, at the meeting Dr. Bien presented a scheme for following the government plan, which is announced for various areas in the country, depending on prices in the area. In addition to this, he proposed a \$25,000 extra living subsidy per faculty member per month, and he continues a subsidy for the large families, that is, for extra mouths between five and nine. After considerable discussion this was approved by the Board of Directors. The government plan for the Wuhan area, announced for the three months of June, July and August, and then subject to revision if prices change, is 300 times the basic salary, plus a flat subsidy of \$60,000. All of this means a considerable increase in the amount paid out per month, but prices are at least double, if not more than double, what they were in Hsichow. It should also be remembered that we have now returned to a large city area, where the ordinary living expenses tend to be higher than in a small country town. I know that this whole problem of salary and subsidies has been greatly bothering Dr. Fenn, and just before the meeting last Saturday a telegram came in from him, saying that an adequate salary should be paid for full-time work and that there should be an adequate salary limitation on the number of faculty members.

Dr. Bien started down river yesterday in order to attend the meeting of the presidents of the Christian colleges called by Dr. Fenn for the 25th to the 29th of this month, to meet Dr. Van Dusen and Mr. MacMullen. I believe that the two chief topics of discussion will probably be the question of carrying out the report of the Planning Committee and the question of adequate salaries for our staff members.

As I wrote you earlier, we have had detailed regulations in regard to the handling of the faculty rehabilitation fund from Dr. Febb. Our total in this is \$21,000,000. I feel that the plan evolved by Dr. Fenn for considering rank and length of service is very good. The method of determining dependents seems somewhat unwieldy and may be difficult to administer. Dr. Bien is going to talk over this point with Dr. Fenn. There is no immediate need for a decision on this point, as according to the information from Dr. Fenn, the last third of the grant will not be sent to us till September, and that is earmarked for dependents.

1043

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

Dr. Bien has also discussed with me the question of whether an additional grant for faculty rehabilitation should be made from the government funds. This question was referred to Dr. Fenn, and his first reaction was that it should not be done. I think Dr. Bien is going to discuss the question further with Dr. Fenn; and in case the other Christian colleges are paying an additional faculty rehabilitation, using their grant from the government funds, Dr. Bien feels that we should follow suit.

So far we have received no further information in regard to the use of this grant from the Ministry of Education. As far as we have learned, the other Christian colleges have received either the same amount as we have, Chinese \$100,000,000., or in some cases Chinese \$50,000,000. I do not believe that there is any chance of additional grants from the Ministry this year, as they are hard-pressed to find funds for moving national institutions. For instance, the National Wuhan University, which moved to Szechwan and had somewhere around an enrollment of 2,000, has received a total grant of Chinese \$2,000,000,000, which is to cover moving, rehabilitation, and re-equipment.

As we wrote you last fall when Dr. Bien was in Chungking, the Ministry at that time said very clearly that it would not be possible to give much assistance to private institutions, and so we feel that this \$100,000,000 is more than we hoped for at that time. My feeling is that it can probably be used to help with our rehabilitation.

Dr. Taylor has done a good job in getting repairs under way, and much of the work on most of the houses is practically completed. The two double houses on the city wall have had little done to them as yet and will have to be tackled very shortly. The biggest problem is the fact that the Japanese occupants tore out a number of the interior walls and rebuilt the inside to suit themselves, and some shifts may be necessary. Also the gutters and the downspouts on those houses were very largely removed, and some work will have to be done on those to protect the walls. There is still a considerable amount of work to be done on the property leased from the C. & M.A. On the other residences most of the window glass has now been replaced, and the electric wiring should be completed within a short time. The houses stand in need of paint on the woodwork, but I think that part should be postponed until conditions are more settled. The houses are certainly in much better shape than they were when Dr. Taylor arrived, and we can be thankful that they were not destroyed, as so many places have been. Up to the present, I estimate somewhat over \$40,000,000 has been spent on repairs and furniture, and most of it on repairs and less than one-quarter on furniture.

Class room furniture is being ordered, and laboratory desks will have to be made. I am trying to get together an over-all picture of the whole situation, and then see how much it will be possible for us to do. In some cases we may have done slightly more on repairs than was at first necessary, but I think it will prove to have been wise in the long run as some of our faculty are quite fussy about what is being done for them.

When it comes to the question of college furniture, I feel very strongly that we should make it so that it will last for some time rather than the cheapest kind we can get which would collapse within a year or so and require constant repair. I may be a little prejudiced on this point, but I have had to struggle during the last three or four years with keeping college furniture patched up, which was made in too rough a fashion when the college first went to Hsichow.

As I wrote you earlier, I hope that we may have an estimate from you very shortly as to the cost of the library stacks which are being purchased in New York, so that I may know how much of the \$40,000. for re-equipment is being spent there.

I hope that the bulk of the government grant of \$100,000,000 will be available for further repairs and college equipment if necessary.

1044

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

As I understand from Dr. Wei's letter, Dr. Paul Ward has been instructed to buy books and science equipment, following out the list submitted by Dr. Bien in January, up to a total of US \$100,000. As soon as possible lists of what has been purchased should be sent here to us, so that we can start applying to the Ministry of Education for duty-free permits, and when the things actually arrive they can be passed through quickly. Also, is it expected that Dr. Ward will spend up to the total which has been allowed him? When will it be possible for these things to be shipped out? Several heads of departments have already been raising this question with me and wondering whether it would be possible for us to try to purchase some items in Shanghai, if the shipment from the States was going to be too long delayed or had not been purchased. I said that I would raise the question with you.

The most urgent at the moment seems to be the question of pianos. In one of his letters, Dr. Wei mentioned that six pianos were being purchased. The thing is that if we are to go ahead with a Music Department next fall, one or two pianos must be here. Dr. Bien is going to see what can be done in Shanghai along this line. I know that it would cost the equivalent of at least US \$300. per piano to get anything which would be moderately useful to us.

Would you authorize us to use, say, \$20,000,000 from the government grant for the purchase of emergency equipment here, the adjustment in accounts to be made later? If you so approve, please cable me, using the cable address, "AMCHUMISS HANKOW."

Prices have risen somewhat recently, but I hope that the rate of rise will not be as great in the future. Conditions in the cities are gradually improving. In February when Mrs. Coe returned to Hankow, electric light was supplied only from late afternoon to six the next morning, and water came on only during certain periods of the day. Now electric light and power in Hankow are available the entire twenty-four hours. The capacity of the plant is still limited, however, and for people who have not yet been able to obtain a city connection it is difficult to get it at the present time. The water supply is also more constant, although there are intervals when the pressure is down. The electric supply in Wuchang is not so good as in Hankow, and so far only on in the evening, but there is promise that there will be twenty-four hour service by September. This is particularly needed for the science departments. If this comes, it may eliminate the need of getting our own power plant. The power in Wuchang is still weak, but there are reports that a new generating set for Wuchang is already in Shanghai, and it is the question of transportation upriver to get it there. The city water in Wuchang comes on only at intervals without much pressure.

The biggest difficulty in the country is still the lack of transportation. Where before the war there were on-an-average two to three commercial steamers in and out of Hankow everyday, at the present time the average is nearer one a day. The U.S.Navy has turned over to UNRRA-CNRRA a number of landing craft which are bringing relief supplies up from Shanghai. There are also a few US Navy craft bringing up relief supplies. A few freighters bringing coal from the north have already appeared in port, and the fuel situation is easier than it was in the winter. The railway administration is working hard on the rehabilitation of the railway from Wuchang to Canton. The service is gradually improving, but it will be some time before through service can be inaugurated because of the number of destroyed bridges.

Bishop Gilman left last night for Shanghai. He is going to the States for the General Convention of the Church in September, and expects to return as quickly as possible after that. For the time being, I shall have to divide my efforts between Hankow and Wuchang as the Bishop has left the supervision of mission finances in Hankow in my hands until some one else comes later in the summer.

Mr. Bergamini also is supposed to have arrived in Shanghai, and the Bishop expects to see him there. I do not know whether he will make us a short visit up here or not this summer, but I hope so.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

s/ JOHN L. COE

JLQ/MRC

P.S.

Entrance examinations are now scheduled for August 22.

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

38 Poyang Road
Hankow, Hupeh,
China
Friday June 7, 1945
L-50

Received in Lakeville, Conn.
Monday, June 24

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford
54 Dana Place
Englewood, New Jersey, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Lyford:

The second party arrived a week ago Thursday evening, May 30, after a long trip down from Changsha by boat. People seemed well though somewhat tired from the long trip. Dr. Hwang, as leader of the second party, appears to have done a good job, and he and his assistants all deserve the thanks of the college. Mr. T'an Jen-i stayed in Changsha with his family, and only this week did he send down his accounts. The trucking company was unable to supply enough trucks when the second party were in Kutsing, so one truck load of freight is coming along a bit later. Two of our more reliable students are traveling on that truck. Unfortunately the truck turned over at a point about 290 kilos east of Kweiyang. The two students, according to report, received some injuries, but we believe not too serious. The students were making arrangements for the college freight, some of which broke out of the boxes, to be repacked, and they hoped to be on their way again shortly after June 1. The accident occurred on the 22nd of May. We are anxiously awaiting further word of them.

I have just had a most encouraging letter from Dr. Wm. P. Fenn in regard to faculty rehabilitation. He has sent full instructions in regard to this rehabilitation. A total grant of \$2,000,000 is being sent us, one-third immediately, the second one-third some time in the summer, and the last third some time in September. They have adopted a scheme of a basic grant depending upon rank and length of service, which varies from \$200,000 for an assistant with short service to \$400,000 for a professor whose service has been more than eight years. It is designed so that the first two payments should be used to pay this basic grant. The third payment is to cover a payment of \$40,000 for each dependent. Dr. Bien is a bit disturbed that the amount of this grant is not larger because of the present level of prices. He is investigating the report that government universities have been paying a rehabilitation grant of from \$250,000 to \$350,000 per faculty member, based upon rank. It is our feeling that when we receive instructions from the government in regard to the grant of \$100,000,000 which the government sent to Hsiakwan (and which we are making efforts to get hold of at the earliest opportunity), the government will say that rehabilitation grants should be made to the faculty from this sum. Dr. Bien has written to Dr. Fenn, asking what the other Christian colleges are doing and suggesting that our faculty should receive an addition to the grant coming from Shanghai with this grant coming from the Ministry of Education. I believe he will refer this matter to the Board of Directors, which is scheduled to meet on the 15th of June.

Dr. Fenn also has made an additional grant to us for our moving expenses. As I wrote you earlier, the total Miss Priest notified us to expect was \$48,274,000. Of this, \$45,000,000 had already been sent. Dr. Fenn is now sending us an additional \$12,000,000, making a total of \$57,000,000.

I have just received Mr. T'an's accounts for his party and have not completed the analysis of them. Also there is the above-mentioned freight truck which will be coming in later, and an extra half tone of freight will be coming even later. Therefore it may be some time before I will be able to do the complete accounts. My estimate is that the total will come right around \$60,000,000. Included in this sum will be a figure for the board of the men students who worked on the freight

1047

June 7, 1946

trucks. This may total somewhere around \$2,000,000. From correspondence from Dr. Wei I gather that somewhere around US \$2,000 has been raised by him for assisting students on the trip back. My present feeling is that the cost of our moving in excess of the \$57,000,000 should be charged to these funds which should be more than sufficient. I do not anticipate asking Dr. Fenn for an additional appropriation for our moving.

The problem which is most perplexing and urgent is that of faculty salaries. Dr. Bien has been discussing the matter with me. A meeting of the Board of Directors is being called for a week from Saturday, the 15th, primarily to discuss this question. As Dr. Bien wrote Dr. Wei earlier, it is his feeling that we should try to approximate as nearly as possible the scale paid in the government universities. But with the rapidly rising prices here even that scale is somewhat behind the rate of increase. I have also mentioned this matter to Dr. Fenn, and he says he is asking UCR to increase their grants to the colleges, as all face the same problem. The inflation seems to be gaining ground again, and one wonders just where things are heading. If exchange should begin to follow the recent rise in prices, the college would be able to make out, but if exchange lags too far behind, we will face a serious situation.

As I wrote you in my last letter, the purchase of a piece of property between the Practice School property and the City Wall property has been completed. We paid \$40,000 per fang for a total of 73 fang. The total cost, including middlemen's fees, is about \$3,000,000. This property will be suitable for residences, and the negotiations had been practically completed before I got here. The price per fang is less than the price of the earlier property purchases, which was \$55,000 per fang.

Recently we were offered a small piece of property near the Boone Compound, and after looking it over, Dr. Bien and I decided that the price was far too high, and we turned it down. We are trying to push negotiations for the Chekiang Guild property. If this comes in, the two smaller pieces adjoining it can be purchased without much difficulty. It is our opinion that we should not pay a long price for these two smaller pieces until we are able to secure the larger piece, as a higher price for the smaller places will automatically mean more for the larger. Also, if we fail to secure the larger piece, the two smaller pieces are not essential to us. Property inside the city tends to be pretty expensive at the moment. As you doubtless remember, the Board of Founders in 1937 authorized the completion of the land between the roads outside the city. Most of this was purchased, and there are a number of fields and ruins in a village which were not secured at that time. I am having investigated the possibility of purchasing these, and for the overall development of the college feel this is more important than some pieces inside the city. I will keep you informed of developments.

*Paul
7/5/46
JS* Will you please send a check to the American Physical Society, C/o Geo. B. Pegram, Treas., Columbia University, for US \$10.14, indicating that this is to pay the balance due by Dr. Richard P. Bien for his dues to the Society for the year 1946, plus additional for foreign subscription to the Physical Review.

Dr. John C. F. Lo is leaving very shortly for Shanghai on his way to the States. I am settling up with him for his salary to the end of July. He showed me a letter of April 6 from Dr. Arthur M. Sherman, outlining his sabbatical leave arrangements. I have written to Mr. Pickens, authorizing him to advance

1048

June 7, 1946

any money necessary for Dr. Lo's passage from Shanghai. Further, Dr. Lo asked if it would be possible to have an advance of US \$100 on his allowance in the States. I have authorized Mr. Pickens to make this advance if Dr. Lo requests it. It is my understanding with Dr. Lo that if such an advance is made, he will repay it to you. As I understand the arrangements for his sabbatical leave, travel across the Pacific is provided, a living allowance of US \$1500 is granted him (if he should obtain a teaching position which pays more than this, he would not draw the allowance, and I understand that a teaching allowance at Franklin and Marshall has been secured for him), and his salary and subsidies will continue here as before. All of this was outlined in Dr. Sherman's letter to him.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

/s/ John L. Coe

JLC/MRC

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1049

HUA CHUNG COLLEGE

(Central China College)

WUCHANG, CHINA

Temporarily located at
HSICHOW, VIA TALI, YUNNAN

Office of the Associate Secretary
905-A YALE STATION
NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Lakeville, Connecticut, July 1, 1946

Mr. John L. Coe, Treasurer,
38 Poyang Road, Hankow, China

Dear Mr. Coe:

We have started on our vacation and I am writing at our first stop, which is where Mrs. Lyford's sister lives. After a few days we shall move on to Jaffrey, New Hampshire, where we expect to remain for some weeks. After receiving this, and until further notice, please address your letters to me at 281 Fourth Ave., where they will be opened in Mr. Fowler's office and notation made of any matters requiring immediate attention, after which they will be forwarded to me. Life has been pretty intense for many weeks and I have written very few letters. Now that I am away from the pressure I shall review your recent letters written since the college began to prepare for its long trek back to Wuchang. Most of my files are in a trunk in Jaffrey and I do not have the number of my last letter, so this letter will not show its number.

I have with me your letter L-47 to L-50, also a letter dated April 23 from Dr. Paul Taylor and your letter without number dated May 11 from Kweiyang, also a copy of letter of Mrs. Coe to Dr. Wei, dated May 6. I have read letters from Dr. Bien to Dr. Wei received before the latter's departure for England. These letters constitute an interesting phase in the beginnings of a new chapter in the life of a university which certainly is destined to have a great history. I note that the first party of travellers took 34 days in transit and the second party 36 days. The hardships undoubtedly were greater than I can visualize from your letters and it is gratifying to know that most of the people got through without serious results. All of us will be sorry for the injuries of the two students and the sudden death of Mr. Chi.

Your last letter, L-50, was received at Lakeville on June 24. I will answer this now and defer discussion of your financial reports in this and other letters until we get settled down at Jaffrey. Perhaps by that time I shall receive from you the data from the report of Mr. Tan Jen-i which you had just received on June 7.

I note in your letters the difficulties which are arising in connection with the increased cost of living, and their bearing on the regular operating costs as well as on the payments for rehabilitation. It seems certain that over a period of months the rise in exchange will be in line with the rise in the cost of living. Now that trade with the rest of the world is getting started, it is obvious that the cost of goods for export, when expressed in gold or the U.S. equivalent, must be such that the goods can be sold in foreign countries at a profit. Otherwise there will be very little trade at a time when China needs a great volume. Therefore I am not disturbed regarding probable conditions in the long run. I believe your serious problems will be of short duration.

It is because of the above convictions that we continue to express our estimates for Hua Chung in U.S. dollars even though the U.C.R. deals with you only in Chinese National Currency.

Referring now to the "Preliminary Rough Estimate" of last April, of which the total is \$275,000, I hope that everybody at your end has in mind that the figures are maxima for getting the college re-established on the old basis, and that this work will not be accomplished for some months. It is to be hoped that exorbitant prices will not be paid for goods. I think the desired results may be accomplished for a total cost not to exceed the above figure and I hope that a considerable amount may be saved out of this total to apply on the costs of new buildings, etc. I will be glad to receive your opinions

1050

July 1, 1946

as they develop regarding the probable total cost of each of the six items of that estimate as well as actual figures as they become known. I do not mean to ask for much extra work for you and Mr. Tan, but will appreciate whatever data you can give us from time to time to insure that you and we do not get caught without sufficient funds to be able to meet expenses as they may become due. I have in mind such reports as that which you made in your letter L-48. During the war Hua Chung has built up such a reputation for adequate financial control that our requests have been met without difficulty and of course we must preserve that reputation.

Mr. Paul Ward, as purchasing agent, is doing a good job but it necessarily is slow because of the upset conditions of manufacture and transportation. I have asked him to make a comprehensive report to Dr. Bien covering his understanding of the college requirements and his progress in acquiring and shipping them. His present estimate of expenditures in the near future as called for in the lists received is U.S. \$25,000 for equipment, \$15,000 for books, and \$3,500 for book stacks for 20,000 volumes (exclusive of freight). These amounts will be paid on requisition approved by Mr. Fowler or myself and will be paid out of the \$100,000 fund advanced by the National Council. Mr. Greiner will report to you the method of handling and ultimate charging under the items 3, 4 and 5 of the estimate of April 11. Your expenditures made in China will be treated in the same manner.

At this point I must report a big handicap which has developed in the office of the National Council. Earl Fowler is exhausted and has gone to a hospital for observation and care for the rest of this month. Thereafter he hopes to return to the office for a few days and then leave for a vacation of at least three weeks. He has carried heavy responsibilities for many months and they have got him down temporarily; nothing serious so far.

I understand that the Chinese Government has sent to the College the full amount of one hundred million in accordance with its grant for rehabilitation and I understand that this is all for relief of the members of faculty and staff. At 2000 to 1 this covers the sixth item in the estimate of April 11. I presume also that the Government will increase this to cover any additional cost of living which may develop. Otherwise we certainly must provide enough funds to re-equip our people adequately, if this is in any way possible. This, however, necessitates great wisdom on the part of faculty and staff members in buying what they need. I think that financial help should be granted individually according to the evidence which they can give of care and wisdom in purchasing. The reckless use of money by our American soldiers and sailors and by the former employees of our war industries in the U.S. is appalling. A great majority of these Americans will be in great difficulty when the money is gone, and no more is forthcoming.

I have noted the matters in the last two paragraphs of your L-50 and have referred them to Mr. Greiner for action.

Please give my best regards to Mrs. Coe. I hope you both will be kept in good health during the hard months which are ahead for you both.

This letter is being sent to Miss VanderWende to be typed, signed for me and mailed with a letter to Dr. Bien.

Yours very truly,

OLIVER S. LYFORD

Copies to Dr. Sherman, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Greiner, Yale-in-China, Associated Boards, Dr. Goetsch.

1051

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

HUA CHUNG COLLEGE

(Central China College)

WUCHANG, CHINA

Temporarily located at
HSICHOW, VIA TALI, YUNNAN

Office of the Associate Secretary
905-A YALE STATION
NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Lakeville, Conn. July 1, 1946

Dr. Richard Bien, Acting President
38 Poyang Road, Hankow, CHINA

Dear Dr. Bien:

As explained in my letter to Mr. Coe, which accompanies this, I have started on my vacation. Therefore these two letters typed and sent from New York. I have discussed with Mr. Coe some of the important financial details which we and you are facing, and will refer herein to other matters to which we are giving consideration.

First, I note that the Board of Directors has been organized again in Hankow and has begun to function. This is welcome news. It will be a relief to the Board of Trustees and will put an end to an abnormal procedure which might have led to trouble if the Executive Committee Pro-tem had not carried on its temporary function with extreme care and if you and Dr. Wei had not kept us ~~fix~~ fully advised. You will remember that this arrangement was made by formal action which was reported to the Chinese Government and was to continue until the Board of Directors should notify the Board of Trustees, in writing, of its ability to assume its normal functions again and therefore relieve the Trustees from these functions. There should be a meeting of the Directors at an early date, at which a resolution is passed to this effect, after which the Chairman of the Board of Directors should report this resolution in a letter to Dr. Sherman as President of the Board of Trustees. There is always a bare possibility that some action taken during the emergency may start some trouble which might be unfortunate if there should be evidence that the functions of the Board of Directors had not been legally preserved throughout the abnormal period.

Another reason for the record to show that the Board of Directors is carrying on as usual is that Hua Chung undoubtedly will join in the United Board this fall and the Board of Trustees will go out of existence as such and the trusteeship will be taken over by the Trustees of the United Board. Thereafter the Hua Chung Trustees or their successors nominated by us will function as the Hua Chung Committee of the United Board. Sooner or later this new set-up will affect bequests and other important matters. Therefore it is well to have the regular administrative operations proceeding normally before this next step is taken. The people of the college may be assured that their interests will be protected just as effectively as in the past.

I certainly congratulate you and Mr. Coe that the cost of travel of the college has been held approximately to the total of his original estimate. This shows much wisdom in making decisions regarding possible alternatives. ~~AGAIN~~ Evidently the total when expressed in U.S. currency will be well within item 1 of our estimate. Nevertheless I agree with Mr. Coe that the special fund of U.S. \$2,000 may be used as far as necessary to cover the costs of travel of the students.

I consider that it is very fortunate that the Board of Directors has been reorganized and is available to act in the problem of faculty salaries. They will be able to act with far better judgment than would be possible for the Trustees acting as Directors and they will have the immediate benefit of information from Dr. Fenn and other sources as to action taken in other universities.

The cost of new plots of land will come out of the land and building fund and will not affect the costs of rehabilitation. I hope it will be possible to straighten out the property lines before any new building plans are decided upon. Speaking personally and

1052

July 1, 1946

unofficially, I am not as well impressed with Mr. Bergaminies first sketch plan of the new campus as I was with the old plans for buildings on the campus purchased some time ago. It seems to me that there is too much roof and the many decorative features are too elaborate, but I cannot view it through Chinese eyes.

We have been very slow about one section of the equipment which you have requested. In your letter of February 1, you included a list of equipment for the machine shop of the physics laboratory, and on April 13 you sent to Dr. Wei a letter from Mr. Slater dated March 20 in which he suggested the possibility of securing some special shop equipment being offered by the British Ministries of Supply and Aircraft Production. Your list of February 1 was not complete as to the size of the hydraulic press, drilling machine and planing machine and the dimensions of the large lathe (9 ft. or 12 ft.) seemed to call for a lathe much larger than necessary for a laboratory shop. We were therefore puzzled about the matter. Then came the Slater proposition and we could not tell whether you expected to substitute the English tools for some of those in your list or hoped to have both, the cost of which would be pretty heavy. The problem was discussed at length with Dr. Wei, but he could not answer the questions.

Finally the matter was discussed at a meeting of the Hua Chung Executive Committee and considerable doubt was expressed as to the advisability of attempting to equip a machine shop at the college under present conditions. It would seem that the tools will be useless until a gasoline engine or a Diesel unit is available to drive the tools; central station power will not be available until the public station is enlarged. Furthermore tools of this kind will be in great demand throughout China and until the trouble with the Communists is settled there is danger that such tools will be confiscated. It is a very different matter than that of chemical and physical apparatus for which there is little demand outside of laboratories. As a result of all this reasoning, no machine tools have been ordered thus far unless Dr. Wei has ordered some of the equipment offered in England.

I have explained this matter at length, as otherwise it probably will seem that we have been very remiss. I hope your scientists will review the situation and outline such machines as you should attempt to get at once, in spite of the risks involved. On receipt of such a list from you, we shall proceed at once with their purchase.

The cost of the total number of machine tools and their auxillary equipment will be pretty high and this is another reason for minimizing the first purchases.

We hope that for the immediate future you will be able to get any necessary work done in some existing machine shop. The rest of the story regarding purchases in the U.S. will be given in a report of Paul Ward to you, which I suppose is going forward from Washington at about this time.

My first letter from Dr. Wei was dated London, June 31, and was received here on June 27. (He sailed from New York May 12 31) Our English friends are heaping honors upon him and working him very hard. I shall be glad when he is safely on the route to China. He is building up a great deal of interest in Hua Chung in Great Britain and America. It was a great privilege to me to have close relations with him throughout his stay in New York. No doubt you will have heard directly from him before this reaches you.

Please express to all our friends of the faculty and staff our great admiration of the way they have carried on during the refugee years and our hope that before long they will be provided with a fair degree of comfort.

Yours very truly,

OLIVER S. LYFORD

copies to Dr. Sherman, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Griner, Yale-in-China, Associated Boards and Dr. Goetsch.

1053

C
O
P
Y

China 1946 e

HUA CHUNG (CENTRAL CHINA) COLLEGE
Wuchang, China

Office of the Treasurer

L-52
July 19, 1946

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford
c/o Mr. J. Earl Fowler
281 Fourth Avenue
New York City 10, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Lyford:

Thank you for your letter of July 1, which came in yesterday, and your cable of July 11, which was received last Monday. I have not written you since the letter L-51 of June 20, as I had been waiting for Dr. Bien's return from Shanghai where he attended the meeting of the Christian college presidents at the end of June. The latest information I have is that he hoped to leave Shanghai early this week and should be here sometime next week. As soon as he gets back, I will go over with him the questions discussed in Shanghai, and we will let you know.

As I wrote in my last letter, the Board of Directors took action to increase faculty subsidies, but from the way prices are going up at the present time it would look as though a further increase may be necessary within the not-too-distant future. Economic conditions do not seem to be settling down here as yet, and the political situation does not help things.

Our total moving cost at the present time comes to Chinese \$62,800,000. This cannot be considered a final figure as there is the matter of eleven cases which were left at Chanyi, the railhead, to be forwarded later. On the other side of the picture, there is the matter of the adjustment of travel allowances to some of the members of the faculty who in March said that they would be returning to us, but have since indicated that they may not be coming back. In case they do not return, there will be an adjustment of their travel allowances in our favor. My hope is that these two matters will more-or-less cancel each other out, and in any case the final figures should not vary by more than a half million dollars from the total given above.

Last week I finally got deposited in the college bank account in Wuchang the Chinese \$100,000,000. from the Chinese government. The whole story of our getting hold of it from the notification to us in Hsichow, and the sending of it by mistake by the government to Hsiakwan, with its eventual return to Nanking and our final getting of it here would form quite a long tale. I have no further information as to how it is to be used, and I am hoping that Dr. Bien as a result of his visit in Nanking will be able to throw more light on the matter.

Thank you for the information about the purchases which have been made so far by Dr. Ward, and I can well understand that it may have been difficult to get many of the things on account of the shortages in America.

I am very sorry to hear that Earl Fowler is sick, and I hope that his vacation will be long enough for him to recuperate satisfactorily. I knew him for a number of years in China, and know that he is a very hard worker, and it distresses me to hear that he is not well.

1054

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

In reference to your preliminary rough estimate of last April, I can summarize the situation as follows:

Item #One for Moving has already been mentioned.

Item #Two, Repairs. Up to the present approximately Chinese \$45,000,000. has been spent. There still remains the repair of Old Yen Hostel; some work in Ingle Hall; the two double houses on the City Wall which will require quite a bit of work. The work on one of the double houses is in hand at the moment, and the other will be taken up as soon as the people who moved in last autumn leave in a month or so. There may also be the matter of some repairs in the houses which we are leasing from the London Mission for occupancy as of the first of August. Our repairs so far have been in the matter of replacing doors, mending floors where necessary, replacing plaster, patching of roofs, and fixing gutters and downspouts, replacing door knobs and latches, repairing the electric wiring, and doing some necessary grading where the Japanese had dug latrines. One piece of more-or-less new construction had to be undertaken, which was a kitchen for the men students at Ingle Hall, because the old kitchen quarters there had been entirely pulled down. When the Library Building is returned this summer, there will probably be some repairs necessary there too. No painting has been undertaken, and nothing has been done toward the repair of screening except where individuals have done it themselves. I would estimate that our total repairs to finish contracts already undertaken and to get the rest of the buildings into shape would cost somewhere around seventy to eight million Chinese. Dr. Taylor's estimates in April were in a number of cases low.

In reference to college furniture and class room equipment, so far we have spent nearly \$12,000,000. Chinese. We are getting 400 classroom chairs with a wide arm for writing, at a cost of \$12,500 for the first lot and \$14,000 for the second lot. These are being made by one of the better Hankow furniture places and should be sturdy enough to be considered permanent equipment. The same applies for some of the office furniture we are getting and will apply for the laboratory tables which are now being ordered. We are quite fortunate in that quite a number of the old Chemistry laboratory tables have been salvaged and can be put into shape with a comparatively small expenditure. It is my hope that it will be possible to get the college started this fall with a total expenditure of not more than \$40,000,000 for furniture. Thus I have covered the question of Items Two and Three in your rough estimate. I doubt if very much else in the way of equipment will be available within the next few months here, and we are, of course, counting on the library stacks purchased in New York for our use. It may be possible to purchase some books for the Chinese Department within the next few months, but aside from that I cannot see much else being available in China at a price which would be advisable for us to purchase at.

It is our feeling in this matter of furniture that we may as well get things which will be at least semi-permanent, as to spend slightly less money and get things which will go to pieces within a couple of years.

We were notified by Dr. Fenn in June that out of the gift from Harvard-Yenching to the Associated Boards, we had been allowed US \$10,000, which I assume we can count upon for replacement of equipment or books.

Since I wrote last, we have purchased one small piece of land outside the city for a little over a million dollars. Negotiations are under way for two or three pieces there which will help round out our holdings there. The two or three places inside the city where adjacent property juts into Boone Compound are proving "hard nuts to crack". In all of the land negotiations which have been undertaken since my return

here, we are merely trying to round out the property and not expand beyond our original lines.

I have been doing some preliminary figuring on the financial report for this year (1945-46), and it looks as though we would come out somewhere near even with a possible deficit of Chinese two to three million dollars.

In reference to faculty rehabilitation, I have no more information now than when I last wrote you. The second installment of \$7,000,000 from UCR has just been received, and when Dr. Bien returns, I hope that he will have full information as to what the other colleges are doing, and how much of the government money of \$100,000,000 should be spent on this purpose. I have not drawn on Mr. Pickens for any further funds and do not anticipate doing so in the immediate future, as with the receipt of this government money I have sufficient cash on hand.

During March and April Mr. Pickens sold for our account a total of US \$39,100, at rates a little less than 2,000. This I can roughly divide at the present time into US \$8,000 for land purchase, US \$9,000 for current expenses, and the balance of US \$22,000 against Repairs and Furniture accounts.

In response to a telegram from Shanghai from Dr. Fenn, asking us to cable the Associated Boards office in New York certain information, I have sent off a cable to them, saying that our staff in June, exclusive of missionary personnel, was 50, the total salary payment Chinese \$8,500,000. This rate of payment will continue through July and August in all probability; and if prices should continue to increase as they are doing at present, there will have to be an upward revision. That would mean for the twelve months of next year a minimum of Chinese \$102,000,000 for salaries and subsidies alone, with a total expenditure for the college of \$130,000,000 to \$140,000,000 for running expenses.

Our income from the supporting missions should approximate US \$30,000. Tuition is being restored this year, but I anticipate a considerable number of students, especially from the mission schools, will have tuition remitted, so I would not estimate tuition income at more than ten million, and possibly less. I understand UCR is reorganizing in September and the Associated Boards will have greater freedom for raising funds. If we were to receive a Sustaining Fund from them of US \$30,000, which is approximately the amount we received from them the last year before UCR started paying exclusively in Chinese currency, and reckoning exchange at 2000-to-one, we would have an income of \$120,000,000 plus our local income, which would approximately balance the budget.

If prices continue to go up, I would hope that the exchange rate would go up sufficiently to allow us to cover the necessary increase in subsidies. This question of prices is a very mixed one. Certainly prices are higher now in relation to foreign currency and gold than is possible for China to carry on a healthy economy. Interest rates are very high, and since the settlement at the end of June, money has become very tight and people are showing reluctance to buy other than necessities. If there should be a good rice harvest and the political troubles quiet down so that grain can get into the big cities without difficulty, there may be a crack in prices.

With best wishes, in which Mrs. Coe joins me,

Sincerely yours,

S/ John L. Coe

JLC/MRC

COPIES TO: Dr. Sherman, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Greiner, Yale-in-China, Dr. Goetsch, Mr. Slater, Associated Boards, Dean William C. DeVane, Dr. F.T. Cartwright, Dr. John W. Wood, Rev. R. Pierce Beaver, Dr. A. L. Warnshuis, Dr. Paul Ward.

38 Poyang Road
Hankow
July 20, 1946

General file
A. E. SWIFT

Dear Earl: We heard through Mr. Lyford that you were definitely under the weather, due to overwork. These are times to try men's souls. My deepest sympathy. I find myself caught in the maze of trying to get a few visas for Chinese, and I am fed-up. I have visited the Consulate about once a day for the last ten days. July weather does not lead one to do this with especial grace.

We sat about "stewing in our own juice" almost all day yesterday, with nothing much to do. But at nine in the evening the principal of St. Lois came in with a problem to discuss as a bedtime story. John, having been here for a day and a half, took himself back over the river this morning before 9 A.M., and since then he has had half a dozen calls from people who might just as well have come in yesterday. Having the office and the house all in one, they watch us eat our meals till we finish and they can jump at us. Poor refugees, who somehow don't come under any relief agency or won't get under the relief agency if we don't go to half a dozen offices and plead their cases, are probably my especial bugbear -- although visas run a close second. The refugees dissolve into tears, and most of them are pitiable, and then say, "Sz-mung, please do something." I call in Judy Clark generally, and between us we generally manage something. Now it is Saturday morning, and I am most anxious to get over the river right after lunch -- and I'll be lucky if I get there by supper!

The Kuling vacation begins to look remote -- maybe we'll go up for ^{way} Christmas! ~~XXXX~~ The drugs Dr. Richey bought for me are on the ~~XXXX~~ ^{way} river (we believe), and maybe my disposition will be a little sweeter after a few shots of that expensive concoction! I know these are the kind of problems with which you have been hounded for the last three-four years, and you have my deepest sympathy. I imagine every time the door opened you wanted to get under the desk! Our very best to Dot.

Sincerely,
Mary Coe

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1057

John
Mr. John L. Coe, Treasurer
38 Payang Road
Hankow, China

Dear Mr. Coe:

New York, July 24th, 1946
cc to: ~~Dr. Sherman,~~
~~Mr. Fowler~~
Mr. Greiner
Dr. Ward - Yale-in-China
Dr. Goetsch and
Rev. Noel Slater, Secretary, China Cr. U. ~~ASSN~~
Assn.

My last letter to you was sent from Lakeville, Conn., on July 1st. It was without number, as this will have to be, because I am away from home and do not have my last numbered letter with me.

I am spending a few days in New York for conference with Mr. Greiner and Dr. Ward and have spent most of three days with Dr. Ward, going over his program and estimates and helping to settle some of his many problems. He is doing a fine job and I want to assure you and Dr. Bien that his method of handling the purchases and the contacts which he is making with suppliers of books and equipment will have a lasting value. It is very fortunate that he has an instinct for this sort of work and will be available in Wuchang to assist all departments in the selection of additional apparatus and books after the present program shall be completed. His reports to Dr. Bien will make this clear. It is unfortunate that a great deal of foundation work was necessary before any considerable flow of purchases could get under way, and he and I both realize that this will handicap the teaching staff for some weeks of the new college year. You can assure them for me that progress in most particulars could not have been much faster. He is giving preference to the item for which the immediate need is greatest.

Dr. Addison desires to start Dr. Ward and his family for China as soon as possible, but after reviewing the whole program I am convinced that he should remain here until the end of October and I shall urge that this extension be granted. Then we can reasonably expect that Dr. Ward will complete his program to a point where no appreciable time will be lost while he is in transit to Wuchang. I hope that by the end of October there will be a little more certainty about the wisdom of sending any more western personnel to China under present disturbed conditions.

On July 9 I cabled Anchunmiss a message including the statements "Purchases here will aggregate American forty thousand including stocks, four pianos. Fifty six were wrong. I find that the information which I had received from Dr. Ward included only the books and equipment then negotiated for but he had requisitions for much more. The figures which he gave to me yesterday may be summarized as indicated in the following paragraphs.

The "Preliminary Rough Estimate" totalling U.S. \$275,000 was approved by the Executive Committee of the Hua Chung Board as a basis of procedure and hereafter will be referred to as the Restoration Budget. Everybody realizes that the amount spent under each of the six items of the budget may differ to some extent from the figures stated, but any overrun in one item should be balanced by an underrun on another item. We must keep the total within U.S. \$275,000. if this is ⁱⁿ any way possible. If you begin to see that this total may be over run we shall be notified well in advance. As you know, I am hoping to cover this total sum with new money so that the reserves on hand when the homeward move started can be carried into the future as a safety measure.

The other limit which we are governed by is the cash immediately available with which to cover purchases and other expenses as the payments therefor become due. We are assuming that items 1 and 6 of the Restoration Budget will be covered by payments which you have received or soon will receive from the U.C.R. and from the Chinese Government. Your letters indicate that the receipts from these two sources will more than cover these two items and I sincerely trust that this is correct, in which event you may use money from these sources for other items in the budget unless the terms of the respective grants prevent this.

1058

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

This leaves for consideration the possible expenditure of U.S. \$180,000 for items 2,3,4 and 5. We are assuming that the expenditures under items 2 and 3 will all be in China except the book stacks which Dr. Ward is purchasing and which he estimates will cost about \$3,500. This, as instructed by Dr. Wei, will come out of Item 3.

Finally we come to Items 4 and 5 totaling together \$100,000. Dr. Ward assumes that these sums will be disbursed about as follows:

	<u>Item 4</u> <u>Books</u>	<u>Item 5</u> <u>Equipment</u>
To be purchased by Dr. Ward before he goes to China	\$25,000.	\$30,000
To be purchased soon in China	1,830	2,000
To be purchased by Fall, 1947	<u>33,170</u> (note 1)	<u>8,000</u> (note 2)
	<u>\$60,000</u>	<u>\$40,000</u>

Note 1 - These books to be covered by requisitions to be issued in China after arrival of Ward.

Note 2 - Most of this item represents preliminary estimates of machine shop equipment and psychology equipment. The figure of \$8,000 is an estimate made in advance of quotations.

The estimate of total cost of books to be purchased is based on the probability that nearly all the purchases of books and equipment will be made in the U.S. or England but we hope that when Dr. Wei returns to China, he will find that purchases in China will be possible to a greater extent than he has assumed.

In this connection I hope that if it has not already been done, a careful canvass of the second-hand book stores will be made soon in the Wuhan Area. The Lingran authorities have been surprised at the quantity of books from their library which have been secured at relatively small cost.

You will of course understand that the books being purchased are only those in the lists being received from the College or from persons authorized by Dr. Wei to make the selections. No books or equipment will be ordered except as directed by Dr. Wei or Dr. Bien.

The money immediately available to cover these purchases under Items 2, 3, 4 and 5 is as follows:

From College Reserves	U.S. \$60,000.
Advanced by National Council	100,000.
Recently received from Associated Bds.	8,000.
Miscellaneous specials	<u>1</u>

This is enough to protect our payments for some months. I have reason to believe that more will be available before we shall need it. This is on the assumption that the costs incurred under Items 2 and 3 of the Budget will not exceed U. S. \$80,000. As stated in my letter of July 1, I am hoping to receive at an early date your opinion regarding the sufficiency of the Restoration Budget.

Dr. Ward will be sending detail reports frequently from now on. If the figures which he sends do not appear to be consistent with my figures given above, please under-

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

stand that my figures are preliminary and subject to change. Dr. Ward will have a copy of this letter. It will be of considerable help to him to receive an answer to his letter of May 24th to Dr. Taylor with a recommended list of titles of books to be purchased.

Regarding the machine shop equipment, you may realize that the requirements in this case come somewhat close to my experience of former years. In my letter to Dr. Bien of July 1, I discussed this matter at some length, but there is another side to it, which has been bothering me until recently. I know just enough regarding the uses for such a shop to question very seriously whether a modern laboratory shop in that country would need all the equipment included in the two lists sent by Dr. Bien. Last week, through some of my engineering friends of former days, I have secured the cooperation of an engineer who is thoroughly familiar with the requirements and practices of machines for laboratories in the U.S. and, in fact, planned and operated such a shop for one of the important laboratories of this country. This man has given consideration to the lists sent by Dr. Bien to Dr. Wei, including the suggestions by Mr. Slater. He is preparing a memorandum of such tools as he would consider advisable for an initial installation in such a laboratory in this country and to which other machines can be added when found necessary. He says that between new machine tools and reconditioned old tools which may be purchased at a reduction of 25%, such as proposed by the British Ministry of Supply, he certainly would advise purchasing new machines. However, the delivery dates for new American machine tools such as you will need are very slow. A delay of six months after receipt of order must be expected. On the other hand he reports that the U.S. Army has sent to its forces in foreign fields small machine shop units for repair purposes which are very similar to what he will recommend for us and using, for instance, the identical lathes which he will specify. By the way, this man has no interest in any manufacturing company but is an independent consulting engineer who is contributing his service as a friend to China.

I hope to send preliminary information to Dr. Ward at Washington tomorrow which will enable him to confer with the Army Ordnance Dept. in Washington regarding the possibility of such machine shop equipment being available somewhere in China. In the meantime you may be able to start some inquiries among friends that our people may know in the U.S. Army.

Another item which must be discussed between us is a source of electric power sufficient to drive the machines of this shop and such other equipment of the laboratories as will require electric current. Dr. Wei thought we might defer consideration of this item at present, as he expects an ample supply of electric current from the public service company, but unless the public service will have new equipment with much greater capacity in the near future, you will not be able to depend upon them at all. In that event your machine shop will be useless without an independent generator of ample capacity driven by a Diesel motor or a gas engine designed to use gasoline or alcohol. In any event your machine tools probably will all be operated by independent motors and their characteristics must be such that they can be driven by either the control station current or by your own generator. In other words your own generator must have the same characteristics as the generators of the control station. We must have these characteristics at once meaning (1) - the voltage, (2) the frequency of alternations, (3) the number of phases, i.e. one phase, two phase or three phase system.

I shall write to you further about the machine shop in a few days, sending a copy of the recommendation of Mr. Strauss.

I am glad to report that Mr. Fowler is much improved in health, but we all shall have to help him take better care of himself hereafter.

This letter will be signed for me after I have left town.

Yours very sincerely,
Olin S. Lyford
signed by (C. Vander Wende)

1061

THIS COPY FOR MR. FOWLER

HUA CHUNG (CENTRAL CHINA) COLLEGE
WUCHANG, CHINA

August 14, 1946
L-53

Received Sept. 4

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford
c/o The Church Missions House
281 Fourth Avenue,
New York City 10, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Lyford:

Thank you for your letter of late July which came in last week. We are all glad to hear of the excellent work Dr. Ward has been doing in securing the books and equipment for the college. It cannot be too easy a thing to do at the present time when stocks are low. Mr. Pickens has sent me the copy of the Consular Invoice of the first shipment which is due in Shanghai on August 24. I am immediately applying for a duty-free permit for the typewriters. The books will come in free anyway. As soon as we have exact details of the other shipments, we will do the same for them.

In reference to the question of the Reconstruction Budget, I feel that we may have to revise upward the figures I gave you in my last letter in regard to repairs and furniture. Prices of labor, etc. have risen, and so it may run nearer \$80,000,000 for Repairs than \$70,000,000. Furniture will probably run between \$50,000,000 and \$60,000,000. Thus we have to keep within the figure that you mentioned formerly of US\$40,000 each.

Since dictating the above I have just received from Shanghai CN\$20,098,000 and the notice with it states US\$10,000 T/T from G. A. Evans, Associated Boards for Christian Colleges, New York. I hope before long to have more light on this remittance from New York, but I am for the moment guessing that it represents the US\$10,000 which Dr. Fenn notified us in June to expect from the Associated Boards as our share of the gift Harvard-Yenching had given to them for rehabilitation of the Christian colleges. Thus, if my guess is correct, it will go part way to filling the gap between the US\$180,000 which you have budgeted in our rehabilitation program for Items 2, 3, 4 and 5 and the items about which I have already been notified as being received on your end: US\$100,000 from ~~XXXX~~ the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church, US\$5,000 from the Reformed Church, and US\$8,000 from the Associated Boards for purchases in America. If I have further word about this, I will let you know.

In this Rehabilitation Budget there is one thing which will have to be inserted, or it will be a matter of cutting down on the purchases in America: that is, the handling charges in Shanghai, the charges for shipping upriver, and the handling charges here. Ever since the first of the year the situation in Shanghai has gotten worse and worse for handling freight off steamers, with storage facilities crowded almost beyond limit, with wharf coolies demanding very high wages, with a considerable amount of pilfering. In most cases it costs more to land cargo in Shanghai than the cost of the freight from New York.

As I have written you earlier, the bulk of the \$100,000,000 from the National Government will be available for rehabilitation, and if necessary we can make an adjustment so as to pay these charges out of that. So far we have not made heavy

1062

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

purchases in China though Dr. Wei has written, and I imagine he will investigate the possibility when he comes through Shanghai, about purchasing a considerable number of Chinese books. Your cable to Dr. Bien in regard to the lathe and machine shop equipment was received early this week, and we are writing to Shanghai about it, as you suggested. Meanwhile Dr. Bien has been talking with a friend in CNRRA, who thought he might be in a position to arrange for us to purchase such things there. But so far those negotiations have not borne much fruit. The city power here in Wuchang at the present time is poor, but there is the expectation that before too long there will be a new plant installed, which will more adequately care for the needs of the community.

In this matter of the Repairs and Rehabilitation, we are merely patching up the present buildings and securing some outside ones which will enable us to carry on during the year with an enrollment limited to 350 people, but it is going to mean a good deal of crowding. Also we face the prospect that some of the outside accommodations we have been able to secure will not be available for more than a year. Some people here have been pressing for the erection of temporary buildings to serve either as classrooms or men's dormitories. Such a proposition would be expensive, and in the light of the material we would be able to get and afford, probably pretty unsatisfactory. Mr. Bergamini is in Shanghai and expects to be up here sometime this month, and then I hope we can have a conference in regard to the future lay-out of the college. I am merely writing this about the possibility of temporary buildings now because that problem will be much more acute in a year's time, and we ought to begin to think of what possibilities there are in that connection.

As you will remember, the college in June adopted the government scale of payments for salaries and subsidies. If the government kept on the scale adopted in June it would have cost us somewhere between \$130,000,000 and \$140,000,000 to carry on for the current year. All of that I outlined in my letter of last month to Dr. Fenn and to you. In that I emphasized that if possible we should try to secure US\$30,000 from the Associated Boards, in which case we would approximately balance our budget. Now the government has announced that, starting with August, they will use a new subsidy scale, which means an increase of a little more than 60% over the scheme of June. Dr. Bien said that one reason the government has gone as far as this at the present time is that many people complained that their last increase was inadequate. People feel that the government has decided on this big increase in the hope that it will be the last time they will have to increase. The price of rice has dropped here over its peak in July, and with a good harvest coming in the price should either remain steady or decline still further. Other prices which continued to rise through the early part of this month now seem to be settling down. There are reports in Hankow that in one or two cases cloth prices have declined slightly.

Dr. Bien feels very strongly that there is nothing for us to do but to follow this increased government scheme. If we should do that, we would land ourselves with a possible deficit of US\$25,000 to US\$30,000, even if the Associated Boards should give us US\$30,000 for the year. We have written to Dr. Wei, hoping to catch him in Hongkong, asking him to send us his opinion in regard to the matter; but if he should not reach Hongkong in time, I believe Dr. Bien will plan to put the new plan into effect at the time of the August payment. When the matter was discussed at the Board of Directors meeting in June, it was voted to follow the government plan, but there was the tacit understanding that we would review

1063

the situation if the government plan should be raised so high as to imperil our financial stability. However, Dr. Bien feels that not to follow the government plan at the present time would cause too much unrest among the faculty. Of course, there is the possibility that exchange will help us out, while not covering the entire amount. At the present time we can realize somewhere around 2400 instead of 2000 on exchange at which lower figure our earlier estimates were made. I doubt if there will be any large increase over that figure for several months at least. Of course, if prices should decline radically, the government might announce a decrease of its salary scale, and we should be in a stronger position to follow it, if we follow the thing now. Dr. Bien is also planning to double our proposed tuition charge in the light of this, which would bring in an additional five to ten million dollars. What we have got to hope for in this business is the righting of economic conditions, as China is not going to be able to carry on any sort of foreign trade as long as such high prices prevail here.

Dr. Bien was not feeling well the latter part of last week, and on Sunday the doctor diagnosed it as a light case of pneumonia. The case seems to be responding rapidly to treatment with sulfadiazine, and Dr. Bien seemed well on the road to recovery when I saw him yesterday afternoon.

We are being absolutely swamped with applicants for admission. More than 1,000 took the exams in Changsha, about 600 in Kunming, and over 1300 have registered for the exams to be given here next week. I do not know what the quality is, but we should be able to take a good freshman class this year. The upper portion of the graduates of our affiliated schools will be admitted upon recommendation from the school without examination, and they will have a prior chance for admission.

Within the last few days I have received Mr. Greiner's statement of July 26. That will help me a good deal in finishing off my report. I am working ahead on my report and hope to have it finished before the end of the month, but having work to do here and in Hankow too has slowed down my progress. I note on Mr. Greiner's report that so far Harvard-Yenching have not paid in their grant for the year 1945-46, amounting to US\$5,000. As far as I could see all other payments are in. Shortly after my return to Wuchang I asked that a payment of US\$225 be made to Mrs. Paul V. Taylor, 1110 West New Street, Lancaster, Pa., to be charged against Repairs. I do not see this item in Mr. Greiner's report to me, but inasmuch as the sums advanced through Mr. Pickens in Shanghai for the Rehabilitation Budget do not appear on this preliminary report of his, it may be that it has already been paid. If it has not been paid, will you please see that it is.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

/Signed/ John L. Coe

JLC/MRC

The college money in Hongkong is all right. The account is frozen for the moment but there is nothing to be concerned about.

J.L.C.

copy to Dr. Sherman, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Greiner

1064

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

HUA CHUNG COLLEGE

(Central China College)

WUCHANG, CHINA

Temporarily located at
HSICHOW, VIA TALI, YUNNAN

Office of the Associate Secretary
905-A YALE STATION
NEW HAVEN, CONN.

AUG 19 1946

August 15, 1946

J. EARL FOWLER

To the Members of the
Hua Chung Executive Committee

Herewith is enclosed a copy of letter of July 19 from Mr. John Coo. The data in this letter enables us to make an interim estimate of expenses and income in connection with the transportation of the College back to Wuchang and rehabilitation of the College and its personnel on the old campus. This estimate is summarized in the following pages.

The figures in the table should be considered in the light of the notes which follow them. We have ample evidence that the costs are being kept as low as possible under the circumstances.

The books and laboratory equipment, and some of the building equipment, are being purchased in the U. S. by Dr. Paul Ward with the advice of Dr. Wei, Mr. Fowler and Mr. Lyford. Thus far practically all the purchases in China are made locally.

Up to this date we have received very little information regarding the degree of comfort of the faculty and staff, or their state of mind. Lack of reference to these matters suggests that they are not too bad.

Oliver S. Lyford
Treasurer

1065

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

學 大 中 華 立 私

HUA CHUNG (CENTRAL CHINA) COLLEGE

室 長 校

CO-OPERATING UNITS

- BOONE COLLEGE
- GRIFFITH JOHN COLLEGE
- HUPING COLLEGE
- WESLEY COLLEGE
- YALE-IN-CHINA COLLEGE

WUCHANG, CHINA

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
VIA YALU, YUNNAN, CHINA

OFFICE OF THE ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Treasurer.

Aug. 22, 1946.

L-54.

Received Sept 14

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford,
281 Fourth Ave.,
New York (10) N. Y.

Dear Mr. Lyford,

About quarter of eleven last evening just as I was about getting to sleep, I heard footsteps on my front porch and a voice called in through the front window that Dr. Wei had arrived. I went out and found him and then he spent the night on a camp cot in my living room. We sat up and talked till after one. He is looking well, but tired after his trip through. His schedule as I got it from him was:

Tuesday Aug. 13 left London to go to airfield in NE England.

Wednesday Aug. 14. from England to Egypt.

Thursday Aug. 15 waiting in Egypt.

Friday Aug. 16. from Egypt via Basra to ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Karachi.

Saturday Aug. 17. " ~~XXXX~~ Karachi to Calcutta.

Sunday thru Tuesday Aug. 18-20 in Calcutta.

Wednesday Aug. 21. leaving Calcutta 4 A. M. arriving Wuchang airfield about 8 P. M.

He was originally booked through to Hongkong but upon arrival in Calcutta learned that he would have to wait there at least two weeks because of the number waiting ahead of him. He met a man in the CNAC office who knew him and agreed to put him on the first plane out for this part of China. He came through with stops at Bhamo and Kunming yesterday.

Since I wrote you last week, the announcement has come out of the new official rate of exchange of 3,350 (in the case of selling cheques in Shanghai this will probably realize nearer 3,300 than 3,350). It is still too early to predict how much of a black market above this there will be. This makes the situation much brighter than when I last wrote you and I figure that we would be in a good position of balancing our budget for 1946-47 if we can have an income of around US\$60,000 as I emphasized in my letters of July to you and Dr. Fenn. The rise in the government scale of payments has been met by the rise in exchange.

Dr. Wei mentioned to me last night the matter of his being asked to assume the presidency of St. John's. He had already cabled Dr. Bien about that earlier. I must certainly hope that he will stay with Hua Chung as it would be hard to imagine the place without him and he has done so much in building it up.

With best wishes,

*Your sincerely,
John H. Lee.*

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1066

學 大 中 華 立 私

HUA CHUNG (CENTRAL CHINA) COLLEGE

室 長 校

CO-OPERATING UNITS

- BOONE COLLEGE
- GRIFFITH JOHN COLLEGE
- HUPING COLLEGE
- WESLEY COLLEGE
- YALE-IN-CHINA COLLEGE

WUCHANG, CHINA

~~TEMPORARILY IN KUNMING~~
~~VIA TAIPEI, YUNNAN, CHINA~~

OFFICE OF THE ~~EXECUTIVE~~ Treasurer.

Aug. 22, 1946.

L-54.

Received Sept 14

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford,
281 Fourth Ave.,
New York (10) N. Y.

Dear Mr. Lyford,

About quarter of eleven last evening just as I was about getting to sleep, I heard footsteps on my front porch and a voice called in through the front window that Dr. Wei had arrived. I went out and found him and then he spent the night on a camp cot in my living room. We sat up and talked till after one. He is looking well, but tired after his trip through. His schedule as I got it from him was:

Tuesday Aug. 13 left London to go to airfield in NE England.

Wednesday Aug. 14. from England to Egypt.

Thursday Aug. 15 waiting in Egypt.

Friday Aug. 16. from Egypt via Basra to ~~Calcutta~~ Karachi.

Saturday Aug. 17. " ~~Calcutta~~ Karachi to Calcutta.

Sunday thru Tuesday Aug. 18-20 in Calcutta.

Wednesday Aug. 21. leaving Calcutta 4 A. M. arriving Wuchang airfield about 8 P. M.

He was originally booked through to Hongkong but upon arrival in Calcutta learned that he would have to wait there at least two weeks because of the number waiting ahead of him. He met a man in the CNAC office who knew him and agreed to put him on the first plane out for this part of China. He came through with stops at Bhamo and Kunming yesterday.

Since I wrote you last week, the announcement has come out of the new official rate of exchange of 3,350 (in the case of selling cheques in Shanghai this will probably realize nearer 3,300 than 3,350). It is still too early to predict how much of a black market above this there will be. This makes the situation much brighter than when I last wrote you and I figure that we would be in a good position of balancing our budget for 1946-47 if we can have an income of around US\$60,000 as I emphasized in my letters of July to you and Dr. Fenn. The rise in the government scale of payments has been met by the rise in exchange.

Dr. Wei mentioned to me last night the matter of his being asked to assume the presidency of St. John's. He had already cabled Dr. Bien about that earlier. I must certainly hope that he will stay with Hua Chung as it would be hard to imagine the place without him and he has done so much in building it up.

With best wishes,

*Your sincerely,
John. C. Lee.*

1
6
6
3
0
9
6

1066