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Wei, Francis C.M.
1948 Jan-May

0762

Return as soon as possible to A.H.S.

[1]

Original letter
Copy was microfilmed.

私立華中大學
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, CHINA
TEL. ADDRESS: "WUCHANG 8344"
電報掛號：武昌八三四四

CO-OPERATING UNITS
BOONE COLLEGE
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YALE-IN-CHINA COLLEGE

CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

January 14, 1948.

Rev. Arthur H. Sherman, S.T.D.,
242 East 19th Street,
New York 3, N.Y.,
U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Sherman,

I received during the last weekend your kind letter of December 30, enclosing a cheque for US$25 for my discretionary fund. Enclosed please find receipt for this amount from the Acting Treasurer of the university, Dr. Paul L. Ward.

It is very good of you to think of us in this way. The economical conditions in the country are such that we have to increase all our fees as decided by the Senate yesterday to five times as charged in September. Aside from book rental, and laboratory fees, every student in February will have to find NC$5,540,000 of which $2,000,000 will be for board; $1,600,000 for tuition; and $800,000 for library, medical, athletics, and registration, and $300,000 for hostel. Only tuition, library, medical, etc. amounting to $2,400,000 will go to the university operation budget for the term; the others are to go to student expenses with the balance refundable at the end of the term, or to be made up if the amount should not cover the actual cost.

These charges are not higher than those in the Christian middle schools in the Wuhan centre, and much lower than the fees in the other private university, namely Chung Hwa University in the same city with us. Students coming from farming, business or landed classes may not find the fees too high; but those from white-collar class families will be seriously affected. About a quarter of our students comes from such families.

For this reason I decided to offer to the Senate US$600 to $700 for my discretionary fund for special aid to needy and worthy students. With the higher rate of exchange for the American dollar, all the stipends of the scholarships will be increased by four or five times, and so scholarship students with special aid may be able to get through the term. Such gifts as you have sent to me will go to the financial aid for the students. Therefore I wish to thank you for the gift on behalf of the students who are going to be benefited by it. Please make our needs known to our friends in the States whom you have a chance to meet. Unless the economical situation in the country is to change radically within the next six months, which is to my mind not likely, we may have to give even further aids to more students, in order to help them to finish college here.

Referring to your letter of December 30, I wish to say that you are seeing our building situations very clearly now. The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on January 3 are in the process of being

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duplicated, and I am holding this letter in order to enclose a copy of the minutes for you and the Huachung Committee.

I wish to call your attention and that of the Huachung Committee, particularly to Vote #2, which sets forth the reasons of the Executive Committee for re-affirming its previous action (Vote#3 in the minutes of October 11 meeting) requesting the Huachung Committee of the United Board to authorize the commencement this spring of the building of two hostels and six residences.

The Rev. Stephen Chang is leaving for the States and the Committee voted (Vote#7) to ask him to represent the Committee officially in interpreting the Huachung situation and needs in any meeting of the Huachung Committee and the United Board which he may have the chance to attend.

By Vote #5, the Executive Committee adopted for recommendation to the Huachung Committee and the United Board in America a memorandum setting forth the needs of the Huachung Practice School for buildings for its work. You will remember that the Practice School, as clearly stated in the memorandum, is the laboratory for our Education students, and therefore it ought to have its proper place in our program as the laboratories for the Science students in the College of Science.

For several years, as I have repeated from time to time to the Huachung Board, predecessor of the Huachung Committee of the United Board, we feel that the status of our School of Education (now College of Education) is somewhat precarious, as according to the old law governing colleges and universities in China, no private institutions should have a College of Education or Teachers' College. In the middle of December, a new law governing universities and colleges in China was promalgated and one clause in this law provided that universities which had had a College of Education might continue it. This stabilized the status of our College of Education, and ours is the only College of Education, not only under Christian auspices, but under any private auspices; and we ought to do everything possible to demonstrate that we are determined to do the best in preparing students for teaching in secondary schools. Adequate buildings ought to be given to the College of Education in its Practice School so as to meet its legitimate needs. A copy of the memorandum referred to above is being sent to you together with the minutes of the January 3 meeting of the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors.

Yesterday, I sent to you and Earl Fowler a cable as follows:

> DLT SHERMAN FOWLER FENALONG NY
> DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE REQUEST HUACHUNG COMMITTEE URGE BENTLEY
> ASSIGNBERGAMINI BEFORE APRIL FOR HUACHUNG CAMPUS PLANNING WEI.

At the same time another cablegram was sent to Mr. Bergamini as follows:

> DLT BERGAMINI 1015 MAGDALENE MANILA
> DIRECTORS HAVE CABLED BENTLEY REQUESTING YOUR ASSIGNMENT BEFORE
> APRIL FOR CAMPUS PLANNING WEI.

These cablegrams have been sent by action of the Executive Committee at its January 3 meeting, In line with the suggestion made in your letter of December 30 to me that the first step in implementing our building

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project ought to be the appointment of a competent architect to prepare a general plan for the whole campus and the location of the various buildings we have in mind or we ought to have in the future.

As I ~~am~~ wrote ~~to~~ you, ~~that~~ I have been in correspondence with Mr. Bergamini. Just before the Executive Committee meeting on January 3, a letter was received from Mr. Bergamini dated December 22, showing that he was still very much interested in our general planning and would like to have a hand in it since he had spent so much time on the plans. To quote from his letter: "We must both take the matter up at once with Bishop Bentley in hopes that he may be able to arrange for me to continue to handle your work." It is because Bergamini had written this way that the Executive Committee ordered me to send the cablegrams which I did yesterday. I hope you will be able to get the Huachung Committee to come to a decision with regard to Bergamini's appointment for Huachung, and approach Bishop Bentley on the matter.

By Vote #4 the Executive Committee meeting on January 3 acted that "the salaries for January on be 200% of the December figures with the understandings that should any government plan be adopted which lead to a higher figure, it should be followed by Huachung."

This vote was taken after Dr. Paul Ward, the Acting Treasurer had reported fully the financial conditions of the university. This action will require only funds safely within our budget limit as approved by the Huachung Committee and the United Board, and the action is fully justifiable, because, take for instance the highest salaried professor, he was receiving in December the equivalent of only about four tans of rice at its present price, whereas before the war, he was receiving every month the equivalent of 44 tans of rice. In other words such a professor is receiving now less than 10% of prewar purchasing power. By doubling the payment he will be receiving only 20%, and by February, or at the latest March, he will be receiving an even much smaller percentage, unless the payment should be increased again, if our budget should permit it.

This is the reason why I have written repeatedly during the last few months to you and Mr. Lyford urging that the Executive Committee in the field be allowed the discretion to increase our subsidies providing that such increases will not call for additional funds outside of the salaried items in the budget. The inflation is getting worse and worse, and I am afraid that the time may come when we must not lose any day in readjusting our subsidies plan to the inflation situation. It is no longer possible to follow strictly the government plan, because the government has bigger and more complicated problems confronting ~~them~~ it, and its readjustment to subsidies scales is always two or three months later, causing hardships on the salaried people for that period.

Let me repeat once more that as far as the military situation goes, the Wuhan centre seems to be quite safe. During the last week, I have been in tough with the government and business people, and they are all more reassuring.

I was in the Governor's house for dinner in the evening of January 8, and he informed me privately that the Provincial Government had granted Huachung University NC$100,000,000 in recognition of our work in the university. This money has not been appropriated for any purpose because

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 460,000,000 = 7000 U.S.(Cor)

the official notice has not yet reached us. I shall report later after the notice has come. NC$100,000,000 is very little in terms of purchasing power or of the American currency. But the Provincial Government has only limited funds at its disposal, and technically we are not under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Government as an institution of education. So the grant shows special appreciation of the Provincial Government for which we are grateful.

We have now 225 Christian students in the present student body of 499. This makes the percentage of Christian students 45.1%. Twenty-two more students are being prepared for baptism, and when these students have been baptized, we shall have about 50% Christian students in the university. The encouraging thing is, since our return to Wuchang, the percentage of Christian students is increasing every ~~time~~.

In this present term, we have 48 full time teachers, two doing part time teaching and part time administration, four voluntary part time teachers being missionary wives, and four on furlough in America, making the total teaching staff 58 members. Of the administration staff, 18 are full time, and three part time, making a total of 21 members.

Of the total teaching and administration staff of 79, 56 are Christians, including missionaries, which is 71% of the total number; in other words, 29% are non-Christians.

According to various reports we have the highest Christian percentage both in the student body and in the faculty and staff. At Christmas time, 21 students were baptized; Adding this number to the 22 preparing for baptism, we shall have before the end of the year at least 43 students baptized. It is likely that this number will be higher, because next term, some more students may apply for baptism. We are very proud of our religious program, particularly because of the fact that all churches cooperating in the university have been able to work together in presenting a united front to the non-Christians, without however losing the identity of any of the churches, but keeping faithfully their respective traditions.

Term examinations will begin next Monday, January 19, and the term will end on January 31. The second term will start on February 22 with therefore only three weeks for the winter vacation. I do not propose to leave Wuchang during the winter, because there is so much to do.

With kindest regards and the best wishes to you, Mrs. Sherman, and to the members of the Huachung Committee,

I am,

Yours affectionately,

Francis C. M. Wei

* Jan. 15. - The newspaper yesterday had it that the grant was building purposes.
F.C.M.W.

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CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

January 21, 1948

WEI
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, (CHINA)

BERGAMINI IMPOSSIBLE NOW. RECOMMEND ENGAGE ARCHITECT
CAMPUS PRELIMINARY PLANNING. LETTER FOLLOWS.

FOWLER

Chg: Huachung University

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

0767

January 22, 1948

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
Huachung University
Wuchang, Hupeh, China

My dear Francis:

I have just sent you the following cable:

"BERGAMINI IMPOSSIBLE NOW. RECOMMEND ENGAGE ARCHITECT CAMPUS PRELIMINARY PLANNING. LETTER FOLLOWS"

I intended to sign Dr. Sherman's name to this but Mrs. Holloway made a mistake and signed my name. Mr. Bergamini's case was c onsidered by Bishop Bentley and Dr. Franklin and myself. It was not considered advisable for him to leave the Philippine Islands at the present time for a trip to Wuchang. It is hoped that you will be able to engage an architect in Wuchang to make a rough drawing of the general plans for the new campus; this with a special reference to the new buildings that you have in mind. When this rouch drawing is completed, a copy should be sent to Mr. Bergamini for his approval and a copy sent to New York for the Huachung Committee. We all hope that before any extensive building program is started that Mr. Bergamini will be in a position to help you.

After considering this matter with Bishop Binsted and Dr. Franklin, I had a conference with Mr. Lyford and Dr. Sherman. It was with their concurrence that the above cable was sent.

Your letter of January 14th and the copy of the Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Acting Board of Directors has just been received by Dr. Sherman. These will be mimeographed and copies sent to the members of the Huachung Committee of the United Board just as soon as possible so that all will have had an opportunity to read and study these documents before the annual meeting of the Huachung Committee which will be held at 10:30 a. m. on February 5th. You do not realize how hard it is for us to accustom ourselves to the optimistic

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news in your letters, when we receive such reports as we do overthe radio and in the newspapers here. With my knowledge and background, it is easy for me to realize that the reports here exaggerate things and make them sound a great deal worse than the actual conditions are in China. However there must be some fire where there is so much smoke. You are also, no doubt, familiar with the fact that Bishop Gilman cabled us more than a week ago to send Fr. Swift and the Rev. Mr. Corry to Language School in this country instead of sending them to China. Mr. Corry and his family were scheduled for Language study in Wuchang and then to go to Changsha. He was to sail on the 24th of this month. His sailing has now been cancelled. Fr. Swift is not scheduled until the middle of next month, but on the bishop's instructions, he will not be allowed to go to China. How can we commit ourselves to an extensive building program when we are cancelling sailings for China.

John Coe is sailing on the S/S GENERAL MEIGS leaving San Francisco on January 24th. I am very happy to say that he has two suits of all woolen underwear for you. I hope that you have not been suffering too much from the cold without such necessary clothing.

Your letters and reports about the work at the University are always thrilling and very gratifying. We all hope and pray that the spirit and morale can be kept up on the same high level and that conditions will not deteriorate to the extent that your work will be interfered with.

All join in very best wishes and kind regards.

Affectionately yours,

J. Earl Fowler

JEF:chh

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私立華中大學
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, CHINA
TEL. ADDRESS: "WUCHANG 8344"
電報掛號：武昌八三四四

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校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D., D.C.L., L.H.D.

[1]

January 23, 1948.
WL-19

Received Feb 9

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

Dear Mr. Lyford,

I have not written you since the end of December. As Paul Ward has reported to you on the financial conditions, I am not going into the details of that phase of our work here except that so far we have kept safely within the limits of our budget.

I have been writing recently more to Dr. Sherman as Chairman of the Huachung Committee, and Fowler as the Associate Secretary because they happened to be writing to me and I have to answer the various questions raised by them and incidentally to report on the recent developments in the university.

The weekly Huachung Newsletter will give you all the news and that saves me time and space in my correspondence with all members of the Huachung Committee or Dr. McMullen of the United Board.

Enclosed I am sending a copy of the minutes of the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors meeting held on January 3. In my letter to Dr. Sherman dated January 14, I made comments on the various actions taken. The most important actions were: first, doubling the monthly pay to all the members of the faculty and staff, and second, request for permission to get under way our building project sometime in April. You will find the reasons stated in the minutes and in my letter to Dr. Sherman mentioned above.

On January 17, I wrote to Bergamini following my cablegram to him and another cablegram to Dr. Sherman which were both quoted in the letter. I am enclosing herewith also a copy of the letter to Bergamini. Just before I started my dictation of this letter, I received a cablegram from Fowler saying that it is now impossible for Bergamini to come and that it is recommended for us to engage the service of another architect for the preliminary planning of the Huachung campus. I am waiting for his letter following his cablegram before I would make any recommendations to the Senate as to the appointment of the architect.

During the last week I received a letter from Burton Rogers saying that he would not be able to accept the appointment of Yale-in-China Association to join the Huachung faculty on a five year term beginning with July 1, 1948. After ~~consideration~~ consultation with Brank Fulton, I wrote to Rogers, Latourette and Wheeler. Copies of these letters have been sent to Dwight Rugh as Field Representative of Yale-in-China Trustees so that he may follow up my correspondence with New Haven on this matter. Enclosed please find also copies of the same letters for your file, and you may take what-

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ever step you think necessary to get another men appointed by New Haven for Huachung in case Burton Rogers could not reconsider his decision and come to Huachung.

I am afraid that the present political situation in China has had much influence on Burton Rogers and his wife in declining the offer of Yale-in-China Trustees to return to China and join the faculty. For all I know, as I have written to you, Dr. Sherman and Earl Fowler more than once, the situation is not as serious as it is represented by newspaper headlines particularly in New York. I am aware of the heavy responsibilities in expressing my opinion on the situation, as it may lead people unduly to believe in me in making their decision to come to China with their families, or not. After all there is always an element of risk in bringing small children to a place like Huachung at times like this. That was why I said to Burton Rogers in my letter that I would not bring too much pressure to bear on his thinking. But I have been in close touch with government and military authorities in the Wuhan cities, and I am always consulting the important business people in responsible positions in Hankow. At the present time the fighting is more in favour with the nationalist troops, but even before this, when the Wuhan centre was actually being threatened, I agreed with many people who knew the conditions better than I did that there was no imminent danger in these cities. In the first place, the communists have never entered any cities of the size of Wuchang or Hankow. For instance Peiping, Tsinan, and Kaifeng are still safe even though they were surrounded more than once. Secondly, while the Wuhan centre is easy to take, it is difficult to defend. If the communists should take it, they will take it at great sacrifice, and certainly they could never defend it without a navy and a strong airforce. Thirdly, it seems that the tactics of the communist troops are not to occupy big cities but to damage the economic resources of the national government so as to bring economic pressure to bear on their enemy. Fourthly, as far as the fighting is concerned, the centre of ~~the~~ storm has already by-passed Wuhan heading towards either Szechwan or Western Hunan. Fifthly, if Wuhan should fall into the communists' hands, Nanking would not be able to hold out any much longer. If Nanking should fall, it would mean the collapse of the national government, and then the table would turn ~~towards~~ against the communists, that is, the nationalist troops would adopt the tactics of guerilla warfare, and the communists would have to defend the cities and the lines of communications, for which they are not as strong as the nationalists at the present time.

The present rising prices are partly due to the inflation and partly due to the communist disturbances which have seriously damaged the country side and interrupted transportation. But there is a very encouraging sign. For a month already, prices have not risen considerably. The government is exercising strict control over the loans given by the four Government Banks. We had feared before this time that just at this particular juncture that is, towards the end of January, prices would go up steeply. But this is not happening because of government control. We are watching the situation very closely because if it should burst after the middle of February prices would simply run amok, and it would be the worst defeat of the government economic control since the outbreak of the war ten years ago. So our real danger, as far as Wuhan in concerned, is not the civil war but economic warfare between the two factions. The sufferers are always the people.

Owing to the "Kowloon Incident" there has been another wave of

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student disturbances. The other two universities in our city have had a strike or a demonstration in the street. The question was considered by our Students Self Government, and they voted down the proposal of a strike. All they have done is the posting on the Student Bulletin Board of a manifesto in Chinese against the British imperialists. They had to do something of that kind especially when we had some British members on the faculty and the university had been receiving contributions from Great Britain. If our students should remain absolutely quiet without even a mild manifesto on the bulletin board inside, students outside might accused them of being partial to the British. But as one of our British faculty member said after reading the manifesto, "There are no British imperialists, and therefore our students are criticizing nobody."

This is the fourth day of our term examinations which will last until January 30, and the winter vacation will begin on January 31 to last until February 22 when the second term will begin.

The Senate has decided on the following charges for the next term:

I.	Tuition	NC$1,600,000
	Library, Medical, Athletics & Registration	890,000
II.	Hostel Fees	300,000
	Furniture rental in students rooms	40,000
III.	General Breakage deposit	200,000
	Light & Water Deposit	600,000
	Deposit for Board	2,000,000
	Total:	NC$5,540,000

IV.	Book rental:	40,000 per course
	Laboratory	
	Physics-	100,000 " "
	Biology-	100,000 " "
	Chemistry-	150,000 " "

Music fees have not been quite decided yet. We have been following the ratio of five times the fees of the Fall Term. Only the charges under "I" may be counted as income from fees for the university. If we should have 475 students next term (we always reckon about 15% dropped from the enrollment of the first term: if so, the enrollment may be only 450) our income items from fees would still be met provided the exchange for the US dollar would not shoot up too high. At any rate we are watching our budget very closely and try our best to keep within the limits as approved by the United Board, unless the situation should get out of control and then we would report for permission to reconsider our budget, which is not likely.

I do not propose to leave the university at all during the vacation but stay here and try to catch up with my correspondence which is very much in arrears, and also to map out my courses of lectures for the second term.

0772

More than half of the students will stay in the hostels during the three weeks of winter vacation, and practically all of the faculty members will remain also.

With the best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Frances C. McWai

0773

January 23, 1948

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
Huachung University
Wuchang, Hupeh, China

My dear Francis,

After reading your letter of January 14th and a copy of the minutes of the executive committee of January 14th, I gave them to Mr. Fowler, with the request they be mimeographed and sent to the members of the Huachung Committee. This is now being done and the members will be ready to discuss the questions raised, especially the urgent matter of getting on with some of the building program. I find opinion strong at the Missions House that we should not go on with anything more than the three houses approved at the November (October?) meeting of the committee, and since the National Council has provided most of the funds so far for building, we must get their permission before we can build further. I still have the hope a way may be found to add the wing to the women's dormitory, perhaps another residence, and the building for the practice school.

I have just read Mr. Fowler's letter to you of January 22nd and there is not much more we can do before the February 5th meeting.

It is wonderful to hear of the progress in the University, the backing of the middle schools, the increasing Christian atmosphere and number of Christians. I also am most thankful for the report about the library school, and the possibility of both the school and the university being strengthened by their coming together again.

More later and in the meantime, as always, I am

Affectionately yours,

Dictated but not signed
AMS:chh

0774

Copy for Mr. Lyford

January 26, 1948.

Mr. J. Earl Fowler,
Associate Secretary,
Huachung Committee,
281 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.,
U. S. A.

Dear Earl,

I am writing this letter which I hope you will present to the Huachung Committee and call particularly the attention of Dr. Sherman and Mr. Lyford to it. It is mainly on the question of the Chekiang Gild property.

For more than thirty-five years, the Mission and then the Central China College have been trying to add to the compound the Chekiang Gild property, which is the piece of land jutting into the compound from the south between the administration building and St. Paul's hostel. Negotiations have again and again broken down. The latest negotiations are, however, more promising, and they may in fact prove successful within the next few weeks. In that event, I shall be cabling you for authorization to buy. It is high time to write you a full justification for such an expenditure, to which you can refer if I cable.

Paul Ward on December 12th wrote John Coe of this possibility, summarizing what I will say below and mentioning a sum"of the magnitude of US$15,000" as the probable price of this land. Mr. Coe's reply, dated December 22nd, was as follow:

> I hope that the Chekiang Gild business will go through, but I am keeping my fingers crossed on it. This has been up off and on for over 30 years. After Christmas I may write to Fowler and Lyford about it.

Mr. Coe may therefore have provided an adequate explanation of this matter, which you can consult. But it seems well to review the arguments fully in this letter to you.

The land in question, as you probably remember, runs from the street on the compound's south side up to the moon gate and the water tower -- or virtually half-way to the street on the north side. It makes a bottle neck in our present campus, and even the addition of the Middle School's area will not wholly remove the sense of constriction at this point. This is because just at that point our land is very narrow on the higher level. The compound, in fact, lacks because of it the feeling of spaciousness and "wholeness" which a university needs.

The awkward narrowness of the compound is largely responsible for

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our earlier plan to place the center of the new university outside of the city wall on low land. But this earlier plan, or any modification of it, seems to have been put out of the question by the National Council's promise of the land and buildings now occupied by Boone Middle School. It would be unrealistic and unfair to insist on building an entire new plant outside the city wall, abandoning or tearing down the present library, Ingle Hall, and Middle School quadrangle. If we remodel and use these buildings for offices and classrooms, the working center of the new campus will be right where the Chekiang Gild land impinges. The new hostels and residences, which should be constructed differently, are what can best be placed with the playing fields outside the city wall.

The Chekiang Gild land is very roughly about 270 feet by 230 feet, making an area of about 62,360 sq.ft., or 522 tang on metric reckoning; and so could furnish sites for at least two large buildings. With freedom to plan on such buildings there, an architect should be able to work out an impressive and efficient layout for the working centre of the campus, incorporating the older buildings now standing. Without this freedom, and limited to the present old buildings and constricted space, he would have a far more difficult problem. At the very least, his sketch plans for the campus would be very different depending on whether or not we have this Chekiang Gild land. We therefore feel that, if it is at all possible, the purchase must be made before the architect starts work about April first.

Actually, the price now in view is lower than the one which Mr. Kemp about December 1st pronounced reasonable enough, when we consulted him before proceeding with the negotiations. As early as 1906, the Mission, according to Mr. Kemp, paid $50 silver for a tang of land, and at that time the amount was the equivalent of over 12 tans of rice, whereas $42 silver now would buy only 5 tans of rice. It is therefore much lower than the extortionate price which we should perhaps be willing to pay to close the deal right now, in view of the circumstances mentioned above. Bishop Gilman last spring was advising us that we must try out very best to buy this land without delay. Yesterday, he still advised us to buy it if possible. The menace of the civil war, which seem remote to us in this metropolitan centre, can be no deterrent, for if the university has any future in this city, land is the safest investment. From all angles, purchase of this land on the terms now being discussed would, it seems clear, be a stroke of great good luck.

The cable to you, when and if sent, will name the price in US dollars. Since the financial picture is constantly changing, I will not venture a guess closer than "about $15000" now. It remains quite possible that the seller will once again break off negotiations unexpectedly, as John Coe's letter suggests, butmthis is all the more reason to hope that your answer to my cable could be sent with the minimum of delay, once the bird is in hand.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Lyford.

Yours sincerely,

F.C.Gilman

0776

私立華中大學
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, CHINA
TEL. ADDRESS: "WUCHANG 8344"
電報掛號：武昌八三四四

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CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

January 26, 1948.
WL-20

Received Feb.9

Mr. Oliver S. Lyford,
54 Dana Plance, Englewood, N. J.,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Lyford,

I am sending you a copy of my letter to Earl Fowler on the question of the Chekiang Gild property so as to save you possibly a trip to New York in order to see that letter. Mr. Robert A. Kemp who has been on the Boone campus for 42 years strongly advises us to get that land, and he thinks that the price quoted by the middleman for the owner is by no means too high.

US$15,000 seems a lot of money to invest in land in the present moment, but as I have pointed out in the letter, which is largely based on a memorandum prepared by Paul Ward, the safest investment and the most economical in the long run is land, especially when we need this particular piece so very badly.

I hope you will give this matter your careful consideration so that as soon as I cable you may be ready to consult the other members of the Huachung Committee and act on it.

Things are still going on smoothly in the university. Night before last, I went with Dr. Pu Hwang and Dr. John C. F. Lo to a dinner given in the house of one of my old students to meet with ten other Boone men, all of whom except one who was my senior in college, were my own students. I brought up with them the question of raising our quotas NC$300,000,000 and pointed out to them that with the present further depreciated value of the national currency, we ought to make our goal in the campaign NC$1,000,000,000. The people there took up the challenge and divided up the party into two groups, one to raise ~~sixty~~ six hundred million dollars and the other ~~forty~~ four hundred million. This was accepted in great spirit. This morning I called up by telephone one man who was mainly instrumental in getting up this party. I asked him as a business man whether the prospects were good that the people present at the dinner would seriously go after the business. He said that in his judgment all the attitudes shown that evening were the most earnest and sincere, and that there might not be serious difficulties in getting the amount we mentioned. But my feeling is that until the money is actually raised, we cannot easily foretell the result as the times are very bad.

At any rate, I got one definite promise from one of the Boone men who is a banker, to contribute from his bank two scholarships covering all fees for the next term. Since the total fees next term will be NC$5,540,000 besides laboratory fees etc, which will not be much, the two scholarships will mean NC$11,080,000. This is quite a good gift. The Scholarship Committee will select two of the best students to receive these scholarships. If

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we could close the campaign for one thousand million dollars before the opening of the term on February 22, I may appeal to a few of our alumni for more scholarships.

With the best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Francis C. M. Wei

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私立華中大學
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, CHINA
TEL. ADDRESS: "WUCHANG 8344"
電報掛號：武昌八三四四

CO-OPERATING UNITS
BOONE COLLEGE
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HUPING COLLEGE
WESLEY COLLEGE
YALE-IN-CHINA COLLEGE

CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

FEB 1948

January 29, 1948.

Mr. J. Earl Fowler,
Associate Secretary,
Huachung Committee,
281 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.,
U. S. A.

My dear Earl,

I have just received this morning your letter of January 22. Your cablegram quoted in your letter reached me early this week.

I am glad to know that we have the permission to engage a competent architect for the preliminary planning of the campus. Architects are available, but in order to save the fees as well as to get the best work done, we are trying to get Mr. May, an English architect from the M.M.S. now visitng in China under the English Methodist Church. Mr. Constantine has already spoken to Mr. Heady about this and Mr. Heady is willing to consult Mr. May, now in Hunan, whether when he gets here in February, will be able to help us in this planning. If he should be unavailable, then we would have to look around for a commercial architect. We shall keep you informed of the developments.

It is a pity that Bergamini cannot be released at the present moment because he is greatly interested in our building project and has spent a great deal of time already on sketches. We shall follow your instruction and send a copy of the preliminary plan to you for the Huachung Committee and another to Mr. Bergamini for his approval. It may not be absolutely necessary for him to supervise the construction of the houses or of the two hostels which have to be underway this spring. The more important buildings will not be started until at least a year from this summer, and we hope that Bergamini will be with us then. There will be a good deal of construction in the Hankow Diocese, and Bergamini's services will be required. Bishop Gilman is very eager that he should return to this Diocese at the earliest possible date.

I am glad that my letter of January 14 and a copy of the minutes of the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors have already reached Dr. Sherman. That will give ample time for the meeting of the Huachung Committee on February 5. if this letter should reach you before that meeting, it will be making very good time.

I am not over optimistic over the situation. Writing to Mr. Lyford three days ago, I set forth in the letter my reasons for believing that our centre would remain safe. Day before yesterday, I was seeing Mr. Pickens in Hankow, and he told me that the consuls in Hankow were by no means nervous about the safety of their nationals in our cities. Paul Ward just told me this morning that Francis Gray saw the British Consul-General yesterday, and the Consul told him that if anything, the situation was im-

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proving, confirming my opinion that there is no reason for being alarmed.

You will recall that the thirteen Christian colleges in six centres have been having a Joint Campaign to raise nine thousand million dollars Chinese currency in order to match the six thousand million dollars granted by the government last summer. Our quota is only to raise three percent of the nine thousand million dollars, which means only 270 million dollars Chinese currency. For sometime we hesitated to start our campaign locally bucause the time was so bad, and also because we had been waiting for a certain friend to return from Shanghai to Hankow. This friend came back just before January 1st, and I had a talk with him about the campaign. He is one of my former students and has always been very cordial to me. He promised me to help in the campaign, but he had been so busy that we could not get the thing started until last Saturday. He gave a dinner in his own house in Hankow, and ten other Boone men were invited. At the dinner I brought up the question of raising a thousand million dollars for the joint campaign, because I wanted to set the goal higher. The eleven men there divided up the subscription books and pledged themselves to raise this amount. NC$300,000,000 is already in hand.

It is still too early to say whether we shall be able to achieve our end. But the spirit of the fellows there was certainly good. Day before yesterday I was in Hankow to see another of my former students in oil business. I mentioned this campaign and he promised at once to find a hundred million dollars for me. So it goes, and I cannot help feeling that education is a worthwhile business, because students would be appreciative after they had had a few years in life.

Tomorrow will be our last day of term examinations, which were started on the 19th. The students have been behaving very well. In spite of the severe cold during the last weekend and early this week with the temperature at 13 degrees F. one night, they kept on their work unflinchingly. The winter vacation will begin day after tomorrow, and a goodish number of students from distant places will stay in hostels.

I have been correcting over 300 examination papers. To have to do this and run over to Hankow almost every other days keeps me certainly out of mischief. My health seems to stand up preety well under the burden, and I enjoy it.

With the best wishes to you all,

Yours affectionately,

Francis

0780

HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
Wuchang, China

February 9, 1949

Dr. Robert J. McMullen
United Board for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y., U.S.A.

Library of the
YALE DIVINITY SCHOOL
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Dr. McMullen:

Writing for this week, I am happy to say that after the tense situation about ten days ago, particularly in Hankow, we are having another spell of comparatively easy times. It is difficult to say whether the situation has actually improved. There are conflicting reports with regard to the positions of the Communist troops. At any rate, we are making every preparation to start the second term on February 14.

On February 5, 1949, the Board of Directors met in my house, and the meeting lasted from 10:30 AM till 12:30 PM, and from 1:30 PM till 4:30 PM. Owing to the situation and difficulty of travel, no directors from outside Wuhan were able to attend. Some had local alternates, but others failed to appoint their alternates. Twelve directors, including alternates, turned up, and it was a quorum meeting.

The Minutes are not ready yet, but as soon as they are mimeographed, they will be sent to you, as well as to the members of the whole Board. As a preliminary report, I would like to say that the President's Report for the first term was heard and received. The report included the following items of information:

In September the enrollment was 572 students, of whom 377 were men, and 195 women. Breaking the number up into the four classes, the figures were 47 seniors, 139 juniors, 195 sophomores, and 191 freshmen. During the term one junior withdrew, seven sophomores, and twenty-six freshmen, leaving 538 students who completed the term's work with term examinations. In view of the situation and the unusual circumstances, this was not at all bad record.

Of the total enrollment of 572, 261 were graduates from Christian middle schools, making 45% of the total. 269 were Christians, which was 47% of the total. This number of Christian students does not include a number of students baptised during the term.

In the whole University 324 were in the College of Arts during the last term: 43 Chinese majors, 78 English, 160 Economics, 43 History. 137 in the College of Science: 29 Biology, 53 Chemistry, 55 Physics. 111 in the College of Education: 72 Education, 39 Teacher Training.

Again during the last term there were 56 on the teaching staff as follows:

	Full-time	Part-Time
ARTS		
Chinese	8	0
English	7	3
Economics	4	1
History	4	0
Philosophy, Psychology, Religion, and Theology	3	2
	26	6

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	Full-time	Part-time
SCIENCE		
Physics	4	0
Chemistry	4	0
Biology	4	0
Mathematics	2	0
	14	0
EDUCATION	5	0
MUSIC	3	2
	8	2

N.B. By full-time is meant any faculty member who is giving his whole time to the University, even though he spends part of his time in Administration. For instance, the President and Treasurer, Dean and Registrar.

Of the total teaching staff, 18 hold Ph.D. or Sc.D. degrees; 12 M.A.'s; 18 B.A.'s; 8 Professional Diplomas or all old Chinese scholars.

Taking the teaching staff again, of the total of 56, 16 are salaried missionaries, 6 volunteer wives, 22 Chinese Christians, totaling 44, or 78.6%. Only 12 are non-Christians.

There are 16 full-time members of the administrative staff, including clerks. Of this number two are missionary wives, 7 Chinese Christians, together making a total of 56.3% Christians, and 7 non-Christians who are mainly clerks. We are proud of this high percentage of Christians on the faculty, and even on the administrative staff.

The committee appointed by the Senate to negotiate with the Boone Library School for reunion made its report, which was received, and I read paragraphs from your letter concerning this matter to the Board of Directors, and the same paragraphs had previously been circulated to the members of the Senate Committee. While no formal agreement has been reached with the Boone Library School, the Directors acted that a strong case should be presented to the United Board, urging for permission to come to an agreement with the Boone Library School for its reunion with Huachung University, owing to the strong desire of the Huachung Alumni, including many trained librarians scattered all over the country.

A preliminary report was also made to the Directors with regard to the proposed affiliation of the Central China Union Seminary with Huachung, and the Directors acted to ask Huachung to proceed with this negotiation on the condition that such an affiliation should involve no financial obligation on the part of the University.

With regard to the other actions taken by the Board of Directors at this last meeting on various recommendations made by the Senate as reported by the President, please refer to the Minutes when they are ready.

The Treasurer made a brief report on the method of payment of salaries and subsidies according to the effective bank exchange rate of the US dollar from time to time.

The emergency situation was presented by the President, and the Directors approved all the measures taken by the administration to meet any crisis. Letters from Dr. McMullen and other officers of the United Board, concerning the policy of Christian colleges in China in an emergency situation, were reported to the Board of Directors, and they heartily approved the policy stated. A great deal of time was spent in the afternoon on a free discussion by the Directors on the situation.

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The action taken by the Board of Directors last June was reaffirmed to authorize the University Senate to take any measures necessary to meet a crisis, if there should be no time for the Board, or even the Executive Committee, to meet and deal with it. As the Senate consists of 12 members, together with the President as chairman and representatives of all the cooperating missions and all the interests, the Directors considered the Senate to be the best group of people to take emergency measures when necessary, especially when the great majority of the Senate members are Chinese with both American and British missions well represented, and all are Christians.

I am still in close touch with the different local organizations, both church and official, so as to get the latest news whenever available. It takes a great deal of my time, but it is necessary. However, I make it a point to stay on the campus as far as possible, not only to attend to the emergency business, but also to stabilize the minds of the students who are apt to be nervous on account of their youthfulness. Dr. Walter Allen, who went to Hongkong for his luggage, which was shipped from America, has already returned with it. Word has been received from Dr. Paul Ward that he and Mr. Starratt are booked to leave Hongkong to come back to teach in the second term around February 14. Notice was given to the faculty three weeks ago that if any members of the faculty or administrative staff should wish to send his or her families away to safer places, the administration would be prepared to advance two-months' salary for the purpose, but no family has left so far.

I am in touch with Dr. William P. Fenn in Shanghai, who has been sending us news from time to time, and we are very grateful for the information that he gives.

Last night we had another heavy fall of snow, but it doesnot stay on the ground very long, as spring is coming.

I spent two hours this morning talking with a Senate Committee and with a group of representative students as to the method of collecting fees, and the time when the last installment of fees must be paid. Our policy is to get to know the difficulties and problems of the students to help as many as possible within our financial limits, and yet not to make many changes in our regulations, but carry on as usual as far as possible. Again, I would say that there is no telling how many students will return for the second term from distant places. If the situation should remain as it has for the last week, we might expect possibly 300 students, but if it should worsen a little bit, perhaps we would have about 250, or less than a half of the fall term. It is the general opinion of many people in the Wuhan cities that our prospects of getting through the second term are good. Our own attitude is to carry on as far as possible and take one step at a time.

The morale of both the faculty and students is splendid although groups of students left during the winter vacation when the situation became more alarming. Some of them, I am sure, will return, as long as the railway remains open. I had planned to do some reading and writing during the vacation, but various things have taken so much of my time that only a limited amount of reading is possible, and still less writing.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

FCMW/MRC

Francis C. M. Wei

0783

Need of a discretionary Fund.

[1]

私立華中大學
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, CHINA
TEL. ADDRESS: "WUCHANG 8344"
電報掛號：武昌八三四四

CO-OPERATING UNITS
BOONE COLLEGE
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WESLEY COLLEGE
YALE-IN-CHINA COLLEGE

CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

February 17, 1948.
WL-21

Received Feb. 25

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

Dear Mr. Lyford,

My last letter to you was WL-20 dated January 26.

The winter vacation is getting near to its end, and next Monday, February 23, we shall begin to register the students for the second term of the year; and lectures will begin on the 26th.

Nothing unusual has happened during the vacation. Prices began to shoot up again during the first week of February, particularly the few days before the Chinese New Year which was February 10. Especially, the price of rice almost doubled. I called a special meeting of the Senate and reconsidered the fees announced before the end of the term. It was decided that while it would not be fair to increase the other fees since all the families will be feeling sharply the economic pressure, it was, however, necessary to send out an announcement which we did on February 8, that the deposit for students' board would have to be the equivalent of 2.4 tans of rice instead of NC$2,000,000. Notices went out by post to all the families of the students on that day, and a notice was put up at the same time on the bulletin board for those students who were staying here during the vacation. Unless the price of rice should drop considerably before next Monday, the students will have to pay at least four million dollars N.C. for their board as a deposit, and that will make the total amount paid by the students at registration around eight million dollars N.C. This will be very hard for many of the families, but we can see no alternative as the students manage their own board, and they pay at the beginning of next term only a deposit, keeping their own accounts, to make up the deficit at the end of the term or to have the balance refunded. Many families have already expressed to us their difficulty in meeting the payment of all the fees, although I have taken from my discretionary fund as much as the equivalent to NC$100,000,000 for special subsidies for some of the worthy and needy students. This is in addition to the scholarships with stipends increased to five times of those in the first term. A committee was appointed by the Senate to grant the special subsidies upon application. More than 170 students both men and women applied, and the committee decided to make the grant to only 60 students, about 40 of them to receive two million dollars and 20 to receive one million each. In spite of this, I am afraid that at least 50 students of the last term will have to drop out on account of financial reasons. Our enrollment for this coming term will probably be only about 400. But this would not affect our budget very much, as the university income from fees will be a small item anyway.

0784

The general situation remains about the same. Bishop Gilman feels very much concerned and somewhat nervous. I am in close touch with more people than he is, and therefore I am in a position to get information from all quarters. I would like very much to pass on to Bishop Gilman all the information I am able to get from day to day; but unfortunately, he is in Hankow and I do not see him as frequently as I desire to. I have been urging him to get a telephone installed in his office so that I can call him up at any moment. But so far, he has not got a telephone, and he gets his news largely, I believe, from the Lutheran missionaries and others who have been evacuated from the Communist-occupied parts of the province of Honan. This accounts partly for his pessimistic outlook, which both Paul Ward and I have been trying to correct. He wants to make the fall of Manchuria and the failure of America to come in at once as the decisive factors in his judgment of the situation, particularly as far as the safety of American nationals in China is concerned. In our own thinking, the really significant factors will be the taking in successions of a few important cities of any size north of us, and the crossing of the Yangtze River from the north bank by the regular communist troops in large numbers. Neither of these has yet happened, and there is so far no indication that either of these will happen in the near future.

During the last week, I have talked privately to the Governor of Hupeh twice, and I have seen the garrision commander of Wuhan three times. They were both reassuring as far as the Wuhan centre is concerned, and according to their information as well as the information of the business people in Hankow, the communist situation in our province of Hupeh is improving. Of course, we have to gather the news from different sources and form a picture in our own mind. Up to this time, there is no serious reason yet for being panicky.

The Coes ought to be in Shanghai by this time. Owing to the large quantity of luggage they are carrying, they have been ordered by Bishop Gilman to disembark at Shanghai and come up the river, instead of landing in Hong Kong and come to Wuchang by rail via Canton. If they had followed the latter route, they ought to be here early next week; but now coming via Shanghai, they would not arrive probably until early March.

With the rising prices, I desire to increase to subsidies for the faculty and staff again. But that will require an action of the Executive Committee which will not meet until late in March after John Coe has arrived and has talked over with Paul Ward and myself the budgetary conditions. In anyway we shall keep within our expected income, because after this year, we may have at least two more years of even harder time which we must be prepared to meet. Most of the assistance, even to the students, has not come from the budget, but from my discretionary fund which depends entirely upon gifts to me from friends in America. I have not sent out any SOSs to my friends in China or abroad, but my discretionary funds are being exhausted, and I shall need more for the next academic year. If there is any time in my life that I wish to be a rich man, it is now. But, I am sure my friends will not fail me at a crisis like this. I only want to help some of the worthy students to get a good education which we are in a position to give them in Huachung and which they cannot easily get anywhere else.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Earl Fowler so that you may not have to go to New York and show it to him. I shall write again at the end of this month after the opening of the second term.

0785

I had hoped that I might be able to have a period during the vacation for reading and for preparation of lectures for the next term; but instead, I spend practically all my time in seeing people and in explaining the situation to individual members of the faculty and to students. It is, however, a privilege to be able to serve people in this way instead of enjoying selfishly my intellectual activities. But before bedtime, I am always able to read for an hour or two when the bustle of the day is hushed.

With best wishes and kind regards to you, your family, and my other friends in New York,

Yours sincerely,

Francis C. Wei

0786

C O P Y

25th February 1948

My dear Francis,

I have some very wonderful news for you, which, by the time this reaches, you may have learnt or guessed at by my cable.

You know that we have been in communication with a possible donor in connection with your Library building. The story, very briefly, is this:- At our last Annual Meeting separate suggestions were made to me by Lady Hosie and Mrs. Rattenbury, within half an hour of one another, that we should approach the Trustees of the late Mr. Joseph Rank. I felt at once that surely it was more than coincidence that this suggestion should have come from two quite different quarters in less space of time than one hour. You may be quite sure that I did not waste very much time in pursuing the subject! It meant a great deal of correspondence and negotiation, but Lady Hosie explained to me, first by word of mouth and later by letter that before the first war her father, Professor Soothill, had been in close touch with Mr. Joseph Rank, in connection with a scheme to build in Central China a British University. I expect you know the whole story. In any case, Lloyd George came into the picture, and as a result Mr. Rank agreed to give a considerable sum of money towards this enterprise. Then the World War broke out and the whole scheme fell through. When we first officially approached the Trustees in writing we of course explained that, although the original scheme had fallen through, to all intents and purposes the present Hua Chung University largely fulfilled the purposes which were envisaged by Professor Soothill, except that our American friends entered into the picture and helped very largely in financing the newly-formed Union of Colleges, which eventually resulted in the establishment of the Hua Chung College, now the Hua Chung University.

I secured Mr. Rattenbury's help, and we had a special interview with Mr. Arthur Rank,-the son of Mr. Joseph Rank, and at present the leading film magnate in this country - together with his sister, Mrs. Bartlett Lang, and his brother-in-law, Mr. Bartlett Lang, who is the Secretary of the Trustees. They promised to bring the matter before their fellow Trustees. In the meantime we received your cable and letters, and these were at once passed on to Mr. Bartlett Lang. On Friday last I received the long and eagerly awaited letter from Mr. Lang, of which I am enclosing a copy.

You will see the one condition on which this magnificent and generous grant of £45,000 is made, namely that the name of Mr. Joseph Rank must be associated with the building. It will be good to have the link between the Hua Chung University and Great Britain definitely strengthened and demonstrated in this way.

I want now to come to three very important considerations:-

(1) Probably special arrangements will have to be made eventually for transmitting this big sum of money. I have already been in consultation with Mrs. Miller who handles the matters through B. U. A. C.. She thought that there should be very little difficulty, except that the Treasury might not agree to its all going out in one lump sum. It may have to go out in instalments.

0787

(2) Do you consider that, in the present very uncertain political situation in China, you can risk the actual starting-in on building operations? We did mention this difficulty in discussing the matter with the three main Trustees mentioned above, and Mr. Rattenbury did express a doubt as to whether, when it came to the point, you would be able to take immediate action. I doubt, however, to what extent they fully realise the seriousness of this aspect of the question. Doubt has also been expressed by one or two others, for example by Dr. Williamson, our Chairman. On the other hand, another member of our Committee, Canon Wittenbach, has today suggested that you will almost certainly find safe and practical ways by which you can start operations, for example, by the buying of the necessary material, and he feels, therefore, that you will have otherwise schemes to suggest. Naturally, it would never do, and it would involve us very seriously, if any large sum of money was paid out, only to find that the building could not be used for the purposes for which it was erected. We should, therefore, be glad if you would write us as soon as possible as to your ideas with regard to this whole subject, and especially with regard to the way in which you can or cannot take quick action. The Trustees, I gather, hope that you will be able to get on with the work with as little delay as possible.

(3) I have not yet, up to the present, made public this great gift. I have been in touch with Mr. Bartlett Lang on this question, and his position is this: there is only one reason why care should be taken in the matter of giving this gift publicity, and that is, of course, lest all the other Universities and big concerns in China should make similar demands on funds administered by the Trustees. That, of course, must be avoided if possible. I am therefore, going to draft some publicity material and submit it to Mr. Bartlett Lang before making use of it, and I will draft something which could be released in China, and something which could be released here in this country. The one point which must be made is that this is not just a response to an individual appeal. The gift is definitely linked up with past history and the personal close association of Professor Soothill and Mr. Joseph Rank with the original University scheme for Central China.

Finally, would you please at once get off a personal and preliminary letter to the Rev. Bartlett Lang, Hon. Secretary to the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts, Wrayfield, Wray Common Road, Reigate, [redacted]. And I should be grateful if you would send me a copy of your letter. Later, of course, when you have officially announced the gift to your Board, a letter will be coming, presumably, from them.

I think it would be courteous on your part if you would also send letters of thanks to Lady Osie (Appletree Cottage, Redlynch, nr. Salisbury Wilts.) for her very important and vital part in these whole proceedings; and also to Mrs. Rattenbury, (3, Brayton Gardens, Oakwood, Middlesex.) for her part in approaching, on our behalf, her friend Mrs. Bartlett Lang. Also a note to Mr. Rattenbury, for his counsel and advice and his share in the important interview we had with the main Trustees. You know, presumably, that Mr. Joseph Rank was a Methodist.

0788

[illegible]h birthday greeting! If so, my added congratulations and very good wishes,

Yours very sincerely, [3]

signed: Noel B. Slater.

P. S. I shall be writing you on other matters within a day or two, I hope.

N. B. S.

Dr. Francis Wei
Hua Chung University,
Wuchang
CENTRAL CHINA

- - - - - - - - - - - - - -

COPY

THE JOSEPH RANK BENEVOLENT TRUSTS.
Wrayfield,
Wray Common Road,
Reigate, Surrey.

19.2.48

Dear Mr. Slater,

Hua Chung University, China

In reply to yours of the 14th October, 1947, and subsequent interviews and correspondence, I am happy to say that at our Trustees Meeting yesterday we agreed to give £45,000, making possible the essential two storeys of the Library, provided that the name of Mr. Joseph Rank should be associated with the building.

I hope this will enable you to go ahead with the great venture.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

SIGNED: F. Bartlett Lang.

0789

[1]

March 1, 1948

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
Huachung University
Wuchang, Hupeh, China

My dear Dr. Wei:

At the meeting of the Huachung Committee of the United Board of Christian Colleges in China on February fifth much appreciation was expressed over your report on the Christian character of the University, its fine reputation for discipline, the convection which has led such a good number to seek Baptism, as well as the enthusiasm and energy which the staff is endeavoring to get the new housing facilities for staff and students under way.

The Committee was in full sympathy with the need expressed for faculty residences, the completion of two hostels, etc.. They took the following action:

VOTED that the Huachung Committee ask permission from the National
440 Council and the United Board to appropriate $100,000 of funds allocated to Huachung by the National Council from the Reconstruction and Advance Fund to meet the immediate emergency and opportunity in China.

We understand your immediate program calls for the following:

Four to six permanent faculty residences.
The purchase of land adjacent to Administration Building.
New permanent hostel for men.
Completion of Yen Hostel
Building for teacher training and a practice school.
A small language school which is already financed to the extent of $2500.00

Of these items the land, in our judgment, is the most important. Therefore, we authorized the release of funds, not to exceed U.S. $25,000 for the purchase of the adjacent land mentioned in your recent letter. The Committee concurs with your judgment that the land is to be purchased and the above buildings should be provided as soon as possible.

0791

In Vote 433 on October 29, 1947 the Huachung Committee authorized you to use the government money for three faculty residences and undertook to find U. S. money to supplement this up to a total of $18,000..

As stated in your letter of December thirty-first regarding general plans for the new campus, including the Middle School property, and the piece you are hoping to acquire, the first step in the building program is to secure the service of a good architect to draw up such a plan. Since I wrote last we have had a report from Mr. Coe giving the substance of his conference with Mr. Bergamini in Manila. It would be highly desirable to have Mr. Bergamini's time to work out plans for the campus layout but since this does not seem presently possible we hope that as a result of Mr. Bergamini's conference with Mr. Coe there will come a program for a workable procedure.

The Committee suggests that plans for the campus be prepared as soon as possible by the best architect in Hankow or vicinity, the plans sent to Mr. Bergamini at once, and two sets sent to Mr. Fowler at 281 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

We would then send one set to Mr. King-lui Wu with whom we expect to confer in the near future. We understand Mr. Wu has been in Wuchang. Mr. Lyford anticipates he will be of help to us in reviewing Mr. Bergamini's sketches when they arrive.

Under this arrangement we would have, in the shortest possible time, a workable plan on which to make definite decisions as to location of the buildings you propose. Pending this decision you would be investigating the markets for labor and material and your architect in China would prepare the plans for the buildings in the above list, and decide about the order and procedure.

This program involves expense which will have to be met whether or not we go any further at present. We would like to have your opinion of the probable cost and we will then formulate our own opinion possibly using Mr. Wu's advice in connection herewith.

I have delayed writing this letter until after the February meeting of the National Council and the Trustees of the United Board. I attended the latter last week as a member and secured their endorsement of the above plans. I have had the enclosed letter from Bishop Bentley giving us information on the action of the National Council. We can, however, go ahead with our preparations and be ready when the money is released by the Council. Their attitude reflects a rather common attitude on the part of many in this country. Several reports from China do give us grave misgivings, but nevertheless we want you to realize that we heartily approve of the energetic efforts of yourself and your Senate to make the faculty members and students as comfortable as possible.

Ever, with affectionate regards,

Arthur M. Sherman

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HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
Wuchang, China
Tel. Address: "Wuchang 8344"

CO-OPERATING UNITS

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Griffith John College
Huping College
Wesley College
Yale-In-China College

China Mission Evangelical Church

President
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D., D.C.L., L,H.D.

March 9, 1948
WL 22

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

Dear Mr. Lyford:

My last letter to you, WL 21, was dated February 17.

The second term began on February 23, with registration of students on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th, and with lectures beginning on February 26. Everything went off well and according to schedule. With scholarships and special aids to students, most of the students were able to register, but about one quarter of them had to postpone the payment of one-half their board. Board for the whole term was NC$4,000,000. The other fees and deposits amounted to about NC$3,600,000. This total is much less than the total in other private schools and colleges in our city or in Hankow. It was because the figures were announced a week before the closing of the first term towards the end of January, and the Senate decided not to change them, except the deposit for the students board, which was only received for the students to be used by themselves.

Up-to-date we have 468 students already fully registered and now attending classes. About three or four more are on sick leave, granted by the Dean of the General Faculty, and they may return in a few days. The total enrollment for the term may go up to 470.

I wired a few days ago the arrival of the Coes, the promise by cable of £45,000. for the new Library Building from London, and the enrollment for the term 465.

As to enrollment, we had 537 in September. Every year in the second term we have had a drop of 15%. On that reckoning the normal enrollment for this term should be 456. However, we have four students who transferred from other colleges. Twenty-four registered for the transfer examinations and paid the registration fee of $50,000 each. Only fourteen of these students came for the examinations, and four passed. Another four students have returned to us after a term or a years leave of absence. Adding these eight to the 456, we get our present enrollment without counting the few more to come back from sick leave. This enrollment is very encouraging in view of the very severe economic conditions in our part of the country.

It is certainly very good to have the Coes back with us. They managed to bring upriver with them all the baggage they brought from the States. This was very wise for them to do because they could use the assistance of Mr.

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Gilson in the American Church Mission office in getting it through. Furthermore, by going through Shanghai Mr. Coe was able to clear up some of the college accounts in Mr. Gilson's office, which had been lagging behind for many months.

Yesterday I received a letter from the Rev. Noel B. Slater of the China Christian Universities Association, dated February 25. It was all about the £45,000. for the Library Building. I quote for the report to the Huachung Committee, and through the Committee to the United Board the following letter from the Secretary of the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trustees:

"THE JOSEPH RANK BENEVOLENT TRUSTS.

Wrayfield
Wray Common Road
Reigate, Surrey.

19.2.48

"Dear Mr. Slater,

Hua Chung University, China.

"In reply to yours of the 14th October, 1947, and subsequent interview and correspondence, I am happy to say that at our Trustees Meeting yesterday we agreed to give £45,000, making possible the essential two storeys of the Library, provided that the name of Mr. Joseph Rank should be associated with the building.

"I hope this will enable you to go ahead with the great venture.

"With best wishes,

"Yours sincerely,

F. BARTLETT LANG."

Please do not give any publicity to this donation or to this letter until you have word either directly from Mr. Slater with regard to the matter of publicity or until you have heard from me. The Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts and Mr. Slater are very eager to have the publicity properly worded, so that it will not create any embarrassment for people in London. I am going to have Mr. Slater's letter copied and send a copy to you for your information. It is not a confidential letter, but we must take care not to give it any publicity yet.

I have heard from Dr. McMullen of the United Board about the actions of the Board of Trustees and the United Board for Christian Colleges in China, taken on February 20, 1948, concerning the US$100,000. to be allocated by the National Council of the Episcopal Church in the U.S. to Huachung for the erection of the needed buildings in the university, and also concerning the permission to our administration to purchase the Chekiang Guild property if it comes on the market -- not to exceed US$25,000. This was reported to the Senate meeting yesterday afternoon, and the Senate was most pleased with it.

For some days, Mr. May, official architect of the Methodist Missionary

0795

Society in London who has been visiting for some months in China for the work of the mission in China, has been considering with our Building Committee (which consists of Dr. Taylor, Dr. Huang, and Dr. Tregear) the question of the general lay-out of our campus and the locations of the various buildings to be erected and the priority of the buildings to be erected. After careful study of our buildings, including those to be vacated by the Boone Middle School in possibly two or three years, Mr. May has come to about the same conclusion as Mr. Bergamini. Mr. Bergamini had two days of conference with John Coe in Manila, while the Coes were on their way back to China, about the plans prepared by Bergamini. Yesterday Mr. May came to the Senate meeting and laid all the plans on the floor for the Senate to consider. After lengthy discussion the Senate took the action to ask Mr. May to submit for our consideration a memorandum on:

1. The general lay-out of the campus.
2. The priority of the buildings to be erected.

This Mr. May has agreed to do. When the memorandum is received, the Senate will consider it again and send it to Mr. Bergamini in Manila with our opinions, and also to Earl Fowler for submission to the United Board through the Huachung Committee for approval. Fortunately, I had called a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors for Thursday, March 18. This committee will also consider the plans after the Senate has done it in a special meeting. So whatever recommendation we may make to the United Board through the Huachung Committee will have gone through the Executive Committee of the Directors with the concurrence of the Senate.

I have heard that it may be necessary for Bishop Gilman to write to the National Council to support your application for the release of the funds for buildings and land. Since the National Council is not going to meet until April 27, I shall write to Bishop Gilman and ask him to write to the National Council in support of your application, so that you may not have any further delay.

So everything seems to be moving to get the buildings erected in good time, but sometime ago I wrote to Dr. Leighton Stuart in the American Embassy, Nanking, raising the question whether it would be wise for us to spend about US$100,000. on buildings needed immediately for our work here. In reply the Ambassador said in his letter of February 27, 1948, "As to construction work, my suggestion on this would be that it be deferred for a few months during which the general issues may become more clear. On this again, I am sure that the Consul General "(American Consul General in Hankow whom I know)" will be glad to advise with you." Since we have sought the Ambassador's advice on the matter, my inclination is to follow it, and not to start the building until the American Consul General in Hankow gives us the "Green Light." As far as the general situation is concerned, it seems to be better these few weeks, but the diplomatic people may know more than we do. At any rate it will be at least May before the funds are released by the National Council. Therefore, we have two more months to watch the situation and get advice from the American Consul in Hankow. It is our hope that by that time conditions will warrant the beginning of our building program. In the meantime we are doing everything possible to get the general lay-out prepared to be submitted for the approval of the Huachung Committee.

You will see from the copy of Mr. Slater's letter concerning the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts donation, that we have also to decide very quickly whether

0796

we would be able to start the erection of the Joseph Rank Library immediately. The matter has not been considered by the Senate yet, but I shall also advise delay owing to the opinion expressed by Ambassador Leighton Stuart.

With regard to the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts donation, will you please take this letter as an official report from me, and ask the Huachung Committee and the United Board to accept the £45,000. for the Library Building with the conditions stated in the letter from the Rev. F. Bartlett Lang. I suppose it is necessary for the United Board to take that action in order to make the acceptance of the donation official, unless you think another procedure ought to be followed. Both in the meeting of the Huachung Committee and in the meeting of the United Board, please emphasize that no publicity should be given to this donation until further word has been received from Mr. Slater or from me, but that is an entirely different matter from accepting the donation.

It is very encouraging indeed that we have been able to get this splendid gift from Great Britain. It will be a very fine token of friendship and cooperation between Great Britain and China. The history reviewed in Mr. Slater's letter, enclosed herewith, is very interesting indeed. With regard to details of the Library Building, please refer to the copy of my letter, dated 19 November, 1947, to Mr. Slater, which I sent to you sometime ago.

Everything seems to be going on well here. I find the students in much better spirit than ever before. They are seeking all the time for advice with regard to everything they try to do. As long as that spirit continues, we need to fear no internal trouble. It is our hope that we may be able to maintain this morale and improve it until our tradition is further consolidated in possibly two to three years more, before we take the next step to increase our enrollment from about 600 to 800. If everything goes well, our enrollment ought to be approaching 600 next September. We shall not reach the final goal of 800 until perhaps five years from now. Please remember that although it is only the third year after the war in China, we are already in the fifth year as far as the implementation of the Ten-Year Plan is concerned. Now the wisest thing to do is to carry on and develop gradually instead of rushing our steps, which I hope you will consider advisable.

I reported towards the end of the last term that by the end of this academic year we would have baptized 45 students in the university. Our number of Baptisms will be more than this. Before Christmas we had 32 Baptisms, and now 26 are still being prepared to join the church. This will make a total of 58 for the year, and it looks as if we are going to have more than that number, which will be more than 20% of the non-Christians baptized in the university in one year. I have not received a statistical report from the Registrar's Office for this term, but I think our Christian students are more than 55% of the whole student body, and with the new Baptisms at Easter time the percentage will reach perhaps 60%.

Prices continue to rise. They are more than double prices in January. When the Executive Committee meets on March 18, they will have to consider the revision of the faculty and the staff subsidies. But there will be no danger of exceeding the budget item for salaries and subsidies for the current year. I understand from John Coe that the Huachung Committee will give us full permission to revise our subsidy scales so long as the revision is within the budgeted limits.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Earl Fowler so as to save you the time and trouble of going to New York to see him about it.

With the best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Francis C.M. Wei

Enc.
FCMW/MRC

0797

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With the best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Francis C. M. Wei

Enc.
FCMW/MRC

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Sherman

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HUNTLEY COLLEGE
WILLEY COLLEGE
YALE-IN-CHINA COLLEGE

CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

私立華中大學
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, CHINA
TEL. ADDRESS: "WUCHANG 8344"
電報掛號：武昌八三四四

校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

March 16, 1948

Original letter
Copy was microfilmed.

Rev. Arthur M. Sherman, S.T.D.
802 Broadway
New York 3, N. Y., U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Sherman:

I was very happy to receive your letter of March 1 several days ago, informing us that at the meeting of the Huachung Committee of the United Board of the Christian Colleges in China on February 5, much appreciation was expressed over our present conditions in Huachung; and that the Committee had voted to ask permission from the National Council and the United Board to appropriate US$100,000. of funds allocated to Huachung by the National Council from the R&A Fund to meet the immediate emergency and opportunity in China; and that US$25,000. ws voted for the purchase of the adjacent land, about which I had been corresponding both with you and with Mr. Lyford.

From the copy of the letter from Bishop Bentley to you, enclosed in your letter of March 1, I could see that it would not be easy for the National Council to release the money at the present time on account of the political conditions in this country. Dr. McMullen has also written to me that the United Board is taking steps to ask for the permission of the National Council to use the money voted by the Huachung Committee and the United Board. Perhaps a letter from Bishop Gilman may help, and I am trying to get Bishop Gilman to write to Bishop Bentley, explaining to him and to the National Council that we have no desire to spend the money foolishly, if the political situation should not warrant the construction. We are taking every step ppssible tp secure the best advice as to whether we should start our construction in the near future. So far all the advice that we have received from different quarters is to the contrary. It may be necessary for us to wait until at least May, when the situation may become clearer, but we would like to have the money released so that it is there for us to draw upon in case conditions should change to such an extent as to warrant the starting of the buildings at once. In the meantime the Senate has decided to do all the preliminary work necessary, such as getting Mr. May, architect of the Methodist Missionary Society in London, now visiting in Central China, to study the plans as prepared by Mr. Bergamini. Mr. May will help the Senate and its Planning Committee to reach a decision with regard to the general layout of the campus, the location of the several buildings to be erected, and the priority of construction of the several buildings.

This Mr. May is preparing, and in a week or so the Senate may be able to consider his proposals in the light of the plans prepared by Mr. Bergamini and his explanatory letter brought by the Coes. As soon as the Senate has considered Mr. May's proposal, it will be sent to Mr. Bergamini in Manila and to Mr. Fowler for the Huachung Committee. We must have the approval of the plans by the Huachung Committee in New York and the Senate and the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors in China before we can ~~before we can~~ start any important building anyway, so waiting until May

0802

does not mean any time wasted. If by that time the situation becomes clearer, we shall then consider whether construction may begin. It is difficult to raise any money for buildings these days, and you may feel assured that we shall not do anything without the most careful consideration and the greatest precaution.

With regard to the present conditions in Huachung, I have already written to Mr. Lyford, with a duplicate copy sent to Earl Fowler for the Huachung Committee, and so I shall not make any repetition here. Briefly, all goes well so far, and the Wuhan area is still safe, but prices are soaring, and foreign exchange is almost unbelievable. Pretty soon it will be up to NC$400,000 for one American dollar, and prices will go up accordingly. The Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors is meeting on Thursday, March 18, and it will consider again the revision of our scale of subsidies. It costs NC$2,500,000 to buy a tan of rice in the Wuchang market, which cost only NC$7 before the war. Our highest-paid professor in February was getting only about four tan of rice, the equivalent of NC$28 before the war; and with the same amount of money he would be able to buy only about three tan of rice this month. Unless the subsidies are doubled, many of the families will not be able to carry on; I do not have the least bit of doubt that the Executive Committee will give permission to do that since the increase will be still safely within our budget limits.

With the best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Francis C. M. Wei

FCMW/MRC

0803

March 18, 1948

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
Huachung University
Wuchang, Hupeh, China

My dear Francis:

I must apologize for not having written you sooner. You probably have heard that I was taken ill the latter part of January and had to dash off to the hospital for another emergency operation. This caused me to be absent from the last meeting of the Huachung Committee.

I was very glad that your letter of January twenty-sixth regarding the Chekiang Guild property came through in record time and even though I was absent was turned over to Dr. Sherman for consideration at the Committee meeting. You will note from the minutes enclosed that up to $25,000. was authorized to purchase this property as soon as it is available.

Your letter of January twenty-ninth was also received while I was out of the office. I hope you were successful in getting Mr. May the English architect to help you with the general plans of the new campus. All of your letters carry very fine and encouraging reports. All were thrilled with the statistics on the Christian character of the institution, both faculty and student body. This recent letter in which you tell of the meeting of a few members of the alumni association which is going out to raise one thousand million dollars gives us lots to be proud of. I am mighty glad that you have already in hand more than the quota assigned you by the Christian Colleges Campaign Committee.

It hardly seems possible that you had a temperature of thirteen degress. I don't believe all the time I was in China the temperature approached within ten degrees of that figure.

You will find enclosed a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Huachung Committee of the United Board, acting for the time-being as the Board of Directors of Huachung University, of February 5, 1948. You will note that I have made a couple of alterations in red ink. These will have to be approved at the next meeting of the Committee. I did not see these minutes until after they had been circulated or would have made these corrections before.

0804

I am also enclosing a statement from the graduate school of Brown University regarding a special fellowship for Mr. Ying Chung-fu which was turned over to me by Dr. Bien. You will also note that Vote #445 in the enclosed minutes grant a fellowship of $1200.00 to Mr. Ying, the last of the Huachung fellowships.

A copy of your letter of March ninth, WL--22, has just been received. I am terribly worried about Mr. Lyford. He has been failing very rapidly lately. Mr. Lyford left New York for Florida on March eighth to be gone about three weeks. This is strictly confidential and I do not want you to spread it around, but I am terribly afraid we cannot depend on Mr. Lyford for any further serious work. I do not know who we can get to take his place. I presume that the work he has been responsible for in the past will have to be taken care of here at "281", probably divided between myself and Mr. Greiner who has been his assistant. I hate to think of taking on any more than I have had in the past but there may be no alternative. Since starting this letter I am roughly glancing over your letter that has just arrived. I am going to have this letter from you and the enclosure from Mr. Noel Slater copied so that Dr. Sherman can have a copy and send a copy to the United Board. I am sure that the confidential contents will be maintained by these individuals until we have your approval of making the very handsome and generous gift of forty-five thousand pounds public. This is a mighty fine thing and just as soon as possible I think Dr. Sherman ought to write letters of thanks to the individuals in England who made this possible.

May I make a suggestions that some member of our mission, preferably Mr. Kemp even though he is not connected with the University, be included in your Building Committee. I know all of the people connected with the National Council would have considerable more confidence in him than some of the other members of this Building Committee and when so much of your funds for building are coming from the National Council or individuals connected with our Church it is only right that we have representation on this Committee.

This will also acknowledge receipt of your cable of March third:

"COES ARRIVED SECOND STOP LONDON CABLED FORTYFIVE THOUSAND POUNDS PROMISED FOR LIBRARY BUILDING STOP ENROLLMENT 465"

and also receipt of your cable of March twelfth:

"INFORM MCMULLEN AVERAGE FACULTY SALARY EXCLUDING SERVANTS THREE MILLION SEVEN INDEX SIXTYFIVE THOUSAND EXCHANGE SEVENTY THOUSAND STOP 1937 FACULTY AVERAGE 160 INDEX ONE EXCHANGE THREE THIRTYTHREE"

0805

I am gradually getting caught up on my work and will try to do better in the future in my correspondence with you.

With very best wishes and kind regards.

Affectionately yours,

J. Earl Fowler

JEF:O
Encls.

0806

私立華中大學
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, CHINA
TEL. ADDRESS: "WUCHANG 8344"
電報掛號：武昌八三四四

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CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

March 23, 1948

Mr. J. Earl Fowler
281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y., U.S.A.

Dear Earl:

I have received two letters from Bishop Bentley: one to say that under the present circumstances the National Council cannot see its way clear to releasing the money from the R&A Fund for Huachung buildings; and the other just a copy of his letter to Bergamini explaining why permission could not be given to Bergamini to leave his work in the Philippines, even for two or three weeks, in order to come to Wuchang about the planning of the campus and the buildings. We can quite understand this, but Bishop Gilman has shown me a letter from you, in reply to his letter to Bishop Bentley, supporting our request that US$100,000 be released for immediate use. With this supporting letter from the Bishop I suppose all the necessary procedure is completed for the National Council meeting on April 27-29 to take action on this matter.

I wrote to Dr. Sherman last week, saying that in asking for the release of the money we had no intention of spending it at once on buildings regardless of the political situation in China. As a matter of fact, we are making all the necessary investigation as to the advisability of investing money in any large buildings. As long as the situation remains as it is, we would not do so, but may start only a couple of faculty residences, which would not cost more than the money we have already secured from Chinese sources here. The housing situation in the university is such that the addition of two houses is almost imperative.

The Executive Committee of the Provincial Board of Directors met on March 18, and I am waiting for Brank Fulton to get his Minutes ready before I can send a copy to you for the Huachung Committee, and before the Minutes are ready I cannot quote the recommendations in the exact wording. As preliminary information I wish to say that the Executive Committee accepted the recommendation of the Senate to recommend to the Huachung Committee the acceptance of the donation of £45,000. Sterling from the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts in London for the new Library Building in Huachung with the condition attached, which is that the name Joseph Rank should be associated with the building when it is erected. I have already written to Mr. Lyford and Dr. Sherman, reporting in detail on this donation. As soon as the Minute on this matter reaches your hand, please take action at once and write the necessary official letters to London to accept the donation, as well as to thank Mr. Slater for his efforts in securing the money for us.

Another important thing done by the Executive Committee on March 18 was to double the subsidies for all members of the faculty and staff in the month of March, owing to the rising prices and the increased exchange. When the subsidy scale was adopted on January 3, the exchange was only around $2,000 for the American dollar, and now it is 435,000 at the AMT rate, more than

0807

four times. In view of this the Executive Committee acted also to give a special bonus equivalent to the March subsidies to all the members of the faculty and staff receiving pay from the university treasurer. A sub-committee, consisting of members of the Executive Committee resident in the Wuhan area, was appointed to revise the subsidy scales from time to time, so as to keep up with prices, as long as the increases remained within the limits of the salary items in the budget already improved. These actions of the Executive Committee have been announced to the faculty and staff, and the information is most cheering. Even with these increases we are still not paying as much as 40% of the pre-war purchasing power, but for March we are already paying twice as much as Wuhan University is to its faculty and staff. However, the rumor is that Wuhan will also double its subsidies, and we have to keep ahead of the national universities because we still adhere to the principle of whole time for everybody, while Wuhan University permits its people to carry concurrent remunerative jobs outside. Their teaching load is only one half of ours.

Enclosed please find a copy of the statistics of the enrollment for this second term of the year, as prepared by the Registrar's Office. You will find that our total enrollment is 469: 173 of them women; and 296 men. 211 Christian students make exactly 45% of the total enrollment, but 32 students are being prepared for Baptism. When these students are baptized on Easter or shortly afterwards, we shall have more than 50% Christian students, which is encouraging. I have marked on the Statistical Report the order of the size of groups by provinces, as well as by departments, for your report to the Huachung Committee when it meets. You will note that 16 provinces are represented with more than half from the provinces of Hunan and Hupeh.

Yesterday I sent you a cable enquiring about the action of the Huachung Committee and the United Board on the Huachung Fellowship for Ying Chung-fu of the Physics Department. The cable was sent at his request, and at his expense, for he was so eager to know definitely so that he would be able to get things ready for the trip to America in the summer.

The situation remains quiet, as far as the Central China Region is concerned, and people are more optimistic about the future than ever before. Fighting in the North Eastern provinces is not so encouraging. What remains to be seen is what the Communists are going to do after the Nationalist troops have evacuated Manchuria entirely. Everybody seems to be of the opinion that we shall be able to see how the land lies after the presidential election early in April and when the Nationalist Government in Nanking has had an overhauling reorganization, which is expected. The defense of Loyang with the Communists defeated there and the recapture of several small places northwest of Hankow have been very reassuring, showing at least that the Nationalist troops can fight if they want to do so.

We have had exactly fifteen days of rain, but the sun began to peep out yesterday, and today it is broad sunshine.

With every good wish, I remain,

Yours affectionately,

Francis.

Enc.
FCMW/MRC

Personal: Thank you most heartily for the woolen union underwears which fit me exactly, brought back by the Coes. F.C.M.W.

16 MAR. 1948

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Huachung University, Wuchang, Hupeh.
Spring Term 1947 - 48.

	Men	Women	Total
Seniors	19	5	24
Juniors	32	16	48
Sophomores	121	84	205
Freshmen	124	68	192
	296	173	469

Christian Middle School.....196
Non-Christian Middle School.....273
Total 469

Christian Students ..... 211 = 45%
Non-Christian Students 258
Total 469

Geographical Distribution

	Anhwei	8
	Fukien	4
⑦	Chekiang	15
	Hopeh	3
	Honan	2
①	Hunan	145
②	Hupeh	138
⑤	Kiangsi	25
⑥	Kiangsu	23
	Kwangsi	3
④	Kwangtung	45
	Shansi	2
	Shangtung	1
	Sinkiang	1
	Szechuan	7
③	Yunnan	47
	Total:	469

Leading groups of Christian students

Episcopal	69
Methodists	41
Church of Christ in China	41
Others in 10 denominations	60
	211

In preparation for Baptism:

Episcopal	17
Methodist	4
Church of Christ in China	5
Others	6
	32

	MAJOR	SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN	TOTAL	TOTAL
⑥	Chinese	3	4	14	7	28	
②	English	4	5	27	41	77	
⑩	Economics	6	13	64	60	143	
④	Commerce	1	0	0	3	4	
⑨	History	2	5	15	5	27	
		16	27	120	116	279	279
①	Biology	2	2	7	10	21	
⑤	Chemistry	0	6	16	20	42	
⑧	Physics	2	3	16	19	40	
		4	11	39	49	103	103
⑫	Education	4	10	46	27	87	87
						Total:	469

HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY WUCHANG 華中大學 私立 註冊處 REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

L. T. Doe
Assistant Registrar

0809

私立華中大學
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[1]

March 25, 1948

Mr. J. Earl Fowler
281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Earl:

I sent you a letter just yesterday. Just after I had mailed it, your letter of March 18 came to my hand, enclosing the Minutes of the Meeting of the Huachung Committee of February 5, 1948.

Sometime ago I heard that you had another operation. I was so happy to know that you got through it so successfully, and I hope you will not overstretch yourself again. Your job is a very heavy one in the Missions House, and you must reserve your strength for many years of service.

I have just received from Thayer Addison a copy of his latest book, "The Completeness of Christ." It was very thoughtful of him to dedicate the book to you and Swift to show how much he appreciated yours and Swift's work while he was the Director of the Overseas Department. I have not yet read the book, but the Table of Contents sounds very attractive, and I hope to be able to read it during the Spring Vacation a week after Easter. *I have just read two chapters & they are good.*

We have not been able actually to buy the Chekiang Guild property yet. It is still under negotiation. If the silver dollar remains at its present rate with the AMT exchange rate for the gold dollar the same as it is, we may be able to get the Guild property for only about US$16,000, but the two rates may not remain the same. With US$25,000 granted for this property, we may have quite a leeway.

With regard to the architect, it seems that there is little hope of Bergamini taking up our work here again. Fortunately Mr. Arthur May of the Methodist Mission in London has visited us here and looked over the property. He agrees mainly with Bergamini's ideas with regard to the general layout of the campus, the location of the several buildings, and the priority of the buildings to be erected. Since Bishop Bentley has written that it is not possible for Bergamini to make a flying visit to Wuchang, Mr. May is considering a trip from Shanghai or Hongkong to Manila in order to see Mr. Bergamini about our plans here. It is really very kind of him to be willing to do so. He has a very heavy schedule, for his mission is scattered over different parts of the country, and the trip to Manila and back will take at least a week or ten days.

In line with the action of the Huachung Committee authorizing us to secure a local architect for the preliminary planning of the campus, I have written to Mr. May, saying that Huachung would pay all his expenses for the trip to Manila to consult with Mr. Bergamini and back either to Shanghai or Hongkong. When he has done the trip, he will send us his travel account, and we shall

take care of it. This arrangement I am sure will be much better than the appointment of a local architect, not only because of the expense, but because of the interest that Mr. May as a mission architect will have in the planning.

I am very glad that the airmail is so quick now and that all my correspondence with you and Mr. Lyford or Dr. Sherman gets your attention so very speedily.

I have read over only hurriedly the Minutes of the February 5 meeting of the Huachung Committee, but I have had no time to study them carefully as yet. When I have done so, I shall write to you again.

It is good that the Minute on Ying Chung-fu's Huachung Fellowship is now at hand. I have already informed Ying Chung-fu and given him the Certificate of the Graduate School of Brown University concerning his fellowship there. This will enable him to get his visa from the American Consulate in Hankow as he already has his passport from the Chinese Government.

With the best wishes,

Yours affectionately,

Francis

FCMW/MRC

P.S. Miss Edith Hutton came to me Tuesday evening, the 23rd, saying that she was deffnitely resigning from the mission, in order to accept the appointment as Dean of Girls in a Pawtucket public school near her home in Rhode Island with a very handsome stipend. She said that she regrets very much that she has to leave the work here, which she enjoys tremendously, but looking into the future as a single woman she has no alternative but to accept this job. I am very sorry indeed that she has to do so, because she is a very good worker and a very good teacher with keen interest, particularly in the religious work here. We shall miss her, but under the circumstances I think it is not wise to overurge her to stay on.

I have informed her that the procedure is for her to report to the Bishop, and then with the advice of the Bishop she will have to communicate with Bishop Bentley in the Overseas Department. As Miss Hutton's leaving here will leave a big gap in our department of English Literature, which is already shorthanded, will you ask Mr. Titus at once to comb the country for a well-qualified teacher to replace Miss Hutton, and to get him or her out to the field as soon as possible before the opening of the next term. Even when Walter Allen gets back in September, we must have one more teacher of English. I know it is not easy, but there are still a few months ahead of us.

F.

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PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D., D.C.L., L.H.D.

March 30, 1948

Rev. Arthur M. Sherman, S.T.D.
242 East 19th St.
New York 3, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Sherman:

I received on Good Friday your letter of March 17 concerning Paul Wu.

We have just sent off our recommendations to the United Board for three candidates from our faculty for the United Board Fellowships to be awarded this year. The first candidate is Professor Fu of the Chinese department, whom the Senate recommended a year ago, but he did not receive it, much to his disappointment, as well as to ours. Besides Mr. Fu we have also recommended Mr. Shih Sheng-ho and Mr. John Yang. Mr. Shih is lecturer in Chinese History, and Mr. Yang is lecturer in Physics, both our own graduates and both Christians. Mr. Fu is not a Christian, but his wife is, as she was baptized in our own college while in Hsichow, and he is very favorably inclined towards the Christian Faith. As I have written to Dr. Corbett of the United Boards, that while I agree that one of the considerations should be the profession of the ChristianFaith in selecting candidates for the United Board Fellowships, it should not be a very rigid requirement because otherwise many of our non-Christian members of the faculty would be debarred from the opportunity of a year's study abroad. For many years to come the Christian colleges will have to continue to appoint non-Christians to many of the departments, especially that of Chinese studies.

In view of the fact that we have already made our recommendations to the United Board for the fellowships for this year, it would not be fair to add Mr. Paul Wu's name as a candidate for the extension of the fellowship for another year. Paul has written to me, expressing his desire to stay on for at least another year, but my reply is that under the present circumstances I see very little opportunity for him to do that because the United Board is not very eager to give a fellowship to the same person for a second year and funds at the disposal of the National Council for scholarships are very limited, as far as I know. But anything you can do to help Paul Wu and to enable him to stay on another year in America will be surely appreciated by all of us here.

Things are going on as usual here. We had a very joyful Easter Day. On Good Friday we held in the Church of the Nativity the Three-Hour Service of Meditation on the "Seven Words on the Cross." Five members of the college faculty and two of the Boone Middle School faculty took part in the service, and they did very well. On Easter Day we had two early Communion Services in the morning, both according to the Prayer Book and celebrated by our own clergymen, one in Chinese, and the other in English. At 10:30 we had the regular morning service at which six men and four women students were baptized by the Rev. James Yang in the Church of the Holy Nativity. Alfred Starratt is preparing some more students for baptism, and they may be baptized before July. So far we have already had 23 students baptized into

the Sheng Kung Huei, and the other three churches have had 28 altogether, and they are also preparing more students for baptism. At the Easter evening service we had Handel's "Messiah" -- the part for Easter -- sung by the university choir with about fifty voices. The Church of the Holy Nativity was simply packed to its limit.

The general situation remains about the same. I am in constant touch with the America Consul General in Hankow. According to all the information that we are able to get, there is no reason for being nervous at the present moment. Prices are rising, and the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors has decided to double the subsidies again, beginning from March, but the real money value for the members of the faculty and staff remains a bout the same. I do not see many signs of the situation being improved, except that the People's Assembly has already had its first session in Nanking, although it has not been able to transact any business in that session because it does not have a quorum. The Nationalist troops seem to be able to hold their own in North China, particularly near Tatung in Shansi. People seem to think that we must wait until May before we see important changes in the political situation. I do not know what they are waiting for, perhaps more adequate military aids from abroad, without which China may not be able to cope with the present situation.

With affectionate regards, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Francis C. M. Wei

FCMW/MRC

0813

March 31, 1948

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
Huachung University
Wuchang, Hupeh, China

My dear Francis:

Thanks for your good letter of March 23rd. Besides the letter that Bishop Gilman wrote to Bishop Bentley approving the request for permission to use $100,000 from the Reconstruction and Advance Fund appropriation, Dr. Franklin had a more recent letter from him in which he urges that this request be granted by the National Council.

I am afraid it will not be possible for the Huachung Committee and the United Board for Christian Colleges in China to officially take action to accept the very generous donation of 45,000# sterling from the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts in London, until early in May. The Huachung Committee plans to meet just prior to the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees for the United Board for Christian Colleges in China, and it will not be possible to have the meeting before this time. I hope that it will be possible to wait until official action is taken before writing letters of thanks to Mr. Slater, to be passed on to the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts.

I am glad that it is possible for the Executive Committee and the Provisional Board of Directors to continue to make additional salary subsidies to the faculty from the February exchange rate. It would keep us in hot water here if we had to make additional appropriations every month or two. I am glad that the exchange seems to keep up with the prices. Perhaps the statement should be just the reverse, that prices keep up with the exchange.

0814

Anyway, it is comforting to meet increased prices without additional appropriations. I wish that it were possible to make salaries nearer their pre-war purchasing power.

Your statistics regarding the student enrollment, and especially the percentage of Christian students, is very gratifying. I am glad that the woolen underwear was satisfactory as to fit. We could not get exactly what you wanted here in the States.

Mr. Lyford has been in Florida for the past few weeks. We are expecting him home any moment. He probably will come into the office as soon as possible after his return. He is due back today.

With very best wishes and kind regards.

Affectionately yours,

J. Earl Fowler

JEF:chh

0815

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FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

April 2, 1948

Rev. Bartlett Lang, Hon. Secretary
Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts
Wrayfield
Wray Common Road
Reigate, Surrey, England

- Copy to Mr. Fowler
Huachung Committee

Dear Mr. Lang:

I heard sometime ago from the Rev. Noel B. Slater of the China Christian Universities Association in London, writing under date of 25th February, 1948, that your Trusts were generous enough to vote to Huachung University the sum of forty-five thousand pounds sterling (£45,000) for our new Library Building. He enclosed a copy of your letter to him, dated 19th February, 1948, about this donation, with the condition that the name of Mr. Joseph Rank should be associated with the building. I am writing to express to you and to the Trustees of the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts the deep appreciation of all the members of our staff and of all the missions associated with the work here for this splendid gift.

At the last meeting of the University Senate the following action was taken:

> "The Senate has heard with great satisfaction of the offer of £45,000 from the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts for the erection of the essential part of a library at Huachung University on condition that the name of Mr. Joseph Rank is associated with the building. The Senate recommends to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors that this magnificent gift be accepted with the condition attached, and that the deep appreciation of the Senate and the Board of Directors be expressed to the donors."

This action has been transmitted to the Huachung University Committee of the United Board of Christian Colleges in China with its headquarters in New York City. I have also written a covering letter, asking the Huachung University Committee, which serves as our Board of Trustees for all the missions cooperating in Huachung, to take official action to accept the donation. As soon as the Huachung University Committee has taken the appropriate action, you will probably hear from them.

I have written to Mr. Slater that just at the present moment it does not seem advisable to start the construction of the building immediately, but we are waiting until perhaps a few weeks later to see whether the political conditions in China will be clear enough for us to go on with the work. As soon as we have made the decision to start the building, we shall ask Mr. Slater to let you know, and arrange for the remittance of the money to China.

Yours faithfully,

President

FCMW/MRC

0816

April 6, 1948

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
Huachung University
Wuchang, Hupeh, China

My dear Francis:

This will acknowledge your letter of March twenty-fifth. It is real gratifying to have the mail delivery between the United States and China so regular and dependable. Letters come through very quickly.

Dot and I greatly appreciated Dr. Addison's thoughtfulness and kindness in dedicating the book to Erv and myself. It is a very splendid book and I hope it has a wide circulation.

I hope that the deal for the Chekiang Guild property goes through. It would be a real accomplishment after having been interested in trying to get it for so many years. It surely would be a big addition to the campus. I hope that in your next letter you will be able to say that you have completed the deal.

When the Executive Committee authrized your engaging a local architect, they had in mind somebody connected with one of the missionary socities cooperating with the University. You had told us in one of your letters that there were two or three such individuals in Central China. I am glad that Mr. May is handling this situation and that his ideas are so much like Van Bergamini's. It will be mighty fine if he can make the trip to the Philippines and talk the whol project over with Van.

I did not cable a reply to your cable regarding the fellowship for Ying Chung-fu because my letter and minutes had been en route to China for a week so that I knew you would be receiving the information almost as soon as you would if I cabled a reply.

I am mighty sorry to hear that Miss Edith Hutton is resigning from the Mission and returning to the United States. I hope that either you or Bishop Gilman have explained to her that it will be necessary for her to refund a portion of her traveling expenses. If you did not received a copy of the Overseas Handbook possibly you could read Mr. Coe's. Miss Hutton received one when she was appointed so she ought to know about it. Article eighty-seven in the Handbook would cover a situation like this.

The following is strictly confidential and should not be made public until I receive official note from our Medical Office but inasmuch as it will affect you and the Huachung faculty I am giving you every advantage of knowing at the earliest possible moment. Friday afternoon, just before leaving the office, I had a telephone call from our Medical Office. Dr. Goheen told me that Mrs. Walter Allen has an incurable nervous disorder and that she will not be permitted to return to China. This nervous disorder affects the muscles of the body and causes a progressive degeneration. I would appreciate your keeping this confidential until we have official notice and give Walter and Gertrude a chance to write to Arthur and Netta Allen. I think it should go to them before it is made general information in the Mission.

I have requested Mr. Titus to do everything possible to get a successor for Miss Hutton. I hope he will have somebody to come out during the summer.

We have notified the members of the Huachung Committee of the United Board for Christian Colleges in China of the very good news regarding the grant of 45,000 pounds by the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts. I also sent a copy of your letter to Dr. Robert J. McMullen. We have requested all of these people to keep this confidential and not make it public until we have permission and instructions from you. Your recent letter requested that we write letters of Appreciation to England. However, I feel this should be delayed until both the Huachung Committee and the United Board meet in May to take official action on accepting this great and generous gift. If you think letters should be written before official action is taken, please let me know by return mail. I know you will give us the necessary information about making this gift public just as soon as it is possible.

With very best wishes and kind regards.

Affectionately yours,

J. Earl Fowler

JEF:O

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April 13, 1948

Mr. J. Earl Fowler
281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Fowler:

In your letter of April 6 you refer to the deal for the Chekiang Guild property. It has been slow business, and the deal has not gone through yet, but everyday it looks more promising. However, it is very difficult to get hold of all the people interested in the property.

I have already written to you about my writing to Mr. May, asking him to make a trip to the Philippines in order to talk over with Mr. Bergamini our campus planning and the plans for the various buildings.

It is very essential that the Overseas Department should find somebody to replace Miss Hutton because our English department will be very shorthanded next year, especially now that there is the uncertainty about the return of Walter Allen and his wife. We ought to have really two more teachers of English from America since Miss Hutton is resigning and Walter Allen may not return.

I am keeping dark your information about the Allens in New York, but you did not say what the real trouble is, and I feel very much concerned.

Enclosed I am sending you a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors, held on March 18. I am sorry I have not been able to send the Minutes to you earlier than this, because Dr. Brank Fulton is the secretary, and he was not able to get the Minutes mimeographed until yesterday, The printing is very bad, but I hope you will be able to read it.

With the best wishes to you and to all members of the Huachung Committee, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Francis C. M. Wei

Enc.
FCMW/MRC

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April 13, 1948

Mr. J. Earl Fowler
281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Earl:

Your letter of April 6 was received yesterday. Certainly the airmail is doing good service.

Looking over my old letters on the desk, I have discovered another letter from you, dated January 26, which has remained unanswered.

With regard to that letter, I wish to say that the two girls, Miss Tai and Miss Huang, are now back in China. Miss Huang is Religious Director at St. Hilda's School, Wuchang, and Miss Tai is working with Miss Faith Liu in Wuhu. I had hoped that we might be able to use the two girls, but the present circumstances would not permit any expansion. It may be just as well for them to have some experience in church middle schools for girls, and later on we may have to call them back.

John Coe is writing to you on Dr. Richard Bien's travel expenses. I have written a personal letter to Richard Bien, saying that due to the financial situation of the Yale-in-China Association this year he may not be able to get the entire sum of US$1250. for his travel. When I first wrote to Richard and to Mr. Wheeler in New Haven about this fellowship, I said that Dr. Bien could draw on this money for his travel on Huachung business from Providence to New York,or to New Haven,for visits to various cities in order to meet with Yale clubs as arranged by Mr. Wheeler in New Haven, for trips to Philadelphia or other places on behalf of Huachung, and for a visit to England to renew my contacts there in the interests of the University, and then for his travel back to China. In this personal letter to him I mentioned the fact that another senior member of our faculty, coming back from America, was allowed only US$400. for the whole trip, and it might not be very good for him to spend more than that amount unless circumstances should make it necessary. I hope he will not take any offense because I have written him in this way.

I know nothing about his income as Visiting Professor in Brown University. When he was in China, he told me that he did not expect much. I am afraid there is some misunderstanding on your part about his income from various sources in America amounting to between US$5,000-6,000. I have been checking up on this with John Coe, and he told me that US$5,000 was his mother-in-law's money, which Richard has been handling. It has nothing to do with his sabbatical year or with his work in the U.S.A. His father-in-law, Dr. C.Y.Wang, is a man of means. Mrs. Richard Bien is his stepdaughter, and he has no children of his own. All this about Richard is for your information because you commented on the matter in your letter of January 26.

With the best wishes to Dot and yourself,

Yours affectionately,

Francis

Bp. Sherrill.
Earl.

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HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, CHINA
TEL. ADDRESS: "WUCHANG 8344"
電報掛號：武昌八三四四

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CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

April 15, 1948

Mr. J. Earl Fowler
281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Earl:

We had a very good Synod yesterday at the Church General Hospital under the chairmanship of Bishop Gilman with forty-two clergymen and thirty-seven lay delegates present. The Synod was called strictly according to Canon. It started yesterday morning at nine o'clock with the Holy Communion Service, with Bishop Gilman celebrating and preaching the sermon.

Immediately after the Holy Communion Service the Synod was summoned to elect Bishop Gilman's successor. The roll was called, and a quorum was reported for the meeting.

Upon enquiry by one of the lay delegates, Bishop Gilman made a statement that it was the desire of the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U.S. that the successor to Bishop Gilman should be elected by the Diocesan Synod of Hankow, according to the canons of the Chung Hwa Sheng Kung Hui; and that if a Chinese bishop should be elected, the National Council would continue its appropriation for the District of Hankow, which would include the Bishop's stipend until the Diocese should be able to take care of the Bishop's stipend itself. On motion, this statement was received and recorded in the Minutes.

Then, according to provision in the Canons, the Canon on the Diocesan Synod was amended by two-thirds vote to include the right of the Diocesan Synod to elect a bishop, and this made it perfectly canonical for the Synod to proceed with the election of the bishop. The Rev. Stephen Tsang was elected on the first ballot, with an overwhelming majority, the Synod voting by order, and the majority in each order being about the same. 34 against 8 in the clerical votes; 31 against 6 in the lay votes.

I am very happy that Stephen Tsang has been elected, and it cheered up Bishop Gilman very much that his successor was so smoothly elected by the Synod.

Next thing is for the election to be confirmed by the Standing Committee or Synod of the other dioceses of the CHSKH; if two-thirds of the Standing Committees or Synods of the other dioceses should confirm the election, the election would be completed.

I am sure the cablegram has been sent by Bishop Gilman to Bishop Bentley, reporting on this election, but I am sending this personal letter to you for your information. It is not my business to write to Bishop Bentley or anybody else, and I hope the Bishop will understand.

With the best wishes,

Yours affectionately,

Francis

FCMW/MRC

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PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

April 20, 1948

Rev. Frank L. Titus
281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

[Copy for Mr. Fowler]

Dear Mr. Titus:

I have already written to you about Miss Hutton's resignation from the Mission. That means one teacher gone from our Department of English Literature, which will be very shorthanded next year. Then the news has come to me that probably Walter Allen and his wife may not be able to rejoin us here in Wuchang next fall, and we have been counting on him these two years for the English department.

The National Council has promised us twelve missionaries for the Huachung faculty. We have now only ten, including Miss Cox, who has been transferred by the Bishop from St.Hilda's School for Girls to Huachung, and Miss Hutton, and Walter Allen, with Miss Hutton unavailable next fall. Next fall there will be only eight, which will leave four vacancies to be filled in order to fulfill the quota of our Church in Huachung, as far as missionaries are concerned. I hope you will find it possible to secure for us at least two teachers of English in order to fill the gaps left by Miss Hutton and Walter Allen in the department. Even if it should turn out that Walter Allen is permitted to return, we would be able to use two more teachers of English, well-trained to teach English Literature and Composition. Earl Fowler knows our standards, and he would be able to advise you as to what kind of qualifications would be good for us.

I have just heard from Richard Bien that the possibility for Mr. Gilman of the University of California, trained in Physical Chemistry, to come to Huachung as a National Council appointee to teach Physics is not very great at the present time. I am very sorry to hear that because he seems to be a good man and well qualified to teach Physics. I wonder what is the final decision about him.

Dr. Richard Bien has also written that there is another man who may consider appointment by the National Council to teach Physics. He has not given the name of this man, but from his letter I gather he is trained in the California Institute of Technology. I hope you will follow up this case, and if you should need more information about the man, please write to Professor Richard P. Bien, Physics Department, Brown University, Providence, R.I. Our Physics department is very shorthanded with only three of our own graduates teaching all the required courses in the absence of Dr. Richard Bien. Even after the return of Dr. Bien to Wuchang, we ought to have another senior man of his calibre, a missionary who is well-trained in the subject. Kindly do everythin possible to get such a man for us and get him out to Wuchang in the summer. Our fall term will begin about the middle of September, and so new appointees ought to arrive at Shanghai about September 1.
With the best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

FCMW/MRC

President

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April 21, 1948

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
Huachung University
Wuchang, Hupeh, China

My dear Francis:

Many thanks for your letters of April thirteenth. I am very happy to tell you that Walter Allen and his family will be returning to China this summer. The special neurologist who was taking care of Gertrude Allen, after he learned of the condtions under which they would live in China, has given his consent for their return. It is hoped that she will sail with her family on or about August tenth and will be back in Wuchang for the opening of the school term. This will mean you only need a replacement for Miss Hutton. I will pass on to Chaplain Titus your request for a new English teacher.

Many thanks for the copy of the minutes of the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors of March eighteenth. I have written to John telling him about the meeting we are having on Friday afternoon of this week with Mr. Lyford, Dr. Sherman, Bishop Bentley, Dr. Franklin, and myself. After this meeting I will summarize the minutes of the Executive Committee and circulate them among members of the Huachung Committee of the United Board for Christian Colleges in China before our meeting on Wednesday, May fifth.

We are all very happy that the Reverend Stephen Tsang was elected Bishop of Hankow. I hope we will hear in the near future he has accepted. We expect him here in New York on April twenty-sixth. He has a special speaking itinerary in the Boston area for the first week in May but I have arranged for him to come back to New York for our meeting on May fifth. I have also arranged with Dr. McMullen to invite him to the meeting of the United Board on May eleventh and to attend the annual dinner of the United Board and sit at the speakers' and guests' table for that evening. It will be good for him to meet members of the Huachung Committee and see what is going on regarding the United Board.

All join in very best wishes and kind regards.

Affectionately yours,

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FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

W-L 23
April 22, 1948

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

[- Copy for Huachung Committee
c/o Mr. Fowler]

Dear Mr. Lyford:

My last letter to you was W-L 22, dated March 9. I have not written to you for so long because Earl Fowler wrote that you were taking your holidays in Florida, returning to Englewood only about this time. I hope you have had a good rest in the south and are feeling as vigorous as ever after the holidays.

Sometime ago I sent you a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors held on March 18. A duplicate copy of the Minutes was sent to EarlFowler, and I did that because I was afraid you might not be in Englewood. Anyway I am sending to Earl Fowler a duplicate of my letters to you, to save your sending them on yourself.

If you refer to page 4 of the Minutes, paragraph one, you will read that "Some strong opinions were also expressed that the amount of the third category of Free Funds should not be continued to be carried as Reserve, but should be spent for some genuine need of the university -- for example, the construction program."

I would like to say that the "Strong opinions" were expressed only by a non-voting member of the Executive Committee, on the ground that the Reserve Funds always irritate some members of the old Huachung Board, and now possibly of the Huachung Committee or the United Board. I knew that was the case some years ago, but from your recent letters I gathered that the attitude had changed in New York. We do not have any endowment, and if any change in the financial situation abroad should affect the income of Huachung seriously, we would have nothing to fall back upon except our Reserve Fund, and the Reserve is being rapidly decreased anyway. It is true that we accumulated the Reserve during the early years of the war when exchange was in our favor and when we moved to a place where the cost of living at that time was very low. Then we kept the Reserve in order to help the college move back and to supplement the Rehabilitation Funds available after ou return to Wuchang. Now whatever reserve there may be in your accounts, you may want to keep them for an emergency such as an unexpected reduction in our income for a period of two to three years. However, you have to use your discretion so as to meet the criticism that we are receiving here in Wuchang from one or two people all the time. I do not know whether it is true now that any such Reserve Fund will damage our cause in raising money. I do not know whether there is any other cooperating mission besides Yale-in-China which would not feel inclined to support Huachung more strongly because of the Reserve Fund.

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The other items in the Minutes are self-explanatory. As to the general situation, we may have to wait for a few weeks more before we can see more clearly whether heavy investments in buildings will be warranted. As far as the Central China Region is concerned, the situation seems to be improving. People in this center seem to feel much more at ease . General Chiang has been elected president, and he will be inaugurated into his office on May 5. If the Nationalist troops should be able to hold the Communists, and possibly drive them back still more, and if the Government should be able to stabilize the currency inside of the next two or three months, we would start our larger buildings in the fall. In the meantime, however, we ought to erect some more houses in order to accommodate the faculty, and to release one of the men's hostels, now occupied by faculty, for the accommodation of men students next term. The Planning Committee, appointed by the Senate, is thinking of some scheme to increase our hostel capacity for women by building more faculty residences, but whether that scheme will materialize remains to be seen.

Yesterday the members of the Executive Committee resident in Wuhan met and decided to revise the subsidy scheme so as to conform partly to the government plan and partly to our own financial situation. It will mean an increase but the increase will be still easily within the limits of our budget for this year. Mr. Coe will report to you the exact action taken yesterday.

Just at the present moment prices seem to be more stable, but silver and gold are going up, and so is also the exchange for the American dollar. This makes it easier for us to administer the budget.

With the best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

FCMW/MRC

0825

April 23, 1948

President Francis C. M. Wei, Ph.D.,
Hua Chung University,
Wuchang, China.

Dear Francis:

You will be glad to know that the Committee of the United Board on Faculty Fellowships meeting on April 23rd, awarded one of their six fellowships available for the China Colleges next year to Hua Chung. I read the portion of your letter of March 30th, which referred to Professor Fu Mao Chi to the Committee. They approved of his appointment but the question was raised about the possibility of his obtaining a fellowship grant from Harvard - Yenching Trustees since he is supported by their grant to Hua Chung. You will hear from the office of the United Board about this in due time. If you can secure a Harvard Yenching fellowship the United Board fellowship will then be available for Shih Seng Ho, our fellowship pays $3,400 for the year.

I note what you say about Paul Wu. I do not yet know of any source from which the money can be obtained for an extension of his time for study here nor does Chaplain Titus of the Overseas Department but I will make further inquiries.

The National Council will meet this week. Bishop Bentley will ask that they appoint a small committee to whom power will be delegated to use money from the Reconstruction and Advance Fund when in their judgment, this can be done without too much risk. I believe such a committee will grant money for the smaller building projects speedily.

With my affectionate greetings and regard.

Yours as ever,

April 24. I have just dictated a letter to Bp. Bentley asking if there are any funds from legacies to the Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society which could be used for financing Paul Wu another year. I know there is fund which the interest only can be used and which has $211 or

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vailable. ~~but~~ We will need, having $2000.00 altogether for a, about ~~1800 more~~ for a period of nine months. I have asked Bp. Bentley to put this before the Natl. Council tomorrow, if he approves.

McAdam Fund
452 - of which $211.48 interest is available.
(Capital about $1100.00).

April 23, 1948

President Francis C. M. Wei, Ph.D.,
Hua Chung University,
Wuchang, China.

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Yours as ever,

April 24. Have just dictated a letter to Bp. Bentley asking if there are any funds from legacies to the Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society which could be used for financing Paul Wu another year. There is one fund which the interest only can be used which has $211.00

April 23, 1948

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
Huachung University
Wuchang, Hupeh, China

My dear Francis:

Many, many thanks for your letter of April fifteenth telling me about the Diocesan Synod and the election of the Reverend Stephen Tsang as Bishop of Hankow. I cannot tell you how glad everybody here in New York was that Stephen was elected. We had had indications from the Bishop that a foreigner might be elected. This would not have been acceptable to anybody here and the diocese would pro ably have been in trouble had they carried out the idea.

We are expecting Stephen here in New York Monday and are very anxious to meet him. I hope there will be no questions of the Standing Committee of the other Dioceses in China accepting Stephen's election and I hope he will also accept. Other than the cable received from Bishop Gilman there have been no reports. I showed your letter to both Bishop Sherrill and Bishop Bentley. We all appreciate it.

I appreciate the copy of the letter that you wrote to the Reverend B. Lang. Honorary Secretary of the Joseph Rank Benevolent Fund. As soon as the Huachung Committee has met and taken action on receiving this magnificent gift of $45,000 we will have letters sent to Mr. Slater and Mr. Lang.

With very best wishes and kind regards.

Very cordially yours,

J. Earl Fowler

JEF:O

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CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

May 6, 1948

Rev. Arthur M. Sherman
242 East 19th St.
New York 3, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Sherman:

Yesterday I received your good letter of April 23. I had already received a cablegram from Dr. McMullen, saying that the United Board Fellowship had been awarded to Mr. Fu Mao-chi. It is very good news, and we have informed Mr. Fu of this, and he is bubbling over with joy.

There is no possibility of Mr. Fu's getting a fellowship grant from the Harvard-Yenching Trustees. When I was in America in 1945-46, I had several talks with Professor Elisséeff, and he told me that Mr. Fu would have to find some other way of going to Harvard for the first year before there would be any opportunity of his getting the Harvard-Yenching Fellowship there to continue his studies at Harvard. Dr. Hightower, Assistant Director of Harvard-Yenching Institute in Peiping visited us some weeks ago, and we put Mr. Fu in touch with him about the study of Linguistics in America. Dr. Hightower was quite impressed with Mr. Fu's ability, and he suggested that Mr. Fu ought to go to Yale, instead of Harvard, for the study of Linguistics. Therefore, Mr. Fu is planning to go to New Haven where he may have the opportunity of getting a part-time position as a Lecturer on Chinese Linguistics, and in that way maintain himself longer in the States.

I am glad that you are trying to help Paul Wu to study one year more in America, but as far as I know, his family is not very well off without his support for the family. Mrs. Wu is teaching in our Language School here, and her income is not quite sufficient to keep the family in days like these. I think Paul Wu ought to know this and make some kind of arrangement for the partial support of his family during his absence.

The Hankow Office has just informed me that the National Council has finally released US$100,000 for our buildings, and this is very encouraging. The Senate will meet next Monday, and the Senate Committee on Planning will report their recommendations as to what buildings to start this summer. Probably they will recommend to build houses and leave the bigger buildings to a later stage, because of the price of materials for building now. It is expected that cement, for instance, will be more plentiful a year from this spring, and the price will go down. For the larger buildings we will have to use cement and steel. As soon as the Senate has reached a decision, I shall report to you. As soon as it is advisable to erect our larger buildings, we may get in touch with London to have money remitted for the starting of the Library Building, for which £45,000 has been donated.

May 4 was a students' day, marking the beginning of the Student Movement in China way back in 1919. Classes were suspended in the college on May 4 and 5 in order to give time for the students to celebrate the occasion. They had

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a Two-and-a-Half-Day Program, and everything went off smoothly and pleasantly. The spirit was excellent.

With affectionate regards and best wishes,

Yours as ever,

Francis C. McMichael

FCMW/MRC

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Carbon and file on this action given to Bishop Bentley's office

May 6, 1948

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
Huachung University
Wuchang, Hupeh, China

My dear Francis:

This will acknowledge the copies of your letters that Mrs. Coe sent me with a covering letter which was received on April 28th.

This letter is primarily to let you know that the National Council took favorable action to release $100,000.00 from the Reconstruction and Advance Fund for Huachung University. Even though this money is available, with the approval of the Huachung Committee of the United Board for Christian Colleges in China, for you to draw upon, it is with the understanding that you will be very careful in using it and will not go ahead with any construction unless it is quite certain that the political situation will not change to the extent that there will be any loss. It would be a terrible catastrophe if shortly after investing a large sum of money in new buildings the Communists should take Central China a d the new buildings become partially or totally destroyed.

I had grave doubts about the resolution for releasing this money passing the National Council. Two very important members of the Council spoke very strongly against this resolution. I made my first speech before the National Council as Associate Secretary of the Overseas Department for this resolution. I probably did not carry very much weight. Great thanks is due to Dr. Franklin for the very fine speech he made supporting the resolution. I am sure if he had not spoken so strongly for this the resolution would not have been carried. There were four people who spoke regarding it, two for, and two against. Fortunately, the two people who spoke for the motion spoke last and seemed to conteract the impression made by the first two speakers. It is up to you to be so careful in the administration of these funds that we will have no regrets in having released it for use at the present time. I hope you will not go ahead with any construction that is not absolutely necessary for the present emergency. In the explanation in connection with this resolution the National Council was given the following quotation from your letter:

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"I can assure you that both the Executive Commi tee of the Huachung Provisional Board of Directors and our University Senate will take the greatest caution in watching the situation and in deciding when the building may be started."

Please keep this promise in mind. In speaking before the Council I assured them you and the Executive Committee would be very careful and, in all probablility, would not use anywhere near all of the $100,000.00 for immediate construction. I emphasized the importance of making the money available for general morale purposes. I told them it would be a great satisfaction and help to you in dealing with the situation if the money was made available even though it was not used immediately.

Please keep us informed and posted as to what construction you are going ahead with.

With very best wishes and kind regards to all.

Very cordially yours,

J. Earl Fowler

JEF:O

[1]

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FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

May 19, 1948

Mr. J. Earl Fowler
281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

MAY 24 1948
U. S. [illegible]

Dear Earl:

I received your letter of May 6 during the week-end. When the Senate had a special meeting yesterday to consider the recommendations of its Committee on Planning, I had your letter read so as to let them know the feelings of some of the members of the National Council in releasing the $100,000. We are most grateful that the money has been released. I made it very emphatic yesterday that we should take every care in using the money as wisely as possible so as not to embarrass you or others, such as Dr. Franklin, who spoke so strongly for releasing the money.

The Planning Committee recommended that we build twelve houses, so as to vacate the other half of Poyu Hostel for the accommodation of forty more men students next term, and to take over the house originally built for the Shepards, now occupied by the Coes and two of the single ladies, all Sheng Kung Huei appointees, to accommodate twenty to thirty more girls, instead of completing the New Yeh Hostel at the present time. The Music Department needs more room, and the Committee recommended that the Methodist House, south of the Shepard House, be turned over to the Music Department, and a house be built for the Methodist appointee, just as two houses should be built for the present occupants of the Shepard House; and four houses for the faculty families who are now in one-half of Poyu Hostel. Vacating that much space for use of the college would mean the building of houses for seven families; then there are others such as Walter Allen, and Brank Fulton who have to be housed.

Their estimate is US$5,000 per house, but we urged that instead of spending $60,000 on houses alone, the amount should be reduced by at least $20,000. It is not necessary for all the houses to be of the $5,000 type; some ought to cost less. The Senate is going to meet again tomorrow evening, the 20th, to consider especially the Over-all Plan, a sketch of which has been submitted by Mr. May of the Methodist Mission, who has been in touch with Mr. Bergamini. We have been trying to get Bishop Gilman to attend the meeting, but I am not sure he will be able to come since it is going to be in the evening from seven till ten. It looks as if we shall spend a little bit over $50,000, and the money will be mainly on faculty residences. Some of it, however, will be spent on remodelling present houses for academic use.

John Coe has already written you about the preliminary agreement which we have signed with the representatives of the Chekiang Guild property. It is possible that in about two to three more weeks we shall close the deal. The total amount we shall have to spend on that property, a little less than an acre and a half, will be something around US$17,000, including middlemen's fees. The Transfer Tax will be pretty heavy, something like 10%, but we shall try to get it remitted by seeing the mayor of the city of Wuchang, who is very friendly to us. There is no telling whether we shall be able to accomplish that.

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Bishop Gilman has informed us verbally that there will be a US$1,000 cut from the National Council annual appropriation to Huachung, which is now $12,000 for this year. That will be a serious cut, and I do not know how we are going to make it up.

Sometime ago I heard from the Treasurer's Department, I think it was Mr. Whitney, that some church in America would want to raise my salary. After consultation with Paul Ward, I wrote to the church and informed the clergyman that US$1200. should be raised a year, but no further word has been received. If that should come through and be considered in addition to the National Council Appropriation, we may be able to make up the cut. I shall look up the particulars in my correspondence and let you know later. Perhaps Mr. Whitney may have some recollection about the matter.

Last week I received a cable from Mr. Evans of the United Board, saying that US$2500. had been deposited with Mr. Greiner for Huachung, as part of the Survival Fund. John Coe and I took it to be similar to the US$2500 sent to us at Christmas time by the United Board. The members of the Executive Committee resident in Wuhan are considering how to use the money for the benefit of the members of the faculty and staff. $1,500,000

This spring has been very rainy. It is one of the wettest springs we have ever had, as far as my memory goes. It is still raining, and we do not know when it will stop. The river is rising, but if the rain should stop before June, there is no great danger of flood in this part of the country. It is the June-July rain which causes the flood. When it rains so much now, the probability will be that we are going to have a dry and hot summer.

I have just received a communication from the Ministry of Education that the National Government has awarded me a Victory Medal. The medal has not come yet. It is still being cast, but the certificate has already arrived. It is for work done during the war, and I suppose thousands of people are receiving the same. However, it is an honor given to the university, and I am only a representative of the work here.

With the best wishes,

Yours affectionately,

Francis

FCMW/MRC

P.S. It was Wallace E. Smith who wrote me on May 12th 1947 that "St. James Church School, N. Fourth & Convention Streets, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, (Miss Agnes Hickson, Director of Christian Education) took as their Lenten project" my stipend. I wrote to Miss Hickson on May 29, 1947.

F.

0834

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1201

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
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LC = Deferred Cable
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Ship Radiogram

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MAY 20, 1948

DR. FRANCIS C M WEI
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, CHINA

HUACHUNG COMMITTEE VOTED ITS FUNCTIONS AS BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL CEASE UPON NOTICE FROM YOU OF FORMAL ORGANIZATION OF NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN CHINA. REQUEST THIS NOTICE BY JUNE 20.

SHERMAN

CHG OVERSEAS DEPT

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

0835

JUN 1 1948
J. EARL FOWLER

私立華中大學
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
WUCHANG, CHINA
TEL. ADDRESS: "WUCHANG 8344"
電報掛號：武昌八三四四

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CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

May 24, 1948

Mr. J. Earl Fowler, Assoc. Secretary
Huachung Committee
281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Earl:

I am writing to report to the Huachung Committee, and through that Committee to the United Board, the recommendations adopted by the University Senate, which first met on Monday, May 17, in the afternoon, then for almost four hours in the evening of Wednesday, May 19, and then again on Thursday, May 20, for three hours in the afternoon. All the members of the Senate were present, and at some of the sessions, our college physician, Mrs. Tregear, was also present.

You will recall that John Coe brought back from Manila, on his way to China from the United States, a set of plans prepared by Mr. Bergamini, who had worked on those plans for many months. That was early in March, and it happened that at just about the same time Mr. John May, mission architect of the Methodist Mission, was visiting in the Wuhan cities. By the courtesy of Mr. Heady, Mr. May was able to spend several afternoons on our campus and met with the Senate one of the afternoons, discussing the various plans for the future development of our land here. Before Mr. May had the time to study Mr. Bergamini's plans, he came to a general conclusion as to the best use of our land at present available, including that part of the Boone Campus occupied by the Boone Middle School, which is contemplating moving out to the new property in two to three years, circumstances permitting. When Mr. May had a chance to see Mr. Bergamini's proposed plans, he found that he agreed with them almost point-by-point, and he reported that to the Senate.

After Mr. May left Wudhang, he sent back to us from South China an Over-all Plan of the whole campus, indicating the sites of the various major buildings to be erected and houses for faculty and staff members. The major buildings include the Joseph Rank Library, an Assembly Hall which may be the Procter Memorial, the Administration Building, a Students Social Center, and hostels for men students with kitchen, diningrooms, attached.

The Planning Committee, appointed by the Senate, took Mr. Bergamini's plans and compared them with Mr. May's, and then made their report to the Senate in the three sessions held during last week. The following are the recommendations adopted:

I. A General Plan of the University Campus. The following layout was recommended:

1. "The Women's Unit should be limited to the present Moon Gate (including the present administration building and all the buildings on the Lambeth Ground)"

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You will remember that the women students occupy at the present time the Old Yen Hostel, which was formerly a double house facing south and north, occupied before 1926 by Bishop Gilman and Dr. Sherman. This double house was remodelled in 1930 with the donation of Chinese $7,000 made by Dr. W. W. Yen and his brothers and sisters in memory of their mother. Almost perpendicular to the Old Yen Hostel, along the boundary wall between our property and the Roman Catholic Church property, running from south to north, is the New Yen Hostel built in the summer of 1937 just before the outbreak of the war in China. The Moon Gate referred to in the recommendation is the old gate at the eastern end of the corner of Boone Campus facing at a distance the Church of the Holy Nativity, and just on the western edge of Poyu Hostel, which you will remember is the old house turned over to the Methodist Church for a sum of money paid by the Methodist Mission to the American Church Mission in 1924 when Huachung was first incepted. This money was used to construct one single house and one double house on the Lambeth Ground. This corner of the campus to be used for the Women's Unit runs then from the Moon Gate on the east to the Roman Catholic Hospital wall on the west, and then from the embankment facing the Library and Ingle Hall on the north all the way to the south boundary wall of the Boone Compound.

The Lambeth Ground is the property on which three single houses and one double house are now standing. It is called Lambeth Ground because the land was bought about 1915 with money given from funds raised by the Lambeth Conference to Boone University in order to give to the Sheng Kung Huei Dioceses in China interest in Christian higher education in Wuchang. The recommendation contemplates the turning of the present administration building over to the Women's Unit with the offices now occupying the ground floor and the Chemistry department in the upper floor. When this building is properly remodelled, it may suit the purposes of the Women's Unit.

The land thus allocated to the Women's Unit would provide for future development of the women's work when at least one of the single houses and the double house are demolished to make room for new buildings in the future. Those houses were built in 1924 at a very low cost because they were intended to be only temporary houses to last for five years. They have already been used for twenty-four years. At the southwestern corner of this Lambeth Ground stand at the present some small buildings used by the Music Department as piano rooms and an instruction room.

2. "The middle school quadrangle be assigned to the College of Science."

This recommendation anticipates the moving out of the Boone Middle School. The school at the present time has a quadrangle consisting of four buildings: viz., Thomas Hall, Boone Hall, Williams Hall, and East Hall. Boone Hall and Williams Hall are comparatively smaller buildings, built over sixty years ago. East Hall was built in 1903, and at that time it cost about 5,000 taels, or Chinese $7,500. Thomas Hall was built in 1911, and it cost at that time about Chinese $25,000. Latterly, about the year 1932, Bishop Gilman spent the remainder of the Lambeth money on building for the middle school a dining room, kitchen, and some side houses in order to provide a dining room for the middle school students, so that col-

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lege students would have the exclusive use of the dining room on the ground floor of Ingle Hall, which had been shared by the two institutions up to that time.

There are three storeys in Thomas Hall, as originally built. East Hall was built with only two storeys, and later was made into three storeys. Boone Hall and Williams Hall have only two storeys. These four buildings altogether, with dining room, kitchen, and side houses ought to be sufficient for the College of Science, which at the present time has only three departments: viz., Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. They will need many laboratories, work shops, machine shops, class rooms, offices, etc. The floor space in those buildings ought to be ample.

3. "The site of the Boone Boy Scout Building should be the site of the new University Library, and the Colleges of Arts, Education, and Commerce."

The Scout Building was demolished in the first year of the war. It used to stand on that part of the campus quite near to the extreme southeastern corner of the Old Boone Compound. It has on it at the present time a small building erected recently for the Language School with funds contributed by the various missions interested in that school, and it cost less than US$1,000. There also is a faculty residence originally built for the Millers; and the old Elizabeth Bunn Hospital built at least sixty years ago and remodelled for various purposes until it is beyond recognition as a small hospital building; right next to it is a faculty residence built in 1919, first occupied by Dr. Wakefield and his family, now occupied by the Rev. Mark Li, principal of Boone Middle School. When the Scout Building, which was the old Men's Hospital, built at the same time as the Women's Hospital, over sixty years ago, was hit by a Japanese bomb in the summer of 1938, all the other buildings just described were badly shaken, so that they may not last very long anyway. If we should erect a Joseph Rank Library on that site, practically all those buildings will have to be removed. If the Library Building should be started before the Boone Middle School moved out, it would mean negotiations with authorities of the Middle School for the use of the land and the removal of at least two of the houses.

The recommendations couple with the Library the Colleges of Arts, Education, and Commerce, because it is the intention of the Planning Committee and the architect to have those colleges more-or-less attached to the main Library. The Joseph Rank donation, however, would be able to take care of only the Library itself, and not the buildings to be used for the colleges.

4. "The present Starratt House to be remodelled as the new Administration Hall."

The house is called the Starratt house because one-half of the double house is now occupied by the Rev. Alfred B. Starratt and family. It was occupied before the war by Mr. Kemp and family, and the other half by Bishop Gilman. This double house is on that portion of the Boone Compound, which is now occupied by Boone Middle School, and it is only by the courtesy of the Bishop of Hankow and the Boone authorities that the Starratts are given the use of one-half of the double house, the other half being reserved by the mission for the Middle School use. The recommendation also anticipates

the moving out of the Boone Middle School. When that materializes, it is intended that this double house be remodelled and used as the Administration Hall, so as to make the best possible use of the present buildings.

5. "The College Chapel should remain where the Church of the Holy Nativity now is."

This church is perhaps the oldest building on the Boone property. There is no cornerstone bearing any date, but my guess is that it must be at least sixty-five years old. The roof was condemned by Mr. Bergamini twenty years ago, but Mr. May and others who have looked the building over are of the opinion that if the building should be slightly remodelled, with a new roof put on it, it may have yet a life of another thirty years at least. The foundation and the walls are quite solid. We have been able to use the church all these years, even though it was condemned by Mr. Bergamini, because some twenty years ago heavy wooden columns were put in to assure that the roof would not come down on the congregation. This does not present a sightly appearance, but it serves a practical purpose. The Senate recommends that the Chapel should remain there because it occupies the most central part of our property, and it is convenient for the students and faculty to come to church when it is there.

6. "The Social Center. (Student Union). It should be on the same line as the Church and the Administration Hall.

This means that the Social Center for the students when it is built should be a medium-sized building between the Administration Building and the Church. Questions have been raised as to the danger of the ground slipping, but it is believed that when the foundation is dug way down, that danger could be obviated.

7. "The Assembly Hall and the Amphitheater."

The Assembly Hall should be located on the City Wall land adjacent to the Second Boone Teachers' Compound. The Amphitheater would be located just north of the Assembly Hall in the natural bowl formed by the curve of the Old City Wall.

The Amphitheater is a small open-air amphitheater, largely for open-air performances and various activities such as open-air concerts, etc. It is a question when we shall have the funds to provide for such a theater.

The Auditorium may be the Procter Memorial, or the Procter Memorial may be built separately as the Arts Hall.

8. "The Men's Hostels should be located on the new land, outside the City Wall, east of the moat, along the north side of the proposed middle road."

This would bring them slightly south of the line of the auditorium, and the recommendation has in mind the erection of three hostel units in a group to accommodate 150 students with 50 in each unit, with a common dining room and kitchen. To build such a group of hostels for 150 students

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would cost at the present time US$100,000. This would place the hostels on grave land, most of which was above water in the 1931 flood.

So far for the General Layout of the University Campus.

II. The plans for buildings to be erected immediately are recommended as follows:

1. "Completion of the New Yen Hostel as originally planned by Mr. Bergamini."

This, together with the rebuilding of the kitchens and bathrooms of the Old Yen Hostel is estimated to cost about US$15,000.

2. "Extension of the Music Hall on the Lambeth Ground by ten feet to the east."

The Music Hall is only a small building at the southwestern corner of the Lambeth Ground, and the extension is estimated to cost only US$500.

3. "Reconditioning of Poyu Hostel as a hostel for men students."

At the present time one-half of Poyù Hostel has men students and one-half has four faculty and staff families. It is planned to move the families out, and this half has to be reconditioned for student use. It is an old building, and the reconditioning will cost only about US$200. This arrangement will enable the University to add about forty to sixty men students in September when the reconditioning is done.

4. "The building of five large-size and five medium-size faculty residences."

The five large-size faculty residences will be on the City Wall land in the same line as the four residences built by Mr. Bergamini in 1937. It was part of Mr. Bergamini's original plan for those residences that more should be built on that site. The medium-size residences will run from the moat towards the east along the south edge of the projected middle road, as indicated on the map. The large-size residences are estimated to cost US$4,000 each, and the medium-size ones US$2,500-$3,000 each.

5. "Reconditioning of class rooms in St. Paul's Hostel."

This will cost very little money because it is largely a matter of white-washing the ceiling and the walls and getting more light into the class rooms.

When all this work is completed, it will leave US$1,300 for the improvement of the land, the building of roads leading from the new residences to the main campus, provided the medium-size houses cost US$3,000 each; if they should cost less, the balance would be more.

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I would like to remind the Huachung Committee that we have already in reserve about US$9,000, contributed from various Chinese sources, which has been earmarked, with the approval of the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors, for building purposes. If the US$9,000 be deducted from the US$52,000, we would have to take only US$43,000 from the US$100,000 recently released by the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States for building purposes.

I hope you will present this to the Huachung Committee at your earliest convenience, and cable us approval, particularly for the General Layout of the University Campus. We are enclosing a copy of the map, indicating the various sites mentioned in this letter. A copy of this letter and of the map is being sent to Mr. Bergamini in the same mail. Because of the limited time, we are proceeding immediately with the extension of the New Yen Hostel and with the large-size residences, as soon as the approval of the Executive Committee is secured, because they have already had your approval and that of Mr. Bergamini.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Francis C. Wei

Enc.
FCMW/MRC

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May 24, 1948

Dr. Francis C. M. Wei
Huachung University
Wuchang, Hupeh, China

Dear Francis:

At our meeting of the Huachung Committee held on May fifth it was voted that the functions of the Board of Directors of Huachung University, temporarily carried on by the Board of Founders, shall cease upon notice from you that the new Board of Directors has been formerly organized.

I have just seen a copy of the minutes of that meeting which will go to you shortly and acting upon the injunction I have just sent out the following cable:

"HUACHUNG COMMITTEE VOTED ITS FUNCTIONS AS BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL CEASE UPON NOTICE FROM YOU OF FORMAL ORGNAIZATION OF NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN CHINA. REQUEST THIS NOTICE BY JUNE 20."

The reason for the fixing of the date as June 20th is because we turn over to the United Board our functions as Board of Trustees on June 30th when the merger becomes complete. I hope you will not find this hurries you too much. Mr. Fowler seemed to think that you had the matter pretty well in hand already. I will not go into any further details of the matter at this time but will write you later when I get a corrected copy of the minutes.

Faithfully yours,

Arthur M. Sherman

AMS:O
Signed for
Dr. Sherman

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CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

May25, 1948

Mr. J. Earl Fowler
281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Earl:

I have heard from Richard Bien that members of the Huachung Committee will be pleased to receive our Weekly Newsletter in English.

I am asking the office to send you ten copies of our Newsletter every week for distribution to members of the Huachung Committee; because from our mailing list we know that besides yourself, Mr. Lyford, Mr. Wheeler, Dr. Lichtenberger, Dr. Sherman and Dr. Ehlman have been receiving the Newsletter, but we do not know the names and addresses of other members of the committee. Until you have sent us their names and addresses, we shall continue to send you ten copies for those members. If you should want others to receive the Newsletter, such as some members of the National Council, or others, please send me their names and addresses.

Richard Bien has written that he is sailing from America in the latter part of June. I hope that the matter concerning his travel money has been settled according to John Coe's letters to you and to Mr. Wheeler in New Haven.

Things are going on as usual, and term examinations will begin on June 15, with Commencement on June 25. I shall be going to Changsha on the 17th, in order to preach the Baccalaureate Sermon at the Joint Service on June 20 for Fuhsiang and Yali Middle Schools. It is good for me to visit Changsha, at least once a year, in order to renew our contacts with the institutions and friends there. June is always a busy time.

On the coming Sunday, May 30, I have to preach also at the service for the Wuhan University students graduating this year. The service will be under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A. working in Wuhan University. Several middle schools in the Wuhan center have already asked me to preach or address their Commencements. All this has to be done in the midst of correcting about 300 examination papers and getting the Examinations Committee to meet in order to wind up our work here for this year.

I have received the cablegram from Dr. Sherman, saying that the Huachung Committee will cease to function as our Board of Directors, and I am taking steps to notify the various missions concerned that their representatives must meet in June in order to get a new Board of Directors properly organized here. The names of the representatives must be approved first according to h the Constitution by the Huachung Committee, and I would like to have the complete list officially from your Committee, so that we may know who are to be members of the Board here in China.
With the best wishes,

Yours affectionately,

Francis

FCMW/MRC

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WUCHANG, CHINA
TEL. ADDRESS: "WUCHANG 8344"
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~~校長 XXX 章卓民~~
~~PRESIDENT~~ Treasurer
~~FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D., D.C.L., L.H.D.~~

May 27, 1948

JUN 3 1948

Mr. J. Earl Fowler
281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Earl:

Thank you for your letters of May 12 and 17, which arrived within a few days of each other. Thank you for sending on the letter in duplicate in regard to the shipment from the General Biological Supply place.

As soon as I learned that Richard Bien had put in the order for the Biology stuff, I wrote him about it. I have just had a letter from him, saying that he was cancelling all ordering he had done for the Biology department. That should clear the matter up.

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called for late in June, but I believe Francis is now going to call a meeting of the Executive Committee sometime early in June in order to legalize their status, as requested by you and Dr. Sherman.

Francis has just sent off to you a long letter giving the decision of the Senate in regard to the proposed layout. He will submit it also to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors when they meet. I feel it is probably the best that can be worked out under the present circumstances. Bergamini and May agreed on the essential details. The main difference between the present layout and the one that Bergamini sent back with me from Manila is that the positions of the Library and Auditorium are reversed. Bergamini had the Library east of the proposed road. However, it does not look as if we would be able to get that corner beyond the Kemp and Miller houses, and without that it would be almost impossible to place the Library as Bergamini had thought. Also it seems wiser to plan that T'eo Sz Yin should go back of the gymnasium rather than in front. Bergamini originally had the men's hostels outside placed a bit further south. Probably May has placed the proposed new Administration Building and the Social Center a bit too far north on the bank there.

As for the building to be undertaken at the present time, the first recommendations from the Committee were for more building than has been recommended by the Senate. The extension of the New Yen Hostel is a logical move, and if carried out in the way it is planned, should give us accommodation to handle all the women students we will have, as long as the enrollment is kept to 600 or under. The present Yen Hostel kitchen is a mess, and the bathroom over it leaked water into it constantly.

The other building suggested is that of residences. It has not worked too well having half of Poyu Hostel occupied by students and the other half by families, and so if possible, we feel it wise to clear the hostel entirely of the families. Also there is the question of room for some families who

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are not here at the present time, but who we expect will be here in September. Before the war it was relatively easy for us to give a man a rent allowance and then he could go out and find quarters for himself. A considerable portion of Wuchang was destroyed during the war, and there has not been a great deal of rebuilding. Therefore, it is almost impossible to rent any quarters. That is one reason why we are having to find accommodation for more of our staff than we did before the war.

As Francis wrote, he is recommending that a total of US$52,000 be available to be used this summer. He is counting on using first the amounts which have accumulated here for building (from the Government and Joint Campaign), which amounts to somewhat over US$9,000. About US$500 of this has already been used on the Librarian's house, but this in the long run saved us money as we would have to build an entirely new house for the Librarian if we had not done this. The balance of the US$52,000 will have to come from the money released by the National Council.

There was some discussion as to the use of the Chekiang Guild, but no decision was made at the recent meeting. One suggestion has been that the southern part of it next to the street be used for official residences, such as the President's house, etc. Also there is the question in the minds of some of us whether the plot assigned to the Library and its classroom wings will be large enough to handle all that is planned there: viz., Arts, Education, and Commerce. If that is not enough, it would seem logical to plan to use part of the Chekiang Guild land for this purpose. The old Divinity School is a regular ant hill, and it is a question of how long we can use it anyway. When it comes down, ~~it~~, it would be logical to build some kind of a building, using part of its site and the Chekiang Guild.
(probably for Arts)

With the best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
John L. Coe.

JLC/MRC

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PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

See you
JUN 3 1948 Dr. Wei
J. EARL FOWLER

May 27, 1948

Mr. J. Earl Fowler
281 FourthAvenue
N ew York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Earl:

Richard Bien wrote me, under date of May 11, saying that you assured him that inasmuch as my son John received support from the National Council for his studies in Yale, his first duty would be to return to Huachung. He asked me to suggest this to John, so that the idea might sink a bit into his mind.

As far as this matter goes, I am entirely in agreement with you and Richard Bien, but the trouble is that before John left China a year and a half ago, Richard had said to me at least four times that as long as I was president here, he would not want John to come back to join his department. It was my duty to pass this on to John, and he took it without saying anything by way of resentment, although he regretted it. Later when John was at Yale, he wrote back to me that his one desire was to be with me for my last years here , but if Dr. Bien did not want him while I continued my service here,he had no desire to come back. It was pretty hard for the young fellow to have a feeling like that, and I know the reason why Richard had come to such a conclusion before John went to America.

When John graduated from the college in 1940, Richard was at that time dean of the School of Science and head of the department of Physics. Dr. Bien consulted me as to whether he could approach John for appointment as an assistant in his department. I was a bit self-conscious. At the time I felt it would not be good for the young man to have an appointment in his father's college before he had had a chance to do something outside to prove his guts. He taught for a half year in the middle school, and then got into the Tsing Hwa Radio Research Institute where he served for two and a half years. Then our department of Physics became very shorthanded and Richard wanted John to return to serve in Huachung. I agreed to that because John had been out for three years and had proved his usefulness, and so when he was recalled, it would not make any appearance of my showing any favoritism to my own child.

As soon as John came back in 1943, he was put in charge of the Physics store room, the machine shop, and he was also asked to assist Richard Bien himself in his own research, besides carrying a full load as an instructor. I do not want to be partial to my own son, or even to defend him, but he has inherited from me one of my peculiarities, and that is to be very strict with people, particularly in handling public property. Very soon I noticed that John was hurting the sensibilities of some of his colleagues, particularly the machinist in the machine shop, in watching too zealously the interests of the college. That made John very unpopular, and when I started to caution him, it was too late.

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It would be very good for Richard Bien, as I have written him, if he should approach John now in order to counteract the feelings that the young man had about his being not wanted. Of course, when I write to him, I shall persuade him to consider whatever offer may come from his Alma Mater, as soon as he is ready to return to China to serve. I am sure he will come not only because of his obligation to the Church and to Huachung, but also because of his cherished desire to be with me while I am alone here. I am writing you this whole story, so that there may be no misunderstanding.

It is John's desire that when he has taken his Ph.D., he would like to stay a year or so in America by getting an appointment as a research worker somewhere so as to get more experience either in teaching or in research in America. I am sympathetic with this desire of his because I know that usally the best work is done after one's doctorate. Laboratories in China everywhere are still inadequately equipped, whereas in America there are more opportunities for advanced work, but I am leaving this entirely to John's own planning and decision. With regard to his future I would like to say what the father of the Blind Man cured by Jesus said to the Jews, "He is old enough, you may ask him." I am not passing the buck or washing my hands of my son, but it is not good for an old father to dictate to his son what he should do. He has his own conscience and his responsibility to his Creator for the way he is going to handle his own life.

I sent you yesterday a full report on the recommendations of the Senate on the general layout of the campus and the immediate construction of some of the houses and the extension of the Yen Hostel, together with a plan indicating the proposed sites of all the houses and buildings for our future development. A copy of the letter to you, with the plan, was sent in the same mail to Bergamini, with a covering letter asking Bergie to report his comments to the Huachung Committee, and to send me a copy of the same at his earliest convenience.

Time is getting very late, even for the extension of Yen Hostel and the erection of the houses. Looking over the contour of the new land beyond the City Wall, the Planning Committee made some minor modifications to their original recommendation as to the types of houses to build and the exact spot on which they are going to be erected, but this modification would not affect the general recommendation. The extension of Yen Hostel may be somewhat different from the original recommendation: i.e., instead of rebuilding the kitchen and toilet quarters for the girls, they will carry the extension right to the northern edge of the Old Yen Hostel and demolish the old kitchen and toilet quarters, putting the kitchen and the toilets in the new extension. This may mean the expenditure of US$6,000 more, which I think would be worthwhile because it would give more floor space and make the building more useful.

The total amount, however, for all the the residences and the Yen Hostel Extension will not exceed US$50,000 released by the National Council, and the US$9,000 from Chinese sources, making a total of US$59,000.

There is still a great deal of red tape before we can go through and start the construction. The committee here is thinking of getting a reliable contractor to undertake the work. As soon as more details are worked out, I shall report to the Huachung Committee through you.

I just received a letter from Dr. McMullen, dated May 13, enclosing a copy of Dr. Fenn's letter to him, dated April 30, largely on the Fulbright funds, which

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from our experience during the last few months, I know will not be of much use to us for the coming year. Dr. McMullen also enclosed in his letter a report of the Executive Secretary to the Annual Board for Christian Colleges in China, bearing the date of May 11. I have read it only hurriedly and shall study it further when I find the time.

With the best wishes,

Yours Affectionately,

Francis

FCMW/MRC

P. S. Please send from my money in your charge US $100.00 to John in New Haven so that he may remit it to my home in the South. Thank you. F.C.M.W.

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HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
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GRIFFITH JOHN COLLEGE
HUPING COLLEGE
WESLEY COLLEGE
YALE-IN-CHINA COLLEGE

CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

校長 韋卓民
PRESIDENT
FRANCIS CHO MIN WEI, PH.D.,D.C.L.,L.H.D.

May 27, 1948

copy for
Dr. Sherman

Dear

I received during the week-end the following cable from Dr. Sherman, Chairman of the Huachung Committee of the United Board for Christian Colleges in New York, successor to the Huachung Board of Founders abroad, which has been acting since 1939 as the Acting Board of Directors until the present time:

"DLT DR. FRANCIS C. M. WEI HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY WUCHANG:

HUACHUNG COMMITTEE VOTED ITS FUNCTIONS AS BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL CEASE UPON NOTICE FROM YOU OF FORMAL ORGANIZATION OF NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN CHINA REQUEST THIS NOTICE BY JUNE TWENTY: SHERMAN."

According to the constitutional procedure we have to receive the names of all the Directors duly appointed by the several cooperating missions from the Huachung Committee before we can call them together and get organized. But since the Executive Committee of the Provisional Board of Directors has decided to call the Annual Meeting of the Provisional Board of Directors on Monday, June 28, 1948, there may not be sufficient time for us to get the names of the Directors appointed from New York, so will you please send me the names of the Directors appointed by your mission that we may notify them of the meeting on June 28.

As soon as the Board of Directors is duly reorganized, it will take over the duties as Directors from the Board of Founders, now the Huachung Committee, as the official Board in the field, with its duties defined by the Constitution of the Board of Directors, as stipulated by the Ministry of Education, under which Huachung University is registered.

Your prompt attention to this matter will be much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,
Francis C. M. Wei
President

FCMW/MRC

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