171_3155

UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

Huachung
Corres.
Wei, Francis C.M.
1941-1950

3155

0946

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
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.

Wei
Jan 4 to SF
" 4 to McM
" 20 to McM
" 26 to ams
" 26 to McM

Read in Feb PB

January 4, 1949

JAN 17 1949
J. EARL FOWLER

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

Dear Earl:

Since it is Tuesday, I will write you the letter for this week.

There is very little to report except that I have received a letter, signed by Dr. VanDusen, Dr. North, and Dr. McMullen, enclosing a copy of the statement of policy made by the United Board for Christian Colleges in China. I have just dictated a letter to Dr. McMullen in reply to the letter. Enclosed please find a copy.

The New Year festivities were as usual. On Sunday afternoon, January 2, the Choir, under the directorship of David Anderson, gave the second performance of Handel's, "The Messiah." The singing was again very good. The soloists did even better than at the first performance on Christmas Eve. Unfortunately, the first solo was to be given by Peter Fang, Cary Fang's No. Eight, but after the first performance he had an attadk of appendicitis and was sent to the hospital to have an operation. He was, therefore, not able to sing at the second performance, and David Anderson used the phonograph instead for that solo. Admission tickets were sent to all the Christian middle schools and other friends, and Stokes Hall was packed full with a big audience of about a thousand. The singing was in the form of a musical service. I was conducting the service myself, as I did at the first performance, but Bishop Tsang was in the audience on this Sunday afternoon, so I asked him to pronounce the Benediction at the end of the service, and this pleased all the Episcopalians. It was the right thing to do anyway.

Four or five students have gone back to Hongkong or Canton during the week on account of the situation, which however has not worsened much during the week.

As to the reaction of the Communists to President Chiang's New Year message, proposing peace, no one knows very much because I am told that if one should listen to the Communist broadcasts, one would have to be certain which group of Communists are broadcasting. Apparently one group is more ready for peace than the other. But it will take sometime before we can see more light. We feel sure, however, that we shall be able to close the term peacefully on January 20 when the winter vacation will begin. Whether we shall be able to reopen the term according to schedule on February 14 is another question. We are prepared for the worst, but we still hope for the best.

Paul Ward and Alfred Starratt are going about January 13 to Hongkong to spend the vacation with their families, hoping to get back here for the second term with or without their families, according to the situation. While

0947

I am writing, I must say on their behalf that it is very expensive for them to keep their families in Hongkong as the cost of living is high there. I wonder if there is any possibility of the mission supplementing their salarie by giving each of them an extra amount every month for the cost of their families in Hongkong while they are there. It is at least cheaper for them to be in Hongkong for a period, waiting for further developments, than to have them sent back to America, which may mean that we shall lose the services of the two men for some considerable period of time.

Walter Allen is planning to go to Hongkong also during the vacation with Paul Ward and Alfred Starratt in order to get his freight back to Wuchang. I hope he will have no great difficulty in doing so. Gertrude and the baby are going to stay with the Arthur Allens in Hankow during his absence. Everybody else is staying for the winter vacation, as far as I know.

The students are busy now preparing for the term examinations, and they seem to be as jolly as ever.

With Greetings for the Season,

Yours affectionately,

Frances

Enc.
FCMW/MRC

0948

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
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.

January 4, 1949

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

[Copy to Huachung Committee]

Dear Dr. McMullen:

I received yesterday evening your letter, dated December 17, 1948, signed by Dr. VanDusen, Dr. Eric North, chairman of the Board of Trustees, and yourself as Executive Secretary, enclosing a statement of the policy made by the United Board for Christian Colleges in China bearing the same date.

We agree and accept wholeheartedly the statement of policy, and we appreciate very much the kind thoughts for the Christian colleges in China, expressed in the letter. You can count on us in Huachung University to carry out the best we can the policies stated and the ideas of the letter.

As I have been reporting from week to week to Earl Fowler, Associate Secretary of the Huachung Committee of the United Board, for the Huachung Committee and other friends abroad developments in Huachung from time to time, it is not necessary for me to go into details in this letter, trusting that copies of my weekly letters are being sent to you and other members of the Huachung Committee, as they are received in Mr. Fowler's office.

We have had a very happy time during the Christmas and New Year Season with the usual services, celebrations, and festivities. The morale of our faculty and students remains good. As soon as the announcement of the Senate was made three weeks ago that Huachung would not close the term earlier than the scheduled time, the students settled down to work, and they are now busy in their preparation for the term examinations. Only about a dozen students have so far left on account of the situation, mostly to go back to Canton and Hongkong by order of their families. We do not permit any students to go to another institution as refugee students, as our work is going on as usual, but any student may transfer to another institution when they have finished this term. Our term examinations will begin on January 7 and finish on the 19th, with the winter vacation starting on January 20. Fortunately, at the beginning of the term adequate preparations were made for the food of the students for the whole term. Only the men students have had to pay an extra amount for board, equivalent to less than US$2 per person. They have been having fairly good food, certainly much better than the students had in Hsichow during the war. The faculty members are being paid from month to month, according to the bank rate of exchange, which has been rather favorable.

Prices are high, but in terms of the silver dollar or US currency, they have not gone up very much. There is no sign of scarcity of food or of any other commodity necessary for daily living and a reasonable amount of comfort. We have a fire in all the offices, and in the library and laboratories during these winter days, which makes work more comfortable.

0949

We are making full preparation to reopen the second term on February 14, if the situation in China, particularly in our part of the country, will permit it. President Chiang in Nanking has already broadcast his message, proposing to have peace with the Communists. So far no official reaction has been reported from the Communist leaders to that proposal. The conjecture of people in the Wuhan cities is that peace will be difficult, but it must come since it is the desire of the Chinese people. Those of us who are in purely educational work, not involved in any political complications, have little to fear. It may be true that we shall not be able "to carry on without a compromise of essential freedom and the Christian basis," but we are prepared for the worst although we hope for the best. In a situation like this, we can only see one step at a time, and make our wisest decision as to the next step.

On December 13 I came back from a meeting with the Secretary-in-Chief of the Military Headquarters in Hankow and reported it to our Senate meeting on the same afternoon; and it was unanimously decided by the Senate that we should carry on our work during this term according to schedule, which we are now doing. Huachung University is a very democratic institution, and the President has to execute all the actions taken by the Senate. Personally, I share fully with the decision of the Senate, which seldom acts contrary to my advice. The most encouraging thing is that the whole faculty are of the same opinion and willing to take the same stand, the students being most cooperative.

There is little that we can do in preparation for a crisis. Members of our faculty and staff are storing up foodstuffs, in case rice should become scarce or difficult to get later on in the spring. The Treasurer's office is prepared to advance a reasonable amount of money for such purchases, but our people have not asked for that yet. They are doing everything possible with the monthly payments, which are made on the 25th of each month according to the exchange rate at the time.

If we should reopen at the middle of February, our enrollment would certainly be much smaller, possibly only two-thirds of our enrollment in September.

Our five double houses, built on the new land outside the old City Wall, proved to be very satisfactory, and they are now all occupied by our faculty and staff members, according to the plan drawn up by the Housing Committee of the University. The problem may arise as how to hold all our buildings during the winter vacation, when most of the students have left, but we have gone through similar drises before, and so far none of our buildings have been occupied by troops. However, we shall report from time to time, and we know that the military and civil authorities in the Wuhan Center have been very cordial, and we trust they will continue to be so as long as the present regime remains.

With Greetings for the Season to all friends on the United Board for Christian Colleges in China and in all the cooperating missions and others, I remain in the Fellowship of Christ,

Yours sincerely,

FCMW/MRC

0950

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
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.

JAN 24 1949
FOWLER

January 10, 1949

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

Dear Earl:

This is my letter for the week beginning January 9. I hope all my previous letters have reached you safely, although I doubt some of my recent letters have arrived at all. Many of us have not heard from America for weeks. Some of our people have not heard even from Shanghai or Hongkong for a long time, although letters to those places seem to be going through all right. We do not know the reason. It is just another Chinese puzzle, which is however taxing heavily on our nerves and patience.

We are in the midst of our term examinations, which will be finished on the 19th. There is every reason for us to believe that we shall be able to close the term without any mishap on January 20, but whether we shall be able to reopen on February 14 and 15 for the second term is problematical.

The Civil War seems to be starting up again after a long period of inactivity, both in the north and east, but that does not mean to our mind that there is no hope for peace. Nanking has expressed its desire for peace, and as far as we know, President Chiang and his government are doing everything possible to stop the Civil War, but it can be stopped only when both sides are willing. You may have had reports as to the unfavorable response of the Communists, but the reactions are only unofficial. The official voice of the Communists has not made itself known yet. As one of the high officials visited this center from Nanking yesterday, I had the honor of lunching with him in the governor's house at a small party, and as all old friends we talked for a long time. He even answered many of our questions without telling us anything. Of course, he is a diplomat and is not supposed to commit himself, and he was making an unofficial visit. As far as I could gather in the long conversation, he was not at all optimistic, but he had not given up hope yet.

Many people in different parts of the country, particularly in the Wuhan Center, are very active in promoting peace. We are waiting to see whether this new method proposed in Nanking, to get the Four Powers to mediate, will be successful. It is difficult to say whether it is good to have peace at any cost, because it certainly will mean the curtailment of liberty, but one has to remember that since 1937 China has been involved in a bloody war, and naturally the people are war-weary. The hope in the minds of many of the Chinese is that if peace should be possible at this time even at a great cost, there may yet be a chance for the Chinese people to have a shadow of liberty; and when the tides in the world's affairs should turn, we shall gain more of it. If the fighting should go on to the bitter end, we may ~~have~~ for some years to come have to be on the inner side of the Iron Curtain.

We hear all kinds of rumors almost everyday, and several times my name has been associated with some of the rumors, but I pay no attention to them. I have never been connected with any political party, never been an official, nor involved in any kind of politics, so personally I am prepared to accept what-

0951

ever comes and see the situation through. I do not feel like the captain of a sinking whip, but I do have the feeling that our neighbor's house is on fire; and since I am not able to help them, I have to see that the fire will not involve all of us when it comes.

Prices are rising everyday. The silver dollar today is at $130.GY. The GY is following the beaten path of the NC. Yesterday the bank's exchange rate for the American dollar was 170, and it ought to be 185 today since silver is 130, but we have not heard yet. Since the Chinese New Year is on January 29, John Coe is making payments to the members of the faculty and staff on January 19 and January 20, at their own choice. Some people will want to have money a little bit before Chinese New Year.

Before I close this letter, I would like to remind you that the Minutes of the Huachung Committee Meeting in October have not arrived, and I have not heard from the United Board about the US$20,000 for Huachung from the US$60,000 from the Presiding Bishop's Fund, about which you wrote me sometime ago. I would like to have this item of income checked up and officially confirmed by the United Board.

Perhaps 90% of the students will leave for the winter vacation; and if we should reopen on February 14, we may not have more than two-thirds of the enrollment in September. All the faculty and staff are staying during the vacation except Paul Ward, Alfred Starratt, and Walter Allen, who are going to Hongkong to visit their families, or to bring up freight in the case of Walter Allen.

With every good wish to you, your family, and our friends in New York,

Yours affectionately,

Francis

FCMW/MRC

0952

Copy for Mr. Fowler

January 13,1949

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

My dear Francis:

I have received a letter from Miss Johnston enclosing your letter of December 19th regarding the allocation of $125,000 from funds contributed by her and Mrs. Procter for the memorial building to be used for administration and the arts department. I think it is an excellent idea to plan for this building to be erected at the same time as the Rank Library, and I have just written to Miss Johnston expressing my pleasure in her willingness to accept your suggestion to this effect.

Mr. Greiner informs me that of the gifts made by Miss Johnston and Mrs. Procter there is a balance on hand of $169,446.32 of which $54,000 is designated for "operation" and $115,446.32 for building. I have given this information to Miss Johnston and suggested that she approve of a transfer of $10,000 from the balance in operating funds to be added to the building fund balance, in order to meet the sum needed for your proposed building.

I have talked with Mr. Lyford and he also approves of your suggestion. He makes the further point that the plans for the layout of the whole campus should be prepared now so that buildings to be erected later will have adequate space and suitable location. I presume you have sufficient data now at your disposal in some recent surveys which will enable your building committee to do this in a general sort of way.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you especially in these difficult days, and we greatly appreciate your weekly letters.

My affectionate regards

0953

Huachung University
Wuchang, China

January 20, 1949

Dr. Robert J. Mc Mullen, Executive Secretary
United Board for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Yl, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Mc Mullen:

I received during the week two letters from you: the first was dated December 20, which was a duplicate of the same letter received earlier and already acknowledged; the second was dated December 27th.

As in my previous letter I would like to say that the two statements included in your letter of December 20 had already been distributed among the members of our Senate here, twelve in number. Copies of the two statements sent, with the duplicate copy of your letter of December 20, are not enough to go around our faculty, but we are going to give them to all the department heads and senior members of the faculty with a copy posted in the faculty sitting room so that everybody may read them.

I have noted the contents of your letter of December 27 with care. Again I would say that we heartily agree with the statement of policy adopted by the Trustees of the United Board. There is no telling at the present time how far we shall be able to carry out that policy under the changed circumstances, but it is out determination to go as far as we can without compromising on Christian and educational principles. We weathered the storm during the period of 1926-29, and it may be more difficult to do it again this time, but the only Christian thing is to try our best.

As to the question of allowing two representatives on the Board of Directors to the London Missionary Society, it would not be according to the provision in the Constitution of Huachung University if we should interpret it strictly, but the Methodist Missionary Society has two representatives and the London Missionary Society has two representatives and the London Missionary Society has only one. At the present time, the Methodist Missionary Society has three salaried missionaries on our faculty, with one wife serving full-time as college physician, and another wife working part-time as a teacher as well as an office secretary; whereas the London Missionary Society has only two salaried missionaries on our faculty and one wife teaching practically full-time. The money contribution from the two missions is about the same. This action, however, has been raised to allow the London Missionary Society two representatives on the Board of Directors of Huachung University because the contribution from that mission is almost the same as that of the Methodist Missionary Society. We have raised the question, not to do anything contrary to the constitutio , but to ask whether the constitution could be amended for this change. As soon as action has been taken, please let us know. By the way, during the Japanese occupation, we lost the greater part of our files, and so I have not been able to find a copy of the constitution of Huachung University here. Will you please have a copy sent to me at your earliest convenience.

0954

I have been reporting directly to the Secretary of the Huachung Committee, because it was my understanding that the various institutions would have direct correspondence with their respective committees of the United Board. Since it is your desire that I should report hereafter directly to the office of the United Board through you, I shall do so. Please send a copy of my report or letter, whenever received, to Mr. Fowler, because his mission in New York would like to be kept informed about our developments here. I may send duplicate copies to Mr. Fowler's office from time to time.

I have consulted Professor John L. Coe, treasurer of Huachung University, concerning the fiscal year. He is making arrangements to close the fiscal year on June 30 rather than on July 31 every year. This will be reported to our Board of Directors when it meets.

I have noted also the actions of the Trustees of the United Board taken on December 17, on the recommendation of the Huachung Committee, concerning the Board of Directors. This action will be reported to the Board at its next meeting.

Your paragraph on the proposed agreement between Huachung University and the Boone Library School has been read with care and interest. Copies of this paragraph have been sent to the six members of the committee appointed by the Senate to negotiate with the Boone Library School for reunion. No formal agreement has yet been made with Boone Library School, and we have no intention of doing so until it has received the authorization from the United Board. The Committee is still getting more material on the matter, to be sent to you when the process is completed. I would like, however, to point out that while it is true that library facilities in Wuchang are not so good as in other centers for a library school, you ought, however, to bear in mind the history of the library training movement in this country. It was Miss Mary Elizabeth Wood who started the teaching of Library Science in Boone University way back in 1921. Although the Boone Library School became independent in 1931, it has never severed its connection with the American Church Mission, which has the largest share in Huachung University. It is largely because of the very genuine desire of the Boone and Huachung Alumni and of the members of the Sheng Kung Huei in Central China that we are taking up the question again of combining the two institutions so as to make the Library School a part of Huachung University, ~~at~~ The Boone Library School may not have been up to standard for the past few years, but if and when it becomes a part of Huachung University again, the standards will be improved. We have a fairly good library in Huachung University, and the Wuhan University Library is considerably larger than our own. With the two combined together, there ought to be sufficient facilities for the training of librarians. You ought at least to attach some importance to the historical prestige of Wuchang as a center of Library training.

Professor John L. Coe, our treasurer, is taking up the matter of having a checking account in the National City Bank of New York, so that we may write checks here, as well as your doing so in New York. In view of the changing situation in the country, this may be of advantage, especially to meet a crisis.

While I am writing, I would like to report that beginning with this term, the Patons & Baldwins Corp. Ltd. has been supporting a chair of Physics in Huachung University, with Professor Richard P. Bien as the first incumbent. Beginning with January 1, 1949, the Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., with its office in Shanghai, will maintain a chair of Chemistry in Huachung, with Professor George Bien as its first incumbent. Each corporation will pay £600 a year to the Universtiy

0956

which will cover the salary and rent of the professor, and leave about $182 for research work. There is no stipulation as to how long the first chair will be maintained here, but it is definitely in the understanding between the Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd. and Huachung University that the chair of Chemistry will be for a period of five years, to be renewed when and if it is agreeable to both parties at the end of the period.

During the last week the Rev. Thomas Lee of one of the Lutheran Missions working in Central China, came to see me with three other Lutheran missionaries and one of our Alumni, enquiring as to the procedure for the United Lutheran and Augustana Synod Lutheran Mission, both American, to participate in the work of Huachung University. I gave them all the information, and after the interview with me they had a meeting with the representatives of the Lutheran Students in the University here. While no official word has been received from them, some of the Lutheran students have informed me that Mr. Lee is getting in touch with Mr. Benson, now in Kunming, to propose to their home boards the proposition of joining Huachung as a cooperating unit. I told Mr. Lee and his colleagues that the Lutheran Missions may join us either by taking the matter up first with the United Board, and then letting the matter come to our Board of Directors from New York; or they may make the proposition to our Board of Directors, and the Directors may make recommendations to the United Board. Probably they are going to take it up at the New York end, as soon as they are able to make up their minds about the matter. I realize that it may not make our administration here, particularly my own duties, any easier if the Lutheran Mission should join us, but it is the principle of Huachung University to cooperate with all missions which would recognize the Christian status of each other, and are willing to work for the same Common Cause. The Lutheran work is particularly strong in Honan, Hupeh, and Hunan; and if they should come in as a cooperating unit, it would certainly strengthen us in many ways.

As to the Civil War in China, you may have as much information in New York as we have in Wuchang. Yesterday I was in Hankow, seeing the British and American consuls, and some of my western and Chinese friends in business. As I said to some of my colleagues here today, their attitude is both optimistic and pessimistic. Pessimistic in that our center will probably be under a new regime very soon, but optimistic because no one would think we would be involved in severe fighting. If there should be any change, it would be a peaceful one, We are making every preparation to meet such an eventuality. Again, I would report that we are prepared for the worst, while we are hoping for the best.

Today is the beginning of our winter vacation, which is according to the university schedule adopted by the Senate last June. If all goes well, the second term will begin on February 14. The enrollment is bound to be much smaller, perhaps only two-thirds of what that in September if it should be as large even as that. Many of the students will find it difficult to pay the fees, and so we have to find all sorts of ways and means to help them financially. Sometime ago Mr. J. Earl Fowler wrote that he had secured some money from the Presiding Bishop's Fund, of which US $20,000was earmarked for Huachung, but I have had no word from you with regard to that extra contribution from the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. I would be obliged if you

0957

which will cover the salary and rent of the professor, and leave about $182 for research work. There is no stipulation as to how long the first chair will be maintained here, but it is definitely in the understanding between the Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd. and Huachung University that the chair of Chemistry will be for a period of five years, to be renewed when and if it is agreeable to both parties at the end of the period.

During the last week the Rev. Thomas Lee of one of the Lutheran Missions working in Central China, came to see me with three other Lutheran missionaries and one of our Alumni, enquiring as to the procedure for the United Lutheran and Augustana Synod Lutheran Mission, both American, to participate in the work of Huachung University. I gave them all the information, and after the interview with me they had a meeting with the representatives of the Lutheran Students in the University here. While no official word has been received from them, some of the Lutheran students have informed me that Mr. Lee is getting in touch with Mr. Benson, now in Kunming, to propose to their home boards the proposition of joining Huachung as a cooperating unit. I told Mr. Lee and his colleagues that the Lutheran Missions may join us either by taking the matter up first with the United Board, and then letting the matter come to our Board of Directors from New York; or they may make the proposition to our Board of Directors, and the Directors may make recommendations to the United Board. Probably they are going to take it up at the New York end, as soon as they are able to make up their minds about the matter. I realize that it may not make our administration here, particularly my own duties, any easier if the Lutheran Mission should join us, but it is the principle of Huachung University to cooperate with all missions which would recognize the Christian status of each other, and are willing to work for the same Common Cause. The Lutheran work is particularly strong in Honan, Hupeh, and Hunan; and if they should come in as a cooperating unit, it would certainly strengthen us in many ways.

As to the Civil War in China, you may have as much information in New York as we have in Wuchang. Yesterday I was in Hankow, seeing the British and American consuls, and some of my western and Chinese friends in business. As I said to some of my colleagues here today, their attitude is both optimistic and pessimistic. Pessimistic in that our center will probably be under a new regime very soon, but optimistic because no one would think we would be involved in severe fighting. If there should be any change, it would be a peaceful one, We are making every preparation to meet such an eventuality. Again, I would report that we are prepared for the worst, while we are hoping for the best.

Today is the beginning of our winter vacation, which is according to the university schedule adopted by the Senate last June. If all goes well, the second term will begin on February 14. The enrollment is bound to be much smaller, perhaps only two-thirds of what that in September if it should be as large even as that. Many of the students will find it difficult to pay the fees, and so we have to find all sorts of ways and means to help them financially. Sometime ago Mr. J. Earl Fowler wrote that he had secured some money from the Presiding Bishop's Fund, of which US $20,000was earmarked for Huachung, but I have had no word from you with regard to that extra contribution from the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. I would be obliged if you

0958

would let me know at your earliest convenience about it.

About 85% of our students have gone home for the winter vacation, but all our faculty and staff members are staying here with their families. Professor Paul Ward and The Rev. Alfred B. Starratt have gone to Hong Kong to visit their families with the full expectation of returning in February for their teaching here. Dr. Walter P. Allen is leaving tomorrow for Hongkong to bring in his excess baggage, which has been shipped from America and redirected from Shanghai to Hongkong.

So far our buildings have not been occupied by troops, and the military authorities have given us posters to prevent the troops from coming in. In every way the local authorities are very cooperative and cordial. We are in good relations with them, and we are also in a very happy neighborhood, so that if there should be any local disturbance, we expect to escape molestation. As a matter of fact, the American Consul General in Hankow has arranged to make our compound the concentration point for American Citizens in case of disturbances. The British Consul told me yesterday that in the eventuality of any fighting in this center, all the British nationals on our faculty ought to stay on our own campus. Chinese opinion is the same among the business people in Hankow.

I am not leaving Wuchang at all during the vacation, and I do not propose to leave here, even for a short period, until the situation is clarified.

We are happy that we have had a very good term without any student trouble. Everything has gone on according to schedule and with complete pleasantness.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

President

FCMW/MRC

0959

January 25, 1949

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

My dear Francis:

I am terribly sorry and ashamed for not having acknowledged all of your letters. Unfortunately, I had to go to the hospital for a general check-up following the December meeting of the National Council and I was out for the next three weeks. You can't imagine how difficult it has been for me here without Bishop Bentley and also Chaplain Titus a good part of the time. I am carrying about four men's work and not doing any of it well. Besides all of the normal work, this is the end of our Triennium and the third year of every Triennium is always a headache. We do not anticipate any more money for our 1949 budget than we had in 1948 and there are thousands and thousands dollars worth of automatic changes. That means I have been devoting most of my time for the past month in trying to juggle budgets and get the final 1949 budget into shape for the February meeting of the National Council. On top of this, I am trying to work out a Program of Advance for the next Triennium. My day starts at 6:30 in the morning and I rarely get to bed before midnight. In the last couple of weeks it has been necessary to work all day Saturday and Sunday until late in the evening. I don't remember having written you since December. This is one of the reasons why there has been a scarcity of mail in Wuchang and Hankow. I just have not been able to keep up with all there is to do.

Your letter of January tenth arrived yesterday. I am mighty grateful for your weekly letters and I greatly appreciate your letters more than any of the others we receive from China. It has been a real satisfaction that our mission family in Hankow has remained so calm and collected and have not talked about leaving China.

We are, naturally, sorry your name has been mentioned in some of the rumors. I am glad that you are ta ing it in your stride and are not particularly apprehensive. There is always a great satisfaction in knowing, under such circumstances, that your hands are clean and that there is nothing definite that they can tie you up with. My opinion is that any outstanding character is always associated with such rumors. You have done such a superb job or administrating the

0960

University and keeping the students in line and in order when other institutions have been disturbed. It is to be expected that some people with ulterior motives would try to find some cause to cause you trouble. If and when there is any change in the present government I hope and pray that you will not be in any way molested. You will be in our thoughts and prayers constantly.

Your letters are generally copied and sent to members of the Executive Committee of the Huachung Committee and a copy to Dr. McMullen as well as the interested officers here in the building. I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. McMullen with the request that he write to you direct. When I get the appropriation from the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief for the United Board for Christian Colleges that was the first item for their present campaign, to raise at least one-half a million dollars. About $250,000 of this was to come from mission boards. I have not been in touch with Dr. McMullen recently so do not know what the results of their general campaign have been. At the time the appropriation was made they still had funds on hand from last year's campaign which had not been disbursed and it was my understanding that Huachung had about from six to ten thousand dollars credit of back funds which had not been drawn. Because of these funds, there was no immediate urgency regarding the last appropriation. That is perhaps why you have not heard from Dr. McMullen. I am sure you will hear from him in the near future.

I sincerely hope the local situation will not deteriorate to the extent that you will not be able to reopen for the next term on February fourteenth. I hope that the exchange rate keeps up fairly close to your cost of living index so it will not make a great emergency for additional funds. I am sorry to have to tell you that the Huachung appropriation from the National Council this year will have to remail at $11,000, the same as it was in the 1948 schedule. We were able to make up the cut of last year during the year so you received the usual $12,000. I do not anticipate that will be the case in 1949. We are truly much worse off financially at the present time than we have been ever since I have been here in New York. However, in the past we have been able to rise to every emergency and I do not expect the Church to let anybody down in the future. We are having very difficult sledding and being alone here in the Department has caused me to worry a great deal. I wish you would extend to the members of the staff our great appreciation for the splendid manner in which they have carried on during the past year. It is a real inspiration to us here. We just hope and pray you will be able to carry on with the same spirit and high morale.

With very best wishes and kind regards.

Very sincerely yours,

J. Earl Fowler
Associate Secretary

JEF:O

0961

School of Arts
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
Wuchang, China.

FEB 4 1949
U. EARL HINKLE

January 25, 1949

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

Dear Dr. McMullen:

A few days ago President Wei sent me an excerpt from your letter of December 27, 1948 which has reference to the proposed re-union of Boone Library School with Huachung University. As Chairman of the university's committee on Cooperation with Boone Library School, I am writing to express my profound disappointment at the action taken by the United Board Committee on this matter.

For more than a year - since the visit to this center of Dr. Charles B. Shaw - we have been steadily working for closer cooperation between Huachung and Boone Library School. The proposed re-union of these two institutions was not only inspired by Dr. Shaw's visit: it has long been the cherished hope of many friends and alumni of Boone and Huachung. In working for the re-union, we are not aiming at adding something new to Huachung University, but restoring the organic unity which once did exist between the two institutions and re-affirming the leadership in library service that is the birthright of Boone Library School.

There was a time when the library facilities of Huachung or its predecessor Boone University where inadequate for the full development of a library school. Yet in those same years Boone Library School was able to train efficient librarians many of whom are still occupying important positions throughout China. Whether the present facilities at Huachung can be improved or not depends not so much on geographical location as on the degree of support and genuine cooperation from the United Board. Both historically and organically, the re-union of Boone Library School with Huachung University seems to be the most natural thing to promote. We do not believe in doing things in a big way, but we do have faith in the essential wisdom and fairness of restoring things to the order in which the founders of Boone and Huachung envisaged.

We in Huachung do not feel that we have any right to dissuade any other university from opening a library school for itself, but we cannot believe that any fair-minded person could wish the destruction of the organic unity between Huachung University and Boone Library School in order to facilitate the library school project of some other institution which is too eager for expansion.

May we hope that your Committee on Program and Budget will consider all things most impartially and in the same spirit of just cooperation that your own representative, Dr. Shaw, so well exemplified.

With warmest greetings and regards.

Most sincerely yours,

/s/ John C. F. Lo
John C. F. Lo
Committee of Huachung University
Committee for Cooperation with
Boone Library School

0962

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
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.

January 26, 1949

Rev. Robert J. McMullen, Executive Secretary
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y., U.S.A.

[copy for Earl Foster - Nat. Council]

Dear Dr. McMullen:

I am writing you my letter for the week and trusting that my last letter will reach you in good time. I am sending duplicate copies of my weekly letter to you to Mr. Fowler for the people at "281" and to London for the Methodist Missionary Society, the London Missionary Society, and the China Christian Universities Association offices. I know that they have been receiving copies of my letters regularly. I hope you will make copies of my letter and send them to Dr. Ehlmann in Pennsylvania and Dr. Wheeler in New Haven, if you should consider any of my letters would warrant such duplication of their contents.

Since the visit of the Rev. Thomas Lee and the Rev. H. W. Bly of the Lutheran United Mission, and of the Rev. Reuben Lundeen, and the Rev. Reuben Lundeen and the Rev. David L. Vikner of the Augustana Mission, I have had some informal talks with some of them and others of the Lutheran Missions in this part of the country, and it seems that at least the Lutheran United Mission and the Augustana Mission are getting in touch with the Swedish Lutheran Mission in Hunan to see whether they can formulate some scheme, and report it to their missions in the United States and Sweden, for cooperation with us in Huachung University. It may take a long time to get through the Red Tape, or it may be very soon that you will hear from the missions on this matter. I do not know what form of cooperation they are going to recommend, perhaps with contributions in personnel to the faculty, money contributions to our general budget, and the erection of some faculty residences and a hostel. It is natural that they should want to cooperate with us here because their main forces are in our region. They are particularly impressed with our Christian policy and the general Christian atmosphere among the students.

There is, however, one question which some people have raised with regard to cooperating with the Lutherans, and that is they are very church-minded and may want to maintain their identity. However, this is one of the principles of the foundation of Huachung, and we ought to permit it, provided there is mutual respect on every side. Some of our younger missionaries here may want to push as far as they can the interdenominational freedom. There is a danger of going too far, because some of our supporting missions want to see liberty for everybody without hurting international cooperation in academic work. I have been with Huachung ever since the project was first discussed in 1922, and I know how difficult it has been to steer clear of dangerous rocks which might have wrecked the ship at different times. The other day when we were discussing this very point, I reminded them of the beautiful story told by Mencius in his works about the foolish farmer in the Principality of Sung, who went out to help his crops to grow, only to the disappointment of his son who found the next day that the crops had entirely withered away because of his father's untimely efforts.

0963

You have more news ~~news~~ about the situation in China perhaps than we do here, but our local papers are very free in publishing news from all sources. The peace talk is going on and fighting has practically stopped on all fronts. On the other hand, one sees all signs of preparation for war; and unless one knows the background, one may easily feel scared. We are in the midst of our winter vacation, which began on January 20. 80% of the students have gone home with only 20% remaining in the hostels. All the faculty and staff members are staying for the vacation, except three American missionaries, two of whom have gone to visit their families in Hongkong for the vacation, and a third has gone to Hongkong to fetch his baggage, which had been shipped from America to Shanghai in the fall and redirected to Hongkong.

We are making full preparations to start the second semester on February 14, but it is still uncertain whether circumstances will permit. My guess is that we may be able to start the second term, but with a much smaller enrollment, perhaps only two-thirds that of last September. So far we have been successful in keeping the troops out from our buildings, but everyday we have to watch the situation and talk to the officers who come in to look around. The military authorities have been very cooperative, and we have placards from all of them, saying that our buildings are not to be occupied by troops.

Prices are rising not only because of the approaching Chinese New Year, but also because of the increasing inflation of the new currency. Just at the moment the silver dollar is almost at par with the US dollar, according to the bank rate. If this should continue, it would affect us very seriously, because all market prices are based on the silver dollar.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

FCMW/MRC

0964

Rank Library

Permission to use $25,000 gift for Procter Fund for the Procter Memorial

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
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.

January 26, 1949

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

Dear Dr. Sherman:

I received yesterday your good letter of January 13, 1949, informing me that you had received a letter from Miss Mary Johnston enclosing my letter of December 19 regarding the allocation of US$125,000 from funds contributed by her and Mrs. Procter for land and buildings for Huachung University, including the Procter Memorial Hall to be used for Administration and the College of Arts.

I am very glad to know that you approve this idea of erecting the Procter Memorial Building at the cost of approximately US$125,000 and at the same time as the Rank Memorial Library, and that Miss Johnston had expressed her willingness to accept this suggestion. I have further noted that there is altogether a balance on hand of US$169,446.32, of which US$54,000 is designated for Operation and US$115,446.32 for Buildings. It is therefore necessary to transfer US$10,000 from the Balance of Operation to the Buildings Balance, in order to meet the sum needed for the proposed building.

In making this suggestion to you and Miss Johnston, I had hoped that we might get Miss Johnston and Mrs. Procter to add to their contributions for the Memorial Building, for which they originally gave only US$30,000 besides US$25,000 for a Memorial Tower, altogether US$55,000. But if it is their wish just to transfer sufficient amount from the balance on hand to Buildings from Operation, we shall have to let the matter rest at that. However, if you should deem it advisable, you may raise this point with the ladies in Glendale, Ohio.

I am glad also to know that Mr. Lyford approves the suggestion of erecting the Procter Memorial Hall at a cost of approximately US$125,000. So far we have only the General Lay out of the whole campus, which has already been sent to the Huachung Committee for approval, and as far as my memory goes, the approval has been received, but owing to the circumstances in China during the last year, little has been done with regard to detailed plans for the buildings. I have already written to Mr. Rattenbury in London, at the suggestion of the Senate here, asking that he should get in touch with Mr. May, the architect of his mission, to undertake the plan of the Rank Memorial ~~Hall~~ Library, in consultation with the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts. So far nothing has been heard from Mr. Rattenbury except that he has received my letter and is getting in touch with Mr. May on the matter.

While I am writing, we are in the midst of our winter vacation, with full expectations that we may be able to start the second semester on February 14. Peace prospects are much better than they were a week ago, since according to the latest news, the Communists have accepted the proposal of the Nationalists to negotiate for peace, and both parties have designated delegates who shall meet presently in Peiping. The way to peace is still a thorny

0965

one in my opinion, but with the general desire of the whole nation for peace, the aim will be accomplished sooner or later. Just at the present moment people feel still rather unsettled in their minds, but we are all hoping for the best.

So far none of our buildings on this side of the river have been occupied by troops. We have placards from all the military authorities to keep troops out, but it means a great deal of effort and unpleasantness on the part of our senior missionaries to talk almost everyday with the officers out at St. Hilda's School and at some of our hostels outside the main compound, who are looking for accommodation with their troops.

Everybody is well. Dr. Paul Ward and the Rev. Alfred Starratt have gone to spend their vacations in Hongkong with their families, and Walter Allen has gone to Hongkong to bring back his baggage sent by shipment from America when he was returning to Wuchang in the autumn. Prices are going up; and with the continuous depreciation of the new currency, the exchange rate for the American dollar just at the present moment is lagging far behind the value of the silver dollar, which is the basis for all prices in the market. We cannot say that some of our people are not jittery, but none of us feel really upset over the present situation. As Dr. Thayer Addison has written, we must learn how to get along in a new situation and not take the defeatist's attitude in the midst of radical changes. It is hard to tell what is in store for us in the future, but we are confident of our safety even when the regime changes, although we are waiting to see how we shall be able to carry on our Church and educational work here when the change has been effected.

With affectionate regards to you and Mrs. Sherman, I remain,

Yours as ever,

Frances C. Wei

FCMW/MRC

0966

FEB 7 1949
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

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

CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

January 26, 1949

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

1 copy for Earl Fowler, National Council

Dear Dr. Sherman:

I received yesterday your good letter of January 13, 1949, informing me that you had received a letter from Miss Mary Johnston enclosing my letter of December 19 regarding the allocation of US$125,000 from funds contributed by her and Mrs. Procter for land and buildings for Huachung University, including the Procter Memorial Hall to be used for Administration and the College of Arts.

I am very glad to know that you approve this idea of erecting the Procter Memorial Building at the cost of approximately US$125,000 and at the same time as the Rank Memorial Library, and that Miss Johnston had expressed her willingness to accept this suggestion. I have further noted that there is altogether a balance on hand of US$169,446.32, of which US$54,000 is designated for Operation and US$115,446.32 for Buildings. It is therefore necessary to transfer US$10,000 from the Balance of Operation to the Buildings Balance, in order to meet the sum needed for the proposed building.

In making this suggestion to you and Miss Johnston, I had hoped that we might get Miss Johnston and Mrs. Procter to add to their contributions for the Memorial Building, for which they originally gave only US$30,000 besides US$25,000 for a Memorial Tower, altogether US$55,000. But if it is their wish just to transfer sufficient amount from the balance on hand to Buildings from Operation, we shall have to let the matter rest at that. However, if you should deem it advisable, you may raise this point with the ladies in Glendale, Ohio.

I am glad also to know that Mr. Lyford approves the suggestion of erecting the Procter Memorial Hall at a cost of approximately US$125,000. So far we have only the General Lay out of the whole campus, which has already been sent to the Huachung Committee for approval, and as far as my memory goes, the approval has been received, but owing to the circumstances in China during the last year, little has been done with regard to detailed plans for the buildings. I have already written to Mr. Rattenbury in London, at the suggestion of the Senate here, asking that he should get in touch with Mr. May, the architect of his mission, to undertake the plan of the Rank Memorial ~~Hall~~, in consultation with the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trusts. So far nothing has been heard from Mr. Rattenbury except that he has received my letter and is getting in touch with Mr. May on the matter.

While I am writing, we are in the midst of our winter vacation, with full expectations that we may be able to start the second semester on February 1. Peace prospects are much better than they were a week ago, since according to the latest news, the Communists have accepted the proposal of the Nationalists to negotiate for peace, and both parties have designated delegate who shall meet presently in Peiping. The way to peace is still a thorny

0967

one in my opinion, but with the general desire of the whole nation for peace, the aim will be accomplished sooner or later. Just at the present moment people feel still rather unsettled in their minds, but we are all hoping for the best.

So far none of our buildings on this side of the river have been occupied by troops. We have placards from all the military authorities to keep troops out, but it means a great deal of effort and unpleasantness on the part of our senior missionaries to talk almost everyday with the officers out at St. Hilda's School and at some of our hostels outside the main compound, who are looking for accommodation with their troops.

Everybody is well. Dr. Paul Ward and the Rev. Alfred Starratt have gone to spend their vacations in Hongkong with their families, and Walter Allen has gone to Hongkong to bring back his baggage sent by shipment from America when he was returning to Wuchang in the autumn. Prices are going up; and with the continuous depreciation of the new currency, the exchange rate for the American dollar just at the present moment is lagging far behind the value of the silver dollar, which is the basis for all prices in the market. We cannot say that some of our people are not jittery, but none of us feel really upset over the present situation. As Dr. Thayer Addison has written, we must learn how to get along in a new situation and not take the defeatist's attitude in the midst of radical changes. It is hard to tell what is in store for us in the future, but we are confident of our safety even when the regime changes, although we are waiting to see how we shall be able to carry on our Church and educational work here when the change has been effected.

With affectionate regards to you and Mrs. Sherman, I remain,

Yours as ever,

FCMW/MRC

0968

Mr Lyford

United Board for Christian Colleges in China

One Hundred-fifty Fifth Avenue . . . New York 11, N. Y.

February 3, 1949

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

My dear Francis:

Please excuse me for dropping your title but I hope we can do so without loss of dignity and maybe an increase of friendliness. At any rate that's the way I feel.

Your letter of January 20th has been duly received and a copy has been made and sent to Mr. Fowler as requested.

In the first place, please allow me to congratulate you on the very fine way in which you have conducted your institution during the past semester. It is no exaggeration to say that Huachung has made a better record than any of the other institutions for this period. Also, you have had the good fortune to receive very substantial gifts from our British friends. In this you have had a significant part. I am sure that you will be able to cultivate this interest and sincerely hope that other chairs may be founded by friends in Great Britain.

It is very interesting to note that the Lutheran missions are consulting with you regarding participation in Huachung. I have promoted this to a degree over here. At one of their conferences I strongly opposed the plan they had for developing a college of their own and fought for a link between them and Huachung. Naturally I am pleased to learn of the progress made in this direction and will be glad to assist in any way possible. Please let me know what I can do.

We are eagerly watching the papers and listening to newscasters to get the latest word on China. Our hearts go out to you good people in sincere sympathy and love. You are constantly remembered in our prayers. We hope that you may be able to carry on the good work without interference and have the utmost confidence in you and that for which you stand. We wish to support you in any way possible.

Enclosed you will find a statement marked Appendix A which has to do with conservation of Chinese faculty personnel. It may not be very thoroughgoing or satisfactory but is the result of a very great deal of thought and consultation. It was first drafted by the Committee on Christian Character, Staff and Curriculum. This is a very strong committee and it gave very careful consideration to the very many angles involved. This report was also given full consideration by the Trustees. This meeting was largely attended and every one seemed deeply interested in this vital question. Its actions were given to a special committee which redrafted the document in the light of the actions taken and it was then submitted by mail to all members of the Trustees. It has now been passed by them unanimously.

There are several things about this which may deserve comment. You will note that we hope to conserve our Chinese faculty regardless of the political regime under which an institution is called upon to function. It is believed that this can best be done when the members of the faculty remain on their job and seek as Christian educators to make their contribution to changing China. For them to leave at this time would not only deprive the country and the church of their services during this crucial period but would in many ways subject them to great inconvenience and perhaps misfortune. This is amplified in the third paragraph of the introduction. I hope this will be taken seriously. It is the result of a very careful consideration of the whole problem.

0969

In article 1 it is suggested that severance pay be given to those who leave an institution and that those who remain be given a bonus of a similar sum. Three months' salary is suggested. This bonus to those remaining in the institution would remain a bonus so long as the institution functions and the teacher involved remains on the staff. Should he retire from the institution it would be his severance pay handed to him in advance so that upon his retirement there would be no further payment on this account. The Trustees believe that this would enable faculty members to keep ahead with the purchase of supplies for their families and would also enable them to be prepared for the future as they certainly could not be without this bonus.

You will note the last sentence in this section 1. Most of our institutions have rather substantial reserves. It is the decided opinion of the Trustees that this is the time to draw upon these reserves. Certainly an emergency exists. They were laidup for use at a time such as this and the Trustees are strongly convinced that it should be done. These bonuses should be paid out of such reserves so far as they are adequate. In your case your reserves are inadequate for this though we are not fully informed as to the amount of your reserves nor the sum required to make these payments. We would like at your earliest convenience to get information about these matters. We note that you have $6,250 to your credit on our books. This is your part of the funds allocated to the Colleges last November. They have not been drawn out. You mentioned also the $20,000 sent us by the Episcopal Board. This is part of the emergency fund to which the Episcopal Board contributed their generous gift. It can only be paid out upon the order of the Trustees. I anticipate that at least half and perhaps all of this sum will be paid to you by order of the Trustees which meet two weeks from tomorrow (February 18th). I will inform you so soon as this action is taken.

One further statement should be made regarding UBCCC funds and their use for the China Colleges. We are striving against great odds to lay up a considerable reserve to be used by the Trustees at such place and in such amount as opportunity may dictate. We are not sure of the future. It may be that some opportunities previously had may cease to exist. The expense of operation of other plants may greatly increase. It is very difficult for us to forecast this future. The Trustees are standing by the policy sent you a few weeks ago and would like to have their funds in such shape as to enable them to use their money where needed, when needed and for what needed. It is for this reason partly that we are insisting that each institution think of the UBCCC as their reserve and not hesitate to use such reserves as they themselves have on hand on their own books. You will realize that it is impossible for the UBCCC to transfer funds in our hands from one university account to another. It seems only fair then that the institutions use their own reserves as needed and when they are no longer available to make known their needs to the UBCCC which will conscientiously follow the policy already adopted and sent out to you.

In paragraph 2 we wish to express our hope that it will be possible to continue to get money to our colleges in China. It may be that each of them will have to make drafts upon their bank accounts and count upon the UBCCC to replenish this account up to the amount of credit which the institution has on our books. This seems to us to be the simplest way. For example, Huachung already has an account with the National City Bank. At present they have $6,250 credit with us. In another fortnight this amount will be largely increased. Mr. Cole, your treasurer, can draw upon your account in the National City Bank as he pleases. The bank will keep us informed as to the status of this account and we can guarantee that no checks will be turned down so long as you do not overdraw the amount of the credit you have on our books. We will thus be making deposits from time to time upon notice of the bank of additional funds being needed to meet checks. We believe that there should be no private exchange arrangements made and that no payment should be made to individual members of the faculty by the UBCCC but only such aid as we give to the institution as such and given by them to their faculty members.

0970

It may be that your enrollment will be reduced and the number of faculty not be so large as before. It is urged that in deciding what faculty to keep on, those who have served best and upon whom the institution can depend most fully for development and greater efficiency will be retained. We remember that our colleges are Christian institutions and wish to conserve the high caliber Christian personnel for these institutions. By giving them continuous employment they can be conserved for future growth and development as opportunity is given.

Section 3 provides that a person now studying in America should be encouraged to return to China and not delay that return too long. If he should decide that his bonus can better be used in the states and goods taken out with him for his family use, arrangements can be made by which his bonus can be paid over here rather than in China and it can be charged, of course, to the account of the college to which he returns,

Paragraph 2 of this section refers to efforts that are being made to assist the Chinese students who have already become destitute or who are soon to face financial difficulties while living here in America. Nearly 4,000 such students are now in this country. Of this number two-thirds are already in financial distress. Others will soon join them as their funds run low. It is estimated that nearly 2,000 of these students are graduates of our Christian universities. We are seeking the help of the U.S. government to provide funds for this group until they can be returned to China. It is impossible to secure permanent employement in this country for any considerable number of them. No one should be encouraged to come over here expecting to find full support for himself for any considerable period of time.

Paragraph 4 leaves the way open "in exceptional cases" to help faculty members who are in the categories mentioned above. Unemployment in America is increasing. I feel that little consideration will be given by immigration authorities to requests that they alter their regulations in order that Chinese might secure positions in this country where they can secure full support. The financial difficulties involved are overwhelming if one would sit down and figure it out. It is for this reason that the United Board goes on record as assuming no responsibility for securing such positions "or guarantee full employment or long support." You will please see that this matter is taken seriously by all those who are thinking of getting out of China and coming to America. We are not in a position to secure for them the support which they may wish to receive.

The adoption of the above program was the main business of the Trustees' meeting. In order to emphasize the importance of the use of reserves as mentioned above, the Trustees took special action regarding this, as follows:

> "The Trustees then considered the financial aspects of carrying out the above policy and it was explained that several of the Colleges have managers' funds and various miscellaneous balances on deposit in New York, subject to their order. Should they be cut off by political events, these funds could not be used for the institutions concerned nor be transferred to other institutions. Therefore it is desirable that the Colleges use their own funds in prepayment of severance pay to their respective faculties, as far as such funds are adequate for this purpose, leaving United Board funds fluid so that they can be applied wherever needed. It was then
>
> "VOTED that it is the judgment of the Board of Trustees that payments made to faculty personnel under the policy just adopted, should be from managers' funds held in their field bank accounts in New York or funds held specifically to their credit on their books in the office of the United Board, insofar as they are adequate for this purpose."

0971

We note what you say regarding the Boone Library School. This matter was discussed at the meeting at which the action reported to you was taken. Your statement regarding this matter together with that of Professor John C. F. Lo will be presented to the Huachung Committee and the Trustees at the first opportunity. I believe that all members are informed regarding the history of this project and had this fully in mind when the action was taken as already reported to you. You will be kept informed as to any further action on this matter.

This letter is already far too long. Forgive me for writing in such detail. I wish, however, to keep you fully informed regarding what is taking place.

With warmest personal regards, I am,

Yours cordially,

Robert J. McMullen
Executive Secretary

RJM:D

Encl.

P.S. In accordance with your request we are also enclosing copies of the Constitution and By Laws for Hua Chung College.

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
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.

Wai
Francis
Earl

February 4, 1949.

FEB 11 1949
J. EARL FOWLER

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

Dear Earl,

In one of the recent letters from Dr. McMullen he said that to conform to the proper procedure of the member-colleges of the United Board I should make my reports to the United Board through him instead of writing to you for the Huachung Committee as I had been doing. Hence the change I have made, but I send you every time a copy of my letter or report to him. Enclosed please find my letter for this week.

The Board of Directors is meeting tomorrow. The meeting has been called according to the action of the Board in June of last year to give time to the Directors to consider leisurely policy and alike questions instead of taking the whole meeting to transact business. But so far letters and telegrams have come from Directors in Hunan and other places that owing to the present situation they are unable to attend, and so there will not be a full meeting tomorrow. Perhaps only Wuhan members will attend.

During the early part of the week the situation was very tense. It is better these last two days. It looks as if we may not be involved in the fighting for at least four or five weeks, and if the peace negotiation should be successful we may even get through without hearing a single shot. But we are prepared for the worst. I am remaining, no matter what comes. Some people believe that I personally will not be molested and others advise me to step out when the worst comes. I am in God's good hands and as long as I am doing my duty I have nothing to fear. For thirty-eight years I have tried to serve God and His Church and I must see the situation through at any cost.

Some time ago John Coe wrote Greiner asking him to send my son John $300.00. I hope that has received Mr. Greiner's attention. While communication may be cut from the South and America at any time I wish to get more money to my family. In the eventuality of interrupted communication, will you be so good as to let my son John have enough money for my home? Please bear this in mind.

Dot was very good in sending such a nice Christmas letter to me. I hope her health is better now. Do remember me to all your children, specially my Godson. I am sorry he has given up the idea of a college eduaction. I shall write him in a few days.

My John seems to be doing well. He has passed all his exams for the Ph.D. after three terms in Yale. That is better than my own records in Harvard. He has only a thesis to do now. Kindly keep an eye on him as a stern uncle.

Yours affectionately,
Francis

P.S. Just received your letter of Jan. 27th. Don't worry about the remittance. I would be glad to receive it before the end of this month. I would be glad to receive it before the end of this month.

0973

Wei

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
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.

February 1, 1949

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

[copy for Earl Foster National Council]

Dear Dr. McMullen:

It is a different kind of feeling that I have now while writing the letter today for this week. Peace seems to be more remote, at least from the superficial observation that I have as a layman in Chinese politics, but it is still possible that we are in the midst of a long process of bargaining. You have all the news in the New York papers. Writing from Wuchang, I would like to say that it becomes more realistic that we must prepare for the worst, although we are still hoping for the best.

There are still two weeks before we start the second semester on February 14. I feel very dubious that we shall have more than one-half of the enrollment of last September until the situation clears up later in the term. But we are going to reopen anyway, according to schedule. All the faculty and staff are still here, and we have 100 students in the different hostels now. More maybe returning in a few days. You must realize that only about one-third of our students come from this province; another one-third come from the province of Hunan; and the remaining third from all over the country. Three-quarters of the students from Canton and Hongkong have gone home, and I am very skeptical that they can get back here in time for the second term. Ordinarily, we allow students to be late for only one week, but under the present circumstances the faculty may wave the rule and extend the period, but perhaps not more than two to three weeks. However, I shall report later after the opening of the term, if mails to America should still be open by that time.

In all your communications to us here in Wuchang it may be better for you to mark on the envelope "Via Hongkong." There is greater possibility of the railroad being maintained open than for the river, which is practically closed at the present time. Of course, there is the railway from Hangchow to Nanchang to Henyang to Changsha, and north to Wuchang, but that is a round detour.

I still feel very optimistic. China has a way of meeting crises. January 29 was the Old Chinese New Year. I woke up early in the morning, and in spite of all the gloomy news, firecrackers were heard all over the city. The feeling swelled up in my mind that after all, the Chinese people are the Old Guards of the Chinese Culture. Nothing can shake that very much.

During the last week a committee consisting of representatives of the faculty the students who remain here, and the servants, have been meeting as an Emergency Committee. The University Campus is divided into sections, and last night people in all the four different sections had their sectional meetings. I attended the one which is called "The Main Campus Section." We discussed such problems as refuge for women and children, if we should be caught

0974

within the firing line. How to take care of a fire if it should break out during the period of emergency; how to behave if there should be local looting; and how to take care of refugees who would press into our buildings? It is generally agreed that we are in the safest part of the city of Wuchang, and therefore it is not likely that we would be under fire at all. But, of course, we have to prepare for stray bullets, and preparations are being made to the best of our ability. A Fire Brigade is being organized with only old-fashioned water buckets and buckets of sand placed in different parts of the buildings. Students, servants, and faculty members are going to have fire drill. It is unfortunate we do not have a small engine of our own for use on the campus. Neither have we fire extinguishers, as we did before the war. The danger of local looting is very small. We are in the best neighborhood of the whole city. On one side we have only schools and mission buildings; on another side against the City Wall practically all are our own property; and on the third side only schools and law-abiding citizens. We are known in the neighborhood, and our neighbors know us. All these years we have been on good terms with them. There are no military or military establishments in our section of the city -- not even government offices. Even if there should be a short period of disorder, say, for half a day, I trust that our part of the city will be left untouched because it is practically a blind alley, remote from the thoroughfares, especially those for military operation.

As to how to take care of the refugees, we have had some experience in the past forty years. Of course, we cannot give any protection, and we cannot provide food. Some of the buildings will be marked for people from our affiliated Christian middle schools -- of course, only faculty members and families. Some places for the church workers. Others for the general public, but only those people who are not armed or in uniform. There will be a register of the refugees open to inspection of whatever authorities are in charge of the city. We shall not admit any refugees until there is actual fighting in our cities. That is about all we can do in anticipating a situation which may not arise.

It is very difficult to say how the political problem of China is going to be solved. There is a great deal brewing without our knowledge. If we read the newspapers, we do not see much, but there is something between the lines. It may be my wishful thinking, but I think everything will work out for the welfare of the Chinese nation. There are rumors in the small local papers as to what America is going to do, but I do not believe them.

I just analyzed the situation for a small group of the staff in the Treasurer's office with a city map on the wall, assuring them that we are in the safest part of the city of Wuchang, which is as safe as anywhere else in China, if we should take a long look into the future.

I cannot say that I am able to do a great deal of constructive thinking when so much is going on around me, but I am still reading and writing. The Association Press in Shanghai has just sent me small complimentary copies of a little booklet consisting of "Ten Chapel Talks on the Apostles' Creed." When I read it over this morning, I wondered how I managed to write those talks, about 20,000 words altogether, just before I was sent to the hospital with typhus, ~~in January~~ 1948. More of my writings will be coming out slowly in Chinese; and if the situation should clear up, I may be able to put my hand on some of my English manuscripts and get them ready for publication if any publishers should accept them. It is very interesting to live at a time like this. You think

0975

about problems which have nothing to do with the present situation in China, and try to envisage the kind of world we may have if the work which we are doing in Huachung and in other Christian colleges in China will see its fruitage -- say, fifty years from now. It may be just a drop in the bucket, but I am fond of thinking that that little drop may change the color of the whole bucket for God's Glory.

With every good wish to my friends in America and in the different mission boards, as well as in the United Board, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

FCMW/MRC

0976

FEB 25 1949
J. EARL HUMMEL

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.

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

0977

	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.

0978

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

0979

February 17, 1949

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

My dear Francis:

Many thanks for your letter of February 4th with the copy of your letter to Dr. Mc Mullen enclosed. I think it is just as well to write direct to Dr. Mc Mullen as it is to me. It saves me the work of having your letters copied and distributed to so many people. I am sending him a list of the names of people that I have sent your letters to in connection with the Huachung Committee and he has agreed to follow the same routine. Bob and I are very close friends. For some reason or another he seems to feel closer to me than he does to the representatives of the other universities. I am mighty glad that relationship exists because he seems to value my opinion and I can use my influence with him to greater advantage. You know how it is, no matter how careful I was to send him copies of your letters,he always felt that he didn't get everything. Perhaps some confidential information was withheld. After all, he is the executive secretary of the United Board and it is only proper that you communicate direct.

I am sure I wrote you sometime ago that the finance department forwarded $300.00 to John and you can be sure that we will cooperate in every way in case of emergency and should John write us and ask for financial assistance to your family. It is a great satisfaction that John is doing so well at Yale. My only concern is that I am terribly sorry that he is not planning to return to Huachung. I had looked forward to his being a worthy successor to his father at his retirement, and that we would always have a Wei on the faculty at Huachung.

I received a cable from Arthur Allen yesterday, in which he said that the schools were opening with somewhat lower enrollment. This had been anticipated and it may be an advantage.

You and our whole Church family are constantly in our minds and prayers. We hope that you will be able to carry on with no interruptions and the least amount of inconvenience. It is our hope that the peace negotiations that are going on will be very successful. Mr. Allen mentioned that Walter had returned with his freight, but there was no mention that Dr. Paul Ward and Alfred Starratt had returned. I am wondering if these gentlemen stayed on in Hongkong. I have had no word from them.

With very best wishes and kind regards to all.

Affectionately,

JEF:chh

0981

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
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.

FEB 25 1949
J. EARL HUNLEY

February 17, 1949

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

[copy to Mr. Fowler at Nat Council]

My dear Bob:

I received on February 15 your good letter of February 3, which had come in very good time. Airmail seems to be normal again.

I am very glad that you are dropping my title in your letters to me. I have no dignity to lose, and certainly I need more friendliness, so I am reciprocating the courtesy by calling you "Bob."

It was very good of you to be so complimentary on the way we have been conducting our work here. Certainly we are grateful for the successful completion of the last semester, which had its worries and problems. When I read the third paragraph of your letter to some of my senior colleagues, they all laughed and possibly said, "Dr. McMullen is waking up a bit. Huachung has always had a good record," but that is only patting ourselves on the shoulder, and you will read this with a pleasant smile, I hope!

Indeed, our British friends have been very generous to us. Every visit I made to England seemed to bring some good results for Huachung and for Christian Higher Education in China as a whole. The British firms are founding chairs in other Christian colleges in China, as far as I know.

I have not had any further news from the Rev. Thomas Lee and the other Lutheran friends. It will, of course, take sometime before they can communicate with us with a concrete proposition as to participation in Huachung. As soon as I hear, I shall let you know.

We registered our students during the last three days, and lectures have already started today in full swing. As I have written previously, we had expected only about 300 students, or perhaps 350, but the Registrar's office reported yesterday afternoon that 347 had already registered, and about a dozen more are registering today, bringing the total up to 360. About 120 students are on the dean's list of Leave of Absence for one or two weeks. I believe only about 90 of these will come in time for registration. The prospects are very good that we shall have an enrollment of 450, against 572 for the beginning of the first term. Every year we have a usual drop of 15% in the enrollment of the second term over the first. With our prospective enrollment of 450, we shall have only about 30 students fewer than we would expect in a ~~normal~~ year. We feel very much encouraged over this good enrollment, and I hope we may be able to carry through this semester without interruption.

0982

I have already discussed the proposition stated in Appendix A to your letter of February 3. It is certainly very thoughtful of the United Board to propose to do that, and as far as my own thinking is concerned, that is the best way to handle the situation. It is, however, necessary for us to make the first announcement to our people here without getting them excited and at the same time without raising any undue expectation in their minds. This will mean that I shall have to announce the arrangement at two separate times, making it quite clear, however, that the purpose of this plan is strictly according to the action of the United Board. But the news has to broken in a very tactful way.

A second question is how to get exchange for this payment within a very short time. It is our figuring that the situation may not become very much worse again within the next five weeks, and that will allow long enough a period to cover the whole amount, in addition to our ordinary salaries paid on the 25th of each month. I have also heard from Dr. Fenn on the same matter, and I am enclosing you a copy of my letter to him, bearing the same date as this letter to you. Before his letter came, I thought of wages for the college servants, and I was glad to read in this letter that he had included it.

I wishto make it quite clear to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, as well as to the United Board, that such payment will be made to our people here with the understanding so clearly made in your statement. In my second announcement to our faculty and staff member I would like to add that in the eventuality of having to wind up our work and send the people away, we would continue to meet our contract obligations, in addition to this extra pay which may be considered as "Severance Pay." By the end of May, we shall have to renew contracts for those people whose contracts will expire at the end of this academic year. Many things may happen during the next three months and a half, but if you should have any guiding principles to send to me governing the renewal of contracts, I shou should like to have them for our consideration.

With this very generous arrangement for members of the faculty and staff who are drawing their salaries directly from the University Treasurer according to the budget approved, I would like to raise the question whether you would be able to take up the matter with our cooperating missions, viz., the Overseas Department of the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U.S.A., the Yale-in-China Association in New Haven, the International Missionary Board of the Evangelical and Reformed Church in the United States in Philadelphia, the Methodist Missionary Society in London, and the London Missionary Society in London, whether some similar provision could be made for their missionaries who are on our faculty and staff here. The missionaries have exactly the same situation to meet, and their needs should not be forgotten. It is not only the possibility of having to suspend work, but as far as our thinking is concerned, the greater danger is really the impossibility of getting foreign exchange for a short or long period when the new regime comes in, or possibly the effective rate of exchange for some considerable time may be entirely against us. When I make the announcement to our faculty and staff member, I shall make this, rather than the danger of having to close up, as the reason for giving this extra pay, for otherwise people may become nervous for no important reason. As soon as you have heard from the mission boards, please let me know, and I think it is very important to get the idea across to the mission boards concerned. When I write next time, I shall try to make a strong case for this to all the mission boards cooperating in Huachung.

0983

So far, Professor John L. Coe, our University Treasurer, has not received the check book to write checks on the National City Bank of New York. I hope it is on the way to us. Before the war and during the war it had been arranged with the National City Bank of New York that the checks would be signed either by the Treasurer or by the President in case either one or the other of them should not be able to sign the checks. We shall try to get instructions from the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors as to continuing this arrangement or changing it. There are advantages and disadvantages in such an arrangement, and we have to consider the whole question very carefully.

Both Mr. Coe and I are surprised to learn that there is only US$6,250 to us in the National City Bank of New York. Our Reserve Funds for Huachung should be much more than that, and Mr. Coe will write you in detail about this matter.

It is right for you to encourage all persons studying in the United States now to return to China and not to delay the return too long, unless they can find ways and means otherwise without depending upon support from the United Board. I can quite understand that a large number of students are getting stranded in America when the situation is as it has been. It is, of course, very difficult for you to support so many when the cost of living is going up every week even in the States.

I do not quite understand what you mean by "managers' funds." Please explain.

I have already reported that Dr. Walter Allen returned to Wuchang from Hongkong with his freight about ten days ago, and yesterday Dr. Paul Ward and the Rev. Alfred Starratt arrived back from Hongkong also after a month's visit with their families, who have been staying in Hongkong since the middle of last November on account of the situation. They are waiting for further developments of conditions locally before they bring their families back to Wuchang. If you should have any information that might help us to make a decision on this matter, we would like to have it.

You sent me the Constitution and Bylaws of the Board of Trustees, known as the Board of Founders, of Huachung College (Central China College, Wuchang What we need here is the Constitution of the institution itself. If you should be able to get hold of a copy, please mail it to me as soon as possible. We lost our copy from our file here during the war.

As to the situation in China, you will know as much as we do here. Many people expect at least two months of peace here before anything would happen, and the possibility is still great that the storm may blow over our heads entirely. China is a puzzle even to me. One thing I know is that it is very difficult to apply ordinary principles to this Old Country. In the meantime our second term has started, and everything is going on as usual. Again, I wish to say that we are very thankful for the splendid morale, both among the faculty and the students, and for the confidence that the Chinese public has in us. We have always been non-partisan, and none of us has ever been involved in politics, and that may be the Saving Grace for us. With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

Enc.
FCMW/MRC

0984

MAR 7 1949
J. EARL ROWELL

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
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.

February 24, 1949

Rt. Rev. Jno. B. Bentley, D.D.
C/o St. Luke's Hospital
1015 Magdalena
Manila, Philippine Islands

[Copy for Earl Fowler of National Council

Dear Bishop Bentley:

Alfred Starratt and Paul Ward returned from Hongkong ten days ago, and they had a pleasant trip on the railway, making very good time.

I am very sorry to hear from Starratt and Ward that you were not sure of coming to visit us in the Wuhan Center to see the work in the diocese of Hankow, including Huachung University.

Without bragging about the importance of our center, I must say that you will not have seen China until you have come to our part of the country. As far as I know, we have two trains running regularly and in good time everyday up from Canton to Wuchang. When you have completed your visitation in the Philippine Islands, would it be possible for you to arrange to return to Hongkong? Then, Bishop Hall's office will arrange for both you and Mrs. Bentley to come to us. If you should think that it would be too much of a strain for Mrs. Bentley to come with you, perhaps Bishop Hall would arrange for her to stay in Hongkong and you come by yourself. It may not be possible for you to see the outstations of our mission here, but a week in the Wuhan Center would at least give you a very good idea of what is going on. I myself would like to renew our acquaintance, and we have a large group of your missionaries who are all waiting eagerly to see you and to get your advice about various things.

You may be assured of a hearty welcome, and the various missionaries here will put you up as long as you are prepared to stay. I know your schedule is crowded, but I just write this letter to urge you as strongly as I dare, asking that you may do us the honor of giving us a visit, now matter how brief it may be.

As far as the situation goes, no one is a prophet, but many people who are better informed than I am believe that for sometime there will be no great changes, and we are all hopeful that we may be able to carry through this semester without serious difficulties. When you return to Hongkong, you may send us a telegram, and we will reply to it according to our best judgment, suggesting whether you should come or not.

Travel on the railway is still convenient, but it is not so comfortable as on the best trains in the United States. Should you consider it necessary, we might even send someone to Hongkong to accompany you on your trip to Wuchang. I hope you will give this the most careful consideration and send either Bishop Tsang or myself a cabled reply.

0985

Huachung University reopened for the second term on February 14 with lectures starting on February 17. At present we have just about 410 students, men and women, and students are still coming in everyday from distant parts. 90 students have leave of absence from the Dean's Office, and I trust that they are waiting to get their funds together in order to pay their fees. Perhaps only 40 or 50 more will come to bring our enrollment this term up to 450. Las term we had 572, but even in a normal year our enrollment in the second term dropped by 15%. Based on this calculation we would have 490 students this term if things were normal, but owing to the circumstances, largely financial, the enrollment may not be higher than 450, which we would consider very good. Already 140 women are here, and perhaps 10 or 15 more will turn up within this week, retaining the proportion of one-third women for the whole enrollment.

All the members of the faculty and administrative staff are here, including American and British missionaries, except one Chinese professor of Chemistry, who is now in Hongkong on family affairs, and is perhaps on his way back to Wuchang. If you should come here, you would be surprised to find everything at present quiet and normal. Certainly you would not find the confusion which you may have found in Shanghai. But Shanghai is not quite a normal Chinese city.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Bishop Tsang just for his information, and also one to Earl Fowler, in case you should have to extend your absence from New York on account of your visit to us.

With every good wish to you and Mrs. Bentley,

Yours sincerely,

WCBM/ARC

Dear Earl,

I am sending this to you instead of to the Presiding Bishop, for I don't want to make it too official. Confidentially, I am amazed that Bishop Bentley did not know while in ~~Hongkong~~ Shanghai that the train service from Hongkong to Wuchang via Canton was available & good & showed no interest in seing any work in China except in Shanghai. He may have been "poisoned" by the Shanghai mind. There doesn't seem to be any one in Shanghai who can form a good judgment on the present situation in China.

Yours

T.

0986

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
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.

MAR 7 1949
J. LEIGHTON STUART HALL

February 24, 1949

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

1 copy for Earl Fowler
National Council

Dear Dr. McMullen:

I do not have any exciting news to put in this weekly letter for you and all the missions in America and Great Britain.

The situation remains quiet and peaceful as far as our center is concerned, and nobody expects any change within at least the next two months. Perhaps the storm will blow over us, and we shall be able to carry on through the present semester and close for the summer vacation, normally, in the latter part of June. The Provincial Government has just had a new set of officials put in, and in many ways we see improvement such as a control of the market, t he ferry boats on the river, etc. It is remarkable how little changes like this for the better help to stabilize the people.

Our enrollment up-to-date is only 410, of whom about 140 are women, but there are 90 students still on the Dean's list for Leave of Absence. Owing to financial difficulties only about half of these are likely to come back within the next week. Registration closes on March 3. In ordinary times we allow the students to be late for only one week, but owing to the present situation, the Senate decided a month ago to extend that period to two weeks, counting from the first day of lectures.

The situation has certainly hit the students very badly. The inflation is going from bad to worse. The silver dollar has been worth from GY$1180 to GY$1300 during the last two days. Some of the students depended upon their friends and relatives to help pay their fees, and those friends or relatives have gone away, and so they have been left stranded. Others find it difficult to get enough money to come from western Hunan or eastern Szechwan and from some of the distant districts of the province of Hupeh. Farmers' families have to sell rice in order to get the money, and rice is cheaper in other parts of the country than it is in the Wuhan Center, and all our fees are reckoned on the basis of rice.

Consequently about 170 students asked for relief subsidies to pay their fees. The Senate has a committee to make the grants, and the committee met three days ago to consider all the applications. They have had to reduce the number as far as possible. They have considered all the circumstances with the help of a popular ballot done by the student organization, indicating how many would support a certain application and how many were against it. The result was that relief was granted to 125 students, varying from 1 tan of rice to 2½ tan. The total amount required for this relief is 225 tan of rice, costing Silver $9 per tan.

0987

We have no relief item on the budget, and so during the last week I have had to make many trips to Hankow in order to "buttonhole" my friends in the business circles there. They are all very cordial and generous to me, and up-to-date I have had promises amounting to about Silver $2,000, the equivalent of about 220 tan of rice.

But many students returning during the coming week, and some others who have not received the grant, may need further help. The committee is still investigating in order to meet real needs. We are allowing students to postpone the payment of part of their fees until the end of March, and by that time perhaps further relief will be needed. The Board of Directors met on February 5 and authorized our request dt the United Board for US$1500 for Student Relief and to make up the necessary remitting of fees in many cases. This recommendation by the Directors is among the actions included in the Minutes which are being sent to you as soon as they are mimeographed. I hope that this will meet with the approval of the Huachung Committee of the United Board. We hoped that this amount would at least come out of the special contribution made by the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church from the Presiding Bishop's Fund to the United Board, from which, according to Earl Fowler's letter received sometime ago, we may expect as much as US$20,000. I have written to you already about this, but no definite word has yet come from you. In your letter you said you were still waiting for the actions of the Budget Committee of the United Board.

It may be possible for me to raise some more money locally for the purpose of student relief, but the situation has hit not only the families of our students, but also the business people in our center, as well as in other centers. Much business seems at a standstill, and it is not very pleasant to go around to find even Silver $1,000 or so. I am a "professional beggar," but I have to use my discretion as to when I should go out for funds.

Exchange is a little more favorable for us right now. A few weeks ago, just after China New Year, the US$1 exchanged for only Silver 90¢ -- for a day or two there, the US$1 exchanged for about Silver 20¢! Then the rate went up to around Silver $1.10 for US$1. It has now gone up further in our favor, so that we may receive Silver $1.35-1.40 to US$1. During most of 1948 the rate ranged between Silver $1.50-1.60 for US$1. The silver which we laid in for the University against an emergency cost on the average Silver$1.53 to US$1. We think back to the time before 1938 when US$1 exchanged for Silver $3.30!

The faculty and students are still keeping up their splendid morale, although many are still waiting eagerly to see how the peace talks will come on. The prospect seems to be much better just at the present time than it was two weeks ago, but it is silly for our emotions to depend upon the newspaper reports which vary from day to day. I am going out this afternoon to a meeting of the local leaders, and I hope to get some "inside dope" from a person who has just returned from an important mission to the north. I am not in politics, and I take great care not to be involved in any, but it is necessary for me to maintain all my contacts, so as to keep Huachung in its proper place in the Wuhan community. Our reputation is getting better and better in all circles, and it looks as if we may be able to depend upon it for carrying us through a crisis if one should come.

0988

We have not had a reply from all the members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors with regard to the proposal which you forwarded to us from the United Board in your last letter. As soon as we have heard from all the members of the Executive Committee, we shall take steps to implement your action. I have no doubt that the replies from all the members of the Executive Committee will be favorable.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

FCMW/MRC

0989

CO-OPERATING UNITS
BOONE COLLEGE
GRIFFITH JOHN COLLEGE
HUPING COLLEGE
WESLEY 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.

MAR 14 1949
J. EARL FOWLER

March 1, 1949

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

My dear Earl:

I received on February 26 your good letter of February 17, which made very good time indeed.

I am glad that you are getting copies of my weekly letters, which are now being addressed to Bob McMullen, at his request, in order to conform to the official procedure of the Christian colleges in China which are related to the United Board. Whenever there is something that concerns particularly our Sheng Kung Huei Group, I shall continue to write to you. I hope you have received the copy of my letter to Bishop Bentley with a confidential post-script. I do hope that the Bishop will find it possible to visit us here in the Wuhan center after his trip to the PhilippineIslands.

I am grateful that the Financial Department has forwarded $300 to my son John, which is really for my family in the south. John seems to have been doing quite satisfactorily in America. He accomplished more in two years at Yale than I did in the same length of time at Harvard years ago. I think the question is not closed that he is not coming back to Huachung, although he feels that he is particularly cut out for research work, for which the Physics Department in Huachung is not very well equipped, but he should not have taken such a queer subject as Cosmic Ray. There are practically no facilities in China for that line. By the time he is prepared to come back to China, he may find his way back to his Alma Mater, especially when I am still here because he may wish to be with me during my last years in Huachung.

I wrote to Bob McMullen last week that we expected an enrollment of only 450, but we have already reached that figure today, and there are still two days more before registration closes on March 3. At least ten more students are to return, so we are going to have altogether 460, which is only 30 short of the expected enrollment for this term if it were not for the present situation. This is a very good record indeed. The students seem to be happy and behave well, although there ~~are~~ is some childishness in their activities because they are expecting a change of regime, which I think is not going to take place very shortly. So long as they keep within bounds, I just leave them alone, which is the wisest thing to do in times like these.

I have been enquiring among the missionary members of the faculty here whether any plans have been made by the various missions to prepare for a period of two to three months when exchange may be difficult, or the American dollar may be depreciated badly. The two British missions have made preparations.

0990

Yale-in-China and the Evangelical and Reformed Church Mission have only one member each on the faculty, and therefore no very elaborate plan should be necessary for them, but I am not sure what has been done to anticipate financial difficulties which may confront the A.C.M. members of the Hua-chung staff. Only three of them are single. The time has not come yet to make this kind of preparation imperative, but the situation may arise any time, and I hope some funds may be sent to China and changed into silver dollars to be kept on deposit either in the Treasurer's office or in the different families, so that they may draw upon it during an emergency period. It ought to be enough to tide them over for a period of three months. I think it is not necessary to cover salaries for three months because in such a crisis we may not be able to buy many things, but on the other hand, we have to remember that prices may go up even in terms of silver. I am going to attend the Diocesan Standing Committee meeting this afternoon, and shall talk it over with Bishop Tsang and Arthur Allen this afternoon. This is just to give you previous notice about what I am proposing for the welfare of the American Church Mission members in the Hankow diocese.

We ought to be very thankful that the Church family in this diocese has been so brave during the last few months. They are all prepared to stand by, no matter what happens, and that seems to be the wisest thing to do under the present circumstances. Walter Allen returned almost a month ago with his freight . Paul Ward and Alfred Starratt got back from Hongkong on February 14 to teach in the second term. They have been asking me when their families may return from Hongkong. My advice is that they ought to wait until early April when we shall have our spring vacation of about a week. By that time we may be able to see the situation more clearly. Peace talks are going on unofficially, and the official peace conference may come about the middle of the month, and therefore early in April we may know how the wind blows.

Personally I am still going on strong. During the Lenten Season I have to give a series of Lenten addresses in the Church of the Holy Nativity at the request of the clergyman of the parish. Yesterday Fred Liu, now in charge of St. Paul's Cathedral, phoned over and asked me to take two services during the Lenten season in the Cathedral, but I promised to do only one. There are so many calls on my time from the outside that I begin to neglect my work here. Life is still enjoyable in spite of the suffering around us. If you knew how little teachers in government schools and employees in the government offices are receiving in silver dollars per month, you would wonder how they can still stick to their posts and feed their families. They cannot feed their families, and they have to stick because there is nothing else to do.

The Provincial Government had a complete change last week, and the new governor and the new commissioners were inaugurated on Saturday. I was not at the ceremony, because no notice was sent out, but the whole bunch came to call Sunday afternoon while I was in Hankow officiating at a Chinese wedding; ~~se the government, the secretary-in-chief, and~~ so I went to see them and return their call. I saw the Governor, the Secretary-in-Chief, and the four Commissioners. They were all very cordial. The new Commissioner of Finance is an old Boone student, both in school and college, but he did not graduate. He belonged to Mark Li's class of 1922. For several years he was Postal Commissioner of the Province of Hupeh and was one of our directors. His name is Hsu Chi-k'o, a Hupeh man, and a member of the Sheng Kung Huei. He told me that the middle-rank officials in the provin-

0991

cial government had been receiving during the last few months only Silver $7 a month, which is less than the ordinary wages of a maid in an ordinary family. You cannot expect a clean government when that is the situation. All the members of the new provincial government, including the governor, whom I saw yesterday said to me that they would try to have some reforms, but reforms without money to back them up, almost impossible.

With every good wish to you and your family,

Yours affectionately,

Francis

FCMW/MRC

0992

Paragraph from letter of Dr.Wei to Mr.Fowler
Dated March 1, 1949

I have been enquiring among the missionary members of the faculty here whether any plans have been made by the various missions to prepare for a period of two or three months when exchange may be difficult, or the American dollar may be depreciated badly. The two British missions have made preparations. Yale-in-China and the Evangelical and Reformed Church Mission have only one member each on the faculty, and therefore no very elaborate plan should be necessary for them, but I am not sure what has been done to anticipate financial difficulties which may confront the A.C.M. members of the Huachung staff. Only three of them are single. The time has not come yet to make this kind of preparation imperative, but the situation may arise any time, and I hope some funds may be sent to China and changed into silver dollars to be kept on deposit either in the Treasurer's Office or in the different families, so that they may draw upon it during an emergency period. It ought to be enough to tide them over for a period of three months. I think it is not necessary to cover salaries for three months because in such a crisis we may not be able to buy many things, but on the other hand, we have to remember that prices may go up even in terms of silver. I am going to attend the Diocesan Standing Committee meeting this afternoon, and shall talk it over with Bishop Tsang and Arthur Allen this afternoon. This is just to give you previous notice about what I am proposing for the welfare of the American Church Mission members in the Hankow diocese.

0993

HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
Wuchang, China

APR 4 1949
J. EARL FOWLER

March 3, 1949

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

Dear Mac:

I have just received your good letter of February 21, and I am happy to have all the news, and to know particularly that my weekly letters are getting to you so regularly with the splendid airmail service.

I hope that at the April meeting of the Trustees of the United Board with Dr. Sherman and Mr. Fowler present, something may be done to make it possible for the Boone Library School to become a part again of Huachung University. Personally, I do not believe that the question of library facilities for the training of librarians here in Wuchang should be against us so much as the Committee on Program and Budget may think. We did manage to train good librarians before the Library School became independent when our library facilities were much worse than they are at present. We are getting support here and there to build up our library within the next few years. The important thing for you to consider is really the financial matter, which would be necessary anyway, even if the only library school among the thirteen Christian colleges should be located elsewhere. It would be easier for the Boone Library School, when it becomes a part of Huachung again, to summon back to us many of the experienced librarians who were trained in the Boone Library School before the war, even before its separation from us, and who have had subsequently good training abroad in America and in Europe. This should be given careful consideration when the Board of Trustees meets in April.

As to the matter of the payment of the three months' severance pay, we have already had the concurrence of the Executive Committee of our Board of Directors to do so, but in consulting with some of the responsible heads here, we feel that this is not the time to do so. The situation is improving with the peace talk going on, and everybody believes that possibly for at least two to three months the situation will not change for the worse. Furthermore, just for the moment the exchange market is chaotic. If money should be paid out now by exchanging US dollars into Gold Yuen, it would certainly be unfavorable to us. So, we are holding the action of the United Board until we see the situation more clearly, and then act promptly. Just at the present time it is difficult to exchange even US$1,000 in any of the banks without one or two days' notice, and everyday the exchange changes.

Professor John L. Coe, our treasurer, will prepare an itemized statement for you with regard to meeting the obligations to all our faculty and staff members, and he will send you a statement on our Reserve held now in New York. I am glad to know that US$5,000 has been allocated to Huachung, but that amount is not enough for the preparation of paying three months.

I have noted that the China Office of the United Board is to be closed on March 31, 1949, and after that date we shall direct our correspondence to the office in New York. It is good that Dr. Fenn is going to be still with you after the closing of the office in Shanghai.

Registration closes today, and our enrollment has already reached 460, about one-third women. As far as I know, at least five or six students are still on their way. They are being held up in different places on account of the present conditions of transportation. Our enrollment will, therefore, be about 465 at

0994

least, and this is very good indeed in view of the circumstances. During the winter vacation I wrote that we expected an enrollment of only about two-thirds of that of the enrollment of the full term, which was 572, and two-thirds would be 380. An enrollment of 460 is more than 80%. If this were a normal year and we had allowed for a drop in enrollment of 12-15%, which is usual every year, our present enrollment of 465 would mean only about 25 students short of an ordinary enrollment for this term. Over thirty students have already written to ask the Dean's permission to suspend their studies for a term or a year owing to financial difficulties. This shows the confidence of our students in Huachung here, and that is very gratifying.

There is nothing to report on the situation. You have all the news in New York. I have been checking our newspaper information with "The Voice of America" for at least a month, and there has been very little difference. If anything, "The Voice of America" is just about one day late. Most of the military and government people are skeptical about a successful peace, but the people in general are all hoping for it.

If the Civil War should have to continue, it is my personal opinion that there will be no frontal attack on the Wuhan Center, but the railways will be cut first, and our center isolated, until the problem is solved with a new regime established in our city. So far as news that has come through from the north is concerned, we have very little to fear except possibly a period of two to three months when exchange will be unfavorable and cash difficult to get. We are making preparations against such an eventuality. All the students, both men and women, have already bought enough rice, fuel, oil, and salt for the whole term of four months and ten days, and the rest of the boarding money is being kept in silver for wages, vegetables, and meat. I go into the dining rooms almost every week, and the food they are getting is good although much poorer than what they used to have before the war. Dr. Norah Tregear has reported that a few students are suffering from malnutrition, and she has asked for three or four cases of evaporated milk to supplement the food of these students; I have taken the money from my discretionary fund to buy the milk. The money in my discretionary fund was given to me by various friends, chiefly in America.

As I reported earlier, 170 students applied for relief funds, and grants were made a week ago by the Senate Committee, totaling 225 tan of rice or Silver $2,000. A US dollar comes to about Silver $1.40 in exchange. This money has been raised locally, although the contributions have been very slow in coming in. Thirty more students have applied for the same relief, and the Committee is still in process of investigating their financial condition. We permit students to postpone part of the payment of their fees until the end of this month, and I am sure many students will need help by that time, possibly to the amount of US$1,000. All these relief grants are necessary in order to help about one-third of our students, whose families have been hard-hit by the present situation, inflation, rising prices, and reduced income, besides the necessity of having to move by order of the government when the offices are evacuated from various places.

I do not know how to continue this relief plan after this term, unless conditions are to improve very rapidly. The financial strength of the families of our students will be further sapped, and I cannot go to Hankow every term to raise money for relief funds. Perhaps the next stunt I shall try is to get some of the better-off students to help the poorer students, but again that can be done only once. Maybe the only thing is to put an item in our current budget for this purpose. After all, our work here is to give a good education to the students who

0995

come to us. It is of little use to have a good faculty and to have all the facilities without making it possible for the poor students to take advantage of all the equipment and teaching.

Spring has returned, and everybody feels happy in spite of the uncertainties ahead of us. There has been very little sickness. All the faculty and staff members are standing by with the exception of Professor George Bien, who has been in Hongkong on account of family affairs, but he is returning this week. Mrs. Bien and two children are under observation for TB in Queen Mary's Hospital, Hongkong. This is why Dr. Bien has been away for such a long time.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Francis C. M. Wei

0996

[1]

HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY
Wuchang, China

March 10, 1949

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

Dear Mac:

I received on March 3rd your good letter of February 21, 1949, which I have already acknowledged, but I am enclosing you herewith a statement of the Financial Position of Huachung University in two sheets, which John Coe, our Treasurer, has prepared. One copy has been sent to Dr. Fenn in the China office of the United Board in Shanghai. The statement is clear enough not to require any comment from me.

A week ago today was the last day for registration except for a few students who were marooned on the way and who have now arrived and been admitted by the Dean of the General Faculty, with the authorization of the General Faculty Meeting held on Monday, March 7. Our total enrollment now is 468, only one less than our enrollment a year ago.

Breaking the figure of 468 down, it is as follows:

Students who completed the Fall Term, 1948		Registration, Spring Term, 1949	Drop	%
Freshmen	165	133	32	19.3%
Sophomores	188	163	25	13.3%
Juniors	138	125	13	9.4%
Seniors	47	47	0	0

We have 70 students fewer this term than at the end of the last term, and this is 13% of the total number of 538, who completed the term before the winter vacation. If we should take the figure for the fall registration in the middle of September 1948, the drop in enrollment is 18.2%. As I have reported previously, our drop in the second term of every year is from 12-15%; if we should take an average drop to be 13%, our decrease in enrollment is only 5% more than the ordinary run, which may be considered very good indeed in view of the present circumstances. The number of women students is exactly one-third of our total enrollment for this term. This again is normal. The indication is that the reason for students failing to return is not due so much to the political situation as to financial difficulties, which I had earlier anticipated.

You may be interested to know about the enrollment in the eight Christian middle schools in the Wuhan Center. There was the monthly meeting of the principals of those schools with Dr. P'u Hwang and me last Saturday, and the following were the statistics reported:

School	Fall Enrollment	Spring Enrollment
Boone Middle School (boys)	680	618
Wesley Middle School (boys)	630	482
Griffith John Middle School (boys)	505	418
St. Hilda's Middle School (girls)	418	335
Hsuin Nu Middle School (girls)	280	220

0997

I Hsuin Middle School (girls)	460	388
St. Lois Junior Middle School (girls)	339	300
Hsin Mien Junior Middle School (girls)	304	205

It is a coincidence that the drop from the total enrollment of the eight Christian middle schools in the Wuhan Center is also just about 18%. So the loss of students from Huachung is a normal phenomenon.

If we had accepted one-half of the students who wanted to come as refugee or transfer students from other colleges, our enrollment would have been increased by at least 30 or 40, but at the meeting of the General Faculty from which I happened to be absent before the end of the last term, action was taken, and later approved by the Senate, that we should accept no refugee students for the freshman class and only transfer students for the sophomore and junior classes. Refugee students would be permitted only for the senior year. Most of the students who tried to get transferred into our college were freshmen, and therefore they were not allowed even to take our transfer exams, which were only for the sophomores and juniors, and most of them failed to pass. So far we have had only one transfer student this term and one refugee student, just two new students.

Our income from fees available for the operating budget, was just over US$7,000 last term, and in spite of the smaller number of students this term, the income for this item is almost the same because of the higher value of rice and silver in which we reckon the fees this term. In our budget approved for this current year the item from fees is reckoned at US$12,000, so we have about US$2,000 more than estimated, but the expenditures this year have been higher, and I am afraid all the excessive income from fees will be eaten up by the high expenditures. This means that our deficit to be found by the United Board or the cooperating missions for this year will be just the same as indicated in the budget approved.

As far as the situation is concerned, there is very little to report. The lull continues with talk about peace still going on. The Bishop of Hankow has already given his consent for Dr. Paul Ward and the Rev. Alfred B. Starratt to bring their families back from Hongkong during the spring vacation, which will be in the early part of April. Personally, I think that is a wise step because everything points to the possibility that there may not be very serious changes in the political situation until possibly early in the summer, even if the peace talks should fail to go through. The resignation of Dr. Sun Fo as premier, as announced in the newspapers and over the radio, indicates to us that the Nanking government is making another concession for peace, and perhaps very shortly you will find a further step taken in the same direction. Again, I feel that most of the military and government people are rather skeptical of the success in getting peace, whereas the people are longing for it. It will require a compromise on both sides before peace will be possible. It is very difficult to know what is in the minds of the people in the other camp. There are various reports, most of them favorable, but what has been happening since May 1, 1948, gives no assurance that the same policy will continue. However, we have no reason to believe that institutions like Huachung would not be able to operate under a new regime even at its worst, but what we may have to face at a later time is entirely unknown. Christian courage requires us to stand by and to do our best while it is day for "when the night cometh no one can work."

Everybody is well and happy in the Huachung community, except that during the latter part of last week Professor Margaret Bleakley, Registrar and Head of the English Department, received a cable from London that her eldest sister, who was unmarried, had passed away. Miss Bleakley is meeting her bereavement with courage.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,
/s/ Francis

0998

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
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.

March 15, 1949

MAR 23 1949
J. EARL POWELL

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

Dear Mac:

There is very little to report for this week. Everything is going on well. We had the monthly Senate meeting yesterday, with the General Faculty meeting on the Monday before, and we just transacted routine business.

On Saturday, the 12th, the local alumni had a luncheon in the Y.M.C.A., and over forty people attended. It was a very jolly party. They all felt concerned, particularly those from outside, about the future of the University. I spoke briefly on our preparations for a crisis and our policy of meeting whatever comes. The alumni made a few suggestions, which were very useful, but we had practically done everything that they could think of. Most of our alumni in this area are either in government, cultural, educational, or research work, and so they are poor financially. Still they collected a small sum and turned it over to the University for scholarship and student relief, just to indicate their sympathy ~~and~~ their fellow-students in the University.

This is the middle of March, which was to be the time for the beginning of the peace talk, as previously announced in the newspapers, but with the change of the Executive Yuan the peace talk may have to be postponed until perhaps towards the end of the month. It is the feeling of many people who know the situation much better than I do that the prospects for a successful peace conference between the two parties are not very good, and possibly fighting on a larger scale will resume very soon in the East China area. However, we always hope for the best, although we prepare for the worst. The new premier, General Ho Yin-ch'in, has not announced the names of his cabinet members yet. You may get those names in New York as quickly as we do here. The newspapers this morning have mentioned only two or three names, including Dr. W. W. Yen, who have been working steadily for peace. This at least indicates that the new cabinet will do everything within their powers to get peace.

Prices have not increased during the last three or four days. The silver dollar yesterday was at the rate of GY$4,000 to Silver $1, but dropped to around GY$3600 late today. The bank rate yesterday for exchange of the US dollar was GY$5400 less 5%, which meant slightly more than Silver $1.40 for US$1. Over the last few weeks the silver dollar has been swinging somewhat widely with its average position between Silver $1.40-1.50 to US$1. The bank rate for the US dollar and the exchange rate for the silver dollar do not always change at the same time, and hence the wide fluctuations.
(Wednesday A.M. US1 = $1.48)

I want especially to write you in this letter about an emergency fund which is supposedly coming to Huachung from the Presiding Bishop's Fund, contributed to the United Boards according to a letter some weeks ago from Mr. J.

0999

Earl Fowler. We have been counting on a part of this, to the amount of US$1500, for student relief, if we should get US$20,000 from the US$60,000 contributed by the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church to the United Board. As I have reported previously, the money raised locally for student relief has been used up, and many students have not been able to pay the full fees for the term, and the dead line for all the payments is March 31 The Committee on Scholarships and Students Aid have already received over forty applications for further relief, and before the end of the month the Committee will have to meet and make the necessary grants after careful investigation. Since the local funds have been exhausted, we have to depend upon the emergency fund from the United Board. If US$1500 is available for this purpose, will you please cable me at once. In one of your letters received almost a month ago, the question had been referred to the Budget and Program Committee, and no word has since come from you.

We have just had one or two days of cold weather, around 40 degrees F. on accoun of the rain and wind, but now the sun has come out again, and perhaps it means the end of the winter season.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

Enc.
FCMW/MRC

1000

[1]

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS DATED 31 MARCH AND 11 APRIL FROM

PRESIDENT WEI, HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"Registration is practically completed now, according to the report of the Registrar's office. We have this term 351 students. My guess was almost exact when I said it would be 350. We have done everything possible to help the poor students to pay their fees either by scholarships or by giving work relief. The total amount of these two items is 350 tan of rice. With the fluctuating price of rice from week to week, and sometimes even from day to day, I cannot give you the exact figure, but I should say it came to around U.S. $2,500.

"One evening when Brank Fulton was returning with his family from Hankow, he fell down as he was stepping off the ferry on to the landing place. He was holding his son, and therefore fell down flat on his back. That seemed to have injured his brain somewhere, which caused him dizziness whenever he got out of bed. At first he did not take it very seriously, but after a few days the doctor ordered him to bed again, and he was moved over in a stretcher to Union Hospital in Hankow where they had better facilities for x-ray examination. Dr. Dalziel of the Union Hospital, a surgeon, gave him a very thorough x-ray examination for every part of his brain and scull, and found nothing wrong. Then some fluid was taken out of his spine, and from that they suspect his condition is due to some bruise to his brain. Dr. Logan Roots of the Church General Hospital, Wuchang, and Dr. Keith Gillison of the Union Hospital, Hankow, and others, have been consulted; and of course, our own resident physician, Mrs. Tregear, London, M.B., is in constant touch with Dr. Dalziel, who is in charge, and the consulting doctors. The next thing we have to do is to send to the Hsian-yah Hospital in Changsha and find out whether they have records of similar cases, and what information they could send to us in taking care of Brank Fulton, who is now staying in bed for rest. Dr. Fulton feels no pain except dizziness. His classes are being taken care of by various members of the faculty here.

"Our office staff has been frightfully busy in getting all blanks filled for the registration of our land and buildings. The information required is in great detail, but the process is being completed today, which is the last day for the affair.

"All aliens have to register with the police. There are a number of blanks to be filled in. All our western members of the staff and faculty have appointments to go over to the Municipal Police for individual interviews in order to complete the registration. We are glad to have such an opportunity of making everything clear to the Government, so that they may understand exactly what we are doing here, which is just educational and church work.

"The Regional Government, including Central and South China, and the Provincial Government of Hupeh, have been reorganized with a number of the faculty members of the Wuhan University and of Chung Hwa University on various committees, but none of us has been appointed. The reasons must have been that we were not active enough in politics. Of course, we would welcome every opportunity to serve the Government whenever our services are needed, but if we are not called upon, we shall simply have to stick to our own jobs here in the University.

"Things are going on well in every way. Chinese visitors from other parts of the country feel that the Wuhan Center is unusually quiet and peaceful.

1001

" We have had a very Happy Easter Season in Huachung. As I have written before, we carry on our Morning Chapel everyday except Wednesdays, when there is the General Assembly for all the students during the Chapel period in the middle of the morning. Chapel services continued in spite of the fact that we had to give three days of spring vacation last week by order of the Ministry of Education for the Region of Central and South China under which we have been operating. On Good Friday we had the Chapel in the morning and the long service in the Chapel on the Holy Nativity from twelve noon till three in the afternoon where there were the Meditations on the Seven Words on the Cross.

"Early on Easter morning there was the United Christian Fellowship Dawn Service on the lawn in front of my house, with about one hundred people attending. Professor Yuan Peh-ch'iao gave the address, after which they went around and hunted for Easter eggs. That was at six o'clock. Then at 7:30 A.M. there was the Sheng Kung Huei Holy Communion Service in the Church of the Holy Nativity; and at 9 A.M. there was a second service there with Baptism, Sermon and Communion. In the evening at half past six was held the University Sunday Service, also in the Church of the Holy Nativity, at which the University Choir of forty-three voices sang excerpts from Handel's "Messiah", including four solos, two by our students and two by our faculty members. The Rev. Hsiao Kuo-kuei, Chairman of the Hupeh District of the Methodist Church, preached the sermon. The church was packed full with every pew filled and many extra seats brought in. The service lasted for an hour and a quarter."

1002

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
GRIFFITH JOHN COLLEGE
HUPING COLLEGE
WESLEY COLLEGE
YALE-IN-CHINA COLLEGE
CHINA IMMISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

APR 18 1949
J. EARL FULLER

April 12, 1949

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

[Copy to Earl Fowler Nat. Council]

Dear Mac:

Your letter of March 25 was received on April 7 during my absence. I left Wuchang to go to Changsha on April 4 and got back here early in the morning of April 8. Your letter confirmed your cablegram that US$10,000 had been allocated to Huachung by the Emergency Finance Committee of the United Board. This is in addition, I take it, to the US$5,000 previously allocated. $1500 is definitely going to financial aids for students, and the remaining amount will be used for emergency purposes, according to actions of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. Later on we shall send you an itemized report on the expenditure of the US$15,000.

As we have written previously to Dr. Fenn, as well as to you, we need over US$10,000 for the three-months payments, which we expect to do inside this month. You can be assured that we shall make good use of every cent, realizing how difficult it is to raise funds for China in America. Careful budgeting and careful handling of all funds has been one of our policies, which we would adhere to at any cost.

I was able to stay with the Principals' Conference in Changsha for only a day and a half, while Dr. Huang was able to stay right through with two of our Education graduates and six undergraduates, four men and four women who attended the conference as auditors.

I went by train in the evening of April 4 with Dr. Huang, six principals in the Wuhan area, and two missionaries, making a party of ten altogether to occupy three compartments. Two of our Wuhan principals were not able to go, owing to the situation. The four Kiangsi principals, three from Anhuei, two from Ichang, all the principals in the province of Honan, two principals from Western Hunan, and one from Henyang were not able to come to the conference, so that we had at the conference only seven principals from Wuhan, besides myself representing Huachung, two principals from Yochow, and three principals from Changsha, and one from Iyang. The attendance was not even a majority of principals, but since the conference was not a legislative body, we carried on just the same for three days and three evenings. The spirit was wonderful, and all the addresses seemed to be helpful. The day started with Morning Prayer, and then an address for one hour. Then recess for fifteen minutes and discussion until lunch for about an hour and a half. After lunch the members of the Conference went to visit schools in Changsha and came back for supper at six o'clock. From 7:30 to 9:00 o'clock there was the evening discussion with a paper to open the discussion. After that there was the Evening Prayer to close the day's work. But the evening session usually did not end at 9:00 o'clock,

but carried on till about half past ten. This showed how much interest all the principals had in their common problems.

Miss Tseng Pao-sen of Iefang Middle School for Girls of Changsha, great granddaughter of Marquis Tseng Kuo-fang, gave the first platform address on the subject, "Re-evaluation of Education in China." I gave, "The Contribution to Education from Christian Teachings," the second morning address, with the subject assigned to me by the Preparations Committee. Dr. Huang gave the third address in the orning on the subject, "The Future of Christian Middle Schools in China." The three evening topics were: "Teaching Methods;" "Student Duties" and "School Business Procedures."

Besides the principals and our students as auditors, there were a number of people from the churches and from the Christian middle schools, and the YMCA attending the conference just to listen in. Usually there were over 30 at the evening session. Those who stayed through have returned to tell us they found the conference most profitable and encouraging.

When I returned from Changsha, the situation was really very tense with the Communists only possibly about thirty miles from the city of Hankow. The silver dollar shot up from about 30,000 to 100,000 (Gold Yuen) in two days. There were all sorts of rumors, and you may pick whatever you like to suit your own theory of the situation. People were coming in big numbers from Hankow to Wuchang to board the train in Wuchang to go to Hunan or elsewhere in the south, as well as just to live in Wuchang which they considered safer. It was almost a panic, but people on this side of the river remained comparatively calm, and our faculty and students kept their morale in a most wonderful way.

Before I left for Changsha on April 4, I knew that there was going to be some commotion among the students, owing to the unfortunate clash between the students in Nanking and the soldiers who had escaped from the Communists. According to the newspapers, there were several deaths and scores of wounded on both sides. That, of course, would get students in other centers excited, and the incident happened in Nanking on April 1. I called some of my students in and told them that whatever they should want to do to demonstrate their sympathy with the students in Nanking, they must remember that they were under martial law, and as a non-partisan without any political connections I would not be able to help them in case they should get themselves into trouble. Since both Dr. Huang and I were to be absent from the university, I asked Dr. Richard Bien to act as President during my absence of three days. The students had only a memorial meeting in our own Assembly room with both gates of the campus closed in the evening and well guarded, so the memorial meeting went off without any mishap. In times like these college administration is no easy task, and so sometimes we have to let the young people have some outlet for their emotions, which if pent up might lead to serious consequences. As I have written before, some of our student activities are very naïve, but anyone who understands crowd psychology would know that crowd actions are always naïve anywhere in the world.

The highest military authorities in this center are threatening to commandeer two of our Christian middle schools in Wuchang, viz., St. Hilda's and Wesley. The school authorities have referred the matter to their respective missions,

and the two missions are referring the matter to the American and British Consulsin Hankow. If the military authorities should take the schools by requisition, it would not be possible for even the consuls to prevent them. But we just hope that with the easier situation now the requisition may not be necessary. I have already advised St. Hilda's Middle School for Girls to make provisional arrangements for carrying on their work in case the school should be commandeered, and I am going to see the principal of Wesley Middle School about making a similar suggestion. St. Hilda's has already made arrangements, and I believe Wesley is also taking some steps in the same diredtion.

According to the best informed quarters, orders have been issued by both parties to "Cease fire," while the peace talk is proceeding in Peiping. In my own opinion, the chance for nationwide peace is still fifty-fifty, but I believe that we stand a good chance of 75% probability that the Wuhan center may escape severe fighting. By the time this letter reaches you, you will have all the news about the general situation in China, or by that time I may not be able to write you at all, according to the development of circumstances.

The Rev. Frank Short, Executive Secretary of the China Council of the London Missionary Society, was in this center for a week, but finfortunately I was away the greater part of the week and was able to see him only yesterday when he addressed briefly our Assembly, and I had more than two hours with him at lunch time. Mr. Short is very enthusiastic for Huachung, and we may hope that his mission will increase its support at least in personnel when conditions warrant it and when the mission has rethought its China Plan. He left by train for Canton yesterday evening. He gave us some very encouraging news about mission work in the north, and he absolutely concurred with us that we should continue under any circumstances.

It is of very little use to formulate plans to meet conditions under the New Regime, but both at the Retreat of the Faculty Members of the Christian Middle Schools and Huachung held in St. Hilda's on Saturday, April 2, and at t Principals' Conference in Changsha, we reached the common mind that there are certain Christian and educational principles on which we can never compromise, whereas government regulations and certain restrictions could be tolerated with the hope that conditions may improve in the course of time and the day of freedom will return for church work and educational institutions.

People have been asking for the manuscript of my address in St. Hilda's on April 2, and also for the manuscript of my address in Changsha, but I cannot have either of them published without some slight modifications in wording, so as not to arouse unnecessary opposition when the New Day comes.

I may as well add that a letter reached me from the Presbyterian Council yesterday saying that the Committee in Shanghai awarded me a prize for the best pamphlet published during the year 1948. My pamphlet of about 50 pages consists of "Ten Chapel Talks on the Apostles' Creed," which I wrote in the winter of 1944. It is a great honor to have the award, although I did not let the Association Press have my manuscript for the sake of competing for a prize.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

FCMW/MRC

1005

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
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.

April 19, 1949

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

Dear Earl:

I have not written you for a long time because I have trusted that all my letters to McMullen reached you, as I sent you a duplicate copy every time. The enclosed copy of my letter to McMullen, going in the same mail as this, for this week will give you all the news.

Paul Ward and Al Starratt were in Hongkong during the Easter vacation, and while they were there the news reported in the Hongkong papers became worse and worse, and so they sent us a telegram asking whether they should return. Owing to some misunderstanding over the telephone between Hankow and Wuchang, Arthur Allen sent them the reply that they should postpone the trip back for a day or two; just when they received that telegram, the news became better, and they decided to come back, asking by telegram whether they could have permission to return. The Senate was meeting, and so I presented the question to the Senate, as it involved the principle of missionaries on our faculty. The Senate unanimously voted that they should return since from all the information we had received, there would be no serious difficulty even for American individuals to leave the "Liberated Areas" if they should want to do so. So a telegram was sent to the two men in Hongkong, over the signatures of Bishop Tsang and myself, after consultation with Bishop Tsang, saying that they should return immediately without their families. They started on the day when our telegram reached them and got back on Easter Eve. They reported rather crowded trains on the way down, as well as on the way up, but the train from Canton to Hankow was late only by two hours, whereas the train from Wuchang to Canton two weeks previously was late by sixteen hours. They were both very happy to be back and to take their classes again.

The situation will probably change in the near future. Yesterday I called together again the whole faculty and staff and asked them what plans we should make in order to meet the emergency. All they could do was to reaffirm the appointment of two of the faculty members to make plans in connection with the students and servants of the University. Really no one expects very much fighting in this center; and if there should be any, it would not last very long. During the fighting we would simply suspend classes, so that people may take shelter in some of our stronger buildings, and the young people would be organized to patrol the campus in order to avoid disturbances by people from outside. We are fortunate to be in the quieter part of the city, as you know, and if there should be any local commotion, we may not be seriously affected. There is the question of the drinking water for the ten families occupying the new houses outside the old City Wall, and the Senate has decided to hire coolies to supply them with drinking water if the water supply should be cut off temporarily. There is enough rice for the students, faculty families, and servants for the whole term until the end of June. With the Emergency Reserve money dis-

1006

tributed even for two months to all the faculty and staff members, we ought to be able to tide over a period when the exchange may be very difficult or even impossible. If the period should last for more than three months, there would be difficulty, but we hope that arrangements may be made in that eventuality.

On Monday a week ago I raised the question with the Senate whether we should advance the graduation and intermediate examinations, in view of the situation. The Senate then decided to postpone the consideration of this question until yesterday, when they met again. Yesterday the Senate voted unanimously to make no changes in the University Calendar. That means to say, we are going to carry on as usual for as long as we can with all examinations in June.

You may be glad to read from my letter to McMullen that for the time being St. Hilda's has been removed from the list of buildings to be ~~occupied~~ commandeered by the Headquarters. Of course, if fighting should break out outside the East Gate, it would not be possible for St. Hilda's to continue its operation there. Preliminary steps have been taken to evacuate the school if necessary. Evacuation would not be very difficult, because when the time comes, most of the students, perhaps two-thirds, would be gone. In the London Mission Hospital, in the Jackson Gymnasium, and in the various houses we may be able to find accommodations for the staff and remnant of students who would not be able to go home at a distance.

I wrote "Ten Chapel Talks on the Apostles' Creed" and used them in the winter of 1944. When people in Shanghai pressed me for a manuscript, I gave it to them, about 20,000 words, and the Association Press published it in pamphlet form. The Presbyterian National Council awarded me a prize of US$50 for the best pamphlet published in the year 1948. I have written to my daughter Pao-fang in Berea that I will let her have that money for her incidental expenses next year. Will you please arrange to send her a check of US$50, and charge that to my account at "281." If you let me know to what account it is charged, I will inform John Coe of it.

Postal service has been reopened between the north and Wuchang, whereas telegraphic communication has been open all the time. The day may come when I shall not be able to send you any letters, but I trust that cable communications will remain open. If there should be any change of regime in our center, I trust that it will not be any worse than that in Peiping, but we are prepared to make the necessary adjustments when we know what really is confronting us from time to time. Later on perhaps I cannot be as explicit in all my statements and reports, and you will have to decipher my messages to the best of your ability.

There is also the possibility of my being cut off from my folks in the south, and I have written to my son John that in that case, he will arrange with you to send funds to my home. John knows how much is necessary to keep the family going in the south. I know I shall not have to overdraw, and so whatever advance you may have to make to John for remittance to my family, I shall be able to make the refunds.

With every good wish,

Yours affectionately,

Francis

Enc.
FCMW/MRC

1007

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
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.

April 19, 1949

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

[copy for Earl Foster + Nat. Council]

Dear Mac:

Last week I mentioned in my letter that General Pai's Headquarters wanted to commandeer two of our Christian middle schools in Wuchang, viz., Wesley and St. Hilda's, both on the outskirts of the city. The latest news is that for the time being St. Hilda's has been removed from the list of buildings to be commandeered, but Wesley has already received the first notice that the school is to be occupied. Early on Easter Sunday the principal of Wesley Middle School came to see me with the notice, which was too complicated for me to interpret since it referred so much to various articles of the Martial Law. However, another notice is to come, and after that the school will have one week to get out. I have given my advice to the principal as how to proceed, since the matter is really in the hands of the British Consul General in Hankow.

My interpretation is that the moving of the Headquarters from Hankow to Wuchang is only a part of a gesture, unless fighting should actually break out in this center. Even then I do not believe that there will be much fighting in Wuchang. St. Hilda's and Wesley are needed because they are so near to the railway station to Changsha and further south.

The news about the Peace Conference in the north has its "ups and downs." It has been discouraging yesterday and today. The Communists require the Nanking people to sign the peace terms according to the Eight Points by tomorrow, April 20. One of the conditions is that the Communist troops must cross the Yangtze River to assist the Nationalists in reorganizing the army on this side. Today's paper announced that there will be a crossing of the river by the Communist troops anyway on April 25. I do not know whether this is a part of the psychological warfare or whether they really mean business. It is really pathetic that when the Communists have definitely announced at what points they are going to cross the river, the Nationalists do not seem to have the strength to put up any kind of resistance. Many people in this part of the country believe that there will be nationwide peace in form, but local peace in substance, leaving perhaps Canton to hold out until the last.

Yesterday we got the plan ready to give the Emergency Reserve money to our faculty and staff. Enclosed I am sending you a copy of the memorandum which was the substance of my announcement to the faculty and staff at a meeting at four o'clock yesterday afternoon. People seem to be perfectly satisfied and really grateful to the United Board for this arrangement.

1008

It is fortunate that we have had some Silver dollars accumulate during the last two months, and John Coe was able to get some gold bars during the last two weeks. The money market in Hankow has been so tight, and the rate of exchange so unfavorable, that no more cash either in silver or in gold is available at any rate deemed favorable by our people here. So many of them are willing to have the third month held until a later time. Not all the March salary has been paid yet because of exchange difficulties, and it will be quite a problem how to pay the April salaries for the same reason.

I received recently a letter from Mr. Evans. Will you please share this letter with him, so as to save my writing another letter separately to him. Some members of our faculty, who are holders of Teachers College degrees, are simply astounded to hear about the scandal connected with examinations in Teachers College. Indeed, it is almost unbelievable.

Enclosed I am sending you also blanks for Dr. Fenn, as filled out by our Dean's office for this term. You will also find a copy of the recommendations of the Central China Christian Educational Fellowship, which is just for your information. It shows the spirit of the Conference and the determination of the principals attending the Conference from April 6-8 to stand on Christian and sound educational principles, whatever comes.

Dr. Paul Ward and the Rev. Alfred B. Starratt, both of the American Church Mission, have returned from Hongkong to resume their teaching here. They went to Hongkong for the spring vacation of a week, and owing to the recent developments of the situation, they returned almost a week late. Their families are still in Hongkong.

We are happy to know that Mr. Pi of our Biology Department has been awarded the United Board Fellowship to go to America for a year of study in Biology. His intention is to go to Yale, and he is making all arrangements to get his passport from the Ministry of Education now in Canton.

The National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States has awarded fellowships to two of the clergymen in the Diocese of Hankow to spend a period of travel and study in America. They are the Rev. Edmund R. F. Penn and the Rev. James C. S. Yang, both priests in the Sheng Kung Huei, and both graduates from Boone or Huachung, and therefore both count as alumni of Huachung. Mr. Penn graduated from Boone University in 1922 and finished his Theological course in Boone Divinity School in 1923. Mr. Yang graduated from Huachung in 1942. Before his graduation, Mr. Yang took a certain amount of Theological work when the Canton Union Theological College was our guest institution in Hsichow. Mr. Penn's plan is to spend sometime in touring the country, and then for a few months to take some courses -- perhaps a term - in one of the Episcopal theological schools in America. Mr. Yang's idea is to get to New York before the middle of June and take both of the summer sessions in Columbia University before he goes on to Berkeley Divinity School in New Haven, where he may take courses in Theology and Education, working towards an M.A. degree in Yale. For this purpose Mr. Yang would have to spend two years in America whereas Mr. Penn will be away for about a year.

1009

It would be very good if you could contact both of these men, as they are Huachung alumni. Mr. Penn has been chaplain of St. Hilda's Middle School for a number of years, and recently a Canon-at-large in Bishop Stephen Tsang's office in Hankow. Mr. Yang has been doing religious work and teaching in Boone Middle School, and also in charge of the parish Church of the Holy Nativity on our campus. They may be of some use to you if you should need some one from Wuchang for speaking occasionally on Huachung. They use English fluently, and in Chinese they are very good speakers. It may take sometime before they would be able to do platform speaking effectively in English.

Owing to the recent developments of the situation and all the information we have received from the north, I have been urging Mr. Penn and Mr. Yang to leave Wuchang to go to Canton immediately, and they are planning to leave sometime during this week. When the new government gets here, perhaps they may not be able to leave to go abroad at all.

In spite of the tense situation, all our people here are still calm, and the students have been behaving very well. We have seen the proposals of the Yenching students to the administration. Some of the Yenching students' ideas are rather naïve, but as a whole, we may be able to adapt ourselves to them, if the same ideas should be presented to us later in Huachung. Our policy is to wait and see. Adaptation is the order of the day, but we shall stand firmly on our Christian and educational principles with the conviction that we are going to survive.

We had a very happy Easter. The women students in Yen Hostel got up early, and had their Dawn Service, mostly with hymn singing. I could hear them from my house. At 7:30 AM there was the Sheng Kung Huei Holy Communion in Chinese and at 8:30 AM the Sheng Kung Huei Holy Communion in English, and then at 10 AM there was the service in the Church of the Holy Nativity. All the services were open to all. In the morning nine of our students were baptized in the Church of Christ in China in our neighborhood near to the London Mission, and later in the morning there was also the Easter gathering for the Sunday School children and Youth Fellowship, numbering almost 150, under Dr. Edith Taai and her students in Religious Education.

At 3:30 in the afternoon the University Choir under Professor David Anderson gave parts of Handel's "Messiah" with Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Anderson at the piano and organ respectively. There were four solos sung by Mrs. Constantine, Mrs. Anderson, Dr. Tregear and Peter Fan, one of our junior students. The Assembly Room was full with perhaps 400-500 people, mostly ~~on~~ our own faculty and students, but many from the churches outside. The whole service lasted for an hour and a half. We did not have any evening service, as on ordinary Sundays, since there had been so many services earlier in the day.

Before Easter there was the GoodFriday service in the afternoon from half past twelve till half past two. TheRev. James Yang, Dr.Edith Taai, and the Rev. Leonard Constantine led the meditations on the "Seven Words on the Cross" and the Church of the Holy Nativity was packed full from beginning to end. It was a very helpful service indeed.

Last Saturday I was at a dinner party of the Wuchung gentry to discuss ways and means of meeting the emergency when it comes. From the discussion I felt that there was very little to plan for except to get ready to police the city during an interregnum of perhaps about a day or two, and to arrange to keep the electric light, the water supply, the telephone service and the rice shops going. I have to keep in touch with the different groups of people in the city as a non-partisan. Day after tomorrow I am going to lecture to the officials of the province in training. In order to avoid misinterpretation, I am going to lecture on Kantian Philosophy, which is largely epistemological and therefore entirely non-political. I have to do stunts like that in order to play my part as a dove and a serpent! For two consecutive weeks I have been addressing the weekly Assembly myself, and the students seem to be willing to accept what I had to say to them about the spirit of Huachung and our democratic way of doing things for the last twenty years.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely

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

CHINA MISSION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

April 26, 1949

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

[Copy for Earl Fowler & Nat Bucail]

Dear Bob:

I received your letter of April 8, and I am glad to know that my weekly letters have been some help to you in these days of uncertainty.

In my last letter I thanked the United Board through you for the fellowship granted to Mr. Pi of our Biology department. Dr. Sherman would understand that we in Huachung took into very serious consideration church membership of our candidates for the fellowships as one of the qualifications, but we have other considerations as well, such as the needs of different departments for training younger staff members and the faithfulness of the candidates recommended. Many people are really surprised that the fellowship has gone to Mr. Pi.

The situation in the Wuhan center has been tense, but there seems to be a kind of rhythm, and now we feel a little bit more at ease. The radio news this morning is that the Communist troops are by-passing Shanghai. They are going south, and this is what we had been expecting as part of their strategy. We feel that our fate will be more-or-less like that of Shanghai, but we are preparing for the worst, which may not come at all, at least not in the shape in which many people have been expecting it.

So far our morale is still good, and the students are sensible and most cooperative. They are, of course, young and naïve. From time to time I have to give them a bit of advice, and they are always ready to take it with gratitude. Yesterday evening there was a meeting of the whole student body, faculty, and staff, and servants to discuss ways and means to meet an emergency. No really constructive ideas could come from a meeting like that. Naturally I was the first one to speak, and I had to be as clever as a serpent without making any commitments. But after the meeting I spoke to a group of the student leaders, and I felt that I had helped them to be more realistic.

I wrote you previously about Wesley Middle School of the Methodist Missionary Society and St. Hilda's Middle School for Girls of the American Church Mission. Wesley has already received the second notice to vacate the school buildings for military use. St. Hilda's has been temporarily reprieved, but they have to be ready if the situation should become more tense.

We have already finished nine weeks of lectures, with one week of spring holiday, and we should be able to carry on for four more weeks, it would be a real achievement. My conjecture is that we stand a pretty good chance of going through the term and finishing according to schedule the latter part of June before there would be any change, but that may be ~~indeed~~ undue optimism or pessimism depending on how you look at the situation.

In doing everything, we are taking all the necessary precautions. For instance, the principals of the Christian middle schools were scheduled to meet at Griffith John Middle School on April 30. When I saw Principal Hu of the school, I called his attention to the need of changing the place of meeting to I Hsuin School in the city of Hankow, instead of in the Griffith John Middle School which is five or six miles out. This kind of precaution may not seem necessary for this week, but it is better for us to play safe anyway.

As to the number of workers on the campus, we are trying to reduce to the minimum, realizing that every extra worker means so much more trouble when the Union is formed, and they will be probably aggressive and difficult to deal with at least at the beginning, although so far our workers have been very faithful and reasonable.

We are stopping all the unnecessary repairs and purchases in order to conserve the little silver we have. There is no question about food supply until at least midsummer.

You must have been reading about the fall of Nanking, which was really tragic, but it was inevitable. It was only a question of time anyway. What is going to happen next is clear enough; an arrowhead on the map is pointing south. Writing a note to one of my friends in the Church in Hongkong, I said yesterday that possibly the change might take place in Canton before the Wuhan Center. Postponement of difficulty is not pleasant, but if things should work out, I have been anticipating probably our change here will take a more peaceful form.

At any rate we put Christian principles before human lives, and human lives before material property. Last night I told our students here that I would not want them to put up any resistance if there should be armed people coming in to loot, but if there should be a mob using no violence means, the number of young people on the campus may be able to keep them away. Sufficient measures of precaution have been taken to safeguard whatever valuable equipment we have, but there is no way to protect the library. We have fire drill, but the danger of fire is very slight. The only thing that we are afraid of is just looting. The gentry in the city have been considering ways and means of keeping order in Wuchang, in case there should be any interim period, but how effective those measures will be only the future will tell. We have experienced very little looting in Wuchang in the past, and whenever there was any it was not in our part of the city -- except when the Japanese were here, but that was a pretty thorough business when they had time to do it house-by-house.

You may have read Dr. T. C. Chao's articles on "The Christian Churches in Communist China" and "Revolution in China." I admire Dr. Chao for his courage and his Christian Faith, but I am inclined to disagree with him in many of his judgments. If I should have time during the next week or so, I may draft an article just in reply without taking a side politically, but just stating the Christian way of looking at many of the problems he deals with. I do not mean to say that his way of dealing with those problems is not Christian, but there is more than one way of taking a Christian attitude. Last Friday evening the Lutheran Student Center asked me to address the Lutheran Student Fellowship, and I took as my topic, "I reply to Dr. T. C. Chao." T.C. and I are friends of thirty years standing, and we agree on many things, but we part company most of the time on philosophical and theological questions, with, however, mutual respect as friends and fellow-workers in the Church.

I hope you are going to have a good annual meeting on May 9-11. You must have already had my letter for the last week, in which our plan of paying the three months was attached to the end of my letter, typed by Professor John L. Coe himself.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

FCMW/MRC

1 7 1 5 5 5

10 14

May 3, 1949

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

My dear Francis:

I want to thank you fom the bottom of my heart for all your letters and for all the information that you have sent both to Dr. McMullen and myself. I feel terribly guilty for not having written you more often. Even though Bishop Bentley has been back a couple of weeks it does not seem to lighten my correspondence. My desk is piled high and I do not know when I will ever get it cleaned up with things so disturbed and uncertain in China. Due to this situation there are so many interdenominational mission meetings all of which take lots of time but which I feel I have to attend. Next week is going to be frightfully busy with the annual meeting of the United Board and many other meetings. I am sure that Dr. McMullen keeps you well informed so you are up to date on everyt ing that goes on here regarding the University and I will not go into the details.

There has been very little in the papers recently regarding the Hankow area. I suppose that Wuhan, being on the periphery of the general movement south, is not considered as important as Nanking and other placed. We hope that any changeover will be peaceful and that there will be no severe fighting.

Your letter of April nineteenth is very reassuring. We are glad you are so well prepared to meet this emergency. I was glad to know that Paul Ward and Al Starratt got back and hope that everything straightens out before summer so that they can have their families rejoin them. It is a real source of joy and inspiration that the morale in Wuhan has been so high and I am glad beyond words that the faculty and staff of the University are sticking together. The families that are separated from their children have my deepest symapthy and I hope that communications have been possible between Wuchang and Kuling. We received a cable last Friday from Gilson saying that the two Pickens girls had gone aboard the S.S. REPOSE along with the two secretaries in Gilson's office. Jim Pott and Charles Perry sailed for the United States on the PRESIDENT WILSON on April twenty-seventh. Mr. and Mrs. Norton were proceeding to Manila to pick up their children at Brent School. Mr. Ellis Tucker and Dr. and Mrs. A. W. Tucker are scheduled to sail for the States on the GORDON On May fourth.

I am mighty glad to hear that St. Hilda's is not going to be occupied by the Army. I hope it will not be necessary for them to move into temporary quarters but, of course, if there is going to be any fighting, it would be necessary for them to come inside the City. We have great confidence in you and the rest of our Mission staff in the Wuhan area and know you will do what is best. I presumé a great many of the girl students have returned home, or evacuated to other places of safety.

Congratulations on the honor of having received the prize from the Presbyterian National Council for the best pamphlet published in 1948. I am not at all surprised but I am very happy that you received this honor and recognition. We will be very glad to have a check for fifty dollars, ($50.00), sent to Pau-fang at Berea. In case word from John is received, we will also be very glad to forward the necessary money to him .

With very best wishes and kind regards to all.

Affectionately yours,

J. Earl Fowler
Associate Secretary

JEF:O

10 16

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
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 3, 1949

MAY 11 1949
J. EARL FOWLER

1 copy for J. Earl Fowler and Nat. Council

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

Dear Bob:

Every week when I come to dictating a letter to you for the United Board and all the missions interested in Huachung and other friends, I feel most thankful that postal communications are still open between you and us. I believe that there will be still a few weeks yet before they are closed, if they should be closed at all, and I hope in that eventuality it will be still possible for us to exchange greetings by cable. At any rate, any important happenings will be reported to you one way or another, and no news under special conditions will always be good news.

Last week I wrote that we were changing the place for the monthly meeting of the principals of the Christian middle schools in the Wuhan center from Griffith John Middle School, about six miles on the outskirts of Hankow, to I Hsuin Middle School for Girls in the city itself. On Thursday, however, the place was changed back to Griffith John, which was an indication that people in this center, particularly principals themselves, felt more at ease about the situation.

We got to I Hsuin in the city of Hankow by eleven o'clock in the morning, and the truck was ready to take us to Griffith John inside a half hour. The road was bad, but the weather was so glorious that everyone of us enjoyed the trip. We had lunch in Principal Hu's house, and after that from two o'clock to quarter of five we had our meeting. Among various things discussed was how to meet the new situation whenever it comes. Again we felt that there was very little that we could plan ahead of time, but it was helpful to get our minds adjusted to the expected changes. However, if other people have been able to bear it, we ought to be able to bear it too, with the hope that the period of tribulation will not be too long.

On Sunday afternoon I met with the Wuhan Christian Students Union and all the student religious workers. The group was small because it clashed with another Christian student meeting in Wuchang. They asked me to speak on "The Basic Teachings of the Christian Faith," which I did. I started from man's sense of insecurity, to which the Christian answer is the world and human life as God's Creature; then the mind of the Creator as revealed in the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth; and that after His Ascension God is still working in His church and in all human minds which accept His Salvation; and finally the Church as the Body of Christ to complete the work of Redemption in this world of ours. This may sound a bit too much orthodoxy for you, but the group of young people accepted it and asked a few questions, such as Creation and Darwinism. Well, I pointed out to them that there were Bergson and Lloyd Morgan after Darwin; and while we accepted the theory of Evolution, we must not stop with Darwin. The discussion was

lively, and the group decided to have monthly meetings to discuss the Christian position and the new forces that are coming to China in times like these.

Yesterday Dr. John Lo addressed the Assembly on "Psychology in Times of Crisis," and he made a very good impression on all the students. Yesterday afternoon I went out to Wesley Middle School to learn about the whole story of the School Compound being reprieved by the headquarters of General Pai. In my two previous letters I had mentioned the possibility of Wesley Middle School being commandeered. While we were meeting in Hankow on Thursday with the Christian leaders of this center in Bishop Tsang's house, we heard the report from the authorities of the Methodist Church in Hupeh that probably Wesley would have to evacuate on Saturday. Principal Hu of Wesley did not go with us to Griffith John, and his failure to join us indicated, of course, that his school was being evacuated. It was only on Sunday morning that we heard the happy news that for the time being at least the school buildings will not be used by General Pai's headquarters.

My visit yesterday to the school confirmed it. The British Consul received word from those headquarters only Friday evening, and it was at once forwarded to the Rev. J. J. Meady of the Methodist Church. When the school received the message at half past one Saturday afternoon, it was too late for Principal Hu to cross the river to join us in the trip to Griffith John. In the meantime the school had been closed, and practically all the students, whose homes were at a distance, had left, not to return for this term. Before the closing on Saturday, there were 440 students, but 200 of them remained behind, and since Saturday afternoon many of the local students have been returning, and so they are starting classes again today, with possibly an enrollment of 300 students.

According to Mr. Liu, they are going to put on a new program for the remaining eight weeks of this term on the principles I suggested in Changsha, when the principals of the Christian middle schools of the Central China Region were meeting three weeks ago. Since the term has already been wound up as far as the Provincial Commissioner of Education is concerned, Wesley is going to try an experiment not only in curriculum, but also in Teaching Methods, as well as in the general management of the school. If that should prove successful, it would be an "eye-opener" to all of us.

All the schools, both government and private, in this center have already finished their work for those students who are graduating from the senior middle school or junior middle school this term. Boone Middle School has to face the same problem as how to continue the teaching of the Senior III students and Junior III students. They are going to try something also along the same line as Wesley, except they are doing it only with two classes, whereas Wesley is doing it with the whole school. I am very fond of suggesting new educational ideas, and it is really very gratifying that two schools are going to experiment on them even during a period of eight weeks.

Just at the present moment our main difficulty is that of exchange. On Saturday a silver dollar was worth GY$1,500,000, and that was only three days ago. Yesterday the black market was GY$2,000,000; in the evening it went up to GY$3,000,000. Early this morning it was GY$5,000,000, and later GY $7,000,000 was quoted. What it means is that the GY has simply become waste paper much worse than the old NC. In the meanwhile we cannot buy silver dol-

lars because we do not have the Gold Yuen to buy them with. If we should try to cash a US check at the bank, the bank would not be able to give us Gold Yuen or anything else. So we have to carry on with whatever silver we have at the present moment, and some of the missionaries have even less than one-month's expenses on hand. I know Mr. Arthur Allen and Bishop Tsang of the American Church Mission are worrying about this.

On May 1, Labor Day in China, we paid our college servants according to a scheme agreed upon by those directly in charge of the servants and the administrative heads in the University. Those servants who have been working since rehabilitation in the fall of 1946 have received three-months' pay in addition to their pay for April. Those who have been working for over a year have received two months extra, and those who have served for less than a year only one month extra. Proportionately, the workers have got more than the staff and faculty members.

Our treasurer has not been able to pay salaries for April except to a few who are willing to accept this very unfavorable rate of about Silver 85¢ to ~~Silver~~ US $1. If anything, this exchange situation will only become worse until the New Regime is established. What will be the exchange then we have no way of telling. Information from the north is still very indefinite. Probably most of our people will be able to carry on with the money they have for the next two or three months. What I fear is that the change will not come inside the next two months. At any rate, that is the opinion of most people who know the situation better.

Hot weather has already set in, and we have changed our class hours in the afternoon, starting at 1:30 instead of 1:15, so as to give a longer interval after lunch. The students say that they need a nap in the afternoon, but most of them simply play around, which is really good for them.

As far as the Civil War is concerned, Wuhan is still very peaceful. Perhaps we are at the present moment in one of the happiest spots in the whole country. Shanghai is very unsettled, according to newspaper reports, and people who arrived from Changsha only day before yesterday reported greater nervousness in that city than we have in the Wuhan Center. As we watch the arrowheads of the Communist campaign on the map from day to day, according to the newspaper reports, we are not surprised at all that Changsha feels more jittery.

We still continue our weekly Music Hour on Thursday evening. Once in a while I drop into the Assembly Room not only to enjoy the music when I can, but also to see what kind of audience there is. I was in the hall myself last Thursday, and it was pretty well filled. There was some record music played on the new gramophone with an amplifier sent by the China Christian Universities Association in London, and it was really a wonderful instrument. The main items on the program for the evening were really piano solos by Professor Edward R. Van Sant of the Economics department. He is a pianist, as well as an economist, and he seems to enjoy his playing as much as we enjoy his music. It it wonderful that we can have such musical evenings in the University, and music always lightens one's labors.

Religious activities are still going on as usual, mainly on Friday evenings with all the fellowship meetings. Our Morning Chapel and other services remain unchanged.

Mr. Pi of our Biology Department has been awarded the United Board Fellowship for the coming year, but so far he has received no letter from you, and he has

not been able to get permission to enter any university in America, because he does not have any document to show that his financial support is guaranteed. I hope you will arrange to send him through me at your earliest convenience a letter with duplicates, testifying that he has been granted the United Board Fellowship, which covers his passage to America and return to China and all his expenses for one year in a university in the United States. If you can also secure from Yale University permission to enter the Graduate School in Yale for postgraduate work in Biology, with emphasis on Botany, it would expedite matters greatly. I am writing to the Graduate School of Yale University myself on his behalf, but it would be very helpful if you should also write for him to Associate Dean Simpson, Graduate School, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

I have heard from my son John very recently that Dean Simpson is very hesitant in giving permission to graduate students from China because many of them have not been able to leave China on account of the present situation. I am advising Mr. Pi to go to Canton if we should get very near to the time of a change of regime. After the change it would not be possible for him to leave at all. So when you send the documents to him through me here, please send duplicates of the same to

Mr. Pi Lei-chiao
Huachung University
C/o Rev. Dr. Chas. Harth
Bishop's House
Hongkong.

This will make sure that he will receive them, if he should have to leave here quickly.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

CMM/MRC

1020

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
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 31 1949
J. EARL [illegible]

May 10, 1949

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

[copy for J. E. Fowler
Nat. Council]

Dear Bob:;

I am trying to get this letter off to you because I do not know how many days will be left when I shall be still free to get word to you by post. The situation seems to be more tense during the last week than when I wrote you the weekly letter. There have been so many rumors that one feels absolutely at sea as to what to believe. The fact seems to be that the fighting is only about twenty or thirty miles away from Hankow, and last night we seemed to hear cannonading at a distance. It cannot have been large-scale fighting -- maybe only skirmishes. As far as we can ascertain, Hankow is almost a semi-vacuum as far as military preparations are concerned; and Wuchang although not so jittery begins to feel the gravity of conditions. Fortunately our faculty and students remain as calm as they can be. If anything, the students are quieter; by this I do not mean that they have been out of control. They always come for advice and are willing to receive directions from the administration.

You will remember that we share the old Boone Compound with the Boone Middle School which has still about 600 boys ranging from eleven to twenty years of age. Naturally those kids are much less mature than our boys and girls. One of my problems, therefore, is how to maintain the usual harmoney between the two groups of young people. I am in constant touch with the Rev. Mark Li, principal of Boone Middle School, and Mr. Harry Yuan, vice-principal and dean, both my own students. They are very cooperative and cordial, and so we do not fear any conflict at all between the two institutions.

Last Friday evening about ten o'clock I heard the bell alarm on the college side of the campus, signalling fire. I went out and found a considerable number of our own students, boys and girls, rushing about, knowing not exactly what to do. I took charge of the situation at once and sent a man student ahead to find out what the origin of the fire and where it was. It was near to two Boy Scout Camps at the eastern end of the school campus. A pile of kindling wood had been prepared for fire drill of the Boone Middle School boys for Saturday morning, but some mischievous little devil lit it at ten o'clock, and that started the alarm. As soon as that was ascertained, I ordered our own students to return to their hostels. Even in a small incident like that, apparently it required a more experienced person to assume leadership.

Yesterday the University Senate had its monthly meeting, and the question of meeting an emergency was raised and discussed at length. It was pointed out that while there was a Security Committee with two faculty members, elected by the Faculty Club, three student representatives elected by the Student

1021

Government, and two workers' representatives, elected by themselves, making a committee of Seven, it was deemed necessary to have an official body representing the Senate to assume responsibility, and if necessary control, when a real emergency situation should arise. A committee was appointed by the Senate, consisting of Dean P'u Hwang and Dean Richard Bien , and myself. Both Dr. Hwang and Dr. Bien have had considerable administrative experience and were acting presidents at different times during my absence abroad. Yesterday evening I called the student representatives in and informed them of the Senate action, and I repeated this again this morning to another student representative. They accepted this action quite willingly. They have been coming to me for advice anyway from time to time, particularly during the last week almost daily. We do not know what is going to happen within the next few days, but by the time you receive this letter, you may know already as much as we do here by following the daily papers in New York.

We have ten families living in the new houses on the land outside of the Old City Wall with only a barbed wire fence around the group of houses , and then there are eight families occupying the houses built on the Old City Wall property. Night before last a group of faculty members came to see me at half past nine, and stayed until half past ten, asking whether in an emergency the women and children should not move into the main campus. The way they presented the situation to me led me to think that radical changes would take place immediately. That was one of the rumors I had heard earlier in the evening; and since I could not check up the truth or falsehood of the rumors those men brought to me in the night, I had to tell them to get ready at once. Arrangements have been made for the women and children to come into spend the nights if necessary by sleeping in the classrooms and in some of the houses with spare space. But there has been no necessity of doing that yet. Again this morning rumors are in the air. We do not want to do anything rash, but we are prepared for the worst.

This afternoon there will be a meeting of the Executive Council of the Hupeh Christian Association with representatives of all the churches working in this center. I am going to attend it at half past two, but I do not see what plans we can make before we know the real situation. But it is always gratifying for some of the people just to talk things over and to get the feeling that if we should suffer, we are going to suffer in good company.

We have received all kinds of documents from varous Christian bodies and individuals. The important thing is to know what the essentials of the Christian Faith are and decide with that Faith as our guiding principle what we can do and what we cannot do whenever a special situation arises. Again, I would say that as far as I can see, what the future has in store for us probably we are not going to have greater hardship than what we experienced in the winter of 1926-27, for a little while at least. There may be further changes, of course, after that, but it seems sheer cowardice for us to run away from imagined danger. So here we are prepared to stick it out, trusting that God Almight will take of us and that His Spirit will direct us as to what to say and what to do in a given set of circumstances. There are dangers, of course, but where can one now find a safe place? Security is only a relative term, but the Christian Faith is an absolute thing.

May I ask you to do me a favor? In case postal and even cabled communications should be cut off between you and us here for a time, long or short,

in England and America
would you keep all of the families/of the missionary personnel here informed of the development of the situation here. The various missions will know the addresses of their home relatives. I have two children in America. My son, John Wei, 2797 Yale Station, New Haven, Connecticut, and my daughter, Catherine Wei, Box 2046 Berea College, Berea, Ky. I have my daughter and son-in-law in Birmingham, England, Dr. and Mrs. Chon g-fu Li, 355 Gillott Road, Birmingham 16, England. Mr. Slater's office will keep my children in England posted about situations in Wuchang, and I hope the United Board office or "281" will keep my children in America informed.

The most encouraging thing in a situation like this is that the Christian members of the faculty and staff, 80% of our total personnel with their families, feel that they can always fall back upon the Guidance of God; and the Christian students, more than 50% of the student body this term, are quiete prepared to do any voluntary work in case of emergency so as to demonstrate their willingness to serve and to obey. Religious work is still going on strong and classes continue as usual. Yesterday the treasurer was able to pay the April salaries at the rate of Silver $1 to US$1. A good part of the money for this was bought at Silver 83¢ to US$1, but it was possible to pay a higher rate by averaging the cost of the silver with some which had been purchased earlier. With conditions as they are at present he may not be able to pay another month's salary right away. We will watch exchange conditions and make arrangements as seem wisest. We are also letting the faculty know that anyone who wishes the third extra month and/or May salary paid at the present low rates may receive it by notifying the Treasurer's office.

With e very good wish,

Yours sincerely,

FCMW/MRC

1023

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
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.

Send to Mr. Sherman
O.K.

August 11, 1949

Dr. Arthur M. Sherman, S.T.D.
C/O 281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

1949

Dear Dr. Sherman:

I was very happy to receive on August 10 your letter of May 20, 1949, in which you transmitted to me the message of the Huachung Committee, which makes such kind references to me as President here.

I have just dictated a letter to Dr. McMullen, in reply to his letter of June 2, enclosing the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the United Board held in New York; but the Minutes of the April 29 meeting of the Huachung Committee have not arrived yet, and I am looking forward to reading them.

I am very much interested to know that the National Council did receive the two cables sent from here after the Liberation of Wuchang, including the one signed by Bishop Tsang, Mr. Arthur J. Allen, and myself, which I sent from here.

With regard to the "Severance Pay," I have written in full to Dr. McMullen, but so far we have not been able to pay the third month yet. The Board of Directors meeting on July 30 discussed this matter in great detail, and you will read in the Minutes what recommendation was made by the Directors. The upshot of it is that since there was no "Severance," we could not consider it "Severance Pay;" and if circumstances should change in the future when "Severance" should become necessary, some other arrangement will have to be made in addition to the three-months' pay which will have been made long before any new emergency should happen.

So far Wuchang has been very peaceful, and we have been getting along most cheerfully. As I have written to Dr. McMullen in this last letter, as well as in my previous letters to him, the morale of the faculty and staff, as well as of the students, has been very encouraging. The religious activities in particular are going well.

We do not expect a large enrollment in September, - perhaps it will be only about two-thirds of what we had a year ago. Many students have joined the various political institutions, and we are glad that they have a chance to do so. Perhaps in another year the number of students will increase again, but it may take a couple of years before we can get back to the highwater mark reached in the autumn of 1948. Registration of candidates for the entrance examinations to be held next week is going on. Of the candidates, about one-half are women students, which is to be expected under the present circumstances.

1024

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
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.

Mail to Dr. Sherman
Aug 12

August 11, 1949

Dr. Arthur M. Sherman, S.T.D.
C/O 281 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

1949

Dear Dr. Sherman:

I was very happy to receive on August 10 your letter of May 20, 1949, in which you transmitted to me the message of the Huachung Committee, which makes such kind references to me as President here.

I have just dictated a letter to Dr. McMullen, in reply to his letter of June 2, enclosing the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the United Board held in New York; but the Minutes of the April 29 meeting of the Huachung Committee have not arrived yet, and I am looking forward to reading them.

I am very much interested to know that the National Council did receive the two cables sent from here after the Liberation of Wuchang, including the one signed by Bishop Tsang, Mr. Arthur J. Allen, and myself, which I sent from here.

With regard to the "Severance Pay," I have written in full to Dr. McMullen, but so far we have not been able to pay the third month yet. The Board of Directors meeting on July 30 discussed this matter in great detail, and you will read in the Minutes what recommendation was made by the Directors. The upshot of it is that since there was no "Severance," we could not consider it "Severance Pay;" and if circumstances should change in the future when "Severance" should become necessary, some other arrangement will have to be made in addition to the three-months' pay which will have been made long before any new emergency should happen.

So far Wuchang has been very peaceful, and we have been getting along most cheerfully. As I have written to Dr. McMullen in this last letter, as well as in my previous letters to him, the morale of the faculty and staff, as well as of the students, has been very encouraging. The religious activities in particular are going well.

We do not expect a large enrollment in September, - perhaps it will be only about two-thirds of what we had a year ago. Many students have joined the various political institutions, and we are glad that they have a chance to do so. Perhaps in another year the number of students will increase again, but it may take a couple of years before we can get back to the highwater mark reached in the autumn of 1948. Registration of candidates for the entrance examinations to be held next week is going on. Of the candidates, about one-half are women students, which is to be expected under the present circumstances.

1024

Bishop Tsang has gone to Shanghai to meet with the two other bishops on financial and other matters concerning the diocese here. He may not be back until perhaps the end of the month.

We are fully intending to carry on our theological training here. The theological students will not decrease as far as we know.

Next Monday, August 15, we are going to have another meeting of the Preparation Committee for a larger meeting to plan out the religious activities of the various middle schools in this center. It is our desire that the intensified religious activities in the schools will lead to the formal organization of the Christian Student Volunteer Movement in the Wuhan area, to be held sometime during the winter vacation. Nothing is more urgent than to have a large number of young people trained, so that they may render voluntary service to the Church in China. Paid ministers may decrease in number as the years go by; and if the Church is going to go ahead, we shall have to depend largely upon people who get their living outside the Church, but who may give part of their time to the service of the Church, and that requires a great deal of encouragement and training. Our theological course here has been planned largely to meet that kind of situation.

None of our people have been able to go to Kuling, although we are trying to get permission for some of them to go there in order to visit their children in the school.

I am sorry to know that Miss Johnston was not present at the April 29 Meeting of the Huachung Committee because of her absence from her home. I hope that she has had a good winter with her father and her aunt in Florida and will return soon to Ohio. Some one of these days I shall write to her a separate letter, but in the meantime please convey to her our best wishes from Huachung, if you should have occasion to write to her.

With every good wish to you and Mrs. Sherman, I remain,

Yours affectionately,

Francis

Wei/Coe

1025

CONFIDENTIAL 14 SEPTEMBER 1949

EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER DATED 21 JULY 1949
FROM PRESIDENT FRANCIS WEI, HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"It has been again very uneventful during the last week. We have agreed to allow one of the government training institutions to use two of our hostels and our men's dining room and kitchen for the summer, with the understanding that we may have the buildings back for the opening of the University in September.

"The Senate of the University met last Monday and decided to start our fall term on September 10 for the old students to return and have the rooms in the hostels assigned on September 12, and the new students to enter on September 19. It will probably be around September 25 before classes will begin. We have to put the beginning of classes so late because of local conditions.

"Fees will have to be lower than last term, and with a decreased enrollment, income from student fees will be much reduced for the next year. No one can tell how many students we shall have. Our estimate is about 300-500. Even the Christian middle schools will have much smaller enrollments next year. Many of their graduates have joined various kinds of activities, and so the number coming to join our freshman class will be much smaller than in an ordinary year. Economic conditions will make it very difficult for many of the families to pay even our reduced fees.

"We are keeping the same faculty, except one change in the department of English Literature. Arrangements are being made for a part-time teacher to offer one course in Elementary Russian as a second foreign language in the university next year, open only to junior and senior students of all the departments. Ethics will be dropped except as an elective course, so also Logic, but Philosophy will be required as before, and I have to teach it again myself. In preparation for the course in Philosophy I try to do as much reading as possible during the summer, and I find it not easy at all to teach it in such a way as to make it acceptable to all concerned.

"The deans and heads of the departments have already had one meeting and made the preliminary revision of our curriculum, pending the new curriculum as promulgated by the new government, which may take some months. The minimum requirement for graduation, beginning with the class of 1951, is reduced to 120 credit hours, and the maximum 136. Our desire is that more leisure may be left to the students to read and to think. That may be too high an aim to achieve under the present circumstances. Many requirements have been dropped, but the departments will meet among themselves and present a proposed course of study in each of the departments to take effect, beginning with the next term. There will be a General Faculty Meeting to consider the revised curriculum early in August.

"Two days ago members of the faculties of the different colleges and universities in this center had a meeting at Wuhan University to make arrangements for the summer studies of the faculty members, so as to get them better acquainted with the new literature, and also to adjust the teaching and contents of the various courses according to the new ideas. A very good spirit was manifested in the meeting, and we hope something will come out of the summer studies.

"Perhaps 100 of our students have joined the various training schools of the government, and a few have gone into the army for political work. Before they leave this center, they come back to see us very frequently, showing genuine affection for their old college. According to their reports, they are making a very good name for Huachung everywhere by their spirit of service and their willingness to cooperate.

"We have had four cases of typhoid or paratyphoid among the students during the last few weeks. Three cases were very slight, and they have recovered, or are on the way to recovery, but one case really is very serious. The serious case is the son of Mr. Yin K'ai-shih, a freshman in the College of Education. Mr. Yin K'ai-shih, as you know, is Vice-principal of Yali Union Middle School in Changsha. He was not able to go home at the beginning of the summer, and communications with his family have been interrupted He is in the Church General Hospital, and Dr. Fulton has been taking a great interest in him. Both Dr. Huang P'u and I are in close touch with the hospital in regard to his condition. Students from the university are going over to the hospital day and night to take care of him, because although he is very sick, he has been very active and requires constant watch. During the last two or three days the case has been really serious.

"Prices began to drop a bit, and we hope they will continue to come down. The trees are beautiful, and the gardeners are working hard to keep the grass mowed down, which is a very difficult job."

[fragment]

CONFIDENTIAL 27 SEPTEMBER 1949

A LETTER, DATED 14 JUNE, FROM PRESIDENT WEI

HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"Term examinations began today, but owing to various student activities in this center, some of our students have been granted permission to take some of the examinations they are missing now when they come back in September. Otherwise everything is going on normally, although there is always a great deal of noise on the campus because of the activities of the students, which are to be expected.

Our Housing Committee has decided to let a medical unit of the army use one of our faculty residences on the edge of the Old City Wall. The people of the medical unit are very polite to everybody. They have even offered to pay for the light and water they use while they occupy the house, which is a small house of two large rooms and one kitchen.

"There have been no restrictions whatever to the movements of aliens in the Wuhan Center They can go anywhere, crossing the river and walking in the street at night. In other words, they are just as free as they have ever been here. We have not been able to get any decision yet from the government as to the travel of aliens from one point in the liberated area to another, nor any decision on bringing in families from outside of China. We are expecting some reply to our enquiry in the near future. Paul Ward and Alfred Starratt are very anxious to go to Hongkong towards the end of this month in order to see their families, and if possible, to bring them back to Wuchang, but the railway to Canton is not yet open, and the way by Shanghai has not been easy. The Shanghai way ought to be open soon.

"Prices have not risen much, but we have not been able to do any exchange yet. News from Shanghai is encouraging about exchange, and so possibly we may be able to do it before very long.

"It has been very wet weather for the last two to three weeks. The water in the river has reached a level higher than for many years in the past at this date, but it is our hope that the rain may stop so as not to cause any flood in our part of the country. Newspapers have reported floods south of us.

"All kinds of articles and foodstuffs are available in the market, but naturally we do not buy anything unless it is absolutely necessary. One of our immediate problems is how to give relief to perhaps over 100 students who can not find their board during the summer vacation and who are cut off from their homes in the south or west. I may have to send you a cablegram later, asking for a sum of about US$1,000 for relief of th students during the summer vacation. The difficulty is to find out what students are really in need. Some are; and some may have money and still ask for relief. We have to face that kind of problem at almost any time.

"Then, there is the problem of fixing the fees to charge next September. The Senate of the University has decided to have not more than 400 students next fall, perhaps 250 old students and 150 new ones. If more of the old students should come back, we may admit an even smaller freshman class.

"This means that income from fees will be lower because of the smaller enrollment, and also because of the lower fees that we may charge owing to the economic condition of th students' families. We are just getting the different parts of the budget for next

CONFIDENTIAL 27 SEPTEMBER 1949

A LETTER, DATED 23 JUNE, FROM PRESIDENT WEI

HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"A week ago Tuesday we started our term examinations, and the students were doing them most cheerfully. Then last Sunday it was decided that all the students in middle schools, colleges, and universities would go out to do propaganda work against the use of the silver dollar, which had been quite a "disturbing element" in the financial and business market. Our students, of course had to go, and they have been doing the work in Hanyang, the place allocated to them by the Student Union in the Wuhan Center. Less than one-half of our students went there, and the other half unfortunately are just idle on our campus.

"Tuesday afternoon a meeting was called by the Cultural Bureau of the Military Control Commission for the Wuhan Municipality to discuss the questions of term examinations and the time for the summer vacation to begin. The heads of all universities, colleges and middle schools, the deans of Studies, and a student representative from each of the institutions met in Hankow under the Cultural Bureau. I went myself, as did Dean Richard Bien as chairman of the General Faculty Meeting instead of Dean Constantine, and one of our student representatives. Owing to two other meetings that afternoon I could stay for only three-quarters of an hour and left after I had made my little speech on our situation in Huachung, but Richard Bien and our student stayed from half past one to five o'clock. Term examinations, of course, will be given if the teachers and students come to an agreement to have them. Schools which have not finished the term's work will make it up at the beginning of next term, and then decide whether there should be term examinations or not. In our case, we finished half of our term examinations; and the Academic Committee, authorized by the General Faculty Meeting to make decisions on such matters, will probably decide not to hold the rest of the term examinations until next September. We hope we would not have any difficulty in requiring the students to attend the examinations not given this term, but much will have happened before we start the new term in September.

"Last night the Faculty Philosophical Club met to draw up its program for the next academic year. We meet only once a month to hear a paper read by one of the members. This has been going on since November 1947. It is very encouraging to be able to make plans like this for the next academic year, and we are in full confidence that we may be able to carry out this plan.

"We are not going to have any Commencement this year because the Senior Class has not had the degree examinations, although they are now completing their term examinations for their eighth term in college. Whether the degree examinations will be given or not will have to depend upon the students themselves. When they make the request to have th examinations, the Academic Committee will then consider the question. Probably most of the graduating class would like to have the examinations, and other simply forego the the privilege. Is it not good to give more liberty to young people in these days?

"We have not been able to get official permission for Paul Ward and Alfred Starratt to leave Wuhan in order to go to Hongkong and rejoin their families. So far I have been writing to authorities on general principles, but this afternoon I am sending a man over to interview the responsible people on these two particular cases, and we hope that we may get satisfactory answers. It looks as if the only way to go to Hongkong now is by small boat, and then get to the railway. It is not a very pleasant route, bu some of our students are starting to use it against my advice.

"You will remember that the United Board granted Mr. Pi Li Chiao of our Biology Department a year's postgraduate study in America, and I wrote you before Liberation, asking

you to facilitate his application for admission into Yale Graduate School. Then the political change came, and it has made it difficult for him to leave the country. After careful consideration, he has written me officially, asking me to get permission from the United Board for him to postpone his trip to America for a year. In view of the present circumstances, I hope you will permit him to do this.

"Mr. Ai Wei-sheng (Wilson Ai), B. A., Huachung, 1934, is a Lutheran, and during the last term he has been teaching a course on Journalism, open as an elective to qualified students in the university. His main job, how ver, has been Secretary of the Lutherans Student Center in Wuchang with its quarters in our neighborhood. He has been talking to me about promoting further the cooperation between the Lutheran Missions interested and Huachung.

"Previously we had thought of the feasibility of the Lutheran missions coming in as a cooperating mission by putting up a hostel and one or two residences, besides making annual contribution in personnel to the university. Obviously the building project will have to be postponed, and I have no idea whether the missions in China would recommend to the home boards in America the beginning of cooperation in personnel and budget, beginning with the next year 1949-50. At Wilson Ai's request, however, I have sent today the following telegram to Mr. David Vikner in Kowloon:

'URGE APPOINTMENT AI WEI SHENG FOR HUACHUNG PRELIMINARY COOPERATION. WIRE REPLY. WEI'

"I do not know what will come out of this, but Wilson Ai is a good man, a fine Christian and full of energy. If he should come on our staff as a full-time member, he would be very useful. I am just making this preliminary report to you while I amwriting in detail to Mr. Vikner in Kowloon, Hongkong, following up my telegram.

"A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors is being called for June 28 not only to plan for the full Board meeting early in July, but also to appoint proxies for members of the Board who obviously will not be able to attend the meeting this summer from Hunan. We are still in process of getting the budgets prepared for the consideration of the Directors. The Senate reviewed the administrative part of the budget last Monday and decided to postpone till the next Monday the final recommendation. The Finance Committees of each of the three colleges in the university have to get their budgets ready for the Directors after the Senate has considered them, although it is not for the Senate to recommend these budgets to the Directors.

"In the budget for the next year 1949-50, the United Board will have to be prepared for the following extra items:

1. A larger budget for scholarships because of the financial conditions in this part of the country. It may mean US$500-$1,000 increase for the year.

2. US$1,000 for student summer relief, and perhaps US$2,000 for students' relief during the academic year 1949-50.

3. If exchange should be much lower than it is at the present time, which is practically Silver $1 to US$1, i. e., 2/3 of the effective rate of a year ago, we may have to consider subsidies for members of the faculty and staff. This may call for US$12,000 for the year, but this is putting it rather pessimistically. We may not need this item at all, but I must warn you about it.

4. I do not know what taxes we shall have to pay on our land and buildings. If information from the north is of any help at all, it may mean an amount of some

1030

US$3000 for the year.

5. For the next year I am sure no one would push any of our building projects, but the Senate has been considering very seriously proposals made by Dr. P. V. Taylor, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, with the assistance of Mr. Earnshaw, who has had experience as a building engineer, and a young Mr. Lao of our Library staff who was trained as an architect in the National Central University in Nanking and son of Principal C. C. Lao of Yali. Some of the buildings have been gone into very carefully by Mr. Earnshaw and Mr. Lao, and they have found that certain repairs are necessary if we are going to avoid heavy expenses two or three years from now. If the necessary repairs are to be made, we may draw upon whatever funds are left from Rehabilitation. The amount possibly will be US$5,000 or more.

"All these are heavy items I am sure in these days, but we have been very cautious and realistic. If necessary, we must dig into our reserve to meet the absolutely essential items.

"So far we have been able to pay only one-half of the May salary because of the difficulty of exchange. Our people had two-months' reserve early in April, and fully half of them have about exhausted that reserve. Even a half salary at this time seems to be a great help. We hope that before very long we may be able to secure more cash and pay the other half of May and the full salary for June and July. Just at the present moment we are entirely helpless in financial matters. Fortunately there is reserve cash to meet our other obligations for the balance of the year up to the end of July.

"Summer vacation will begin this Saturday. We shall have an Alumni Meeting Saturday afternoon, and we expect about 100 to attend, including one or two outstanding persons in the new government.

"In July we are going to have a series of conferences. The first one will be a conference of Christian leaders in Huachung and the Christian middle school leaders in the Wuhan area. There will probably be only about 50 or 60 in attendance. One of the things that we hope to achieve is to start a Volunteer Movement. If we should get 30 or 50 young men and women to pledge to devote their lives on church support or otherwise to do the work of the church in this New Day, it would be a great thing. We have in Huachung a St. Thomas Society with about eighteen members, most of them being theological students, and this group will be the nucleus of the Volunteer Movement. I have been asked to give an address on each of the three days of the conference, and th subject they have assigned me is "Christian Vocation in the New Age."

"Then there will be two parallel conferences. One will be under the auspices of the Hankow Diocese of the Episcopal Church in China under Bishop Tsang, at which there will probably be 100 people, including the clergymen, the catechists, the Biblewomen, and the leading lay people from each of the parishes. I have been asked to give three addresses on the general topic, "How to Understand the New Situation." The Methodist Church in this center is going to have at the same time also in Wuchang a conference of the Methodist Youth. This conference will last for about a week while the Episcopa conference will last for ten days. The Methodist leaders have asked me to give a talk on "Christianity and Scientific Socialism." I do not know where I am going to find the time for the preparation of all these addresses while I have to wind up the term, meet new problems everyday, advise both faculty members, friends and students on all sorts of questions, and prepare my Annual Report for the Board of Directors. Fortunately I have a good appetite and sleep well. The only thing is to put aside som of my reading and to get down to the hack work of putting my ideas on paper. It is

1031

my hope that after the conferences I may have more time to read and think.

"Bishop Hall of Hongkong has already got me slated for a series of addresses in Hongkong and Canton next fall when his diocese will celebrate its Centennial. The subjects he has given to me are largely theological subjects, and I hope that I may have the time to read up during August and early September in Theology in preparation for the series of lectures that Bishop Hall requires.

"It is very interesting to live in days like these. Everything is so new and so challenging. Everybody has such expectancy, mixed with a good measure of anxiety, but it is interesting just the same, and it helps one to be young again.

"I have not heard from my children or my friends abroad, but I am sure we are together in spirit, although communications are difficult."

CONFIDENTIAL

27 SEPTEMBER 1949

A LETTER, DATED 14 JULY, FROM PRESIDENT WEI

HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"Quite a few of our students have gone back to their homes in Hunan, and some further south. There is no telling whether they will be able to get back for the autumn term. The Hunan students probably will manage it because it is expected that Changsha will be liberated soon.

"We are going to have a meeting of the Board of Directors on July 30, but before that we shall make some plans for the opening of the fall term. We have been postponing as long as possible all the preparations for the next term because we would like to have more time to see how the situation is going to develop, but we cannot wait any longer now. Again, our estimate is that the enrollment will be much reduced next term. We would be fortunate if we should have an enrollment of over 300.

"I wrote you sometime ago about the necessity of giving summer relief to the students who are unable to go home and who are confronted with serious financial difficulties. Some fifty or sixty students have joined up in various kinds of work under the government. By tomorrow those who have not left will be remaining for the rest of the summer It was only early this week that I was able to find out that we could possibly give summer relief to about thirty students. I asked Dr. John Lo and two younger men to take charge of this business, and they are making all the plans today to find out who actuallly will need this relief. It is going to be work relief, not full-day work, but about four hours a day. It is a hot summer, and working in the sun for four hours, particularly for students who are not used to it, will mean a great deal.

"We have been waiting until this time to start the relief work because in the first place we have no funds for this particular purpose, and to get cash at this time is extremely difficult, We are using some of the rice left over from the last term, it being university property. We shall have to charge the cost to relief. I should have waited for authorization either by the United Board or the Board of Directors, but neither way is feasible at this particular juncture, so I am simply taking the money, and will ask for retroactive approval later.

"The exchange situation is at its worst because the banks will not cash any checks, and we do not dare to get cash in any other way. Perhaps in a few days we may be able to do it through Shanghai. Letters of enquiry have already been sent to Shanghai, and in a few days we may have some kind of a reply.

"For personal news, I finished my addresses for three conferences, but there is a fourth one yet next week. There are lots of meetings of the Christian Churches on the same subject. Apparently the general tone of the churches here is quite different from that in other places, and this is a matter for hearty thanksgiving.

"The danger of flood has not yet passed, but we hope that the rain will not increase the danger. It rains almost everyday, although while I am dictating, the sun is shining very brightly. However, it was the same weather yesterday, but towards evening it rain again. The temperature is not very high, but there is so much humidity that one feels it much.

"So far I have received no letter from you or from any of the missions or friends writte since the middle of May. One or two letters have come through, but they were all dated

before June. I have been puzzling why you or Fowler or Slater in London have not used cablegrams more, although they are expensive. We are longing for some kind of message from you.

"There have been three cases of typhoid among our students. One is a girl who has recovered and is now recuperating in the women's hostel under the care of the Dean of Women. I saw two men students in the Church General Hospital yesterday. One of them was out of danger, but the other, Mr. Yin K'ai-shih's son, was very serious, although the doctor assured me yesterday morning, as well as yesterday evening and again this morning by telephone, that he was picking up very well in general, although bleeding had not entirely stopped. Two of our faculty members and three of our men students stand ready any time to give him a blood transfusion. All the rest of the community are well.

"We only wish that we may get some cash very shortly. The general conditions in Wuhan are good. Prices in terms of the effective currency have not risen much because of the low ebb of purchasing power in general."

CONFIDENTIAL 31 OCTOBER 1949

EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER DATED 19 AUGUST FROM

PRESIDENT FRANCIS WEI, HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"Dr. McMullen's cablegram transmitting to us the good news of the Harvard-Yenching Institute grants to Huachung University for 1949-50 was received on August 12, and was much appreciated. I am writing in a day or two to Professor Elisseeff of the Harvard-Yenching Institute to thank him and the Board of the Harvard-Yenching Institute through him for increasing our grant for the coming year. Again, I am sorry to say that I have not sent the Annual Report to the Harvard-Yenching Board because of its bulkiness and the uncertainty of the mails. I may send it to Shanghai to be reposted there, or send it by some other way which may be quicker.

"I was also happy to learn from Dr. McMullen's cablegram that letters had been received by him. We had been wondering whether any of our letters had arrived.

"In my last letter to Dr. McMullen a copy of our budget for the year 1949-50 was enclosed. My Annual Report will be sent to Dr. McMullen at the same time and by the same way as the Harvard-Yenching Report to Cambridge.

"Recently we have had more information about Christian Education in the north and in East China. There seems to be very little difference between the situation here and that in other places under the new government. On Monday of this week, August 15, I accompanied the Rev. Mark Li, principal of Boone Middle School, to see the new Commissioner of Education for the Province of Hupeh. Mr. Li asked me to go with him because I had more contacts with the government authorities. We spent only half an hour in the office of the Commissioner. He was certainly very cordial and friendly. He answered all my questions to our great satisfaction. The curriculum of the middle school will not be much changed, and administration will go on as before, except that on the School Council there ought to be one or two student representatives in order to make known to the school authorities the feelings and problems of the student body. However, the final decision rests with the administration, and the principal is responsible for the whole school. Private schools are free to charge whatever fees are reasonable, because as the Commissioner says, students are free to choose their own schools. None of our schools in this center will charge more than last term, but at least 20% less.

"As to private universities and colleges, the Commissioner says that he has no jurisdiction over them and that we have to wait until the organization of the Ministry, which may be sometime yet. But he told me that we should not make any radical change in our organization, and that changes should be made slowly according to specific needs. He further added that the government would make no discrimination against Christian educational institutions, so long as teachers would make no attempt to preach in the classroom. Religious beliefs are free, and so also is religious propaganda. Of course, liberty will be given to those who express their opinions against religion, but no violence will be permitted.

"Yesterday the Director of the Cultural Bureau in Hankow came to address the faculty and staff members of the colleges and universities in Wuchang, mainly to answer questions raised by given individuals in the course of their study of the New Literature. He spent two and a half hours in our Assembly Room answering the questions, which he classified according to their nature. All the answers were very reasonable, except that from our point of view there was some misconception in the nature of religion. In answering the question whether Christian educational institutions would be permitted

by the new government, he said that while the Communist party would not accept any religion, the government under the Communist party would tolerate religion and give absolute religious liberty to the citizens. Christian educational institutions would be treated exactly like other private institutions. The good ones would continue, and the bad ones would die a natural death. That was very encouraging to those of us who are engaged in Christian educational work. We had known it before, but it was good to have it direct from the Director of the Cultural Bureau, who is a very well informed and intelligent man. In all my contacts with him he has been both cordial and friendly.

"The city policy have been visiting the homes of our western faculty members. We sent one of the office clerks around with them as interpreter. According to all reports, they have been very polite and reasonable, as far as our people are concerned. So far I can say that our relations with the authorities, both in this city and in the whole center, have been very happy.

"Only about 350 candidates are taking our entrance examinations here. Our entrance examinations are also being given in Changsha and in Kiukiang, Kiangsi. The number of candidates in Kiukiang will naturally be small, but we hope that we may have 300-400 in Changsha, because the Hunanese students have been concentrated there. Our total number of candidates will be perhaps only one-third as many as we had a year ago, but that is true also of the government universities. Peking, Tsinghwa, and Nankai Universities are registering candidates for their entrance examinations in our place. After five days of registration there have been altogether only 960 candidates for the three universities. Proportionately they are getting fewer than we are.

"It is still too early for us to forecast the total enrollment in September. Some of our people believe that there may be 400 students, but my own feeling is inclined to the figure of 350. In many ways it is better to have a smaller number for a year or two until many of our problems have been solved.

"The exchange situation is slowly improving. John Coe told me this morning that the banks in Hankow may be able to do exchange at a better rate than in Shanghai because of the possibility of ascertaining the cross rate at the time of exchange. When we do exchange through Shanghai, the cross rate is always an annoying factor.

"I trust that you will share this letter with Earl Fowler of the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U.S. He will be interested to know that Paul Ward and Alfred Starratt are still waiting for the decision of the Alien Bureau in Hankow as to whether they may get permission to travel to Shanghai or not in order to catch the boat sailing on September 15. I have done everything possible, but there seems to be no way of expediting the matter.

"Conditions are very peaceful. Personally I have had lots of meetings, but I still find sometime to read. I have been reading largely the new literature, which we ought to understand well, and in order to understand it, I am just reading through again Hegel's Logic, which becomes more interesting even than Kant's "Critique of Pure Reason." Next Sunday evening I am going to take the University Sunday Service, and I shall take the University Sunday Service, and I shall take the subject of "Marxism-Leninism and Christianity." I feel that there is much misunderstanding of the nature of Christianity as I read the new literature. What the people criticize is not exactly what we believe, but it is not the time yet for me to do any publication in this particular field. For our own people, however, some clarification is called for in order to remove misunderstanding and misapprehension."

CONFIDENTIAL 31 OCTOBER 1949

LETTER DATED 22 AUGUST 1949

FROM FRANCIS WEI, HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"There seems to be a good opportunity for me to get a letter to you via Shanghai, since a boat is going to sail for America around September 15.

"It was very cheering indeed to have your cablegram received during the last week, informing us of the Harvard-Yenching Institute grant of US$7,500 for the coming year 1949-50, and also that my letters have been received by you. For a long while I had been wondering whether any of my weekly letters, which I started writing the beginning of June after Liberation, ever reached you. There has not been a week without a letter sent to the United Board through you.

"There has not been much to report during the summer vacation. Two of our hostels for men have been loaned to the government for the training of political workers, and both of these hostels for men are outside the main campus. Three weeks ago a number of sick soldiers came in looking for quarters, and we had to allow them to use the Assembly Room and the diningroom. Boone Middle School had to let them into almost any empty space, including the church itself. Finally, we had to open up also our small chapel in St. Paul's Hostel where we have been housing our single-men teachers. Now all the soldiers have gone. During their stay they behaved most splendidly, and accounts for light and water used were settled amicably.

"We had our entrance examinations on August 19 and 20. Only 353 students took the examinations here in Wuchang, but we are having our examinations in Changsha during the latter part of this week. For this purpose two of our younger men have gone to Changsha, and a telegram reports that they had arrived safely. There is no telling how many candidates there will be in Changsha. Perhaps 300-400. One man has gone to Kiukiang to hold our examinations there for the students in Kiangsi, and I do not suppose there are more than 50 candidates in that center. The number of recommended students this year is naturally smaller. Perhaps 25 or 30 of our freshmen will be admitted by recommendation, and about 120 by examinations, to make a freshman class of about 150, which is the maximum set by the Senate.

"It is very difficult to estimate how many of our old students will return. My guess is from 200-250. The total enrollment will be from 350 to 400. If we should have that number of students, we would consider ourselves lucky.

"There are only three institutions of university grade in this whole Wuhan center, viz., the National Wuhan University, Chung Hwa University, and Huachung. The National Wuhan University has had a pretty thorough-going change of personnel in the administration. There is no president, but only an executive committee. All the deans are being changed except Dr. Paul Kwei, who is still the Dean of the College of Science. It is my hope, shared by many others, that Dr. Kwei may return to us in due course of time. He cannot leave now, of course. Many people think that Chung Hwa may not be able to open because of shortage of students and lack of funds. We shall carry on, and it is very encouraging to know that the authorities have no objection to our carrying on at all.

"It is my strong feeling that our existence in the future, besides other things, will have to depend upon the quality of work that we shall be able to do inside the next two to three years. We cannot expand, but we must consolidate and improve everyone of our departments now in existence, by making the courses more practical and by improving the quality of our teaching staff, as well as adding as far as possible to our equipment and books for teaching and research. Poor work will not survive.

"We have a considerable amount of land outside the old City Wall, which we may not be able to build upon for sometime. The Biology department is working out a project to develop that land into an experimental farm on which we may train practical farmers. Perhaps many of our students and some of our staff and faculty members may wish to take that training, and certificates for short, practical cources will be granted. Prof. Tseng of the Biology department is responsible for this project, and he is working up a great deal of enthusiasm. He is a very fine biologist with a bent for agricultural experiments, and that is to the good. On the other hand, Professor Li, head of the department of Biology, is getting interested in Public Health, and he is going to link up with the Institute of Hospital Technology at the Union Hospital, Hankow, which will be another line of development for our Biology department.

"Professor Li's work will not cost us any money, but Professor Cheng's experimental farm will require as initial expenses for this year about US$1,000. which I hope you will grant as an addition to our budget for the coming year. It is our estimate that part of this money may be refunded from the produce, but if the project should work out well, we may have to add to it slowly, so as to extend our training to the farmers around.

"Similarly our Physics and Chemistry departments are thinking of ways and means to get linked up with the industrial concerns in Hankow. They hope to be able to do such work for them as testing and solving technical problems, but it will be some time before the factories get into full swing.

"Tororrow we are going to have a General Faculty Meeting to consider all the proposals for the revision of our curriculum. I do not believe there will be many serious changes, but we have to make the necessary changes in order to adapt to the new situation.

"Again, Paul Ward and Alfred Starratt have not yet got their permission to go to Shanghai in order to catch the boat for Hongkong on September 15. Professor Paul Ward is fully determined to return if possible with his family who are now in Hongkong, but Mr. Starratt may have to take his family back to America because of the illness of one of his daughters. Alfred Starratt is a splendid teacher and a good worker among students. It is my hope that he may see his way clear to returning to us and taking up his teaching of New Testament again whenever conditions permit. He is arranging with his mission to go back to America only on advanced furlough. I hope you will make this clear to the Overseas Department of the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.

"Of course, it is still problematic whether either of the two men will be able to go

Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.

"Of course, it is still problematic whether either of the two men will be able to go to Shanghai, and from there to Hongkong. If Alfred Starratt should get to Hongkong, he would either make his way together with his family to America; or he may even decide to send his family back to America and return himself. I have not had the final conversation with him on this matter, which I intend to do very soon.

"We have had some reports on the taxation of mission property in Shanghai and taxation on the property even of Christian educational institutions in East China. Similar reports have also come from North China, but so far we have not heard anything about it, as far as Yenching is concerned. We may have to face a similar problem, and so funds must be on hand for the purpose. Perhaps it may be something like several thousand dollars, of which two-thirds will have to come from the funds available for Huachung, and the remainder being a responsibility of the American Church Mission. As soon as we know the details, a cable will be sent to you.

"All plans are made for the reopening of the University on September 10. The old students will return on September 12, and the new students on September 19. Classes probably will not start until September 26 because of the changed circumstances.

"You will trust that we do everything to carry on and make the necessary adaptations, so long as we do not have to compromise on the essential principles. Problems are many, but we face them one at a time.

"Everyone on our staff is cheerful, and it seems that the worst part of the summer is over with some cool nights now for sleeping."

CONFIDENTIAL 2 NOVEMBER 1949

LETTER DATED 2 SEPTEMBER 1949

FROM FRANCIS WEI, HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"It gave me great pleasure to inform some of my colleagues here that the United Board voted at its Annual Meeting not only to maintain support of the current budget of the Christian colleges, but also to encourage some projects more in the nature of development within the limits of the activities and objectives of the institutions.

"At this point I wish to report that in order to protect our land from being used by various people and also to justify our holding it even inside of our campus, we are bringing under cultivation about 25 to 30 mow, or around 5 acres, as an experimental farm to yield some produce for sale or for some kind of practical farming in order to make themselves more useful members of society. This project is under the direction of Professor Tseng of the Biology Department, who is as much an agriculturist as a Biologist. Dr. Tseng has had extensive experience in agricultural research and practical work. Dr. Tseng and Dr. Richard Bien, Dean of our College of Science, and Dr. Li, head of our department of Biology, have prepared a plan which has been approved by the Senate, involving a budget of US$1,000., half as capital expenditure and half as operating budget for the year. It is possible, but not very likely, that our produce during the year, if the plan should be successful, may replace at least the operating budget and perhaps part of the initial expenditure, but that remains to be seen. It is worth US$1,000. at least to protect our land and also to give evidence that we want to encourage productive labor among our own people. It is hoped that in the course of time we shall be able to extend this project to the training of the farmers around as an educational program. I hope that the United Board will approve this project and add to our appropriation the amount of US$1,000. for this year.

"Then, in order to make our Biology department more useful and to give more outlets to to our Biology graduates, we are negotiating with the Institute of Hospital Technology, hitherto connected with the Union Hospital in Hankow, for affiliation with Huachung University. The plan is still in the process of negotiation, and even our Senate has not considered it because we have to wait until the Board of the Institute of Hospital Technology has given its approval. If it should go through, it would become an attached Institute of Huachung University under our College of Science without any financial obligation on our part. The Institute at present has a staff of 15, including 4 missionaries supported by the various missions or foundations, and 11 members who are employed and their salaries are paid from local income, largely from fees in the laboratories, which serve not only the Union Hospital, but other hospitals and private practitioners in the whole Wuhan area. The affiliation would standardize the training of the Institute of Hospital Technology and bring it up to university standard. Of course, students of the university standard would be increasing, but there will always be some students who are not candidates for university degrees. They would be classified as members of the training class. As soon as the Senate has considered the matter, it will go to our Board of Directors; and when the Board has approved it, we shall report it to the United Board for final sanction. It is not so much financial obligation that we may ask the United Board to undertake, but to undertake it as one of our institutes in the university. Its finances would be under the supervision of our Treasurer, and its general conduct would be under our university administration, although the general set-up will remain the same--in the Union Hospital in Hankow.

"The Central China Theological Seminary has moved from the other side of the hill, which divides the city of Wuchang into two parts, to our neighborhood, and has become officially affiliated with Huachung University. On a separate sheet I am sending you the actions taken by our Senate with regard to this affiliation. Again this involves no financial obligation on our part. It means largely exchange of instructors

1040

and the extension of our library and other facilities to the students of the Seminary. We feel that such an affiliation is of mutual benefit, and it will go to strengthen our theological training here, as well as to enable us to help a sister institution in the training of ministers for the various churches. Whenever they have students of university grade, they will take our entrance examinations and work for our degrees. Those who are not exactly of university-matriculation standard will be entirely under their care.

"The Boone Library School is in financial straits, and Mr. Seng, the Director, has approached our Senate through Dr. John C. F. Lo, Chairman of our "Committee on Negotiations with Boone Library School for Reunion" to help them financially. They are going to have perhaps not more than 30 students this year, and so it would be very difficult for them to make ends meet since they have no resources of income now except tuition fees and interest from their very small endowment now held in the United States. When the matter came before the Senate the other day, it was our feeling that we were not in a position to tap any of our resources in order to give them any financial aid. However, if there should be money ordinarily not expected by the United Board, we would like to have it given as a grant or as a loan to the Boone Library School in order to tide them over through a difficult period. Mr. Seng estimates that they would need US$2,000 for this term and possibly for the next term. Our question is what would happen to the Boone Library School even though this money could be found but conditions did not improve after the coming year.

"We are considering one or two minor projects along the line of our present development, and they may need US$2,000-$3,000 to implement them, such as for instance the Physics Department is thinking of making itself more practical, which may mean the appointment of a practical physicist with an annual salary of about US$1,100 a year plus house rent. Then, of course, we may have to add slightly to our laboratory equipment so as to give practical training to the Physics students of the last two years in college. The Chemistry department has a similar project, but this, as well as that of the Physics department, will be reported to you as soon as they have received the attention of our Senate.

"Our people who went to Changsha to hold the entrance examinations have already safely returned. There were 269 candidates sitting for our examinations in that city. There were only 24 candidates in Kiukiang because the students from Nanchang were not able to get to Kiukiang in time for the examinations. In Wuchang we had 355, and so our total number of candidates for the entrance examinations is only about one-third the number of last year. This also is to be expected because when Peking University, Tsing Hwa University, and Nankai University had their entrance examinations here two weeks ago, they had altogether only 1160 candidates, whereas last year they had over 5,000--nearly five times as many as this year.

"Perhaps only about 200 of our own candidates will be qualified for entrance, and 50%-60% of these will come to us. Together with about 30 or 35 recommended students, we may make a freshman class of around 150, which is the limitset by the Senate and the Directors.

"Paul Ward and Alfred Starratt still have not yet secured permits to go to Shanghai, and so they are still waiting. If they should have to wait for another week, it would be too late for them to catch the boat at Shanghai. It is very hard on these two men and their families, but there is nothing that we can do to expedite matters.

"Local conditions remain about the same, and we are getting things ready for our reopening on September 10, but classes will not begin until September 29, because we have to give the examinations due at the end of last term, which owing to conditions at the time were not given according to schedule."

1041

CONFIDENTIAL 2 NOVEMBER 1949

LETTER DATED 9 SEPTEMBER 1949

FROM FRANCIS WEI, HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"Again I say that we feel very much encouraged that the United Board has voted not only to endeavour to maintain the support of the current budgets of the Christian colleges in China, but also to give further evidence of its faith in our work by encouraging some projects more-or-less in the nature of a development.

"In my last letter to Dr. McMullen I mentioned our new project of experimental farming, which is to give opportunity for our faculty and staff members and our students to get some experience in practical farming, as well as to hold our spare land on the campus by using it ourselves. The budget for this project for the year is only about US$1000, and I hope the United Board will make the additional appropriation to Huachung for this year.

"Another project is now under discussion, and that is a dairy, which will not involve the university in any kind of financial obligation, as it is going to be a sort of cooperative enterprise. It will give us good milk, and also teach some of our students how to run a dairy along modern lines which will not be too far ahead of the Chinese methods, so that whatever results we may get will be an object lesson to the farmers around.

"There is still no word from the Board of Directors of the Institute of Hospital Technology, which has proposed to be affiliated with Huachung, and so I have no official report to make yet.

"We have already announced the results of our entrance examinations. Altogether 185 students are qualified for admission, with 32 on the waiting list. Besides there are about 35 recommended students, and perhaps two-thirds of them will come to register. According to our estimate, the freshman class will be probably 150, which is the maximum fixed by our Senate and our Board of Directors for this year. It is still too early to foretell the number of old students who may return, since there are so many interfering factors, of which economic conditions are the main one. Perhaps 250 to 280 old students may return, and so our total enrollment for this term may be around 400--that is, 50 higher than my previous estimate.

"The Scholarship Committee is now meeting to consider the 200 odd applications for scholarships. At least one-half of them will not get the grants. My opinion is that perhaps two-thirds of those who applied will need financial help. Even those who are going to receive the scholarship grants will need financial aids, and so two days ago I took up the matter with our faculty and staff members, and they are willing to raise among themselves 75 tan of rice to help the students, but the students, but the students will need at least 250 tan, besides our scholarship funds, and 250 tan will be almost US$2,000. If 75 tan, or US$500., can be raised by our own people, we would need still US$1,500. for this term alone as financial aids to those students who are practically stranded financially.

"I hope the United Board will consider this need of our students. The request will be repeated for at least another term. If I were to analyze the economic situation minutely, it might not be appropriate. My feeling is that in order to help Christian education in China to tide over the next period of three years, more money ought to be spent on financial aids to students in colleges which are in those locations more seriously affected by the present situation than others, and Wuchang is certainly one of those locations.

"In order to maintain our standards, as well as our morale, and to keep up a reasonable enrollment for the occupation of our buildings, we have also to find some Sustaining Fund for the Christian middle schools which are our chief feeders. In the Wuhan area alone we have six Christian senior middle schools. My question is whether it is possible by some kind of international effort to give 100 scholarships in each of those six Christian middle schools, a total of 600 scholarships, at the rate of 4 tan a rice each per term. That would mean 8 tan a year, and a tan of rice is now about US$7. The total amount needed would be US$33,600. This figure may be too high. If we should reduce it by a half, it would still mean about $17,000., but some kind of financial help like this will be imperative. We have religious liberty and we are free to maintain our Christian schools, but only those schools which are able to compete with non-tuition schools will be able to survive.

"Two of our hostels are being used by a government training institute. There will not be much difficulty in getting the hostels back for our own use, but the problem is more serious with the Christian middle schools in Wuchang. I am working on this problem and hope to get it solved in a few days, but the schools are reopening by the middle of this month. Tomorrow the principals of the Christian middle schools will meet, and I am sure they will press me for a solution of this problem.

"Paul Ward and Alfred Starratt have received notice to go to the police, and I hope that before I mail this letter tomorrow. I may put in an encouraging postscript with regard to the possibility of their leaving for Shanghai.

"I am sorry to have had to decline the invitation to be one of two speakers at the Eastern Asia Christian Conference to be held in Bangkok, Siam, December 4-11, 1949. One speaker is to be Indian, and the other Chinese. I would like very much to accept the invitation, but it would cut up my term here so much, and besides there would be much embarrassment if I should go."

CONFIDENTIAL 2 NOVEMBER 1949

LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1949
FROM FRANCIS WEI, HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"I was not able to send you our estimate of enrollment until Sunday, September 18, when the following cable went off:

'LC FENN 150 FIFTHAV NEWYORK (USA)
450 ENROLLMENT NEW STUDENTS ONETHIRD SUMMER EXAMINATIONS HELD NORMALLY

WEI'

"To explain: even now we have only a very rough estimate of our enrollment for this term, but every indication is that we may have 430 to 460. The number of new students will probably be about 150-170, and so our cablegram said, 'New students one-third' of total enrollment. The Senate and the Board of Directors decided to admit only 150 new students this term, but as you know, it is always difficult to estimate how many of the students who passed their entrance examinations will actually turn up to register. We had 620 candidates, and 185 were qualified, with 32 on the waiting list. Ordinarily we would expect two-thirds of the qualified students to come to college and one-half of those on the waiting list, but this year any estimate is only a wild guess. Wuhan University had over 900 candidates taking the examinations, and they qualified over 700. Similarly the percentage of students who passes the examinations for the national universities in Peiping is also very high. The great majority of the students who passed our examinations will have also passed examinations of the national universities, which charge no fees and have very generous scholarships for board and lodging. Therefore, it is quite difficult for us to know how many of our qualified students will come until they have actually registered. The number of students who took our entrance examinations was one-third that of a year ago, whereas in other universities the percentage dropped down to one-fifth or even less.

"Our registration is late this term because as I have written before, we were in the middle of our term examinations in June when the students had to go out to do propaganda work until the very end of the term. Therefore, we are now holding the examinations due during the last week of the spring term in June, and these examinations will last until the end of this week, which will be September 24. Registration will begin in the middle of next week because we also have supplementary examinations to give as well. In other words, we are not skipping any step in our normal program. Whatever examination was not taken has to be taken now before the new term actually begins.

"The faculty and staff remain practically the same except that Professor Paul Ward and the Rev. Alfred Starratt are getting their permits today to go to Shanghai. Paul Ward will try to get to Hongkong and bring his family back. That may take sometime, and therefore we cannot have him for teaching this term, and it is doubtful whether he will be able to get back the next term in February. Alfred Starratt is definitely going to America, and his wife and three children expect to fly to San Francisco to join him there. They are going home on account of the health of their eldest daughter, who is only seven years old with a diagnosis of TB. The doctor has advised Alfred to take the family back to America on advanced furlough, granted by the Mission and the Bishop here. It is our hope that he may be able to return in a year or so, because he likes his work here and is very much devoted to Huachung. He is a good teacher of New Testament, a good student worker, and a very fine colleague.

"For many years, as far back as the middle of the war, we had been trying to get Dr. Yuen Peh-ch'iao to join our faculty of Education. He is a graduate of Nanking University, was principal of a Christian middle school in Wuhu before he went to America in

1934. He spent one year in the University of California and the second year in the State Teachers College of Colorado where he took his Ph. D. in Education. Just six weeks ago he wrote us that he was leaving the University of Nanking, and asked if we would need his services in our college of Education. We at once wired back, and he arrived with two of his children a week ago. He has been appointed Professor of Education to take the place of Mr. Hsiung Wen-min who left us last winter and whose vacancy had not been filled until Dr. Yuan's arrival. We are very glad that he is able to join us here; he is a fine Christian with both teaching and administrative experience, and he seems to fit into our environment very well.

"All the Christian middle schools in the Wuhan center have reopened. Most of them have only one-half of their normal enrollment, some even fewer. Boone is the only exception they will probably have 400 students, which would be 60% of their record enrollment of two years ago.

"We are doing everything possible to get our hostels and the buildings of the Christian middle schools vacated by the students of the Training School run by the government. Our arrangement is to allow them to use one of our men's hostels until about October 10. With our reduced enrollment this term we can do this without much difficulty, but Boone Middle School has still about 150 trainees occupying the same quadrangle as its own students; this makes things rather unpleasant, but if the evacuation will be inside three weeks, Boone has to stand it and make the best of the situation.

"Our curriculum remains about the same except that some of the courses will have to be modified. In addition, we have to give some political courses, and they are to be given by members of our own faculty. I have been asked by our Faculty Committee to teach the theoretical course in the political field, but I cannot do it as an extra burden, although I have been reading along the line of dialectic materialism ever since my days in London. We expect to work out all the problems, and the students seem to be still cooperative and are more willing to work than before the Liberation.

"The total fees charged this term amount to only about 85% of the fees charged a year ago, or in the spring, but still many of the students have found it difficult to pay them. The faculty are raising a fund to help the needy students. We have been trying to raise some money, as we did in the spring, from our business friends in Hankow, but it is difficult to get any money even to help poor students. I spent part of my day last Monday for this purpose, and I was able to get only 21 tan of rice, worth about US$150, whereas last spring I was able to get ten times as much in one visit to Hankow. The situation has certainly changed, because business is not so good just at the moment. However, exchange is more in our favor now, and so with our scholarship money we may be able to help 10% more of the students, but the stipends of our scholarships, as determined by the Scholarship Committee, are much lower than those in the last term. They reduced the stipends in order to spread the money over a larger number. No scholarship students get more than one-third of the total amount of fees, and those who get the third-class scholarship are getting only one-sixth of the total amount. I have written you previously about the need for more money to help the students, and we may have to add for this term at least US$500 to our budget as a Special Student Relief Fund.

"I mentioned the figure of US$1500 in a previous letter, but with a better rate of exchange and the stabilized price of rice we may be able to get along with one-third of the amount just for this term if I should use all my discretionary funds to help the students. My discretionary funds are getting very low because I have not been able to get in touch with my friends in America and in China."

1045

China

CONFIDENTIAL

30 NOVEMBER 1949

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS DATED 27 SEPTEMBER,
4, 11, and 27 OCTOBER, FROM PRESIDENT WEI
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

(NOTE: In view of the unavoidable duplication that creeps into the frequent and detailed letters that Dr. Wei sends us, it has seemed best to combine two or three letters in one rather than to copy them in toto. M. P. F.)

"George Bien, professor and head of the department of Chemistry, brother of Dr. Richard Bien, is unable to return from Hongkong, owing to the health of his wife, and so he has resigned from his professorship here. We have tried to get his second brother Paul, with the same training as George had, to fill the vacancy, but the telegram has come, saying that Paul is unavailable. We are now contacting another chemist, who is in Nanking, and a reply may come in two or three days. Aside from the cases I have reported, the faculty remains the same with the addition of Dr. Yuen who is filling the vacancy left by Mr. Hsiung in the College of Education. Mr. Hsiung left last winter.

"One of our Chinese professors who is over sixty years old and eminent in his own field is planning to give to our University Library his own collection of Chinese books in the field of Chinese Literature and History. The total collection consists of over 70,000 Chinese volumes. The books are now in Wushih between Nanking and Shanghai; and when his formal notice has come to us, we shall make arrangements to send somebody to Wushih and get the books up by boat. They will be a wonderful addition to our library, but this is not official yet.

"The Rt. Rev. Stephen Tsang, Bishop of Hankow, is very anxious to have the Boone Library School rejoin Huachung. I have given to the Bishop the action taken by the United Board on the Library School, and Bishop Tsang is going to write Bishop Bentley of the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States to ask him to take up the matter of the Boone Library School rejoining Huachung with the United Board. If Bishop Bentley should raise this question with you, you will know that the matter has my own approval and the concurrence of the Senate and Board of Directors. You may consider on what conditions you would permit this return of the Boone Library School to Huachung, and let me know as soon as you have reached a decision. As you know, Miss Mary Elizabeth Wood started the Library Movement in China and was the first promoter and organizer of the library schools. For many years the Boone Library School was the only library school in the country and has turned out a large number of trained librarians, both when the school was a part of Boone and then Huachung University, and later as an independent school. If it should become a part of our university again, we shall be able to improve its standards and the quality of its teaching staff. It would be a pity if it should be left an independent institution in times like these with all the financial and other problems.

"The most popular departments are apparently this term English, Biology, and Physics in that order. Chemistry and Education hold their own. Chinese Literature has a slight drop. History is small, and Economics has the largest drop from the previous years. It is difficult to explain all these changes, but the tendency seems to be towards more practical courses. In our Biology department we are offering more practical courses and, therefore, the attraction. The Institute of Hospital Technology has not decided yet to become a part of Huachung. Its Board is going to meet within the next fortnight, and they have asked me to become one of its new members.

"MissMargaret Bleakley, who has served in Huachung as head of the department of English and Registrar for the last twenty years, is due to retire in the middle of this academic year. The London Mission is considering the possibility of sending to us the Rev.

Thomas Hawthorn, M. A., Oxford, to take Miss Bleakley's place in the teaching of English Literature. He took his honors degree in Oxford in "Greats," that is, Classics, and had his theological training also in Oxford. He has been in Wuchang for over a year, and we have found him a very congenial person. His wife and two little children, however, are in Hongkong. They went there last winter, and we are making enquiries as how they may come back to Wuchang. That may mean a long tedious process.

"I am cabling you for US$500 in order to meet the needs of many of the students in paying their fees. The Committee on Scholarships and Financial Aids had a long meeting after careful investigation and decided to grant 184 tan of rice to about 150 students, in addition to their scholarships which are always granted according to scholastic records of the previous year. 184 tan of rice, thus granted to students as relief, would cost about US$1,000, but we have been able to raise locally one-half of the sum from among the faculty and a few of the business people in Hankow. You can realize how difficult it is to raise any money at all in the Wuhan Center these days, but we have made some small success.

"The University Farm is working out slowly. Professor Tseng has got 4 cows, two big and two small, and only the bigger ones are giving milk. He expects to be able to let each one of the shareholders buy a half pound of milk a day, and the milk is certainly good. The dairy project is on a cooperative basis. Each share cost JMP 50,000, which is about US$13-14 per share. The farm is growing largely vegetables, and the products will be ready for marketing in a month or so.

"With practical farming and hospital technology our Biology students will find outlets in Agricultural Science and in Public Health. Similar projects along practical lines ought to be undertaken by the Physics and Chemistry department. The Chemistry department is already making contacts with some of the factories in Hankow, which send to us their problems. Physics would like to have some kind of training in handling simple machines and running motors, with a sort of pre-engineering, largely along the line of electrical and mechanical engineering. Some of the students, of course, will remain in the field of pure Physics and Chemistry, but others would like to have some training which will fit them for useful work in this modern society. I wonder whether it is possible for the United Board to make us a grant so that our departments of Physics and Chemistry may develop in a modest way along the lines I have outlined. As I have written in other connections, the next period of two to three years will decide whether we have any surviving value or not. We must do two things to hold our own: first, we must prove that we are really doing good work; and second, we must make our work as practical as possible at the university level. The latter can be attained by us here in Huachung only in a modest way, but it is almost inevitable.

"Our registration up to date is as follows:

Seniors	103
Juniors	84
Sophomores	71
Freshman	114
Total	372

A few more freshmen are still on their way. They are coming from Hunan, and the bad weather on the lake has delayed them much. Possibly our total number of freshman will be over 120, to bring our entire enrollment up to 380.

"Again, I wish to emphasize the necessity of spending more money on scholarships and financial aids to the students for the next two or three years until economic conditions in our part of the country return more-or-less to normality. We have no desire to

1047

compete with the national universities in the size of the student body, but it is of little use to have a good faculty and fair equipment when the best students are not attracted to us. It is heartbreaking to see so many of the Christian students, even from Christian families, going to non-Christian institutions after their graduation from the Christian middle schools, largely for financial reasons. Of course, there is still the general feeling that there is greater prestige in one's going to a national university, and it takes a long time for people to learn the lesson that prestige is not the only thing of value. In the meantime we have to do whatever is within our ability in order to attract the Christian students and the good students to our own university here. We enjoy a good reputation for the quality of our work, our democratic spirit, and our good discipline, not only among the general public, but especially among people of the New Government. But this has not been strong enough to counteract the feeling of the young people which I have mentioned above.

"Our religious program is going strong. The chapel attendance has been most encouraging. We had last Sunday, October 9, the first formal Sunday evening service for the University. There were at least 100 in the congregation and 40 in the choir. This was as good an attendance as we could ever expect with the reduced size of our student body, and consequently the reduced number of Christian students in our midst. For the last week the Daily Chapel in the middle of the morning has had a congregation of 70 to 90. The Chapel speakers have been the leading members of the faculty, as has been our custom every term. The four Christian fellowships, representing the four church groups in Huachung, are joining together for most of their activities, leaving however sufficient room for the individual denominational groups to have their own program, if so desired.

"It is very encouraging to observe that the Christian students are showing a great deal of enthusiasm for Christian work, and the Christian members of the faculty are determined to give them as much help as possible.

" The general morale on the campus is splendid. We required the students to complete all the examinations not finished at the end of last term, and the students took these examinations without a murmur. There has been less noise made by our own students, and there is every sign that they will settle down to work again.

"Seven students in the sophomore class have started the study of Theology in the combined course. Under the present circumstances it is very heartening to see so many students wanting to prepare themselves for church work after graduation from Huachung.

"Alfred Starratt is now on his way with Paul Ward to Hongkong. Mr. Starratt's subject is New Testament, and the New Testament courses are being taught by the Rev. George Osborn of the Methodist Church, who is the principal of the Central China Union Theological Seminary, now cooperating with us. The Seminary has moved to our neighborhood, which makes cooperation easier. Many of their students are coming to Huachung for some of their non-theological courses. Most of our theological courses are not available to them because of our requirement of a better knowledge of the English language, but they are coming for some of them which are given in Chinese and require little reading in the English language.

"Sometime ago we paid the stamp tax on the University land, and now the Government is beginning to levy the land tax, which as I have written before is going to be $15 per $1,000 of the land value. Our land consists of two parts: first, the land that the University has acquired during the last fifteen years in the name of the Board of Directors, and is therefore strictly university land; and second, the Boone Compound with small pieces outside of the main compound owned by the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. The National Council has decided that all this Boone land is to be turned over to be used by Huachung University; about

1048

one-half of it is at present occupied by the Boone Middle School, which has been contemplating the plan of a new site outside the old city wall. As soon as the middle school moves out, all the Boone land will come under the control of Huachung. The decision of the National Council was communicated to me by Bishop Gilman a year ago, and now Bishop Tsang of the Diocese of Hankow, successor to Bishop Gilman, has given me a testimonial in Chinese to the same effect.

"Last Friday I sent a petition to the new Ministry of Education in Hankow, together with the supporting documents, and we asked permission to have exemption from the land tax. On Sunday the Ministry of Education sent us a written reply, saying that the Ministry had already communicated with the Tax Bureau with regard to our exemption from the land tax. A man went from my office to the Land Tax Bureau yesterday, but they had not received the communication from the Ministry yet because it had been sent to the Provincial Government, and therefore it will take sometime to get to the Bureau. There does not seem to be any difficulty in getting the exemption, but we are waiting to see what the final results will be.

"The Government is also levying taxes on buildings, but according to the regulations, buildings used by schools and colleges are to be exempted from taxes. I believe that this includes faculty residences.

"The Senate met yesterday and decided to suspend classes on October 31 and November 1 in order to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of Huachung University. Our Founders Day is November 1, which is also our formal Matriculation Day. I hope the United Board, and especially the Huachung Committee and the cooperating missions, will remember this day if my letter should get to you before the end of this month. The Senate has decided not to spend too much money on the celebration, but will ask the faculty, students, and alumni to celebrate the occasion in such a way as to cost as little money as possible.

"Day before yesterday I sent you a cablegram as follows:

'CELEBRATING TWENTYFIFTH ANNIVERSARY NOVEMBER FIRST INFORM MISSIONS AND FRIENDS'

"The institution has been growing steadily during the last twenty-five years with serious interruptions twice, which however have not damaged seriously our plan of development, except that they have certainly delayed our construction program.

"Please assure all friends who may read my weekly letters that I have been writing my letters rather freely. There are certain things which I do not say, but no one has told me not to say them. The purpose of my letters is to report the developments in the university from week to week, and I have not held back anything essential. Everything that I have written is entirely factual and according to my best judgment.

"We have not heard yet from the authorities whether both land tax and house tax have been exempted for us, but according to various indications there is no question about our exemption. A Christian middle school in Hankow under the Chung Hwa Sheng Kung Huei, with property entirely held by the mission, has already got exemption officially from the taxes.

"On Monday of this week after the meeting of the Christian workers held in Hankow, four of us went to see one of our friends high up in the government, and among various questions we asked was whether theological seminaries would have to register with the educational authorities. Their answer was that there had been no decision made by the government as yet on this matter. When I asked then whether Huachung would be free to teach religious and theological courses, he answered that we would certainly be free to do so, provided the courses were not required of students but on the elective basis.

1049

Our theological and religious courses have always been electives. Both the London Missionary Society and the Methodist Church in Wuhan have reported the Central China Union Theological Seminary as part of their work, and they have had no criticism from the government. The Seminary is carrying on as usual with some of the students electing courses in Huachung, and this has been a part of our agreement for cooperation with the Seminary.

"It seems quite clear that before formal recognition of the present government by Washington, it will be very difficult for any American missionaries including teachers to enter China from abroad, even for such people as Paul Ward and his family to return from Hongkong. Mr. Hawthorne of the London Missionary Society is trying to get his wife and two small children back into Wuchang from Hongkong, and they may also have to wait until recognition by Great Britain, which we hope may not be very long.

"The rate of exchange is slowly going up, bur prices are rising parallelly."

1050

CONFIDENTIAL 13 JANUARY 1950

EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER DATED 22 NOVEMBER 1949

FROM PRESIDENT WEI, HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"Things have been very quiet in our part of the world. For sometime exchange lagged behind prices, but it is catching up a bit. On Saturday the exchange was 7,500, and yesterday it went up to 9,400, which is still behind the price level, but I am sure it will catch up slowly.

"We have never been short of the necessary articles for everyday living. The pre-war Honan anthracite has returned, and it is cheaper than the Hunan hard coal, which we got more than a month ago, which is inferior to the Honan anthracite. Rice has gone up very much, but the supply is still plentiful, as also are meats, vegetables, eggs, and other things. It is remarkable how we can get all these things in days like these when people are suffering much more in other parts of the world. For this we are most thankful.

"So far we have not paid any land tax or tax on buildings. We are supposed to be exempted. A man came to look over our land during the last week. He felt that we ought certainly to pay taxes on the land that has been brought under cultivation. If we should receive such a notice from the tax bureau, we would take the matter up with the Ministry of Education, because part of our cultivated land has been used only by the farmers in the neighborhood without rent paid to us, and part has been used by our Biology department as an experimental farm for the study of plant diseases, in which Professor Cheng of our Biology department is an expert.

"We are running a dairy on a cooperative basis, and it is producing good milk, as good as 'Grade A' in the States although it is in very limited quantity. Slowly the supply will increase.

"We are busy in improving our methods of teaching and in trying to make use of all the new material in many of our courses. The students are showing a very keen interest in all their studies. There are all sorts of clubs for the study of the New Law, New Philosophy, the New History, the New Economics, etc. I am not surprised that I have been asked to be one of the promoters for organizing the New Philosophy Club, but it is too much that I should have been on the committee for the organization of the Intervarsity Club for the Study of the New Law. Of the social sciences, law is one of things I have never touched. We have at least four or five clubs of this kind for our faculty, and this afternoon I am going to attend a lecture on the basic principles of Dialectic Materialism, to be given by the Secretary-in-Chief of Wuhan University, who is a very learned Communist.

"On Sunday, November 20, I went to Wuhan University to preach at the Lo Chia Fellowship, run by the 'Y' in a small building, which is just on the outskirts of the University campus. There were about twenty people there in the congregation. Only four or five of them were students, and practically all were freshmen. According to the faculty members present, with whom I talked, the upper class students do not dare to get near to the Student Center any more. However, even before Liberation the number of students attending services was not large. I had lunch with Dr. and Mrs. Paul C. T. Kwei, formerly of our faculty. They are very strong Christians. I have been urging them for the last few months to return to Huachung, from which they have had only leave-of-absence for the last nine years. They are giving this matter careful consideration, but they have many hesitations, of which one is whether there is really a good chance for Christian colleges and universities to develop. They are still very much interested in our work, and the only argument I could advance was

1051

that Christians should pull together in order to keep alive the Christian colleges. Of course, Huachung does not have the scope or the strength of such a national university as Wuhan, but the quality of our work is by no means inferior, and the services we render to the people and the nation are still very valuable.

"There is one more problem. Missionaries on our faculty are beginning to go home on furlough next summer and thereafter. It is still difficult for us to tell whether it will be easy for them to return after furlough. We have to find ways and means to fill their vacancies by the appointment of qualified Chinese, in case they should not be able to return promptly. This is an especially serious problem for us in Huachung because our percentage of missionary teachers is larger than in most of the other Christian colleges. If the missions should not be able to send their missionaries to a place like Huachung, would it be possible for the missions to appropriate at least the salary for a Chinese, if we could find the Chinese with the proper qualifications? I wish you would take up with the missions cooperating in Huachung. Again, I must reiterate my conviction that there is a future for the Christian colleges under the new regime, provided we are able to do good work, and good work means the strengthening of most of our departments by securing better and more teachers, and adding to our Library and laboratory equipment. When I review the happenings in Huachung of the last six months since Liberation, we have many things to be thankful for and to feel proud of. It would be just too bad if we should not be able to carry on with the splendid spirit prevailing on the whole campus, simply because we do not have the financial support in order to carry on.

"The circumstances are much better than we had expected, and our future is really in our own hands under the Grace of God."

FOR YOUR INFORMATION 21 MARCH 1950

A LETTER DATED 9 MARCH 1950 FROM
PRESIDENT WEI, HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

The new term has already started, with registration still uncompleted, but lectures began yesterday.

It is still difficult to say definitely what the enrollment is. My guess is 350 against 372 in the fall. Out of this number of 350, 310 are students from the last term, 10 are students who have been away for one term or two on account of the situation a year ago and have now returned to resume their studies here, and about 30 transfers from various colleges who passed our examinations two weeks ago.

The faculty and staff remain practically the same as last term. However, the vacancy of the librarian, left by the death of Mr. Mark Cheng almost a year ago, has now been filled by Mr. James C. L. Hsu, who graduated from our Library Science Department in 1926, taking the degree of B. A. He is a member of the Sheng Kung Huei; since graduation he has been librarian in various libraries in this country; done postgraduate training in Harvard and Columbia, taking an M. A. degree in History from Columbia; and since 1939 a member of the faculty of the Boone Library School, and then later of the National Teachers College for Social Education in Soochow. He has been appointed as librarian with the rank of full professor, and he is going to teach also a course in Historical Methods.

Then the Physical Education Director has been changed because the old one, Mr. Sung, has been sick since last May and lately asked for leave-of-absence without salary after February until his appointment terminates at the end of July. His vacancy has been filled by Mr. Tseng Tzu-cheng, who has been a Physical Director in the Wuhan cities for about twenty years, and he seems to be a very good man. He is about forty-five years of age, but still very energetic as a Physical Director.

I have reported that the London Mission has sent us the Rev. Thomas Hawthorn for teaching in the department of English Literature; his appointment is for eighteen months in the first instance. He is to take Miss Bleakley's place in the department of English Literature. Miss Bleakley's post as concurrently registrar is now filled by Mr. Hsiao Fu-yün, one of our own graduates, Huachung, B. S. in Physics, 1942, and now lecturer in Physics in our College of Science. He is a Christian affiliated with the Methodist Church, and we reckon that he may spend from one-third to one-half of his time as registrar and the rest of his time in teaching Physics. Since Dr. George Bien failed to return to us after the summer, we have not been able to fill his vacancy in the department of Chemistry, although we had approached many chemists for appointments. Now it looks as if we are going to get Dr. Ku Ch'ing-ting, who had his postgraduate studies in Chemistry in Germany, and has been teaching Chemistry or engaged in chemical manufactures for over ten years. He has been appointed as professor of Chemistry, particularly for Industrial Chemistry. We are still short of a man to teach Physical Chemistry, and I have been negotiating with one or two people to fill that post. Since there is a year's salary left by Dr. George Bien, we are able to appoint two chemists for this term. After July Dr. Lillian Weidenhammer, missionary sent out by the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, will take her furlough, and that will leave also a vacancy in the Chemistry department. When she returns, we shall have to make adjustments in our budget.

I have heard with great interest the policy of the Government with regard to Christian schools and colleges, as discussed in Peking last December. The policy to my mind is very reasonable. In substance Christian schools are to be divided into three

1053

categories:

1. Those institutions in which the democratic element is strong, comparatively progressive, and observing faithfully the regulations and orders of the Government. These should be sustained, and if necessary subsidized.

2. Those institutions which are not extremely reactionary, still faithful in observing Government regulations and orders. These ought to be won over and improved.

3. Those institutions which are firmly and stubbornly reactionary. If any of them openly defy Government orders or regulations, their defiance ought to be dealt with and corrected.

We are interested to notice that according to this policy, no school is to be closed for defiance and for being not progressive enough. I do not think anybody should expect a more reasonable policy from the Government with regard to Christian schools in times like these. Of course, in colleges and middle schools there should be no required religious courses, and religion should be free for students and faculty. In middle schools, however, there should be no religious propaganda inside or outside of class. Of course, if there is a church in the vicinity of the Christian middle schools, students may participate in religious activities there instead of within the school premises. As far as colleges and universities are concerned, religious propaganda is prohibited only in class. However, this point has not been made very clear because we have so far received no definite orders from the Government yet. As far as Huachung goes, everything is carrying on as usual.

The churches are starting to register land and buildings as alien property, but the Hankow Diocese of the Chung Hua Sheng Kung Hui has decided to turn the ownership of the property formerly known as the "Boone Compound" over to the Board of Directors of Huachung University, if we should get the approval of the Government; and with the understanding that until Boone Middle School is able to move to its new site as originally planned (which is not very likely now), the school will continue to use that portion of the Boone Campus, which it has been using all these years.

1054

Hua Chung College

June 22, 1950

U.S.Dollar Checking Account with N.C.B.Y,N.,U.S.A.

Date 1940	To Whom	For	Ch.No.	Amount
Mar.27	The Livingstone Press	To pur.books for the English Dept.	14 Pd	$200.00
Apr. 6	The Presbyterian Book Store,Pittsburg	ditto.	15 - Pd	100.00
15	John L.Coe	Travel expense (to Hsichow)	16 Pd	55.00
19	John C.F.Lo	To pur.books for School of Arts	17 - Pd	200.00
May 8	Barnes & Nobles,Inc.	for Eco.Dept.books	18 - Pd	300.00
25	William Hazelton,Esq.	ditto.	19	130.00
June 5	Biological Abstracts Un.of Penn.	Biology Dept.	20	15.00
8	Asso.Mis.Treas.for Livingstone Book Room	for Practice School	21	50.00

1055

FOR YOUR INFORMATION 20 SEPTEMBER 1950

EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER DATED 29 AUGUST
FROM PRESIDENT WEI, HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

"I was away from Wuchang for just over a month, returning with my son John and his bride only a week ago by train via Canton. Your letter of July 13 was waiting on my desk upon my return.

"I am very sorry that I failed to send to you my Annual Report. I took four copies to Canton, thinking of sending them from the south to New York and to London, but it seemed better not to do that, and so I am going to send you a copy from here in a day or two. As to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors held early in July before I left Wuchang for vacation, I have already written to you, and the Minutes have already gone to your office.

"Earl Fowler may have reported to you that we have adopted, by action of the Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Senate a very big salary cut, which at the present level of prices and rate of exchange may mean the reduction of US$8,000-9,000. from the salary items alone. With US$2,500. for salaries found for us by Earl Fowler from the Episcopal Church Mission, there are good prospects of our meeting the budget at the end of the next year 1950-51. A great deal, however, will have to depend upon the price of rice, on which all our salaries are based, and the rate of exchange during the next twelve months. At our end, however, we have done our best and hope that if there should be any deficit, in a year's time the United Board will help us to meet it.

"One of the encouraging things that I met with upon my return from the south was the report from our treasurer, John L. Coe, that the actual deficit upon closing the books at the end of July was less than US$1,000. Actually it is only about US$700. It is really remarkable that due to the careful handling by John Coe as treasurer of the University we have come out so well.

"A number of our missionary faculty members are definitely leaving, some on furlough and others for other reasons. It is very disheartening that the London Missionary Society District Committee has decided to withdraw entirely. That will mean the early leaving of Professor David F. Anderson and his wife, both full-time teachers on the faculty, and the Rev. Thomas Hawthorn who started teaching only in February of this year to take Miss Bleakley's place after she retired. Dr. Jean East is also leaving because her mission, the Methodist Missionary Society, has decided to send her fiance out of China, and therefore she has to leave herself. Dr. Brank Fulton and wife are leaving on medical advice, and that will mean no one to represent the Yale-in-China Association on our faculty here.

"We are very grateful, however, that the Yale-in-China Association has decided to give us an appropriation of US$5,000. for the year, and with that money we have been able to appoint two or three Chinese teachers to fill vacancies, and also to appoint eight teaching fellows, one in each department. The appointment of teaching fellows is a new departure, but we have been contemplating that for many years, and it has been only due to the lack of funds that the appointments have not

1056

been made until now. It was one of the ways recommended by the Peking Conference early in June to train college teachers ourselves.

"A great deal of repair work is going on. A new roof is being put on our administration building, which is over sixty years old, and the floor in the Old Yen Hostel for Women is being replaced. The Chemistry Department is building a small industrial chemistry laboratory, mainly for tanning and soap making, for the teaching of the subject. It will cost only about US$1,000. from the funds available for the Chemistry Department. The playing fields outside the demolished Old City Wall on our land have to be leveled again, and a small building will have to be put up for the storage of equipment and a watchman there. Unless we keep that part of the campus constantly in use, we may not be able to hold it in proper shape.

"Only about 700 students took our entrance examinations in the middle of August, and with present conditions we have to admit more than one-half of them. The standards are a little bit lower than last year, but this is the case in almost every university and college in China. About 180 students are taking our second examinations. It remains to be seen how many students we shall be able to admit after registration during the first week of September. We are expecting an enrollment of not more than 450. That will mean a new start over again. Four years ago we admitted more than 300 new students, in order to build up our student body, but the political situation has reduced our enrollment to less than 400, and so we have to build up again. With the present morale of faculty and students, we are not afraid of admitting a comparatively large freshman class this year. We are aiming at a student body of just about 500 for the next two or three years until we see the situation more clearly.

"The Peking Conference is producing very encouraging results. People in the Christian institutions are feeling more encouraged, and a similar change of attitude is perceptible even in the Christian middle schools. Boone Middle School is expecting again an enrollment of 400 students, and St. Hilda's in our neighborhood hopes too for a good term this next term.

"I spent about two weeks and a half at home in the south with my folk, and on Bishop Hall's invitation I went to Hongkong and spent a week there, mainly to discuss church problems. While there my son John arrived from America on the S.S. President Wilson. He brought back a number of books for himself and quite a bit of equipment for the physics department. With his heavy luggage it was quite difficult to move anywhere, but we managed to take the greater part of his things to my home near Macao on Chinese territory. There was no great difficulty in passing through Customs, but it was quite a job to get transport from my home to the district city of Chungshan, 55 kilometers from my home. From the city of Chungshan to Canton by boat overnight, and then we took the train from Canton to Wuchang. The train trip was very pleasant. John was married in St. Mark's Church in Macao, which is an Episcopal Church, and he left home five days after his wedding. He is going to be assistant professor of Physics under Dr. Richard Bien, and he and his wife are busy getting settled in their new home.

1057

"Richard Bien is expected from Peking today where he was attending a conference of scientists. We are waiting for him to settle some of the administrative problems, as he is now Dean of the General Faculty as well as Dean of the College of Science. Dr. John Lo is now the Director of the Administrative Offices, and he is doing his job quite well. During my absence Dr. P'u Hwang, Vice-President as well as Dean of the College of Education, was acting president.

"The summer has been uneventful, but the temperatures were very trying, which was quite a contrast to the weather in the south where we had rain practically everyday."

1058

FOR YOUR INFORMATION 3 NOVEMBER 1950

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT WEI DATED 14 OCTOBER 1950
HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

I received on October 11 your letter of September 29, 1950.

I have not answered you earlier than this because I have to go to meetings everyday and also because I wanted to consult some of my responsible colleagues before writing to you on the question you raised in your letter.

I am not surprised at all that dispatches from Hongkong to "The New York Times" and to "The Herald Tribune" should have got the "Manifesto" twisted a bit. It is a difficult document to understand anyway, unless someone is to explain it clearly. In the first place, it is entirely a political expression of the Chinese Christians. As Chinese citizens, we must support the Central Government and the Common Principles as adopted in Peking September a year ago by representatives of all the parties and representatives of all the different groups, including the Christian group.

At the Conference on Higher Education in Peking held early in June of this year, it was officially stated by representative heads of the Government that Christian colleges and universities might freely receive funds for educational purposes, so long as the funds are free of political strings. To refuse those funds would mean simply adding to the burden of the Government, because those institutions should continue to operate for the benefit of the Chinese people, which is our purpose.

This does not mean that the Christian educational institutions are to continue to be supported by funds from abroad for an indefinite length of time. There ought to be, however, a definite program with a definite plan to see that those institutions are adequately supported in China before funds from abroad cease to come.

It is quite clear to us here, not only in Huachung but in many of the Christian colleges and universities, that the moment funds from abroad should cease to come now, many of the thirteen Christian colleges and universities in China will have to close up immediately, or be handed over to the Government, -- and Huachung is one of them.

As Chinese citizens and as educational institutions in China, we are definitely against imperialism, feudalism, and official capitalism; and as members of the churches in China, we ought to work towards self-propagation of the Gospel, self-government, and self-support. Self-government is practically achieved; self-propagation of the Gospel is near to realization; but even for the churches it will be sometime before self-support can become effective. But it ought to be our ideal.

I know it is very difficult for me to make the whole situation quite clear to you, but what I have written in this letter may help you to understand the question better.

1059

FOR YOUR INFORMATION 24 NOVEMBER 1950

LETTERS FROM FRANCIS WEI, DATED OCTOBER 24th and NOVEMBER 3rd.

HUACHUNG UNIVERSITY

October 24, 1950

I have finished the second set of Government meetings, but during the weekend I had a Retreat of the Hupeh Christian Council, and then a meeting of the heads of the Christian schools, which took me practically two days. Now I am having meetings in the college in order to get myself properly reoriented again in the work here.

Enclosed I am sending the Registrar's report on student statistics. You will notice that the number of students from Christian middle schools still holds up, but the number of Christian students has seriously fallen. This is due to the present situation, and to the small percentage of Christian students in all the Christian middle schools. But if the comparatively small number of Christian students in Huachung should live earnestly the Christian life, it would be still a great influence.

You will notice that by provinces Hupeh leads with 186; next comes Hunan with 123; Kwantung comes third, having 51; and Kiangsi fourth with 36. Fifteen provinces are represented in our student body.

Biology seems to be most popular with the freshmen students, because it prepares them for medicine and agriculture. Next is Economics, which is always popular. Then comes Physics, which is one of our strongest departments. There is a temporary drop in the English department, but I do not believe it will be a permanent feature. Chinese and History are always small. Education holds its own. Chemistry is smaller than I had expected, but we are going to pull it up later.

I hope you have alreay seen my letter written in reply to Dr. William Fenn's enquiring as to "The Manifesto," which was really a statement made by the Chinese Christians as a political expression. In my own judgment the first thing for us to work for is the self-support of the evangelical work in the parish churches. Then the hospitals which will become self-supporting in one way or another in a very short time; and then the lower schools; and only finally the colleges and universities. Bishop Tsang has written a very good letter to Father Wood of our Diocese here, with a copy sent to Bishop Bentley. I hope you will have a chance to see it in Bishop Bentley's office. The letter was written from the point of view of a church administrator of the Sheng Kung Huei, and I totally agree with what he had to say in that letter. If there should be further questions about that Christian statement, please write to me, and I shall do my best to answer them.

We are busy now preparing for the celebration of our Founders Day and the formal matriculation of the new students on November First. This is to be the twenty-sixth anniversary of the founding of Huachung, and on that day we particularly remember our predecessors, who worked so hard to bring the five Christian colleges in the Central China Region together to found Huachung or Central China University in 1924. We have gone through many a crisis, and looking at the history of the last twenty-six years we have been developing from strength to strength.

1060

I was at the station last night to see off four of the British missionaries, who are leaving to go back to Great Britain. Those who are still remaining are small in number, and they are to be admired for their courage and faith in the work. This does not mean that those who have left or are leaving, do not have those virtues, but it is not easy for our missionary friends to stay on. But everyone who stays is a source of encouragement to those of us who are trying to hold up the end of Christian education in the New China.

The celebration of our Founders Day will begin on Sunday, October 29, when there will be in the evening at the regular hour of the University Worship Service a service of Thanksgiving and rededication. Then on Wednesday there will be the regular exercises to mark that occasion. The faculty, staff, and students will have a joint meal, at which we expect a number of our alumni to come back from the Wuhan Center, and then in the evening of November First there will be a social party prepared by the students themselves. The exercises will be in the morning at half past nine, to last for about an hour and a half; after that there will be the open inspection of all the hostels, laboratories, and library; and in the afternoon there will be ball games.

I did not go to the National Christian Council meeting in Shanghai, although a few of the delegates from the Wuhan Center left on Saturday evening. They will reach Shanghai only for the last two days at most of the conference. I have my work here to do, and I did not consider it worth my while to be at the meeting just for the tail end of it.

* * * * *

November 3, 1950

I trust you have already received my previous letters, but it is sometime since I heard from you last.

On November First we had our Founders Day celebration. The ceremony started at nine o'clock with a simple program and ended at a quarter to eleven. As usual, we had the classrooms, laboratories, library and hostels open for inspection, and ball games in the afternoon. No outside guests were invited because we wanted to keep the celebration simple and economical, but a select few of the friends from the churches and about a hundred alumni came back to join the college meal served on the lawn in front of the Administration Building at half past twelve.

The alumni had a meeting and elected their officers. As in previous years, I had to make a report to the alumni, pointing out to them that the University is now better understood by the Government and by people in general. Under the direction of the Ministry of Education in Peking, as well as of the Ministry of Education of the South Central Region, we can carry on our work without any misunderstanding. Our alumni are too few and too poor to give financial support to their alma mater, but there is no question that they are very much interested in our work and give their loyal support in every other way except money. In this New China possibly generous donations from alumni will not be possible.

1061

In the evening the students had a social meeting, in which some of the alumni took part. It was a jolly occasion lasting until midnight. I was very happy that all the lectures went on as usual at eight o'clock the next morning, in spite of the busy time the students had had on Founders Day the day before.

Three years ago at the peak of our missionary faculty strength we had sixteen salaried missionaries from the five cooperating missions, besides 8 wives teaching full or part time voluntarily, making a total of twenty-four missionary faculty and staff members. One-half have already left, and by the end of this term some more will be leaving; and by next summer there will probably be left only Mr. and Mrs. Coe. Of course, we all understand the circumstances, but nevertheless it is very disheartening to see our missionary friends go. It reminds me of the spring of 1927 when a handful of Chinese faculty members were left to carry on the work of Central China University. It is my hope, however, that in a year or two we may be able to get permission from the Government to permit some of the non-ordained missionary teachers to return for subjects essential to the operation of a University like Huachung. Our department of English Language and Literature will be seriously affected next year when Dr. and Mrs. Allen and Miss Sheets will be gone, and the Rev. Thomas Hawthorn is leaving next week. Mrs. Ruth Earnshaw Lo will be the only English-speaking teacher in that department. We shall not have even enough qualified Chinese teachers to teach English. We had hoped that Mr. Donald Wang, our own graduate 1941, would come back to our rescue in time, but he has decided to carry on in Michigan University until he gets his Ed. D. the summer of 1952. Whether he will be willing to rejoin us here is still an open question, but it is our hope that he will do so. This is only one of our faculty problems which we have to face at the present juncture. We shall have more and more acute ones next summer, and we see no good solutions yet.

Financially we are not so well off. I have written before that we are paying all our salaries and wages in terms of rice, and rice has gone up while exchange remains at present the same. At the beginning of the term rice was about US$4.60 per tan, and now it is US$5.60. If exchange should go down a bit, rice will be almost $6. Our budget is figured with rice at US$5. per tan. You can see that this will mean that 20% more will go for our salary and exchange items on the budget. The Yale-in-China Association has made us a grant of US$5,000. for the year. That will certainly be a great help, and we hope to be able to get through the year with a deficit of not more than US$1,500. But there are so many factors involved, at present unknown to us, that we can only report from time to time to the Board of Directors, as well as the United Board, and if necessary make adjustments in order to keep our deficit at the minimum.

Before I close, I wish to report that on Founders Day I made the public announcement of the receipt of 25,000 volumes, practically all Chinese books, as a gift from Professor Ch'ien Chi-po of our Chinese department. Professor Ch'ien is an old scholar of the age of sixty-four, and he has been teaching in various colleges and universities for the last forty years. His collection of books is about his only earthly possession. Although he has been with us for only four years, he is very fond of Huachung, and so he has decided to donate to the University Library all his books except a few which people in his own district wanted to keep for local use. May I make this as an official report to the United Board.

1062

I shall take up later with you and the Huachung Committee the establishment of two scholarships for the direct descendants of Professor Ch'ien's family for a period of thirty years, if there should be properly qualified students from his family to make use of those scholarships. These scholarships may be included in the general University scholarships granted from year to year. But Professor Elisséeff of the Harvard-Yenching Institute agrees that a certain amount from the reserve of the Harvard-Yenching money, held by Huachung, may be set aside as an endowment for the two Ch'ien scholarships. I shall ask the committee here to draw up a scheme for these two scholarships, and report it first to the Board of Directors before submitting it to the United Board for final approval.

1063

I shall take up later with you and the Huachung Committee the establishment of two scholarships for the direct descendants of Professor Ch'ien's family for a period of thirty years, if there should be properly qualified students from his family to make use of those scholarships. These scholarships may be included in the general University scholarships granted from year to year. But Professor Elisséeff of the Harvard-Yenching Institute agrees that a certain amount from the reserve of the Harvard-Yenching money, held by Huachung, may be set aside as an endowment for the two Ch'ien scholarships. I shall ask the committee here to draw up a scheme for these two scholarships, and report it first to the Board of Directors before submitting it to the United Board for final approval.