Regarding appointment of Elsie M. Priest

to China.

According to ledger and journal of the University of Nanking dated January 1,1919, Page No.151.

Travel Account - The University paid Elsie Priest for Pullman, Shipping Baggage, Steamship Passage and etc., on March 31st,1921.

The Minute Book in Miss Cloud's Safe dated 1920.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Nanking dated December 10,1920, Page No. 30 reads---

The Candidate Committee reported that it had passed upon and approved the appointment of Miss Elsie M. Priest and that she sailed for the Field in February.

MEMORANDUM ON UNIVERSITY OF NANKING ACCOUNTS

covering conferences of Miss Elsie M. Priest, Miss C. L. Lane, and E. M. North, April 28, 30, May 4, 1926.

I CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1. It was agreed that as steadily as possible we should work toward a complete financial statement which when worked up should thereafter be a regular part of the annual report of the Treasurers. In the case of the field balance sheet all funds held in New York should appear in local currency. In the N. Y. balance sheet all field and N. Y. funds in the Endowment on plant class are to appear in U. S. dollars; but in the current section only N. Y. funds will appear. The two balance sheets may be "published" together both in Nanking and New York, when a full statement is desired.

ENDOWMENT SECTION OF CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT

2. On specific authorization to either from the other the Nanking and N. Y. treasurers will set up endowment accounts and enter credits and debits. No attempt will be made to deal with exchange variations as ordinarily the funds are not transmitted from N. Y. to Nanking or vice versa. The Nanking Endowment Statement will therefore parallel the N. Y. statement exactly except that the Nanking statement will be in Mex.; all N. Y. items being regularly entered at "two for one." The N. Y. statement will also parallel the Nanking statement, all items from Nanking being entgred at "one for two." The actual investments in N. Y. would be entered by totals only in Nanking account entitled "Investments held in N. Y.", while actual investments in Nanking will correspondingly be entered in N. Y. in total in an account "Investments held in China." It is understood that as rapidly as possible the endowment funds in China will be set apart and separately invested.

PLANT SECTION OF CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT

3. The aim here is to produce two balance sheets (on substantially Arnett's form) that correspond exactly in actual rates of exchange. As Nanking accounts have not had a full plant balance sheet and as the N. Y. sheet was set up twelve years after the start of the University some items may necessarily be arbitrary. It is recognized that it will take some time to work this all out but it is agreed that it is important to do it. The process will be for N. Y. to analyse fully the Plant Funds and Liabilities to show all special funds clearly and to send to Nanking all available data. (This includes Schedule of property put in by Missions in N. Y. Jrl. 20 #1, the first property balance sheet of Dec. 9, 1922; Mr. Carter's analysis of property receipts and disbursements dated Dec. 9, 1922). Adjustments will be made in Nanking and N. Y. on the basis of signed authorization each from the other.

The regular procedure: N. Y. will make no entries of the "Plant Funds from Current Funds" nature except on specific authorization from Nanking ordinarily to be given each year. This would cover usually permanent additions to equipment (scientific apparatus, library books or bound periodicals furniture purchased out of current field.)

FAMINE FUNDS IN PLANT SECTION

4. It is agreed that Famine Funds drawn for purchase of land, erection of buildings, etc. should be set up in the Plant Section both in N. Y. and Nanking and not be lost sight of in Famine Funds General as has been somewhat the case in the N. Y. accounts. During this conference the set up of such funds so far was worked out so as to show the U.S.$ equivalent of the Mex. amounts drawn and set up by the field. These are to be put on the N. Y. books tentatively subject to final authorization from Mr. Owen.

HANDLING OF EXCHANGE

5. EXCHANGE ON APPROPRIATIONS MADE IN MEX. e.g. G.M.B

The most practical method seems to be to have the donor furnish a Mex. draft to N. Y., which will be entered in N. Y. in U. S. $ at the day's rate and then sent to Nanking. The ensures Nanking from loss as compared with a U. S. $ draft which the donor credits against his Mex. appropriation at the day's rate. Concerning Mex. appropriations by Boards on Current Accts. see next paragraph.

6. LOSS IN EXCHANGE ON CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS

As set up for the present year the Trustees have guaranteed to the field on a certain group of items in Current Account a fixed amount in Mex. $. In order that the N. Y. office may know how much of this Mex. amount it has furnished at a given time and thus whether something special must be done to secure the U. S. $ necessary to provide the full Mex. appropriation of the Trustees, the Nanking office will need to report (a) not only the Mex. amount secured by drafts on Current account (now reported on the receipts forms sent to N. Y.), but (b) the rate, for each month, at which the U. S. $ disbursements by N. Y. are credited and charged in Nanking. It was agreed that Nanking would do this. N.Y. and Nanking would then be in agreement as to the amount of Mex. which could still be drawn on the appropriation for the year.

7. In collecting loss in exchange from the Boards the N. Y. office would apply to the Board payments of a given month the rate of exchange used by the field and collect at once or at the end of the year. Any small variations that resulted by this process would be covered by the Trustees guarantee of a fixed Mex. appropriation.

HOSPITAL ITEMS

8. HOSPITAL BALANCE SHEET

In general we will try to work toward the same kind of balance sheet as we have in the case of the rest of the University - making, however, a distinctly separate section of all hospital items.

9. CONFUSION ON SOME HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT ITEMS ON N.Y. BOOKS

This was cleared up and a separate memorandum will cover this.

10. METHOD OF CLOSING CURRENT ACCOUNTS AT END OF YEAR.

In order to simplify this and give the field the full appropriation as near June 30th as possible the procedure will be as follows:-

(a) The May accounts in N. Y. will be closed May 25th and trial balance and cash statement sent out at once to reach Nanking before June 30th. This to be handled in Nanking just as other monthly Statements are.

(b) On June 30th N. Y. will cable Nanking:-
  (1) The U.S. $ total of the June disbursements on current accounts;
  (2) The amount reserved for outstanding orders.

(c) With this information Nanking will apply to these the June rate of exchange and deduct the result from the outstanding authorization. Nanking will then draw a U.S. dollar draft to cover the Mex. balance due on these authorizations.

(d) The New York Reserve will be held in Special Section until the outstanding orders are cleared and charged to it. The balance will then then be reported to Nanking and drawn as a distinct item.

11. MISCELLANEOUS

Note was taken of ambiguity of the contract in the phrase "in case of sickness in his/her immediate family.

Nelson, New Hampshire,
May 19, 1926.

Nanking

TRANSFER

My dear Dr. North;

I am sorry to have been so slow about writing the letter to Miss Barnes. Your letter reached me just as I was leaving for a few days, as I was asked to speak in three different places over the week end. I enclose the letter to Miss Barnes and will be very glad to have you forward it to her. I did not take her address and cannot send it directly. I also enclose a copy for your files. There are many things I would like to tell Miss Barnes, but I would like to know definitely first whether she has decided to accept the transfer.

Undoubtedly you have heard from Nanking and know all the 'news' - the main thing at present seems to be that everyone is anticipating some trouble this month. However, in Dr. Bowen's last letter he writes;" There is considerable discussion as to whether or not there will be widespread and violent demonstrations May 30th, but all feel that there will be some sort of a "go" at it by the radicals, but the officials seem to be getting ready and to be more severe about such things - so we hope that there will be no trouble."

I hope you have received the list of needs, the blue prints of the plant, picutres, etc. that Dr. Bowen tells me he is sending you. I am sure you will be glad to have this information in this form.

All my letters from China are stressing the great need for a secretary, and I am replying that everything is being done that is possible, but I do hope that something definite will be decided within a short time. The field is of the opinion that I am personally to meet the new secretary, and they have sent me all kinds of instructions. I feel a bit uneasy over my part in it - which is extremely small - and hope we may not send out a girl who requires the attention that Miss Gless did at first, or one like many girls we have had on the field, who

5-19-26

only interested in "seeing the country". Is there not some one near Miss Barnes who has been in China and knows what the life, the work, etc. will mean, who might be able to interview her? I believe you mentioned some member of the trustees, but unless they are familiar with theproblems of secretaries in China, I am not sure it would be of much value. I am mentioning this, because I have received five letters from the different ones interested on the field, who seem to have the impression that I am, as one states it, "to try her out." I am perfectly willing to do all I can, but I am not at all eager to have them all hold me responsible for the type of girl that is sent out when I have had nothing to do about it. I have heard "What could such and such a person be thinking about to send us such a type of missionary" too often on the field to care to have it applied to me - unless I deserve to receive such censor!

Will you let me know what the latest developments are in regard to Miss Barnes, or anyone else you may have in mind at present?

With kindest regards and best wishes, to Miss Lane and Miss Lineham,

Very cordially yours,

Elsie M. Priest.

Nelson, New Hampshire,
May 25, 1926.

Dr. Eric M. North,
150 Fifth Ave., New York.

TRANSFER

My dear Dr. North;

Your letter of May 22d has been received and I am extremely sorry to hear that Miss Barnes feels that she would not care for the work in the College of Agriculture and Forestry. It is not essential that the girl who fills this vacancy should know anything about agriculture or forestry. I hardly see what difference it makes which college she is in - the work is the work of any scretarial position, only in this particular college, it is much more interesting that almost any other position I know of in China today! I knew very little about agriculture and nothing of forestry when I went to Nanking, but before many months I learned a great deal about both, and found it intensely interesting. Anyone who knows ourwork at all will tell you that the College of Agriculture andForestry is a "live wire" college in China today.

However, unless she is really eager to go to Nanking for the sake of the work regardless of which college or what the particular duties may be, I am very sure she is not the girl we are looking for to fill this vacancy. If she is only interested in the position from the standpoint of "seeing China" and not from the standpoint of missionary work, she is not the one to send out. We have had too many of the former already.

Please do not offer her the position under the three year appointment. Although Mr. Reisner is very anxious to have someone on the field as early as possible, I am sure he will prefer to wait until we locate the person who will be willing to go to China with some interest in the work. We have always had great hopes that the three year people would decide to stay five years, but in spite of all the people who have been sent to Nanking for three years, only two have ever changed to a five year basis on the field, and they were both young men who wished to be married, and could not be married on the field until they signed up for the full five years!

Undoubtedly you have just received a letter from Dr. Bowen in regard to three year contract people. He brings up the interpretation of that sentence, which you may recall, I mentioned when in New York. Within two months two of our three year contract people have been called home because of illness in their families and it has been a very expensive proposition! In both cases the field was more or less relieved to have them leave, because of the type of service they were rendering. Both of these girls were on the three year contract basis and went to Nanking with the main idea that it was a splendid opportunity to "see something of the world."

Whoever goes to Nanking must be the type of person who is willing to put work first regardless of what that work may be. It is almost impossible to decide before a person is sent out just what they will do, as we often have to make drastic changes in a short time and rearrange the work so that it will be most efficient and not according to the likesor dislikes of individuals.

In a letter just received from Nanking, there is news that the committee on "more Chinese leadership" has had a meeting, and it seems to be working out quite satisfactorily for all concerned. The only problem at present seems to be the dean of the College of Arts and Science, and I imagine that will be solved before very long.

I stand ready to give any assistant possible in the matter of a secretary.

Sincerely, Elsie M. Priest

Nelson, New Hampshire,
May 25, 1926.

Dr. Eric L. North,
15 Fifth Ave., New York.

My dear Dr. North:

Your letter of May 22nd has been received and I am extremely sorry to hear that Miss Jones feels that she would not care for the work in the College of Agriculture and Forestry. It is not essential that the girl who fills this vacancy should know anything about agriculture or forestry. I hardly see what difference it makes which college she is in - the work is the work of any secretarial position, only in this particular college, it is much more interesting than almost any other position I know of in China today! I knew very little about agriculture and nothing of forestry when I went to Nanking, but before many months I learned a great deal about both, and found it increasingly interesting. Anyone who knows anywhere at all will tell you that the College of Agriculture and Forestry is a "live wire" college in China today.

However, unless she is really eager to go to Nanking for the sake of the work regardless of which college or what the particular duties may be, I am very sure she is not the girl we are looking for to fill this vacancy. If she is only interested in the position from the standpoint of "seeing China" and not from the standpoint of missionary work, she is not the one to send out. We have had too many of this former type.

Please do not offer her the position until after the three year appointment. Although Mr. Palmer is very anxious to have someone on the field as early as possible, I am sure he will prefer to wait until he locates that person who will be willing to go to China with some interest in the work. We have always had great hopes that the three year people would decide to stay five years, but in spite of all we could do, we have been going to Nanking for three years, only to have ever changed to a five year basis on the field, and they were both young men who wished to be married, and could not be married on the field until they signed up for the full five years!

Unfortunately you have just received a letter from Mr. Bowen in regard to three year contract people. He brings up the misinterpretation of that sentence, which you may recall, I mentioned when in New York. Within two months two of our three year contract people have been called home because of illness in their families and it has been a very expensive proposition! In both cases the field was more or less full-and to have them leave, because of the type of service they were rendering. Both of these girls were on the three year contract basis and went out with the main idea that it was a splendid opportunity to "see something of the world."

However, one to Nanking must be the type of person who is willing to put work first regardless of what that work may be. It is almost impossible to decide before a person is sent out just what she will do, as we often have to make drastic changes in a short time and rearrange the work so that it will be most efficient and not according to the likes or dislikes of individuals.

I have not received from Nanking, there is news that the committee on "more [illegible] organization" has met & meeting, and it seems to be working out quite satisfactorily for all concerned. The only problem at present seems to be the dean of the College of Arts and Science, and I imagine that will be solved before long.

I stand ready to give any assistance possible in the matter of a secretary.

Sincerely,

Edna M. Lucas

Nanking

TRANSFER

Nelson, New Hampshire,
July 3, 1926.

Dr. Eric M. North,
150 Fifth Ave. New York.

My dear Dr. North;

I expect the last mail brought you letters from Nanking so you are familiar with their plans and problems. I am very glad for many reasons that Mr. Sarvis has been given this work to do for the University, as it may help to ease the situation and make everyone a bit happier. He is a very impressive speaker and I hope will be successful in this new venture.

The mail brought me twelve letters from the field with seven of them stressing the need of the secretary who was supposed to reach Nanking not later than May 20th! Have you any further information regarding someone to take this position? The girls, who are doing more than double work at present, must be relieved, especially as they will not have as long vacations as they really need. It will handicap the work if we cannot have someone reach Nanking by early September. You have doubtless received Dr. Bowen's letter of June 7th in which he asks for the second secretary to be sent out to reach Nanking not later than September 5th! Is there anything that I can do to help find these two girls? I am ready to do anything possible, as I know how greatly they are needed on the field. In this quiet little village I do not come in contact with many people, but I could write letters if you wished me to do so, and would tell me any place to write! Just a word about this second secretary; Miss Smith, the secretary for the Language School, is leaving, or has already left, for furlough this year. It is questionable if she returns to Nanking after furlough, but we worked out the budget in such a way that we could carry this extra secretary, who is needed very much, as well as Miss Smith, if she decides to return to Nanking. The plan this year would be for Miss Smith's position to be partly filled by the Chinese secretary thus relieving half time of the new secretary to help in the College of Arts and Science, who have nobody at all, except as they beg help from the College of Agr. and Forestry and from Miss Purcell, who is busy helping Dr. Bowen. I realize how difficult a problem it is to locate the "right" person for these positions, but every time I receive urgent letters from Nanking, it seems necessary to pass the information on to you!

One other matter; Mr. Owen seems deeply concerned for fear you may expect the various changes and improvements made in the accounts and records this year. I have tried to assure him that you understood

7-3-26

the difficult problem he had this year in keeping the routine work up to date. Mr Sie, my assistant, gives very efficient assistance, but unfortunately he has to be checked very carefully and frequently and Mr. Owen has found the work of this spring extrmely heavy. Some time when you are writing to him, will you please assure him that you understand he is too busy this year to give any thought to any new changes, new ledgers, or accounts! I am sure he would appreciate it. In one of his last letters he suggests that I spend a few months immediately after my return to Nanking in setting up the property ledger, plant statements, etc. etc. We both have realized the necessity of this for some time, but routine duties have always crowded it out.

I note in Mr. Owen's letter of June 10th to you that he brings up the matter of "Pensions" and states very clearly that the decision of the trustees will have great weight upon my return to the field. I have never spoken of it with reference to myself, as it was not the real problem that would keep me in America. However, I do feel very strongly on the subject, and with Miss Warner - who will not return unless something is settled definitely about our future policy - feel concerned about the future with nothing definite to look forward to after years of service. The Griffings, the Clemons', the Owens and nearly every other University supported family are much worried. There have been a number of cases in the missions lately that have brought the matter to our immediate attention - one; a man and his wife had served thirty-four years on the field when the wife became blind and was obliged to return to America requiring very constant care. Their mission cut her off without a single allowance and placed her husband on the salary list as a single man! I merely mentioned this case in order that you might realize things do happen to missionaries that are quite unjust and very unfair! Miss Warner reaches home September 8th and I hope we can have something definite to tell her by October at the latest. She is very valuable, not only because of her special training, but because she speaks Chinese like a native.

Mr. Griffing was delighted with all the assistance you gave him while he was in New York, and in assisting him to make his plans for the return.

Very sincerely yours,

Elsie M. Priest

the difficulty he had this year in keeping the routine work up to date. Mr Sir, my assistant, gives very efficient assistance, but unfortunately he has to be checked very carefully and frequently and it. Often has found the work of this spring extremely heavy. Some time when you are writing to him, will you please assure him that you understand he is too busy this year to give any thought to any new changes, new ledgers, or accounts! I am sure he would appreciate it. In one of his last letters he suggests that I spend a few months immediately after my return to Hankow in checking up the property ledgers, plant estimates, etc. etc. We can have machinery necessarily of course for some time, but routine called for a plan to be worked out.

[illegible] Mr. Orem's letter of [illegible] I wh to you that he brings up the matter of "analons" and states very clearly that in [illegible] decision of the [illegible] all have given weight under my return to the field. I have now a problem of it with reference to myself, as it was not the real problem that would keep me in America. However, I do feel very strongly by on the subject, and with this matter - who will not return unless [illegible] is certainly definitely [illegible] our future policy - feel concerned [illegible] future with nothing [illegible] look forward to after years of service. The Griffiths, the Olsons, the Orens and nearly every other Univ ably supported family are [illegible] worried. [illegible] have been a number of cases in the missions lately [illegible] have brought the matter to our immediate attention - one; a man and his wife had served thirty four years on Hankow when the wife became blind and was obliged to return to America requiring very constant care. Their mission cut her off without a single [illegible] and left her husband on the salary for a single man! [illegible] mentioned this case in order that you might realize things do happen to missionaries that are quite unjust and very [illegible]! [illegible] reduces home September [illegible] and I hope we can have something [illegible] to tell her by October at the latest. She is very valuable, not only because of her special training, but because she speaks Chinese like a native.

Mr. Griffiths was delighted with all the assistance you gave him while he was in New York, and in assisting him to make his plans for the return.

Very sincerely yours,

University of Nanking

July 7, 1926

Miss Elsie M.Priest,
Nelson, N.H.

My dear Miss Priest:

I have your letter of the 3rd and have had quite a heavy mail from Nanking myself. I have one application for the secretarial position in hand and am getting the references together and hope to have two or three more applications in before very long. I have one that looks very promising if I can persuade her to accept the Nanking five year position. When I get all this data in hand I hope to submit it to you for any judgment you may have, but it must be remembered that to secure people who fill the ideals of the field in every respect is not at all an easy thing. There are undoubtedly such people but they do not always turn up on the short notice we sometimes get as to filling these positions. I am frank to say that I do not know of any place you could write that I would not be able to write more easily than you.

I enclose carbons of letters to Dr.Bowen and of the minutes of the last meeting of the Trustees' Budget Committee in which you will have a particular interest. I also enclose a carbon of a letter recently sent to Mr.Owen covering the matter of the budget which, however, will be developed more fully in the nature of our communication last year as to the times of drawing.

I will do all I can with reference to the matter of pensions, but it is difficult in this season, when vacations are beginning, to get the Committees together and get real results. I do not believe we can complete anything before the early fall, but I shall endeavor to have it in shape so that it can be completed at that time. Of course, anything that is done in regard to the pension program will be simply the adoption of a program until the University can raise the funds to finance it or provide the additional amount by adjustment of the budget which I take it is next to impossible.

Cordially yours,

Secretary
University of Nanking

EMN-H

Enc.4

Seattle Aug 14 WER

Nelson, N. H.
July 18, 1926.

Nanking

TRANSFER

My dear Dr. North:

Your letter of July 16th just reached me.

The papers regarding Miss Jane Munn are splendid, and I am sure she is just the girl we are looking for to help Mr. Reisner. I hope nothing prevents her appointment. I am sure Mr. Smith's opinion is of great value. From her letters she sounds sincerely interested from the standpoint of service instead of sightseeing.

After the appointment it generally requires a few days - or weeks - to prepare for the trip so I suppose Miss Munn will not sail before August 15th. Any earlier date will mean she reaches Shanghai during the intense heat and as far as the work is concerned - the last two weeks of August are our two real let down weeks of the year. School opens September 7th and if she could reach Nanking by the first part of the month it would be a great help. Although often hot then, the nights are cool. By the way I believe Mr. and Mrs. Searle Bates sail from Seattle

about August 15th. I have no schedule of boats here. They are delightful people and could help Miss Munn so much in understanding the country. Of course someone will meet her in Shanghai if she does not travel with some of our people, but a hot trip will be eliminated for some of the staff if it is not necessary to go to Shanghai to meet her.

I am writing a note to Miss Munn, and regret I cannot send you a copy, but my typewriter is temporarily broken.

When you send Miss Munn her outfit allowance, will it not be wise to suggest that she ~~saved~~ at least one hundred dollars for furniture etc. on the field. Some of our new people have been embarrassed because they had spent all the money at home!

There is one matter which I have hesitated mentioning. My younger sister Helen is very anxious to return to Nanking with me next spring. She has had the same secretarial training that I received, and has had over a years experience. She is not yet twenty years old, and may be entirely too young. I feel sure she could do the work in the College of Arts and the Library. Before I left the field

she wrote to me asking if she could not go to China in this work, and I spoke to Dr. Bowen about her. He recently wrote me suggesting I bring her out. Of course, if I was not there we would not consider having her leave at her age but I believe she would prove valuable in a very short time. It would mean that the field would have to manage without her until I returned next March. That might be a problem but they have managed for years without a secretary and while the need is urgent, perhaps it would not be as difficult a delay as one in the other College. She would go for the regular five year term. Will you advise me your opinion?

A letter from the field dated June 26th says they were all busy with commencement and as usual at that season of the year it was raining too late to save the rice wholly.

With best wishes and hoping Miss Munn is sent to the field,

Very sincerely,

Elsie M. Priest

P.S. I notice Miss Munn was born in Canada. When she applies for passport, there may be questions if she has never been naturalized, in which case she should apply directly to the British Consul. One of our girls in Ginling had a great deal of trouble in such a case. I merely mentioned it because I recall the difficulties Miss Black experienced.

Nanking

TRANSFER

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

July 22, 1926.

Miss Elsie M. Priest,
Nelson, New Hampshire.

My dear Miss Priest:

Thank you for your note about Miss Munn. Her appointment has been confirmed by the Candidate Committee and I telegraphed her of it yesterday.

Thank you also for the suggestion of having her sail with the Bates. I am trying to put her on the same steamer with them.

I am very much interested in your suggestion of the possibility of your sister's going to Nanking with you for the second secretarial vacancy. You know much more than I do, of course, both as to the requirements of the position and of your sister's ability, though I can see how you might feel diffident about venturing an opinion as to the equivalence of the two. Did Dr. Bowen, in suggesting that you bring your sister out, indicate at all the work which she might do?

As far as I can see, the only thing we could do would be to cable Nanking and see whether the procedure would be approved. Would you advise doing this?

So far as my communications with the field are concerned, I judge that the people on the field are quite prejudiced in favor of your family!

Cordially yours,

Secretary,
University of Nanking.

EMM/L

University of Nanking

July 23, 1926

Miss Elsie Priest,
Nelson, N.H.

My dear Miss Priest:

I have your letter of July 22nd and enclose application blank for your use in the case of Miss Stone. At the present time I have no other vacancy outside the one in Nanking though there may be others later, and I should, of course, be most interested in knowing of any persons who would be really available for effective service.

I note Dr.Bowen's letter concerning the second secretary stated that they wanted her to be out there about September 7th. In view of the fact that word did not reach us until the first of July I doubt that it will be possible to get anybody who can sail by the middle of August. The notice is altogether too short. Even as it is I have had to consent to letting Miss Munn sail September 7th, I wanted to have her sail earlier but she could not leave her present position on such short notice and have time to get ready. I have written to the folks at Nanking that I am sorry for the delay but I do not see how they can be helped. Secretaries of the kind they want who will stay for five years are very scarce.

Cordially yours,

Secretary
University of Nanking

EMN-H

Enc.

ver

Nelson, N. H.
August 9, 1926.

TRANSFER

Dr. Eric M. North,
New York.

My dear Dr. North;

I received your letter regarding the problem which has arisen in the mind of Miss Jane Munn. I wrote Miss Munn some time ago, but not as fully as I wrote Miss Barnes. I have not received any word from Miss Munn, but yesterday wrote again giving in detail the cost of living in proportion to our salary, etc. I hope she will finally decide to accept the five year appointment, because I am sure she will be able to render valuable assistance in the College of Agr. and Forestry, and our experience with three year people has not been very pleasant. Your letter to Miss Munn covered the matter very thoroughly, but I thought that possibly a personal note might help her in making a decision at this time.

Is there any further news regarding the second secretary? I hope someone will apply before long who will be able to go to China in early autumn.

Very sincerely yours,

Elsie M. Priest

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

December 31, 1926.

Memorandum to Miss Priest:

I have had conference with two of the officers of the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association concerning University of Nanking's plan for retiring allowances. The only suggestion on the form of the plan which Mr.Furst had to make is that on page 3, Section 9, we insert after the phrase "A maximum annual retiring allowance" the phrase "toward which the University will contribute". In the matter of computing the data for Schedule C, Mr.Mattox advised me that we had laid out there about a week's work. After going over it with him he has agreed to compute the figures for Items 1, 7, 10 and 12. Items "2" and "3" we can ourselves calculate from the figures given for "1" as "2" is in every case one-half of "12; "3" is one-sixth more than "1"; "8" is almost exactly the same as "2"; "9" is the same as "10" plus 10%; $11" is the same as "12" plus 10%; "13" is the same as "14" plus 10%, and "14" is almost exactly six-tenths of "12". The problem with "4", "5" and "6" lies in the fact that the schedules and programs of the Association are based primarily on an increasing salary schedule, and at some points in these cases the schedule goes down as children's allowances are cut off. What we would perhaps best do for this case is to overlook the children's allowances for the time being, and if we thought best, provide that when children's allowances are paid, the University would join in contributing each year those are paid one-half of an additional 10% of such allowance for the purchase of supplementary annuity insurance. This would not make it necessary to issue a new policy, but a sticker would be added to the policy, acknowledging the payment of a single amount which would provide certain additional annuity payment at the age of 65.

In the case of staff members who have rendered years of service before the plan is put into operation, Mr.Mattox suggested that the way for us to do that was to figure what the premiums that would have been paid compounded annually at 4% would result in as a total by July 1,1927, and he could then tell us - or I think we could figure out from the tables in the document which I attach - the resulting annuities that would thereby be provided. Mr.Mattox indicated that it might take two weeks or more to get the figures for us as they are closing their fiscal year and have to make elaborate reports to the insurance authorities of the State. I am sorry for this delay, but it will give us time to complete our calculations and get them in order.

E. M. North

EMN-H

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NANKING, CHINA

TRANSFER

Nanking

February 22, 1927.

INDEXED

Miss Elsie M. Priest,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York Cith,
U. S. A.

My dear Miss Priest:

Thank you very much indeed for copy of your letter of January 13 to Doctor Hutcheson. I agree entirely that Miss Warner should have her full year's furlough salary, no matter what she does, and especially if she should return. You can quote me to Doctor North or any one you want to.

We have had a splendid opening. Some of the students have been a little slow in getting back, on account of travel and, especially, finances, but most have now - in the neighborhood of 500 college students, not counting visitors. There is a very fine spirit, too, among the students and we do hope that we shall get through the term without too much difficulty. All of the government schools in Nanking are delaying opening, probably because of finances, and also to see just what is going to happen politically.

I am writing to Doctor North to say as vigorously and strongly as I can that the pension scheme that is to be financed in America, probably, should not apply to the Chinese. We have 151 Chinese and 35 foreigners on the pay roll, exclusive of Hospital and Language School, and to work out a pension scheme for all of these Chinese would be nonsense, it seems to me, and quite impossible. No Chinese institution or organization that I know anything of has such a pension scheme, so why should we burden ourselves and our finances with it for them? When such a pension scheme for them can be financed in China, that will be quite all right. This, in general, is what I am writing to Doctor Eric. I shall perhaps send you a copy of the letter I am dictating.

With very kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

A. J. Bowen

Mrs. Mills

Mrs. Shipley

Miss a Heilken and Elliott

Mt. Airy, Phila Pa.

Mrs. Frank L. Shipley

New Mexico Cottage Sanatorium

Silver City

New Mexico

R. B. Jones

Selma Cal.

Feb. 25 1927

Dear Miss Priest

Your interesting and full letter received and read with pleasure. I appreciate your help in the matter of Miss Warner's return. The proposition which you make as to allowing her to work at a definite salary somewhere and yet to receive mission or hospital salary at the same time is one that I do not like in principle at all as it would make for general criticism of missions if it were a general thing for missionaries on home allowance to be allowed to work on the side for personal profit. There are however special cases that seem to merit special consideration and since there is no definite provision as yet made for the old age of the University employees like mission Boards are supposed to provide there is more reason for making an exception in the case of one of the hospital workers than there would be in the case of a regular mission appointee

I have talked this matter of Miss Warner over with some other members of the University and it seems that it has been done in some sort of a way before and a precedent almost established and in the case of Miss Warner who has so frankly placed her return on the basis of no adequate financial guarantee it might be the wise thing all

院醫樓鼓京南
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
NANKING, CHINA.

2-25-27

to make some such concession in regard to her.

Since she is so uncertan yet of returning, it does not see fair or wise to continue her salary at this time but to make the promise to her that in case she should return at the end of her regular furlough time or at least somewhere near that time the Hospital would reimburse her for those months during which she was not paid during her regular years furlough .

Now, I do wish however that Miss Warner would make up her mind as to whether she will return or not so that we will know whether to fill her place here or not .

I have written Dr. North just recently to hold off on getting us a new nurse from America as we may be able to get one out here. Now if Miss Warner will make up her mind to come after you made this promise to her then our problem will be settled . Hoping you will be able to get this matter over to Miss Warner so as to persuade her to come back ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~I am yours Sincerely A. C. Hutchison

We are now inthe hands of the Fengtien soldiers and the whole city is stirred up . They are trying to use their worthless notes on the shopkeepers who have responded with a strike and so things are in a great mess here. We shall be glad to see you back.

Yours Sincerely

A. C. Hutchison

Rec. May 17, 1927 15

TRANSFER

Extracts from personal letter A.J.B. to E.M.P.

...also a letter from Dr. North with the $500. I am returning it as I prefer not to take any till a definite plan for all is decided upon; also Mr. Owen paid all of the University supported people some $200 - 400 or so mexican. I received 300. mex. When Mr. Owen's statement comes through, then it can be adjusted for me and for all the others. In the meantime I received Dr. North's salary check for 175. G. May salary. I think it was March and April only I drew in Shanghai, so with other funds of my own, I am in no immediate need - and the University is short of funds, I do not doubt.

Since Dr. Speer will be away till June 6, I presume there will be no Trustees meeting till after that date. That will suit me very well and will enable us to get later word from Nanking as tohow things are going. As I wrote Dr. Speer on the boat I think the Special Appeal for Am Christians should be not for the Property and personal losses but forthe Emergency Travel expense 23,500.)
" Refugee " 11,000) ONLY
Salaries 48,000)

We should look to the Nationalist Government for all the other.

.....

As to the Baptist "kick" re. the 100,000.Gold personal losses, they likely do not realize what a family in 8 to 30 years accumulates. Thomson told me in Nagasaki, when I told him Ithought we had estimated his at 20,000 Mex. or 18,000. that it would be nearer 30,000. when Mrs. Cook's things were considered. Dr. Franklin was on the Russia from Yokohama - and next to a small town Colorado newspaper man was the most unpopular man abroad with all China Business men abroad - account of an intereview of the day before in the Advertiser making out that Mission work was going on about as usual in China and minimizing the China situation -

Just why Brede etc. should want extra travel, I donot see, as the Univ. pays for all travel to home, so I am glad you held them up. The outfit grant is very wise and has my entire approval. That and the regular grant Owen paid, should be ample for 3-4 months.

The Appeal is very satisfactory, except it implies that all the losses are to be paid by Americans, which I do not approve of at all and do not think a single one of all our foreign staff will either. However, the Appeal is out and likely what is raised will not equal the items I do approve of.

Rec. May 17, 1927

Extracts from personal letter A.J.B. to E.M.P.

...also a letter from Dr. Worth with the $500. I am returning it as I prefer not to take any till a definite plan for all is decided upon; also Mr. Owen said all of the University supported people some $800 - 400 or so mexican. I received 200. mex. When Mr. Owen's statement comes through, then it can be adjusted for me and for all the others. In the meantime I received Dr. Worth's salary check for 175. C. May salary. I think it was March and April only I drew in Shanghai, so with other funds of my own, I am in no immediate need - and the University is short of funds, I do not doubt.

Since Dr. Speer will be away till June 6, I presume there will be no Trustees meeting till after that date. That will suit me very well and will enable me to get later word from Hankow as to how things are going. As I wrote Dr. Speer on the boat I think the Special Appeal for Mr Christians should be not for the property and personal losses but for the emergency literal expense 23,500.)

" Refugees " 11,000) ONLY

Salaries 48,000)

We should look to the National Government for all the other.

.....

As to the Baptist "kick" re. the 100,000.gold personal losses, they likely do not realize that a family in 3 to 30 years accumulates. Thomson told me in Nagasaki, when I told him I thought we had estimated his at 20,000 Mex. or 18,000. that it would be nearer 30,000. when Mrs. Cook's things were considered. Dr. Franklin was on the Kusais from Yokohama - and next to a small town Colorado newspaper man was the most unpopular man aboard with all China Business men abroad - account of an interview of the day before in the Advertiser making out that Mission work was going on about as usual in China and minimizing the China situation -

In the why Grade etc. should want extra travel, I donot see, as the Univ. pays for all travel to home, so I am glad you held them up. The outfit grant is very wise and has my entire approval. That and the regular grant Owen pays, should be ample for 3-4 months.

The Appeal is very satisfactory, except it implies that all the losses are to be paid by Americans, which I do not approve of at all and do not think a single one of all our foreign staff will either. However, the Appeal is out and likely what is ~~xxxxx~~ raised will not equal the items I do ~~xxxxx~~ of.

Mr Gamble
Keep for files if desired.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE.

TRANSFER

May 31, 1927.

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 526
SHANGHAI, CHINA

Miss Elsie M. Priest,
China Union Universities,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Miss Priest:

For the New York Office files we are enclosing herewith a carbon copy of the cablegram which we sent to you May 27th, referring to the request of the Executive-Finande Committee of the Board of Managers strongly urging the Board of Trustees to appoint you Treasurer of the University of Nanking. We hope that this meets with both your and their approval, and that we may soon have a cablegram indicating when you will be arriving in Shanghai. It would be very much easier, of course, for Mr. Owen if you could get here before he returns to America, and I hope that this will be the case.

We have been very much interested in what you said with reference to the campaign, evidently for $182,500 gold for the University of Nanking. No further information regarding the campaign has come through and I can assure you that we shall be very glad to have copies of everything that is sent out from the New York Office and to be advised as developments take place. It is needless to say that we wish you every success in the undertaking.

I can understand fully how busy people there in New York are and how very difficult it often is to get University matters before the attention of the Board of Trustees. However, so far as I can see the situation is inevitable. One thing we can always be sure of and that is their interest and loyalty and that counts for much. The detailed work has to be done by someone else.

We have been addressing a number of letters recently to Dr. Speer as President of the Board of Trustees until we have word as to who has been elected Dr. North's successor. Copies of all correspondence to Dr. Speer, however, have been sent to the New York Office.

You will also have had before now the copies of the Executive-Finance Committee minutes and a copy of the budget, along with a copy of my covering letter to Dr. Speer, which will bring you up to date so far as the University is concerned. You will have also had the occasional letters which will have given you informa-

5-31-27

tion about the general situation. I am more and more convinced that now is no time to be discouraged, but that we should plan definitely and as wisely as we can to carry the University forward. I am unable to believe that the work of the University isat an end, or that it will not continue to function more vitally than it has in the past, as a Christianizing agency in China.

With kind regards and best wishes to you and to the other members of the University who may be nearby, I am

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

JHR:bmg

INCORPORATED BY THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE
150 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

June 16, 1927.

Dear Mr. Garside:

In regard to the grant to the University staff, supported by the Trustees and not by the Mission Boards, I would make the following recommendation:

500	Dr. A. J. Bowen	Gold	500 00	~~Mexican 200 00~~ not added
666.67	Mr. Alexander Brede 3-1½		500 00	Plus any Mex. received.
666.67	Mr. Harry Clemons 7-5		750 00	
583.33	Mr. Burgoyne Griffing one		750 00	
750.00	Mr. J. B. Griffing 11-9-8		750 00	
583.33	Mr. M. L. Hancock 1½		500 00	
583.33	Mr. Walter C. Lowdermilk 3		500 00	Plus any Mex. received.
666.67	Mr. R. Howard Porter 4-1½		750 00	
750	Mr. Horace G. Robson 3 all under 6		750 00	
583.33	Mr. Alex. G. Small 8		750 00	
750.00	Mr. Lewis J. Owen 7, 6, 2		750 00	
	Mr. Ernest V. Jones		500 00	

In other words the seven families who are listed to receive 750. should receive the maximum allowance, adjustment to be made when definite word regarding the mexican advance is received. In making this adjustment, we suggest that you use the exchange rate of 2.20 which was the general average for the period when most of the staff came home.

In the case of Dr. Bowen, Mr. Brede, and Mr. Lowdermilk: They should receive 500.00 plus any mexican amount received on the field, unless the amount of mexican advanced to them brings the total grant to a sum over 750. in which case, refunds and adjustments should be made in order that no member of the staff will have received more than 750.

In the case of Mr. Hancock and Dr. Jones: Both families should be entitled to 500.00, but inasmuch as they were able to save a large amount of clothing in the case of the Hancocks, and as the Jones have no children, we do not feel they will require a larger sum. However, if mexican had been advanced to them on the field, we suggest that no refunds be required unless the total in either case is more than the maximum amount or 750.

I understand it was the intention of the trustees to make this grant in such a way that it would not involve any hardship in requiring refunds from families. We have had this in mind in making the above suggestions.

The grant of 250. to each of the single staff members will involve some refunds.

I trust this is quite clear.

Cordially yours,
Eric M. North

Approved: A. J. Bowen
President.

NANFUSHAN NEW YORK (N.Y.)

OWENSKUDAV EXUOBEFBUT EFCINYFOIL YCSINARENJ PRIEST

YBUYGIXOEK UN EYFYONG ITZYGIBLIK REISNER

Owens

leave

July 22nd

Executive

Finance Committee

strongly urge

Trustees

appoint

Miss Priest

Treasurer

We hope (she) can

return as soon as possible

During or for the 2nd or 3rd week of July

headquarters

Shanghai

Reisner

TRANSFER

608 Oak St/Minneapolis,Minn.,June 20/27

My Dear Miss Priest,

Thank ypu for your letter & enclosures Of the 17th. Philip sent the Remington,so I am trying to get out of bad habits I learned on the Underwood.

The money is coming in very nicely,indeed: I will write Mr/Plimpton and others. What you wrote Mr.Bender was just right. No,I had not seen the Times a/c and was VERY glad you sent it. The Chicago and Minn.papers usually give a little re China,but not so much or as good as the Times. The 2nd.letter to Mr.Babbott was a success,at any rate in that case.Might note that he is not to go on our list for any regular funds or appeals. I am sorry that Dr.Speer did not work over the minute re Dr. Williams.

I had an unusuaaly delightful & profitable day at Ithaca:breakfast with the Myers;lunch with ALL of their Plant Breeding head men and wivesthe Ritcheys & 3 Chinese,2 of them our boys,Liu Tien & Wu;and supper with the Ritcheys. He is hoping to get work at plant breeding/in Florida or in Arizona,and would hear in a day or two/

I have Mr.Reisner's letter of May 26 to Dr.Speer;the Minutes of the Exec.Fin.Com.Mtg.of May 20-25 and the Budget,all worked out most admirably,but as I go over the Budget,not a little disconcerting to me. I do not have the 1926-27 budget,and of course no income from the KanHoYen cuts Tuition fees down considerably:how the Trustes are going to make up a budget defecit of $15,786 and possibly $3,500 for the KanHoYen,is beyond HOPE,with all of the other burdens they will surely have to bear on the extra-ordinary expenses that our Emergency Appeal will not half cover. Also the following items seem VERY doubtful to me:

$4,024 from Construction department.
10,000 " Alumni,even in good and prosperous times.
3,600 " saving because Buck & Bates return in Sept.
7,800 cash contributions from Boards in lieu of vacancies;the Baptist
4,000 may be somewaht in doubt but we hope not.

This makes $25,000 to $29,000 on top of the $15,786 & $3,500.

Then there is the item of a LOT of repairs if they are to go on in the fall at the Hospital,the Middle School to say nothing of the houses.

Again,the Budget calls for $195,517 from "foreign"sources,and $74,559 from Chinese,counting the Construction Dept.$4,024. I think there will be considerable saving on the $40,967 of page 7,and I suppose that Hospital funds can carry all of the foreign staff there O.K. But there is nothing for travel and a small amount only for Contingent. But,I do not see just what else they could have done there at that stage. I wonder,tho,if there could not be some reduction in Chinese staff,and I doubt somewhat the wisdom or possibility of expending $85,437 on Famine Fund budget under the conditions that prevail in China and will do 1927-28. Of course,it was likely wise to budget it - but I doubt the wisdom or possibility of wisely expending it. But to get extra funds for regular budget from America under conditions and attitudes of mind here now is ENTIRELY HOPELESS, seems to me,either from Boards or from special appeals or any amount or personal work by ALL over here. I may be too pessemistic. You will be able to analyze and evaluate and compare this Budget far better than I can,and I am anxious to get your analysis and judgment re it. I am sure I do not know what the Trustees CAN do or OUGHT to do,and will be mightily interested in what they'Do'do!

I enclose a copy of my reply to Mr.Garside's letter and enclose my "expense" account for Miss Lane. I will send in bill later for the $25 per month rent - we pay $50 besides $37 for the girls flat till we can sub-let it. We shall be very comfortable in this house,I think.

With highest regards,

Very cordially yours,

A. J. Bowen

INCORPORATED BY THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE
150 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

July 6, 1927.

Dear Mr. Garside;

In regard to the various matters connected with the University of Nanking;

Mail All letters, etc. addressed to me should be forwarded to my home address; Nelson, New Hampshire.
If a cable comes for me, I shall appreciate having the same decoded here and telegraphed on.

Dr. Bowen's mail may be opened, and personal letters can be forwarded to him. He receives a good deal of material asking for references for various staff members - all of which should be promptly forwarded to him for his attention lest it delay some staff member in his efforts to secure work. All mail connected with the campaign should be attended to here. If the letters contain personal notes, it has been my policy to send copies to him. His address is 608 Oak St. S. E., Minneapolis, Minn.

Campaign In the lower right hand drawer of my desk is all the material for file, arranged in most cases by alphabet. In a few cases, by topics. The acknowledgement of gifts are filed. The cards are in the top right hand drawer of my desk. All pledges are marked with red ink on the corner of the card, and a special file marked "Pledges" in kept in the desk.

There are approximately 200 appeals left for use here or elsewhere, should anyone require additional copies.

The mailing lists are in a special folder so marked. Please note the notations attached to each list within the folder.

I would appreciate advice as to the results of the 9000 appeals sent out from the UCMS.

If there are any items not clear, I can be reached at home until August 8th which date I leave for the coast.

Sincerely,

Elsie M. Priest

over
?

TRANSFER

Nanking

University of Nanking

July 8, 1927

Miss Elsie M.Priest,
Nelson, N.H.

My dear Miss Priest:

Immediately after you left we began discovering miscellaneous items which we should have cleared up before we let you get away. Some of them I am taking up here.

From October 1926 through April 1927 your work here in the office related, I believe, both to West China Union University and the University of Nanking. In apportioning the expense of the Central Office among the different institutions we need to know the approximate part of your time during these seven months which you gave to West China and Nanking respectively. Will you please give us a rough estimate in the matter?

I have taken up with Mr.Hasemeyer the question of presenting proper evidence that you are entitled to 350 lb. baggage allowance on your trip to the Pacific Coast. He suggests that, since we should pick up your steamer ticket within the next week anyway, we wait and clear the matter of your transcontinental baggage allowance at that time. This, I presume will be satisfactory.

I find the following memorandum which I had intended to take up with you:

"Robson: original outfit allowance ($300. since Mission gave $200.) not provided by mission or by University. Why not now?"

Are you familiar with the status of Mr.Robson in regard to this allowance? I understand he shifted his appointment while on the field and that it was because of this that the question arose.

We have today mailed you a mimeographed copy of the minutes of the Financial and Executive Committees. You will note that on the schedule of financial adjustments with the University supported staff we discovered an error of $100. in the salary total. I checked up against your figures to see how this arose but could discover no discrepancy and assumed that it was merely a mistake in addition. This change necessitated a change of Mex.$200. in the budget and fortunately reduced the threatened deficit by that amount. I trust that you will find this correction to be in order. Sorry we did not discover it before the mimeographing was completed.

I hope you are managing to get a few weeks of well earned rest. New York continues to be reasonably cool and thoroughly dead.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary
University of Nanking

BAG-H

over

Nanking

TRANSFER

University of Nanking

July 9, 1927.

Miss Elsie M. Priest,
Nelson, N. H.

My dear Miss Priest,

In checking up on the amounts to be paid our Nanking staff for emergency outfit allowances, I find a number of cases have not yet been finally cleared. The Trustees on June 9th provided for from $500 to 750 gold, depending upon the number and ages of the children. Our Executive Committee did not take up specific cases, aside from that of Dr. Bowen. Probably we should have formally presented to them your memorandum of June 16th, which was also approved by Dr. Bowen.

To clear this matter without another Executive Committee meeting, I spent a few minutes with Dr. Speer this morning, and discussed the basis of adjustment. He felt that we should proceed along the line laid down by the Trustees on June 9th, making such adjustments as might be advisable in individual cases.

The basis of reckoning in this action is obviously the number of children, subject to modification according to age. Our records show the maximum number of children in any family to be three. Most ages are ten or less. Probably we might assume that larger children need more expensive outfits than smaller ones, but even that is a dangerous assumption. So as a point of departure I have figured each child at $83.33, this being one-third of the total bonus provided. This gives us, according to our records, the following:-

Name	Children	Allowance
Dr. and Mrs. Bowen	0	$500.00
Mr. and Mrs. Brede	2	666.67
Mr. and Mrs. Clemens	2	666.67
Mr. and Mrs. B. Grigging	1	583.33
Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Grigging	3	750.00
Mr. and Mrs. Hancock	1	583.33
Mr. and Mrs. Lauderwilk	1	583.33
Mr. and Mrs. Porter	2	666.67
Mr. and Mrs. Robson	3	750.00
Mr. and Mrs. Small	1	583.33
Mr. and Mrs. Owen	3	750.00

1004

Mr. and Mrs. Jones 0 $500.00

Unquestionably some adjustment of these amounts ought to be made to suit the particular cases. I suspect however, from the other actions and informal expressions of the Executive Committee, that this general total would about represent what they consider the wisest amount to set. There is no question of the fact that it is entirely inadequate, and that the Trustees wish they could do more. It is simply a matter of trying to make the most equitable division of what may be hoped for in the way of funds.

If you agree to this general method of procedure, will you go over this list, readjusting the different amounts wherever they ought to be revised, and let us have the result of your labors. Dr. Speer suggested that you do this, and felt that no further Executive Committee action would be needed to give a final approval.

We had quite a batch of China mail this morning. Some of the information we must pass on to you as soon as it is digested. A couple of hundred dollars has come in on the emergency fund.

With all good wishes I am

Very sincerely yours

BAG/G

B A GARSIDE

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE
150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

Nelson, N. H.
July 11, 1927.

Dear Mr. Garside:

Replying to your letters of July 8th & 9th:

1. The matter of the distribution of my time. I had the figures but forgot to type it off. I enclose the copy I made. I am glad you called it to my attention as it had escaped my mind entirely. Please advise which basis you use.

2. The question of the 350 lb. baggage certificate to be sent to the Railway office. Your suggestion is quite satisfactory. Please notify me when this is done so I may be able to send the money and close the account. The tickets are waiting for the certificate from you.

3. Robson outfit.

This is the first time I ever heard there was any question. Who brought it up? Did Mr. Robson? I cannot recall whether he came to us January 1, 1924 or January 1, 1925. As a rule when we take over people on the field, as in the case of the Robsons, all such matters are adjusted at the time they join our staff or else we adjust through the Mission. I should hesitate very greatly paying Mr. Robson further outfit until I had checked back the records. The Methodist allowance is on a different basis than ours but the total is higher so I hardly think the Robsons suffered from that fact on account of the transfer. We took him to help him and the Mission when they had no work for him and would have sent him home.

7-11-27

I am sorry there was an error in the salary list. That last day was a bit rushed, which does not excuse but may explain the fact.

4 Your letter of the 9th regarding the outfit allowance for the staff:

Frankly, I think the way Mr. Bowen and I figured this allowance is more human and perhaps fairer taking everything into consideration. We figured on actual need, taking into consideration the number of children, and also the amount each family was able to spare if anything. On your basis there will be a number of refunds which I thought was not the wish of the Trustees. For instance, the Brides and the Clemons on your scale would be entitled to the same amount.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Bede was not a permanent member of our staff, had very little in China and saved nearly all of that as they sent it home by freight — you have the freight bill of our one hundred dollars to thrash out — They lost some clothing, of course, and heavy furniture, but they had our one tiny bungalow of four rooms so did not have so much!

The Clemons had been on the field for fifteen years, (was one of our legal permanent staff) and had everything they owned in China including a very valuable library. They owned a suitcase of clothing — nothing more. They had packed some trunks to go to Shanghai, but these were in the lot that are today in the bottom of the Yangtze River.

The Bedes received 100. Mexican which we feel they would not be called upon to refund, as it was my understanding that nobody was to be called upon to refund except single people in cases where more than 250. was sent.

Please correct one error. The Bowens have 1 child Philip, now in College, under University support. He receives the maximum allowance.

I have not a copy of the list Mr. Bowen and I worked out very carefully, but I certainly protest your basis as perhaps technically correct but unfair in the following cases:

Bede — what they have received already — no more
Clemons — should receive the maximum (because of circumstances)
B. Giffing — " " " "
Porter " " " same case as Clemons
Small

If Marcus Hancock received any Mexican in Shanghai, perhaps

7-11-27

you could ask him to refund as Mrs. Hancock & Mackie were in England at the time of the disaster and naturally had trunks of their belongings. However, I am inclined to think he should receive 500. gold plus any Mexican.

I should not be surprised if the Porters returned any further amount sent to them. If so, I think I would accept it but I believe they should have the chance to refuse it themselves.

For your information and records the Owens have a little son born June 9th. That will change his furlough salary to 400. yearly or 200.00 monthly.

Mr. Jones sent me, in a personal letter, the copy of his losses statement. I enclose for your files.

I shall be very interested to know what you finally decide about the allowances. It is a difficult problem, of course, and there may be questions, but I am sure everyone would feel quite happy to see those who lost so heavily receive a few dollars more than some who were able to save a goodly supply of their possessions. In fact, a number have so indicated in their letters to me, knowing specific cases. I want it to be perfectly fair, but Mr. Bowen and I know the families who were in the most difficult circumstances because of conditions.

I am sorry to burden you with this hand written letter. I usually use my father's office when at home, but he is busy just now and there is "no room" for me!

The country is very cool and quiet. It is pleasant to be here for a few weeks! I hope you have opportunity to have some days away from the office, and I am sorry Nanking has so many problems these days.

With kindest regards to the staff of the C.O.

Very sincerely yours,

Elsie M. Priest.

over

Nanking

Universityoof Nanking

My dear Miss Priest,

Thank you for your letter of July 11th. I will take up in order the various matters under discussion:-

1. We had thought of using merely your Central Office allowance as a basis for this distribution of your time, but I see that there is some point in taking your full salary as a basis. This is a matter on which we will need a few days to get a final decision. I will write you the result. One point is still not clear. Your statement of time spent begins with September 7, 1926, whereas Central Office fiscal year began October 1, 1926, and all items before that date were supposedly cleared with the various institutions in the Central Office charges computed for last year. If you can give us figures beginning October 1st, it will be a great help. If not, we'll do the best we can.

2. We'll be giving you final word on your baggage allowance in a few days.

3. I'll have to get more informationon the Robson matter before we can clear it. I'm glad to have your information and opinion.

4. I am glad to get your further information in regard to the special features to be kept in mind regarding the outfit allowances. Sorry we didn't work that out more thoroughly before you left New York. You will note that my former letter specifically stated that we wanted to make all possible adjustments which would consider the "human" element before agreeing on any final figures.

On the basis of the information you supply, I have attempted a restatement of this list of adjustments, and in nearly every case where you suggest a change I have revised upward. Below I give a comparison of the what would be given on a rigid interpretation of the Trustees action of June 9th, the figures suggested by yourself and Dr. Bowen, and the revised schedule I am suggesting. My figures agree with yours and Dr. Bowen's in seven of the twelve cases. In one case, that of Dr. Bowen, I have of course been forced to follow the instructions of the Executive Committee, who directed that we should receive Dr. Bowen's preferred refund. In the other four cases I have gone as far in the direction of meeting your recommendation rather than following a rigid schedule, as I think the Executive Committee would approve. In the matter of refunds, for instance, you remember they favored accepting Dr. Bowen's $90.90, and if they would do it in his case, which offered the strongest grounds for

the most generous treatment possible, there seems little doubt as to how they would react to other cases. Dr. Speer seemed to feel quite strongly that we ought to give some consideration at least to the number of children in the family, as was specified in the original action of the Trustees, whereas the proposal of yourself and Dr. Bowen provided for the maximum of $750 for all seven families on the field who suffered most, though the children ranged from one to three. In counting children, I have not taken into account Dr. Bowen's son who was in this country and not directly affected, the Hancock children who were in England with their mother, or the children who have during the last month or two been born to different members of the staff. Of course the plain fact of the case is that any amount we are able to pay at this time is inadequate. Even if the Trustees gave $750 to each family, as they would be only to glad to do if the money were available, it would be only a drop in the bucket. The best we can do is to provide as equitably as possible, within the limit of our resources. If you still feel that the schedule I have proposed is unsatisfactory, I'll be glad to present the recommendation of yourself and Dr. Bowen to the next meeting of the Trustees or the Executive Committee for their action. You see, I'm merely trying to carry out the wishes of these Trustees, so far as I can learn them fromtheir expressions of opinion, both in meeting and out, and am, I think,going beyond our recorded authorization about as far as we ought without specific approval.

The comparative schedules follow:-

Name	Trustee Action June 9th	Dr. Bowen & Miss Priest's Proposals	Proposed Revised Schedule
Dr. & Mrs. Bowen	$500.00	$590.90	$500.00
Mr. & Mrs. Brede	666.67	~~590.90~~	~~590.90~~ 545.45
Mr. & Mrs. Clemons	666.67	750.00	700.00
Mr. & Mrs. B. Griffing	583.33	750.00	675.00
Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Griffing	750.00	750.00	750.00
Mr. & Mrs. Hancock	583.33	500.00	500.00
Mr. & Mrs. Lowdermilk	583.33	~~590.90~~ 583.33	~~590.90~~ 583.33
Mr. & Mrs. Porter	666.67	750.00	700.00
Mr. & Mrs. Robson	750.00	750.00	750.00
Mr. & Mrs. Small	583.33	750.00	675.00
Mr. & Mrs. Owen	750.00	750.00	750.00
Mr. & Mrs. Jones	500.00	500.00	500.00
Totals	$7,583.33	$8,022.70	$7,581.80

You will note that I have assumed Max. $200.00 to have been paid in several cases. This may not always hold. The revised schedule will require only one refund, that of Mr. Hancock, whose family was in England. There may be a further refund in the case of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, but this would be obviously justified.

With good wishes, I am

Very sincerely,

INCORPORATED BY THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE
150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

July 14, 1929.

My dear Mr. Garside:

There are two or three things that have come to my attention and I am writing at once before I have forgotten them.

1. Please send me a letter "To whom it may concern" on Nanking paper, certifying that I am a member of the staff of the Un. have been since 1921, and now returning to China after furlough. I shall need it in proving to the inspector that I did not pay any income tax — at least we did before and I presume do now.

2. There are a few of my personal snapshots in the office which I believe will be more valuable to me than to the Central Office, especially as they are the buildings that were burned. Miss Linsham will know about them.

3. There is the matter of exchange to be adjusted with the U.C.M.S. I enclose my copies of letters in case it has been filed. Dr. North knows about it, but told me he had not attended to it — or given it any attention. I intended taking it up with you but forgot it. I believe it is clearly stated — the problem is to have Dr. Corey realize he should pay 4000. gold instead of exchange per the day's rate. If this is not clear to you, please let me know and perhaps I can give further details. It should be adjusted as per June 30. 1929 to apply on 1928-9 budget income.

Sorry to bother you these hot days — for reason it is unusually hot!! The news from China is not very reassuring — even Mr. Reinius' letter was "discouraged but!" I sometimes wonder if we shall be able to function in the fall. Most sincerely,

Eleanor Preston

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE
150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

July 14, 1929.

My dear Mr. Garside:

Your letter of July 13th has been received: I am afraid my letter of the 11th was written too hastily and gave the wrong impression. I certainly did not intend to be critical of your "figuring", but fear my frankness is rather abrupt at times. I realize this is a difficult problem and it is only because I know these people so well that I find it hard to do things "per rule". Probably, it is wiser to have one fixed regulation.

Of course, the decision in regard to Dr. Bowen's 200. Mex. was final.

Until the definite figures of Mexican to the staff is received we will have to use estimates. I am under the impression that the Breds only received 100. but I am not sure. Can you close these allowances until that statement comes? I wrote for it the beginning of June, and hope you receive it by Aug. 1st. Re. the Hancocks, you will find we only sent 250. just to them. Perhaps the balance of the 500. was later mailed. If not, it can be adjusted through that.

Your revised schedule would seem fair to me: Of course, we were counting the losses, instead of the children, but it will not make much impression on the total anyway! I was somewhat worried for fear refunds would cause a sudden upheaval in the finances of some of our families, as well as creating the wrong impression, when they know we launched the campaign to help them replace some of their losses. However I am sure they will all agree that this basis is fair.

2. 11-14-27.

There are certain families who have incomes independent of mission salaries, and knowing these people and knowing how easily they are meeting the added expense of new outfits while some of our people are having a serious struggle, I cannot but wish our treasury was a little fuller. Perhaps I am a Socialist! but there are cases where it seems like "to him that hath shall be given" —

I am sorry but I did not keep my record of time spent in the Central office by definite dates. I should suppose the books would give the information you need, and by making allowance for the division of time to Oct. 1, 1927, you have the figure for the balance. However, I am inclined to think it was not distributed, or if so, it must have been arbitrary, for I have never given any distribution to anyone, and who else would know? ~~Has~~ As I recall, the time during September was largely for West China.

With best wishes, and trusting New York is not too hot these days,

Very sincerely yours,
Elsie M. Priest.

P.S. A note from China just in, is very discouraging. Already it seems to some the politicians have a strong controlling hand over the University, and both Deans Liu & Chen are powerless.

COPY TRANSFER

Nanking

608 Oak St., S.E. Minneapolis, July 21,1927

My dear Miss Priest,

Thank you for your good letter of the 15th. I would have replied earlier, but I have and am having my teeth checked up by that N.Y. X-ray that Dr.Vaughn had me take, and have had to have 7 teeth already taken out, and 1-2-3 more likely, besides a lot to be filled. The seven out are my "chewers" on the upper jaw, all except one lone one, so I am not eating very heavy food now. They were all abcessed, so had to come out, and likely will improve my "health" later. Fortunately I do not have to be away except Sundays, so I can get them attended to, tho it will be well into Sept. before the plate can be made.

We had lots of letters from China and one from Kuo and one from Ip, I am sending on to you, as well as Miss Purcells. I guess you better return them. I too am getting a bit skeptical about your going, to tell the truth, especially after reading the enclosed clipping of yesterday. IF THE SOUTH is making peace with the North, and they are going to fight - or rather let Chiang Kai-shek fight - the Hankow bunch and Feng Yu-siang, I don't see how there can be any school this fall. That's one question raiser; another is the very great possibility of their confiscating the Univ. as they have the Hosp. another poser, then if all the Southern troops with Chiang come back to Nanking and the Yangtse valley, then there is considerable probability that they will occupy ALL of our buildings; again, Chiang's alliance with the North, will likely be used against him, and there may be a strong movement to oust him, and if he goes, who is to prevent the old regime, 100% aggrivated by Communism, Laborism and general pessimism, to make ALL constructive work impossible ????? Would you think it wise to have Mr. Garside cable, say August 1st, something like this: "Situation China, Nanking at present seems to indicate Univ. may not open fall. Is Miss Priest justified in sailing Aug. 16? Cable immediately." The Asia is due at Vancouver July 31 and the McKinley at Seattle Aug. 2 and no doubt we shall get further word that will help make

it clearer one way or the other by then. In the cable we might also put "Cannot ledger-books-better be sent here?" By the way, the Dollar-Admiral sailings schedule I just got yesterday from Cooks here, gives the GRANT as sailing July 22 and reaching San Francisco Aug. 11th. The Lincoln - by this schedule - sails July 16 and reaches Seattle Aug. 1st and this same boat takes you (???) from Seattle Aug. 16 O.K. So I am wondering whether the Owens come to San Francisco or to Seattle - have sent them a letter to San Francisco, but will write another and send a copy to each place according to this schedule of boats. IF they come to Seattle you could meet them here or in Cleveland or possibly in N.Y. and still catch your Aug. 16th boat - tho he will not want to decide against your going unless the situation is rather desperate - which it may by then be. A cable would be better than seeing him so far as helping decide your sailing, as he will have nothing new from tomorrow till you could see him. If you think a cable wise, take it up directly with Mr. Garside, saying I suggest it.

We are fortunate in having Mr. Garside there in the office and by the time you get away, he will have most of his questions that you or I could answer answered: it is fine that he goes at it in that way. I wonder, as you, why the question of Robson's original outfit should have come up: did he not go out 1st under the Methodists Board, supposedly for West China; there was some hitch in Shai re his going there, and as the Methodists needed some one for the Conf. Academy, he came to Nanking and taught English there and studied the language, and the next year joined the Univ. Likely the M.E. Board did not give him an allowance - they furnish a house with heavy furniture instead, or used to, so the question may have arisen in this complicated way. If so, where the "equity" lies will take a N.Y. lawyer to settle it seems to me. I believe he was paid by the M.E. Board 2 years at least.

Yes, we better ask the Boards to furnish replacement funds for men who have to drop out, otherwise, we shall never get out of debt, so far as I can see - even if we can't open this fall, we shall need ALL the Boards have used for support of Board supported staff. Let us hold to all of the old grants and policies at this end till we KNOW what is going to happen to the Univ. for the next 2-3 years, even if

we can't open in Sept. If we NEVER open again, as per later developments, then any such funds paid in could be returned the respective Boards. This would seem to me to be a clear and reasonable - and for the men doing the almost impossible over there - the most heartening thing.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry station is not very far from here and we can meet you there easily the 10th. It does not get hot here for more than 2-3 days at a time and then not really hot - a delightful summer place. Dr. W.E. Macklin, Jr. "our" Dr. Macklin's son, a student here in the Med. Dept. (was a Vet. Dr. for 10-11 years) is teaching me to drive an auto and we PLAN to drive out to Oregon, via. Kansas City and Calif. in Sept. I am thinking of reading up and working out courses in Missions, Far Eastern Affairs and (Comparative Religions) during the coming year, beginning here now, and possibly teaching them in some small college later, if there is any "call." Illick has a job at Western Reserve Med. School, Anatomy Lab. of Histology and Embryology.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Very cordially yours,

A. J. Bowen (Signed)

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE
150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

Nelson, N. H.
July 21, 1929.

My dear Mr. Garside:

I find I have the memorandum to look up the travel of Mr. A J Mills and family. It was to be checked with Mr. Steele of the Presbyterian Board – the University to pay 3/7 of round trip, the Board 4/7. Inasmuch as they had no children when they went out and three for the home trip. I suppose actual figures will need to be used, and not just an average or approximation. For your information Mr. Mills joined our staff Sept. 1, 1924, thereby giving us 2 years 7 months or the equivalent of 3 years under the circumstances. He went back to the field Sept. 1, 1920. If you prefer to wait until I return to China, and can check up re. who paid for the home travel, let me know. The Board should be able to tell you –

I trust the steamship ticket etc is being attended to – as I am waiting for word from you re. the allowance for baggage statement having been sent to the railway office before sending my check for the Ry ticket. I leave 2 weeks from Monday and baggage must go to Friday before. Remember we are in the country with one mail a day – often delayed at that. I am sure it is all. but your statement of "a week" is now somewhat overdue, and I do not wish any rush at the end if I can avoid it.

With best wishes.

Cordially yours,
Elise Priest

INCORPORATED BY THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE
150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

Nelson, N. H.
July 23, 1929.

Dear Mr. Garside:

Your letter of July 21st has just been received enclosing: Steamship order, medical report, list for the Emergency fund, occasional letter No. 5 (I had received a copy), the formal statement. Thank you for the whole. I fear I have caused you a lot of trouble these hot days. Yesterday I wrote in regard to the ticket, but you will understand the letters crossed in the mail. These days are full and I have been a bit disturbed over the news from China! I wonder sometimes if I shall reach Shanghai!

A letter from Miss Purcell today tells me that the plans are well underway for the Government to take over the school. She feels there will be stormy days ahead for our Christian leaders and it is the feeling of some that our kindest more would be to close the school - which would mean losing the property probably. Mr. Cressey is strongly in favor of reorganizing on same plan as Shanghai College and Lingnan. The problems are ~~many and~~ legion these days! She said the ~~Trustees~~ Managers would cable you for Trustee action regarding registration. and I suppose you have received it. Some of the Alumni are requesting certain things - one that the Trustees turn the University over unconditionally to the Chinese! the trustees retaining "ownership of property and providing the funds". This is nothing official but I thought you would be interested in this latest development.

Thank you for your letter and the many courtesies extended. I am

looking forward to the work in China although deeply concerned as to the "how" of various problems. There will be a solution for them all, and I feel sure it will be easier to live through the trials on the field than from this distance. I know we do not have the monopoly on problems and I am afraid yours will be many. These are hard days when so many things need to be settled.

I leave Nelson for a few days next week, but will be here most of the time until the 8th when I leave for Seattle.

With best wishes,

Cordially yours,

Elsie Priest

INCORPORATED BY THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE

150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

INCORPORATED BY THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE
150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

TRANSFER

Nelson, N. H.
July 25, 1927.

F

Dear Mr. Garside: I have today received a letter from Dr. Bowen which I enclose for you to read, as I have not facilities for copying here. Please note contents and return to me.

(1). Re. the cable: please note Dr. Bowen's suggestion. I had suggested, some weeks ago, the wisdom of having our leagues send home (costing less than my travel!) - and working over the statements here. In response to it I received the cable which I showed to you, urging me to come instead. Please consider his suggestion and do as you think best. I will say, however, that a letter from Mr. Reisner dated early in July was rather urgent and I believe he will reply to have me go. It would be infinitely wiser to spend the money for the cable than waste it on my travel if as Miss Purcell writes "things are moving fast out here and we wake each morning wondering what has developed over night." and I was not really needed because of conditions.

(2). I have written Dr. Bowen re. the confusion over the boats Grant & Lincoln.

(3) Please note Dr. Bowen's suggestion re. replacement of Board supported men. I am to furnish you a list of the ones involved and will do so before I leave. ?

If you cable to John Reisner as suggested please let me know the reply. If the word comes that I am

not to start for China August 8th, please wire me. If I am to go as planned, a letter will do, of course, and I am definitely planning to go unless I hear from you within a few days. It would help me if you cabled, to have you do so at once, as August 1st is nearly here anyway.

I shall be glad to have something settled sometime!

I wonder what the "Times" has been reporting lately. Our Boston papers never deign to mention China and from a clipping Dr Bowen sent from Chicago, he feel it was quite discouraging.

Sorry to continually bother you with these problems — but I see no other alternative at the present time! I hope it is not too hot. We are having cool days, which are quite usual for this part of the country.

With best wishes,

Cordially yours,

Elsie M. Priest.

The Owens' address will be
c/o Rev. A. C. Bates,
Clifton Springs, N.Y.

(Reported to Miss Caswell (or Miss Lee's Secy. - 7/27/27)

They are on the Pres. Lincoln due in S. Francisco about Aug 16, are spending two days there with Mrs O's uncle, and then going forward to New York immediately.

INCORPORATED BY THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE
150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

Nanking

INDEXED TRANSFER

University of Nanking

July 26, 1927

Miss Elsie M. Priest
Nelson, N. H.

My dear Miss Priest:

Enclosed we are sending the personal snapshots which you refer to in your letter of July 14. I trust these are the correct ones. There seems to be some uncertainty in regard to them.

Your letter of July 21 shows some justifiable apprehension as to whether your matter of the steamship ticket and baggage allowance was being attended to. I wrote you about this on July 21 and I trust you have the matter cleared up by now.

In regard to Mr. Mills' accounts, I think it would be wise for us to wait until you get back to China and have an opportunity to check up and see just how the matter stands. If in the meantime I can clear up his accounts, at least partially, I will let you know.

We still do not have from Shanghai complete records as to the following matters:

1. Date to which salary was paid by the field to each of the University supported staff members.

2. Amount of emergency re-outfit allowance advanced in Shanghai.

3. Amount of travelling expenses advanced in Shanghai.

In the last mail from China, I had a letter from Mr. Owen, in which he stated he was sending these accounts in the next mail. However, I hope on your arrival in Shanghai, you will as soon as possible check up to see whether all this information has been supplied. We are doing the best we can in clearing the accounts of the University supported staff members, but many questions will have to remain unanswered until we have this authoritative information.

The University's agreement with its staff members on furlough provides that rent allowance to a maximum of $25.00 a month will be supplied families compelled to pay rent in this country, providing such rent allowance is specifically requested. So far only Mr. J.B. Griffing and Mr. E.V. Jones have applied for such rent allowances. If you know of any other members of the staff

likely to be in serious need of this allowance and are not aware that it can be provided on request, I will be glad to drop them a hint.

We are enclosing herewith your check for your August salary.

In the hope that your plans and preparations are goingforward smoothly, I am

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-R
Enc.

Secretary

Nanking

University of Nanking

July 27,1927

My dear Miss Priest:

I have just received your letter of July 25 with its enclosed letter from Dr. Bowen, dated July 21. In accordance with Dr. Bowen's suggestion, I am today sending a cable to Mr. Reisner. A copy of the cable is enclosed. As soon as we have a reply, I will wire you.

There has not been much of new information in the New York papers during the last week. The whole Chinese situation seems to be pretty much at a standstill just now with undoubtedly much intriguing and maneuvering for position going on everywhere. It certainly is not a very hopeful outlook and yet the picture is not entirely dark. I will be interested in getting Mr. Reisner's reaction. I quite appreciate the added perplexities placed in your way by this note of uncertainty at such a late date. I hope we can soon clear it up.

I am glad to have your information with regard to Mr. Owen's arrival and his address at Clifton Springs. You mention that he is to be in San Francisco with Miss Owen's uncle for two days after landing. If you know his San Francisco address, I will send a letter there. If not I can send a letter in care of the boat.

Cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG-R

Nanking

University of Nanking

July 28, 1927

Miss Elsie M. Priest
Nelson, New Hampshire

My dear Miss Priest

Allow me to compliment you for the manner in which the Shanghai office of Nanking University is on the job. Within less than fourteen hours after we dispatched our cable of yesterday, our office had received the following reply:

"Imperative follow original plan. The suggestion is not practicable or advisable."

There does not seem to be any uncertainty as to the meaning of this cablegram. Evidently there is much more optimism in China than in America. That is a hopeful sign because for the last six months most of the pessimism has come out of China.

I am glad to have this question settled so promptly. Undoubtedly you will continue with your original plans and will be arriving in Shanghai early in September. I hope you will find the situation there steadily improving and that, before many months, it will be possible to return to Nanking. These are times when the career of a missionary is a most adventurous one, but I am still young enough to like the fascination of adventure.

With the heartiest of good wishes for a safe and speedy voyage, I am

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG-R

Nelson, N. H.
July 28, 1925.

TRANSFER

Nanking

Dear Mr. Garside:

This will acknowledge your letters of July 26 and 27. with enclosures. Also telegram received today - (I believe it was today. I have been away for a few days). I expected this reply so was not surprised but I fel better about having it cleared now instead of later when I had already started.

I will check up on statements, etc. from Shanghai and let you know. There will be copies of letters from Lewis Owen. I fear those last weeks were very hectic. I should know Naomi Owen's uncle in Berkeley, but I cannot remember the initials or the address. A letter to the boat will be safer.

Mr. Bowen wrote to me about the rent for the house beginning July(?) I supposed he would write to you, but if not, a note to him re. it would be in order. I may have been remiss in not writing before, but I supposed he had also written you. As far as other members are concerned, I do not know but have an idea that the Clemons are renting their house at Boonton. It may be the house of a friend.

The only missing snapshot that I recall was a long picture of Guiling, but it was of no great value. Some of the staff who lost their pictures asked me to have copies made for a new collection they are making as the negatives are all lost.

Unless something new comes up. I shall carry out my original plans!

With best wishes,

Cordially yours,

Elsie Priest

o liu ping an

HH - note Clemons' address

Nelson N. H.
July 29. 1927

TRANSFER

Nanking

Dear Mr. Garside:

Your letter of July 28th received with Mrs. Bio's letter enclosed. I have not heard what decision was finally made regarding the Nuichang accounts. Their books were burned in Mrs. Keen's house. However, Mrs. Clemons will know if anyone does, so I have forwarded the letter to her asking her to reply to you direct. Did you have their new address 409 Rockaway St. Boonton, N.J.

I expected the reply received from J.H. Kenner so never changed my plans, but I am glad to have the cable because it clears any question. I trust you sent copies to Dr. Bowen - if not, please do so. I'll tell him later but it would be wise for such correspondence to be sent to him.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,
Elsie Priest.

TRANSFER

Nanking

University of Nanking

July 30, 1927

Miss Elsie M. Priest
Nelson, N. H.

My dear Miss Priest:

I have just received your letter of July 28 and am making a note of your comment in regard to rent for different members of the staff. I am glad that you are now clear on Mr. Reisner's wishes as to your keeping to your original plan. I trust you will find things in China not quite so bad as Dr. Bowen has feared.

I discover that we have two copies of Mr. Reisner's letters of June 24 and July 1, together with various enclosures. Probably you have not received this material and since it contains information you will want to have before reaching China, I am sending a copy of each letter herewith. You do not need to return the material.

We have just received a letter from Miss Virginie Darcel, who is now in California, asking us to arrange clergy certificates for her. The only information our office has in regard to the disposition of her case is a sentence in Mr. Owen's letter of April 7, in which he says that financial arrangements have been made with Miss Darcel and that "we will probably not hear from her." If you can give us any information which would show whether she is entitled to clergy certificates, I would appreciate it. As the matter stands now we cannot conscientiously certify that we know her to be entitled to clergy rates, and so would have to refuse her request.

We have obtained the picture of Ginling College and are enclosing it herewith.

Sorry to have so many last minute items with which to trouble you. I lin ping an.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-R
Encl.

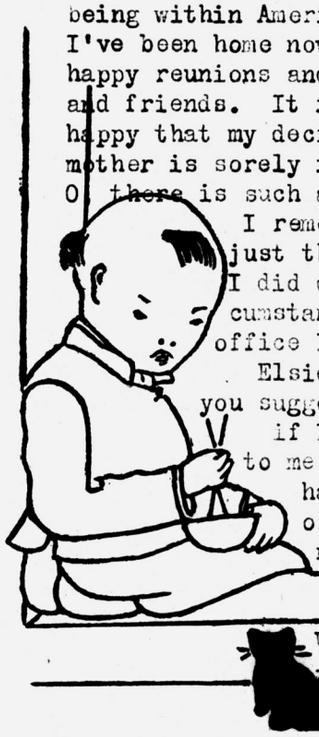
WER.

from Bertha M. Gless

Schuyler, Nebraska,
July 30, 1927

Dear Elsie:

How characteristically nice of you to write me the little note of welcome back to this land of America! And it is good to be here, but I find my thoughts with much frequency returning to China, especially Nanking, and I so wish our home papers would contain some news from there. I've seen little or none since being within America, even when on the west coast. I've been home now just a few days - days filled with happy reunions and greetings from loved family folk and friends. It is good to be with them and I am happy that my decision was to return when I did, for mother is sorely in need of my help and presence. O, there is such a change in her - my heart aches when I remember mother as she was when I left just three years ago and as she is now. I did dislike to leave, but under the circumstances, both at home and within the Shanghai office I felt it was best.



Elsie, I've sent to Mr. Garside the information you suggested in your letter. And do you object if I take up with you a question which came to me when on the coast of California, where I had such a delightful visit within the homes of so many of our loved Nanking friends - not the least of which was the visit with Mae and JB and also Burgoyne. They are all looking so well and so nice. While visiting with some of the folks they told me about a sum of money which they

had received for re-outfit allowance and asked me I had received mine. They mentioned having received a sum in Mex. before leaving Shanghai, which I know they did, for I helped with making out the funds, -- I too received $200 Mex. through the kindness, I'm quite sure, of Bishop Birney, for my note came from him and not from the University, although I felt it was to cover the same amount received by others from the Uni. Inez Lowdermilk, I believe it was, mentioned single folk receiving $250 gold. Now, Elsie, I do not wish to appear mercenary at all, but of course losing as much as we did, money is needed. And I just wish to ask if this information is correct. I could get along - I shall in time perhaps be able to seek some position, but just now I cannot. Schuyler is a small place and necessarily affords little opportunity for work outside of the mill in which I formerly worked, butnow they have a complete force andhence I do not feel I should ask for a position there. And I must remain at home. Then too do you chance to know what they are doing about the salaries for those who remained within Shanghai? Others who left immediately received theirs through August. Mr. Reisner felt perhaps those who remained behind to help would receive an additional amount, perhaps equivalent to the months we remained there. I dislike to trouble you about these matters, Elsie, but I felt freer to take them up with you than with others.

I cannot but say to you that my admiration for you is many-fold for returning to China at this time. But I feel a bit as Mr. Owen does -- it is too great a sacrifice for you to make. But I glroy also in your spirit, Elsie and love you more for it. I'm sure you are much needed and that the service you'll be able to render will be a very fine one indeed.

Please accept my very sincere wishes for a fine fine ocean voyage. And I know how pleased Minnie dear will be to see you. She was such a dear to me when in Shanghai-- Do give her my best love and wishes, as I send them to the Reisner folk also and to Bucks and Thomsons and others you might chance to see.