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**TRANSFER**  
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING  
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER  
NANKING, CHINA

January 13, 1933.

*ack 2-20-33*  
*Bals*



Dr. Robert E. Speer,  
Mr. B. A. Garside,  
Board of Founders,  
University of Nanking.

INDEXED

My dear Dr. Speer and Mr. Garside:

Mr. Patton has sent us the minutes of the special meeting of the China Famine Fund Committee and although I am sure copies must have been forwarded to you I am taking this opportunity to send copies from this office in order that there may be no delay or misunderstanding.

There seems to be no need for further comment at this time, except to state that the group here is giving the matter careful consideration and will present formal suggestions later.

You will note the China Famine Fund Committee have requested that the two institutions draw all the authorized funds for this year before March 31, 1933 in order that the amount to be legally transferred may be the balance at that date. The University of Nanking has made this request already and the final payment will be received on March 1st. There seems to be no necessity to make the usual exchange adjustment with the National Savings and Trust Co. Will Mr. Garside kindly look up the Yenching University account and ask for the authorized amount on or before the specified date? In this way the accounts will not be confused, and our work will not be held up for funds if the transfer should require some weeks.

Sincerely yours,

*Elmer M. Priest*

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TRANSFER

Nanking

INDEXED

Nanking

January 18, 1933

Miss Elsie M. Priest,  
University of Nanking,  
Nanking, China.

My dear Miss Priest,

During the last two or three weeks I have received a number of letters from you which have not as yet been dealt with or have been only partially cleared. I will try to catch up with them before the next China mail goes out. In this letter I will list the letters received, though I will break up my replies into several letters for your convenience in filing and handling.

The letters received from you are as follows:- November 23, November 24, November 25 (2), November 29, December 2, December 4, December 7 (2).

Letter of November 23rd

This deals with financial matters in the minutes of the November 18th meeting of the Board of Directors. Since these minutes have not yet arrived, I will hold up any detailed comments until the material has come to hand.

Letter of November 24th.

This discusses in a preliminary and informal way the moot question of missionary residences at the University. And here again any formal action is not in order until official correspondence comes through in due course.

I am, however, very glad indeed to have the information and views you give. I find myself in warm personal agreement with all that you say. I know that when I was at Cheeloo one of the most difficult and delicate questions constantly harrassing the administrative officers was this problem of maintaining distinctions between the residences of the whole group of mission boards, and seeing that each missionary was fitted into a house to which he was entitled under this complicated set-up. And that was back in the "old days" - things have become much more difficult since. It certainly seems to me that it would be a long step backward to hold out these missionary residences when a renewal of the lease is signed.

0674

1/15/33

We have, however, a rather delicate problem here, because of the Mission and the Board relationships involved. The initial Presbyterian pressure has come from the field, through the Kiangnan Mission and the China Council. This puts our Presbyterian Board in a position where they feel under some obligation to support the proposals out of loyalty to their workers on the field. Now if we oppose the proposals through official University channels it gives us a most unfortunate array of opposing forces. It seems that the happiest solution would be achieved if Rex Wheeler could act as a middleman to bring our Presbyterian friends into line. I am very much pleased to note that you have had assurances from influential members of the Presbyterian mission that there will be no pressure from the field for a change in policy. But apparently there has been some such pressure in the past, from the actions of the Kiangnan Mission and of the China Council which have stirred up our Presbyterian Board (even though it is possible that there was already a sentiment at 156 Fifth Avenue which was glad to have some action from the field as a *casus belli*). So long as the actions taken by the Kiangnan Mission and the China Council are unmodified, it will be difficult for our Presbyterian representatives on the Nanking Board to support unreservedly a continuation of the present policy. And of course the representatives of other Boards will not wish to go contrary to their Presbyterian colleagues. Could Rex Wheeler therefore get the Kiangnan Mission and the China Council to reverse their previous action - or if this is not possible without too great delay, could he at least get some of the leaders in the Mission and the Council to inform the home board that they do not have any zeal for these matters?

Of course the recommendations coming from the University Executive Committee, a draft of which you enclose, may be enough to settle the matter without any further discussion. It's merely an instance of where, if in doubt as to which way the cat will jump, it's wise to have a net on both sides.

First Letter of November 25th

This is one of the copies of your general Christmas letter. Your summary of the events of 1932 is extremely interesting. It was a year in which there were plenty of ups and downs, with the latter predominating. Here in New York they say the crowds spontaneously and enthusiastically sped the old year on its way with the Bronx cheer.

Your second Letter of November 25th

This letter discusses chiefly the matter of our accounts, and the tie-up between field and home base accounting. I have suspected for some time that the numerous quires of paper I have written on this subject during recent years have been more productive of heat than of light - so we'll call a truce and let it go at that until you get home next summer and we have a chance to talk things over. In some of your other letters are certain specific accounting items which must be taken up - but I'll try to deal with them in terms of detail instead of general principles.

In the last paragraph of your letter you request the deposit of G.\$5,000, but this is countermanded in a later letter, which fortunately arrived before the deposit was made.

Will stop for this particular letter.

BAG/G

Cordially,

0675

Mr. Garside



(Sent with Miss  
Garside's letter 6/18/33)

February 2, 1933.

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
China Union Universities,  
New York.

My dear Mr. Garside:

In facing the financial condition of the University especially in relation to next year and our ability to close this year without creating deficits I have spent some time in figuring over the gain in exchange for the first six months.

It has been impossible to make all adjustments at this time but we have attempted to close as many accounts that involved exchange as was wise, thus having a six month's report. Following is the statement as I make it at this date:

Gain received on departmental items	2,137 58
Gain received on hospital items - Dec. 1st	4,270 09
Gain received for personal and exchange cks.	3,921 31
Gain received on 5,000. gold sold in Dec.	<u>14,510 00</u>
Total gain in exchange on items for 6 mos....	24,838 98

Of this amount 1/3 is due the Founders on the same basis as last year.

I have not given each individual item as I assumed that was not of great interest to you. We have it on our books, of course, and have established the system of making credits for every item for the sake of record.

In the departmental items are accounts bought for such departments as Land Utilization, Agricultural Experiment Station, etc. who receive the full benefit of their funds in gold and therefore are charged whenever they take gold advances.

In the hospital items, this is on the basis of adjustments every month as long as the hospital requires more gold than they have available in New York. I am afraid I have neglected to reply to your letter but we shall be glad if you will arrange to make this transfer every month in our office. We are making the same adjustment here as soon as your statement arrives, giving the hospital the benefit of the average exchange. I think this is the fairest method of handling their accounts.

We have a good many requests for transfer checks - in fact, we do a miniature banking business for our staff and friends, and whenever we exchange checks we charge a small fee but even so it is usually easier to ask our help than to go to a bank. However, this sum represents the gain received on such items. For instance, we are now paying the Nanking American School teachers through our gold account in exchange for which we receive silver. It is a great accommodation to be ones in charge as their funds do not warrant carrying a bank account in gold, and I believe is good publicity for the University to show a willingness to assist in community enterprises of this type.

The gain on the general funds amounting to 5,000 00 drawn in December needs no further explanation.

0676

2-2-33

Mr. Carside - No. 2

In case you wish further information or details please feel free to ask me for it. I used the four general headings that we carry for our own convenience.

Today is the first day for registration and as usual students have been coming in slowly. We expect about the same number as formerly. The city is very quiet and the campus as well. I attended the meeting of the Council of Higher Education held in Shanghai in January and have read with interest the proposed changes under the Associated Board. Will this involve any changes as far as organization or methods of control from the central office are concerned? I read somewhere that one task the Associated Boards hope to do was to survey property, etc. and arrive at some basis of standardization. It occurs to me that we have been rather negligent in sending our own group or the central office full details of our physical plant. It is always on our slate and is one of the items that seems to be most frequently left undone. Do you have any definite suggestions as to the type of information you need? If you have formed an idea of what kind of information would be required later it might be possible for us to put our records in order along those lines instead of working out something now that might not answer future needs. It takes so long to make changes. We need someone who is not too greatly overburdened with daily routine -- but that means money!

If you have any suggestions I shall be glad to have you send them out rather soon as I am hoping to go home next summer although the plan is rather in the air so far -- depends on funds and personnel to carry the work.

Sincerely yours,

Alsie H. Priest.

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**TRANSFER**

*Sent with  
Mrs Priest's  
letter 6/28/33*

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**E.M. Priest**  
June 28, 1933

Un. of Nanking

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June 28, 1933  
A.M. Priest

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**TRANSFER**  
Nanking

INDEXED

February 3, 1933 #1

Miss Elsie M. Priest  
University of Nanking  
Nanking, China

My dear Miss Priest:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 22nd. This deals with the University of Nanking report to the Harvard-Yenching Institute for 1931-32.

The Minutes of the November 14, 1932 meeting of the Trustees of the Harvard-Yenching Institute stated that the 1931-32 report had been received from the University of Nanking. As far as I know, the Institute is satisfied with your report for last year, and no further steps need be taken.

I cannot find in our New York Office any copy of your report for 1931-32 except for the page prepared by your office giving the financial statement for the year. This statement was attached to your letter of November 23, 1932, as well as to your letter of December 22nd.

Early in December I wrote to the presidents of each of the universities sharing in the Hall Estate Fund, discussing at some length the whole question of the method to be used in sending these annual reports each year. No doubt I will be hearing from President Chen in regard to the matter within a few weeks, so I need not go into any further discussion just now. I do hope, however, that each of our universities will realize the importance of making prompt, adequate, and interesting reports to the Institute. The nine men on the Institute Trustees are all genuinely sympathetic and interested in what our colleges are doing. But they have very little direct contact with the field, and have no means of keeping in touch with what our institutions are doing except through these annual reports. Nearly all the personal contacts these men have with China are through Yenching, so they will naturally get the impression that Yenching is about the only one of our China colleges doing anything worthwhile, unless the reports of the other five institutions demonstrate that each of them is also doing, in its own way, a piece of work that is equally creditable and worthwhile.

We all know how unpleasant a burden the preparation of annual reports frequently becomes; and how easy it is to get into the habit of preparing some rather hasty statement that will "get by" and let it go at that. But in this particular case it will be abundantly worthwhile for each of our institutions to take a great deal of time and care in order to prepare reports that will catch and hold the interest of our Harvard-Yenching Institute Trustees. Thus far Nanking has been more successful at this than most of our other institutions. I hope you will keep up the good work, and will always be on the lookout for any possible improvements.

BAG:PW

Very cordially yours,  
B A GARSIDE

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*ack*

INDEXED

University of Nanking

February 20, 1933 No. 1

President Y. G. Chen  
Miss Elsie M. Priest  
University of Nanking  
Nanking, China

*ack-3/15/33 (Duplicate)  
copy sent  
6/18/33*

My dear President Chen and Miss Priest:

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on February 14, and copies of the minutes are enclosed herewith. The meeting was called primarily to consider what actions, if any, should be taken regarding the transfer of the Famine Funds. The first item on the docket, however, was a review of the financial situation for the year which indicated that there would probably be sufficient gold to care for authorizations covering the current budget. But the Committee also noted that possibly there are further gains in exchange on the field a portion of which recurred to the Board of Founders.

Over-Payment on Account of 1931-32. The hope that there would be further gain on exchange in the current budget on the field as expressed above was the motive back of action FC-684. In view of the fact that surpluses for last year had been previously allocated, no other alternative was left, and as a consequence Draft No. 230 will be a first charge against any current income after the regular budget appropriations have been paid.

Anticipated Income for 1933-34. The Committee gave very careful consideration to this item. The following schedule represents the figures considered by the Committee as representing Mission Board cash grants:-

	<u>Hospital</u>	<u>General University</u>
United Christian Missionary Society	\$ 375.00	\$1,500.00
Methodist Board	371.00	788.00
Presbyterian Board	648.00	3,240.00
Baptist Board		1,500.00
	<u>\$1,394.00</u>	<u>\$7,028.00</u>

The endowment income as reviewed by the Committee is as follows:-

General and Hall Estate	\$15,678.00
Swasey Fund	2,300.00
M. E. Fund Agriculture and Forestry	4,500.00
Bank Interest	100.00
	<u>\$22,578.00</u>

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February 20, 1933

The Committee did not authorize these figures as being official for the 1933-34 budget, and in fact it is quite probable there will be further cuts in the U. C. M. S., the Presbyterian Board, and the Baptist Board. We are hoping that there will be no further reduction in the Methodist Board appropriation. It is quite probable, however, that the Methodist Board will feel called upon to reduce the Agriculture and Forestry income payments, as further shrinkages in income have reduced the rate on endowment funds, and in that case we cannot expect them to maintain the 4%.

Just at the present moment we seem to be hovering on the crater of a volcano. The House passed the 18th Amendment repeal about an hour ago, Japan has given her ultimatum to China regarding the evacuation of Jehol, Hitler has the reins in Germany, and the League of Nations is about to pass a vote of censure against Japan. Along with all of this the State of Michigan has declared an eight-day moratorium in its banking situation, and unless something drastic is done to strengthen the whole banking situation in the United States, there will be further holidays and probably sharp recessions in values with many failures. You can therefore readily understand that it is impossible at the present time to give any definite figures which will be maintained during the coming year. We will keep you informed of developments from time to time with the hope that the next week or ten days will offer some constructive assistance in stemming the downward tide.

Investments. In view of the foregoing the Committee very carefully studied the investments of the University authorizing one or two changes and directing the Treasurer's office to make very careful investigation of questionable holdings and mortgages about to mature.

Investment of Famine Funds. The minutes of the meeting cover the situation, it being the purpose to secure further information as to the handling of the various investments included in the list of securities, and as a consequence another meeting of the Committee will be required at an early date.

We hate to write such a pessimistic letter, but we are in such close touch with those who seem to understand the inner workings of the present financial structure and who themselves are unable to forecast coming events or even hazard a guess as to the possibility of even maintaining present standards and ground which has been gained, that we can do nothing else but to a degree reflect the psychology of the situation. Various forces have been exhorting us to go forward with faith, but frankly it is only through the exercise of the limits of our faith that we proceed from day to day. Nothing much else can be done. Just as soon as we gain a little light or see any change in the situation, we will write you further in order to dispel some of the gloom that a cloudy and rainy day has forced into this letter.

Very sincerely yours

*C. G. Evans*

Assistant Secretary

CAB:MS  
Enc.

0683

TRANSFER

Nanking

Sent with Miss  
Gries' letter 6/28/33

March 15, 1933.

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
University of Nanking.  
New York.

INDEXED

My dear Mr. Garside:

Your letter of January 19th was duly received and has been on my desk waiting the opportune time for reply. The main question raised in the letter is the manner of handling the 1932-1933 accounts so the results will be mutually satisfactory.

Before your letter reached me I had sent you my letter of February 2d which listed in detail the gain in exchange for the first six months of the year 1932-1933. Undoubtedly it reached you a few weeks ago and will have answered part of your inquiry.

Your letter gives three options concerning the method of handling the accounts. It seems to me we can eliminate No. 1 and 3 immediately as follows:

First option Your proposal is that you keep the gain in exchange in New York. I am sure it would be absolutely impossible for you to do so. My letter of February 2d will show you the many individual accounts involved. Therefore this proposal is out of the question.

Third option. This proposes that we divide the honors of keeping the gain in exchange. It seems to me that is a lot of unnecessary trouble for you. If you desire to keep track of such items as may be indicated I can see no objection but sometime it will have to be brought together in one place before we can make any adjustments so we may as well arrange to do so in the first place. As far as we are concerned this proposal is cancelled.

That leaves the second option which you state as follows:

"Second, the gain in exchange account can be kept entirely on the field, you drawing (or having us disburse at your instructions) the full amount of G\$33,812,26, and you then crediting the Founders appropriation for 1933-34 with one-third of the amount this G\$33,812.26 produces in local currency in excess of this year's appropriations of LC\$71,005 75."

This is the basis that I prefer. It seems to me the only one that is sound. I do not think you need feel concerned for fear we shall embarrass you by overdrawing. As a rule I take care to see that you will be in a position to meet out drafts before they are drawn or else we notify you with sufficient notice to enable you to adjust the account. As a matter of fact, I prefer to work on the basis of having on the field only the necessary gold to carry us on. In other words I much prefer to keep all surplus funds in New York. It has been embarrassing to me a few times however, for your office has assumed that inasmuch as we did not draw the funds by June 30th we were not entitled to do so. This must be avoided, or it will plunge us into a deficit. Could it be arranged in this manner? We would not draw every cent due us of the total \$71,005 75 in order not to embarrass your accounts, but it would be set aside for the field, and

0684

Mr. Garside - No. 2.

TRANSFER

3-15-33

as soon as you can hear from the field concerning the final adjustment of gain in exchange, any amount due us could be deposited in our bank account at the Central Hanover Bank and Trust Company. I wish you would acknowledge this proposal so I may know where we stand for closing. If this does not seem to you possible we shall, of course, plan to draw the full amount of the appropriation on or before June 30th.

Your letters, with minutes of the meeting held February 14th have just arrived and I wish to express my appreciation of your efforts to send us the word about appropriations for 1933-34. We are working on the budget at the present time, and although it does not balance as year I presume it will in the course of time. Your figures do not inspire or cheer us at all!

It may be a little early to discuss June statements, but I shall be glad if you will instruct your staff to close the Nanking accounts early in July in order that the statement may reach me not much after July 1st. It may require estimates for the closing, but once in six years it might be permitted. I am still hoping to leave on furlough this summer but the funds do not seem available to date. I cannot qualify for a "health" furlough fortunately so my plans are a bit uncertain at this stage but it will do no harm to make plans. I hope to be able to leave Nanking about August 1st, and shall have to rush to have all three sets of books audited and closed. Therefore, if your statement can be in our hands by July 1st or thereabouts I shall appreciate it.

I read with interest the items concerning the famine funds. If the item of 1100.00 is not settled, I do not see that it will make any serious difference because once the funds are in our hands we can easily adjust the account. It is hardly worth taking up further and I would not wish to ask Mr. Patton to do anything more about it.

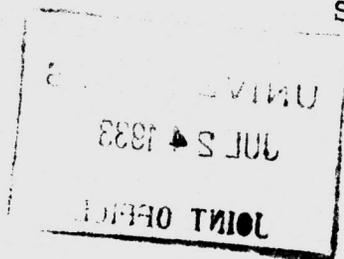
Beginning July 1st our plan will be to have all the funds remitted to us at Nanking and we will take care of the work in North China that was formerly carried through the Yenching office. In this way we shall be able to keep track of expenditures more effectively than is now possible. As soon as the budget is passed we shall let you know more definitely concerning all these points.

You will know that speculation was responsible during the banks' closure in America for gold to be around 4.00. Tonight it is again up to 4.71 and I believe will remain quite steadily around that figure. It looked quite questionable a few days ago and we sold one draft for 4.30 as we had to have some funds immediately.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Elsie M. Priest.



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TRANSFER

Mr. Garbide - No. 8.

As soon as you hear from the field concerning the final adjustment of gain in exchange, any amount due to you will be reported in our bank account with Central Hanover Bank and Trust Company. I trust you will acknowledge this proposal as I may know where to stand for clearing. If this does not seem to you possible we shall, of course, plan to have the full amount of the appreciation on or before June 30th.

Your letter of the 17th with its mention of the proposed July 1st date is received and I wish to express my appreciation of your efforts to secure the new stock appreciation for 1933-34. The new stock is not yet ready for clearing and although it does not appear as yet I believe it will in the course of time. Our interest is not in the appreciation of the stock at all.

I may be a little early in making this statement, but I believe it is in your interest to state that the National accounts are in the July in order to get the statement ready for the six months it might be required. I am still hoping to have the National accounts but the funds do not seem available to date. I am sure that the National accounts will be ready to go to the printer and will be ready to go to the printer about August 1st, and shall have to wait to see if they will be ready to go to the printer and closed. I shall be glad to see you on the subject of the National accounts.

I read with interest the letter which you received from the National accounts of 1933-34 and I do not see that it will make any sense. The National accounts are in our hands and I would like to see them in your hands. It is hardly worth the trouble to see them in your hands.

Beginning July 1st our plan will be to have all the funds we can get at New York and we will take care of the National accounts. The plan is to keep track of expenditures more efficiently than we have done. As soon as the budget is passed we shall let you know of the progress concerning all these points.

You will know that appreciation was responsible for the National accounts in America for you to be around 1.00. I believe that the National accounts will remain in the hands of the National accounts. I believe that the National accounts will remain in the hands of the National accounts.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,  
Lester M. Bristol.

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JUL 24 1933  
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TRANSFER

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Nanking

INDEXED

March 20, 1935. 10.3

Miss Elsie M. Priest  
University of Nanking  
Nanking, China

My dear Miss Priest:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter we have just received from the Sun Life Assurance Company, in which they finally agree to accept our Ginling College staff members under the University of Nanking Pension Plan. Our Nanking Pension Plan is much more favorable than the Sun Life Assurance Company is now issuing to organizations with which they have not already entered into contract, so they have been checking up carefully to assure themselves that Ginling is really entitled to share in the benefits of the Nanking plan. Now that the matter is satisfactorily cleared, there will be no further difficulty.

You will note that the amounts of the annuities shown are only those guaranteed at the minimum rate of 3½%. The corresponding table worked out for the members of the Nanking staff two years ago, contained additional columns showing what increases to this annuity would accrue if the prevailing bonus of 2% (making their total interest rate 5½%) were maintained until these policies matured. In order to give comparable figures, I enclose herewith a sheet summarizing approximately what each of the Ginling College staff would receive if the former Bonus rate of 2% additional is restored, and also if the present depression bonus rate of 1½% is continued.

Before the actual policies can be written out for the Ginling College staff members, it will be necessary for each one to fill out an individual application card as was done when our Nanking plan was set up two years ago. You may still have some of these cards on hand, but I am enclosing a supply herewith for your use if you need them. Will you please have the staff member fill out carefully the side marked "to be completed by the employee"? The information asked for in the part of the blank marked "to be completed by the employer" can be filled out either here in New York, or by your office in Nanking. It would be simpler from the standpoint of the Insurance Company to give the name of the "employer" as the University of Nanking, since that is the organization with which the company has made its contract for this Pension Plan. The most important items to be filled out by the employer are "date employed" and "salary." If the staff members wish to include their past service, with corresponding

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March 20, 1933.

Increases in premiums paid by themselves and by Ginling College, then the date employed would be the original date at which they entered the service at Ginling College. If they do not wish to include previous service, then the date employed, so far as this present pension is concerned, would be stated as January 1, 1933, or possibly July 1, 1932.

You will note that we have suggested that these policies be made effective as of January 1, 1933. Is this satisfactory, or would you prefer that they date back to July 1, 1932, so as to cover this entire fiscal year? If the earlier date is chosen, there will be a small addition of interest at 6% for the six months between July and January. The initial payment of premiums would also be increased by six monthly payments.

I am getting in touch with Miss Chester, Miss Case, and Miss Tappert. I understand that Miss Tappert will probably not wish to participate in the plan, though Miss Chester and Miss Case seem to be considering it favorably. Their cards will probably be signed before we receive from you the cards for the members now on the field, but I will wait until I hear from you and will send all the cards in at the same time. Unless there is some delay, we should have these cards in the hands of the company sometime in May, and should have the policies actually in force by the first of June.

Very cordially yours,

BAG:PW  
Enc.

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Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada  
1420 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, Pa.

TRANSFER

TRANSFER

March 15, 1933.

Mr. E. A. Garside, Secretary  
Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

Dear Mr. Garside:

Re: 1601-G - University of Nanking

Further to our letter of March 7th, we have just received the attached computation showing the calculation requested by you in your letter of February 9th. This calculation shows the contributions and the guaranteed annuities purchased, both in respect to past service and future service. The only difference between this calculation and the one previously supplied for employees under the original contract is that we have not shown the annuities which might be purchased by bonus additions. As you probably realize, we have reduced our interest rate from 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ % to 5%, and while we hope that this situation is temporary only, we do not think it advisable to make any estimates. In any event, the employees on this list will profit to the same extent as will other employees, except that the older employees received the higher interest rate until recently. Naturally any increases in the future will affect the whole group.

Please note that all computations were based on the assumption that the employees would be enrolled as of January 1, 1933. Since they were not enrolled, a table has been set up showing how much will be required as initial payment should contributions start April 1, May 1, etc. For example, should contributions start April 1st, each employee will be required to contribute 35.53% of the annual premium as an initial contribution and each month thereafter the contribution will be 1/12 of the annual premium. By doing this the premium is brought up to date from January 1st, the effective date. The contributions from the University should be computed on the same basis. If contributions are delayed until May 1st, 42.07% of the annual premium will be required as an initial instalment with subsequent contributions on the same basis as above, i.e., 1/12 of the annual premium.

I hope that I have made this calculation entirely clear, but if there are any questions please get in touch with us immediately.

We shall appreciate very much knowing just when you will be able to start contributions and put this plan definitely in effect. Also, we should like to know if all of the employees mentioned wish to participate.

Very truly yours,  
/s/ A. M. Weaver  
District Group Manager

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7  
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TRANSFER

Nanking

INDEXED

March 30, 1953.

Miss Elsie M. Priest  
University of Nanking  
Nanking, China

My dear Miss Priest:

We have just received from the Presbyterian Board a check for \$108.34, covering payment for the month of March on account of the temporary vacancy in the Presbyterian quota due to the prolongation of Professor Thomson's furlough. In accordance with our agreement with President Chen, we are turning this over to the field by depositing this amount to the credit of your account in the Central Hanover Bank and Trust Company. I trust this is a satisfactory way of handling the matter. The amount actually deposited to the credit of your account is \$108.32. This difference of \$.02 is to credit a shortage of that amount that has stood in Account 136 since last June, when you drew Draft #216 for \$4,550.00 to clear the balance standing to your credit account 136, whereas the actual credit due you was \$4,549.98.

We will continue this same procedure from month to month until Professor Thomson returns, unless you direct us to handle the matter in some other way.

A letter is now en route to President Chen asking whether the field wishes Professor Thomson to spend a few months here in special cultivation work after he finishes his study at Columbia. If the field desires such an arrangement, it will probably modify our handling of these monthly payments by the Presbyterian Board. Until the matter is cleared, however, this seems the simplest way of treating the item.

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:PW

CC:Accounting Office

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7  
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**TRANSFER**  
**UNIVERSITY OF NANKING**  
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER  
NANKING, CHINA

April 27, 1933.

INDEXED

*ade. 6/24*

Mr. S. L. Garside,  
University of Nanking,  
New York City.



My dear Mr. Garside:

The meeting of the Board of Directors was held on April 21st.

You will find enclosed a copy of the budget for 1933-1934. This was approved by the Board with one exception but we are not re-writing it at this time. It was the recommendation of the administration to give certain increases, all very modest, to a preferred list of staff and faculty which would total about five thousand dollars per year. The news from United States and the corresponding downward plunge of exchange created a certain amount of pessimism among the members and as a result they decided it was not wise to allow any increases for the coming year. Personally I think this was unfortunate and did not take into consideration the whole situation - it was the result of a superficial glance.

*See Mr. Garside's binder*

The gold items you reported were used in figuring the budget and you will note we have used the official rate of 2.10 for all except the Hoover fund which is still on the basis of 4.00. In this connection I would call to your attention that we shall have surplus funds on the field of 5,668 96 in the Hoover fund, so 4. to 1. for next year will not be serious even if exchange goes to a lower level. The item of sixteen thousand dollars is still included in the budget as a first charge against gain in exchange but no further requests or items were included. We decided to wait until the next meeting at which time it ~~will~~ be a little clearer as to the probable gain during the year.

The total budget for the year is somewhat greater than previous years, but this does not mean expansion or increases. There have been certain departmental activities that we have carried outside the budget, but as I had thought I might be away next year, it seemed a better record to have every item included, and as a result we changed a few departments to include such items as shop activities, etc.

In view of a number of things my furlough has been postponed for a few months. Both President Chen and President Wu had items they wished to have arranged this next fall, and it makes no very great difference to me so I shall not be leaving for home this summer. There was sufficient money for the travel expense - in fact it was in reserve - but we had not counted on the loss of the Day gift. It does not seem an easy matter to find someone to take over the work without providing additional funds to do so, so all in all it added quite a bit unexpectedly to the budget. Conditions may be better next spring. The plan as suggested by President Chen, to which I am glad to agree, is to have our annual meeting a bit early next March, so I may leave immediately after the meeting for home, and then to arrange to return to China in time to prepare for the next annual meeting which may be arranged a little later than usual. I think we shall follow this plan. In the meantime the Ginling buildings will be finished and the accounts settled. All our contracts were given in

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0691

RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITY OF  
MAY 26 1933  
JOINT OFFICE

2  
2  
7  
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7  
4  
3

0692

# TRANSFER

taels which were officially abolished in April. It is not difficult to make the adjustments but requires a lot of figuring and necessitates writing over our books for the building operations.

You will note we have included in the budget for next year the item of 12,000. which was proposed for the erection of residences on the Wu Tai Shan property. This money was from current funds, so we are not in any way violating the laws of the use of funds when we change to use them for current use. We regret very much that it did not seem possible to use this money for the erection of residences. In the first place we need the residences badly and in the second place we fear we shall lose that land unless we erect a building. It is in the district being taken for parks and already we have been approached for it.

I do not find that you have replied to my letter of February 11th in which I raised the question informally with you as to the possibility of the Founders allowing us to use the gain in exchange standing to their credit for two items (1) to allo. Mr. Wheeler some additional funds for publicity, (2) to use part of the funds if not all towards the erection of these residences. Mr. Wheeler has been given 500.00 in the budget for publicity purposes in addition to ~~the~~ about one-fourth of the time of one of the secretaries. He feels this is inadequate to carry on the work, and although we would like to appropriate more money, it seemed impossible this year to do so. Inasmuch as his publicity work should be of some benefit to the Board of Founders it seemed a reasonable request. I should think a further grant of 500 00 (Chinese currency) would be sufficient for next year. We have written to you so often about the need for residences for our staff members that I do not think it necessary to repeat. My thought in asking if the Founders would approve of this expenditure was in line with the idea that this was a non-recurring item and would fill a much needed request. In case twelve thousand seemed too much, the houses are planned in units of houses for four families, and six thousand would <sup>cover</sup> one unit to house four families. As you had not replied to my letter I did not feel at liberty to mention the matter in the board meeting. I wish you would let me know whether it is a possible request, in which case the formal request can be prepared in the usual manner.

I am attaching items of financial interest which were presented to the board, and a copy of the regulations governing retirement allowances for staff. Under No. 5, the wording is not very clear. <sup>See</sup> ~~It should read~~ <sup>allowance</sup> "No person who has been in the employ of the University for a period of less than ten years".... As a matter of information I enclose a copy of regulations revised concerning the ranking and standing of our faculty. I cannot tell you how many meetings we had on this subject, or how many drafts were presented to the group before the final one was adopted. It was the result of many hours and much earnest work on the part of the deans and administrators. I hope it does not require revision for another ten years! All these items will be in the minutes, and the usual copies will be sent to you. This is an advance set for your use.

Sincerely yours,

*Elsie M. Priest*

Elsie M. Priest, Treasurer.

RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES  
MAY 26 1933  
JOINT

2  
2  
1  
3  
7  
4  
3

0694



INDEXED

May 1, 1933.

ack-5/5/33

President Y. G. Chen  
Miss Elsie M. Priest  
University of Nanking  
Nanking, China

My dear Dr. Chen and Miss Priest:

Enclosed herewith we are sending you copies of the Minutes of the meeting of our Nanking Founders held on April 21st. Under separate cover we have already mailed fifty copies of this material to you for distribution on the field.

In this letter we will comment on such items as seem to require further explanation.

Matters arising from Field Minutes. The Founders gave quite a bit of time to a careful study of the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held last November. The Founders always read with interest and pleasure the annual report of the President. This year they found many gratifying things. The matter which caused them the greatest satisfaction and which elicited their warmest praise, is the way in which the University has carried on during the past year with its unusually severe difficulties and problems. They also took occasion to note the three special matters enumerated in BF-665.

The Founders are in hearty agreement with the suggestion that approach be made to the Harvard-Yenching Institute for funds to erect the building needed to house Dr. Ferguson's collection. They agreed, however, that we should first check with the field to see whether the time has arrived for us to send our endorsement to the Institute, before any definite move is made here. Will you please advise us whenever your negotiations have reached such a stage that our approach to the Institute would be most likely to help along the University's efforts in this direction. At the present time the Institute is suffering from heavy losses in income, and is scaling down all of its work quite radically. Even so its appropriations for last year are considerably in excess of anticipated income, and heavy inroads will have to be made upon the Institute's cash surplus. Under these conditions it would be folly for us to hope for any immediate approval of such a proposal as this. However, it might be quite worthwhile for us to bring the proposal to the attention of the Institute and convince them of the value of the proposition, as a first step toward securing their assistance at some time in the near future when their former income has been restored.

0695

May 1, 1938

Evacuation Expenses. Miss Whipple. I am not very well satisfied with Action BF-668, and I am sure this is the general feeling of the Founders. The question of the source whence Miss Whipple should be repaid for the LC\$60.00 she spent for substitute teachers last year is a very puzzling one. The Founders have exhausted the special fund from which the other evacuation expenses were met, and they are also reluctant to take any action which would seem to set a precedent of providing for substitutes whenever foreign staff must be absent for short periods, by reason of sickness or other unavoidable contingencies. Normally the field is able to provide such additional assistance where it is required, though we know that you have already been put to heavy additional expenses as a result of the disturbances last year. If it is impolitic for you to raise this question on the field, please let me know and I will so report to the Founders.

Missionary Residences at the University. This was an even more difficult, and a vastly more important, problem. On the one hand it was very generally agreed that it would be most unfortunate, as well as a long backward step, to withhold the missionary residences from the new lease soon to be entered into between the Directors and the Founders. On the other hand some of the Mission Board representatives on the Board of Founders were embarrassed by the recommendations coming from their missions and administrative groups in China. By Action BF-669 the Founders attempt to supply any needed safeguards (personally I believe that none are either necessary or desirable) without withholding the missionary residences from the new property lease. We sincerely hope that this action will be satisfactory to the field, and that it will not seem to imply any preferential treatment for any of the missionary personnel at the University, for I am sure that none of them desire any favored consideration.

Matters Arising from Associated Boards. The minutes of the important meeting of the Associated Boards on April 18th and 19th will not quite catch the China mail closing today. With these minutes I will send each of our University presidents a fairly detailed covering letter. It may suffice to say at this point that all our governing boards which have been meeting during the last fortnight - and this includes most of the institutions - have been taking actions quite similar to BF-670, 671, and 672. There is a very earnest conviction here that it is now high time for us to push ahead to a complete realization of the Correlated Program. That can only be accomplished as each institution makes it a serious business to see that its own program is in full accord with both the letter and the spirit of the Correlated Program. So far as Hanking is concerned it seems that we are already quite thoroughly in line, save for the possibility of fuller cooperation between the University and Ginling. We understand that at this point gratifying progress is being made. What Hanking's relationship with the institutions in the Shanghai area will ultimately be it is too early to forecast. If closer cooperation with that group is feasible, we hope that it may ultimately be attained, but for the present we should be able to go ahead vigorously with the important work assigned us. I hope that in the not-too-distant future it may be possible for us to secure larger support for this work, but all such hopes must be postponed for a time, and we'll have to get on as best we can with resources now in hand or in sight.

I believe these are the only matters requiring comment. We trust this letter will find you getting ready for a peaceful and happy commencement season, and that your summer may be pleasant and restful.

BAQ/G Enc.

Cordially,

0696

TRANSFER

院學理文子女陵金立私  
GINLING COLLEGE  
NANKING, CHINA

處計會  
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER



May 2, 1933.

ack-6/12/33



Mr. S. S. Garside,  
University of Nanking,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Garside:

Your letter of March 20th concerning the Ginling College staff retirement policies reached me and I am sorry I have been a little slow in sending the reply. It has been a full month.

The four members of the staff involved who are in China at present have all signed the cards and are glad to join. I enclose the following;

- Harriet M. Whitmer                      note change in age - she tells me it is incorrect on the list.
- Kathleen L. Bond
- Catharine L. Sutherland
- Minnie Vautrin

You will probably be in touch with Miss Chester. We understand Miss Case has resigned so she is out of the question, and it is entirely for Miss Tappert to decide. The rest of the staff are on three year contracts, and it does not seem quite fair to the college to extend this privilege to people who are here for only three years. If at any time they are changed to a longer term of service we will take the matter up again.

There are a few questions involved. In the case of the last three persons; they served in other places previously to their term in Ginling College. Would it be possible to extend the privilege of proportionate insurance for that period, or is that correct to do so? I will give you their terms:

- Kathleen L. Bond -- came to Canton in 1924 and served 5 years and then returned to China in 1931 for a 5 year term in Ginling College - presumably a permanent staff member.
- Catharine L. Sutherland-- came to China in 1918 and served one term under the Northern Presbyterian Mission at Nanchow, but resigned to join Ginling College in fall of 1926.
- Minnie Vautrin -- came to China in 1913 and served under the U.C. M.S. at Luchowfu for one term, joining Ginling College as the representative of that mission in the college in 1919.

In the case of Miss Vautrin there may be a point that is a bit different from the others inasmuch as her mission was anxious to have a member of their church in the college and assigned Miss Vautrin to take that position. However, is it the responsibility of Ginling College to give credit for the first few years of service? We wish to have it arranged so it is perfectly fair to the individual and the college and as these questions were raised I decided to bring them to your attention before the plan was in final

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UNIVERSITIES  
MAY 26 1933

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**TRANSFER**

5-2-33.

form. We had better have it adjusted once and for all.

In regard to the payments; the easiest method of handling the matter will be for you to collect each month from Mr. Carter for both the share paid by the college and contributed by the individual. We will deduct the payments on the field inasmuch as we pay in gold anyway. They all agree to the date as arranged - January 1, 1933.

It is quite satisfactory to us to have the employer stated as University of Manking. The arrangement will be made between the two groups - preferably in New York - whereby the University of Manking has no responsibility for these members who are under the Ginling College Committee. I will write to Mr. Carter to have this finally arranged through the committee.

The salary for all Ginling College members is Gold \$864 00 per year. There is no question about including all back service for the college but you will note the question raised above. I have filled in the date in pencil that each one joined the Ginling College staff. If it should be arranged to include previous service in other places, you can change it. If this question needs to go to the Ginling College group in New York will you please take it up with Mr. Carter? I will send him a copy of this letter and ask him to have the matter completed. It does not need to be referred back to the field as they will accept your decision.

Whenever you are ready to make the financial adjustment, please send the account to Mr. Carter, and he will include it in the next report to the field. Please include Miss Chester. I think this covers everything. It will be satisfactory to send me the individual policies and I will distribute them to the persons involved.

I suppose it is possible to add new people from time to time. There are seven staff members who are on short term contracts, but we hope at least one or two may prove to be permanent members of the staff.

Thank you very much for handling this matter for us. It adds one more link to the cooperation between the University and Ginling!

Sincerely yours,

*Elsie M. Priest*

Elsie M. Priest.

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UNIVERSITIES  
MAY 26 1933  
JOINT OFFICE

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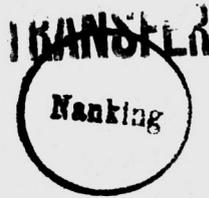
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May 22, 1933.

Miss Elsie M. Priest  
University of Nanking  
Nanking, China

My dear Miss Priest:

I find that I have not formally acknowledged your letter of March 1st, with which you enclosed a letter from Mr. Bachelder. We have already been in correspondence with Mr. Bachelder, but have had to advise him that the possibilities of appointment to a teaching position anywhere in China are not at all bright just now.

*See  
"Candidate"  
File*

As to the cash grant for the Baptist Board vacancy - for the year 1932-33, the Baptists voted on May 23, 1932 as follows:-

"That, in view of the present financial stringency and the expense involved in covering the outfit, passage and salary of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Slocum, the Board regrets its inability to continue the appropriation of \$1,300 G. in lieu of a second missionary for the University of Nanking for the fiscal year 1932-33."

I am afraid that for 1933-34, the prospects for securing this \$1,300 are not very bright, but we will try to do all we can to urge the matter. The best way to approach the Board would probably be in connection with the 1933-34 budget estimates. As soon as these estimates are received from the field, we will call a meeting of our Nanking Executive Committee to deal with them, and will ask Dr. Franklin and Dr. Huntington to present to their Board this request from the University.

Very cordially yours,

BAG:PM

B A GARSIDE

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7  
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**TRANSFER**  
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING  
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER  
NANKING, CHINA

**INDEXED**

May 25, 1933.

*ack 7/12*

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
New York.

My dear Mr. Garside:

We find another instance of that lost letter in February. Evidently you have not received one letter that contained a number of orders. Today I am sending you duplicate copies of orders that were dated around February 1st and wish you would check them through, destroying any that are already in your hands but ordering such items as seem to have been lost. We are particularly anxious about order No. 7223. These magazines are not coming and we are most anxious to have a continuous file of them for library work. Will you kindly have the order placed to begin with the issue as indicated on the renewal slip?

We have just received your letter of May 1st with the meeting of April 21st minutes enclosed. We read the items with much interest.

I note action No. BF-668 regarding Miss Whipple. In a short time I will write you in detail concerning Miss Whipple, but suffice to say today that she has resigned and the institution has decided to accept her resignation. We are still making arrangements and I am not quite sure about the final payment but will notify you in time to have it made from your office. For the present please continue her salary as usual. It is a long tale and I will give you the main facts later. However in view of other considerations I am inclined to let the action regarding the 60 00 stand and not to do anything further about it. Please wait for further details.

Your reference to securities, etc. reminded me to call to your attention the action <sup>B.A.G.</sup> concerning bonds for missionary treasurers. It was suggested that you might be able to secure bonds in U.S.A. for missionary institutions covering all treasurers. I would like to have some information on the subject. We have had a case of dishonesty in the Ginling office involving nearly 700 00 and it has made me rather anxious to have all clerks under some type of bond. We can probably cover them in China - but it is costly. Will you look it up for us and see what can be done for the mission staff who handle funds? Cheeloo and Hangchow have both written to me for this information recently so I am sure there is a desire from other schools to have proper bonds for treasurers.

Thank you very much for the way you have handled the missionary residence problem. I think this will be satisfactory. To incorporate the provision "to the effect that these residences will be assigned so far as needed to foreign members of the staff of the University." is exactly what is being done. What else could we do for they have to live somewhere,

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UNIVERSITIES  
JUN 16 1932  
JOINT OFFICE

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Mr. Garside - 2

## TRANSFER

I have read with interest the comments concerning our cooperation with Ginling. Please give us time to bring about the desired cooperation. I have an idea you know some of the difficulties, real or imagined, but the physical conditions, traditions for both institutions and local feeling will necessitate patience. It is promising and I think much can be done to bring about fuller cooperation only too much pressure will be fatal! When I reach home I hope to have an opportunity to give you definite information about some of our problems. As a member of both faculties I can argue with equal enthusiasm for both points of view.

There is one matter that I wish to mention more or less personally. This mail brought a letter from Mr. Day which troubles me a bit. He seems to feel that my furlough has been postponed entirely on the ground of lack of funds due to the failure to pay the promised item for my salary. I am sorry he has this feeling, and fear a letter from Mr. Wheeler gave him the wrong impression. We find Mr. Wheeler a bit sketchy at times when it comes to actual facts. If you have an opportunity will you reassure Mr. Day that we have no such feeling and the postponement of my furlough was not entirely due to lack of funds. Indirectly we can say lack of funds, but probably lack of the proper person to take over the office would be more accurate. The travel item is in reserve and can be used anytime. We were sorry to lose the Day gift and had not counted on the loss in making our plans but there were other considerations.

In this connection you may be interested to know that Mr. Sie, our assistant treasurer, who has been with us thirteen years, has a breakdown and the physicians are ordering him away for three months rest. In view of this new condition all question of furlough is immediately settled as he is the one who will carry the routine work when I am away. We are hoping after this rest and a lighter schedule for six months that he will be able to take the load when I leave in late March or early April.

I am sorry to mention the question of furlough again, and only do so because of Mr. Day's letter. May I ask that no reference be made to my furlough in any of your committee meetings. I would rather it would be allowed to take its place when the time comes. I was rather disappointed not to go home this year for a few personal reasons but none of them were of great importance, and I could not conscientiously leave with Mr. Sie unable to carry the work. Perhaps I should say I would not leave knowing the work would pile up beyond reason either for him or for me later!

Sincerely yours,

Elmer M. Priest

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RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES  
JUN 16 1932  
JOINT OFFICE

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**TRANSFER** June 8, 1933.

Dr. D. C. Garrison,  
University of Nanking,  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York.

*sent with Mrs. Priest's  
letter 8/10/33 -  
original was not  
received.*

My dear Dr. Garrison:

Mr. and Mrs. Riggs have just received a letter from their aunt, Miss Elizabeth C. Parsons, 20 Pine Street, Bellows Falls, Vermont regarding the will left by Mrs. Robert E. Abbey who died recently. Mrs. Abbey was the sister of Miss Parsons and as you may know was one of the first missionaries in Nanking.

At the suggestion of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs I am sending the information to you together with a few additional facts. We have copied part of the letter and enclose a copy which gives you the details. Mrs. Abbey has left the University of Nanking one thousand dollars, but there are complications about the estate and gift.

Briefly, there were two children, Robert and Katharine, both of whom were married and have families. Robert died very suddenly about a month before the death of his mother and as you will see from the letter, he leaves his wife and children without provision of any kind. Katharine, Mrs. Horace Vanderbeek, is not in a position to give any aid.

I suppose there are ways of handling such matters so they are satisfactorily settled. Miss Parsons asks the question if the University could waive the claim to the gift in favor of the children. I am sure Dr. Carter or Dr. Speer will be familiar with the long history of Mrs. Abbey's service to China and the Presbyterian Board, and will be able to help you make the decision. Will you please take the matter up and come to a definite decision with Miss Parsons and the other members of Mrs. Abbey's family. Of course the University of Nanking is very grateful for the gift and the spirit that prompted it, but I question very much if they would wish to cause any suffering by accepting it. The other question raised by Miss Parsons was to the effect that the University accept the stocks, or wait until the value increased. You will know much more about these matters than we do on the field, and I shall leave it in your hands.

Mrs. Riggs is writing to her aunt, Miss Parsons, by this same mail and she will send her a copy of this letter. I hope some record will be made of the gift even although conditions and values have changed so radically since it was made.

Sincerely yours,

Elsie M. Priest, Treasurer.



0706



Sent - / Miss Parson  
letter 8/10/33

# TRANSFER

Excerpt from letter to Mrs. and Mrs. Charles H. Nicks from  
Miss Elizabeth S. Parsons, 20 Pine Street, Bellows Falls, Vt.  
dated May 16, 1933.

"Katharine came back here with me (after the funeral) for two days and we looked over papers, letters, etc. She (Mrs. Robert S. Abbey) left a will drawn up by Robert (her son) in 1923 and signed by people in San Bernardino. It could have been much easier if she hadn't made it.

She leaves Robert \$400 00 and Katharine \$900 00, says it is their father's money. Then she leaves Wanking University \$1,000 00. Later in 1930 she had Robert make a bequest, increasing the banking amount to 2,000 00 but that was not signed - neither was the copy - so I supply that would not count. Now I want to ask Charlie's advise. After making that will, Aunt Louise (Mrs. Abbey) put about \$1,500 00 into annuities with Almira College Alumni fund and the Presbyterian Board of Pensions. Aside from that in normal times she had two or three hundred dollars income from stocks.

My letters found - she had given Robert \$3,000 00 to help pay for his home. That house was a great mistake for when the slump came he had to sell the house at a great loss and Elizabeth (his wife) writes that his insurance was taken over by the bank to pay for the loan! So she is left with nothing. Katharine and Horace have also gone in debt for a home. Horace gave them last year and this 3,000 00 altogether but Horace can't pay the interest - which Robert never was able to do, although there was a note in his papers, saying he could during her life time.

At the time he increased the banking gift, her stocks were way up and I suppose she thought they would stay there, but now not one is paying any thing, so it would hardly more than pay for funeral expenses, with little left for anything and nothing for the children. She used up every cent of her income. Luckily since January the Presbyterian board paid her at the rate of 400 00 a year, or she never could have lived in Florida. If it was I think she was as happy there as possible.

On the question is would banking waive the claim in favor of her children or at least wait until the stocks come up a little more.

Horace's salary has been cut to less than half and they are taking boarders and doing everything to make ends meet.

I have just figured up what the stocks were worth on the day of her death they were 450 00. This would just about cover funeral expenses and the cost of travelling as the woman had to be paid her fare both ways. That cost 200 00 about so you see that would have been if the courts required the stocks to be sold. Horace suggests that they might appoint me trustee for the stocks until their value increases. For example - she had 13 shares of Westinghouse and he sold five at 245 00 a share. Now the remaining 8 shares are worth 219 00. One thing the Boston bank sold her for 50 00 a share (20 shares) now is worth 25 cents a share....."

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TRANSFER

Receipt from letter to ...  
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[Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly a letter or report]

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**TRANSFER**  
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING  
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER  
NANKING, CHINA



June 9, 1933.

*ack 7/11*

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
University of Nanking,  
New York.

INDEXED

Dear Mr. Garside:

Inasmuch as I have been working with Dean Sie and Dr. Chen on this cable and the various items that have led to it, I will send on the confirmation for your files. We are sending it to you as Mr. Buck will have left Cornell by this date and undoubtedly will have left his forwarding address with you. We are writing him in your care today, asking that you forward the letter to reach him in Europe. The cable sent this morning is as follows:

"MTL ABCHICOL NEWYORK BUCK OCTOBER LEWIS APPROVED. BUCHER SATISFACTORY PROVIDING FUNDS UNDERWRITTEN. ADVISABLE POSTPONE DECISION DEFERS YOUR ARRIVAL. HARPER UNACCEPTABLE. BANK DESIRES WELL KNOWN EXPERIENCED MAN MINIMUM 10 YEARS."

This will be intelligible to Mr. Buck who has probably discussed the matter with you so it will mean something to you also.

The item referring to Miss Bucher means that we are quite willing to have her arranged on a permanent contract providing Mr. and Mrs. Buck are willing to underwrite the amount required to support her. From a recent letter from Mr. Buck we understand that Miss Bucher will only do personal secretarial work for Mr. and Mrs. Buck, and not take any of the load for the department so it is impossible for the University to assume the support. I am sure this was understood perfectly and we have only re-stated the item to be sure there was no misunderstanding in writing the contract. Our experience with Dr. Love's secretary has been rather unfortunate and I spend more time trying to collect the money due us for her salary than on any other item! Therefore, I am quite wary about using the name of the University for any proposition that does not have the funds underwritten in a very definite form. We supposed we had it arranged with the government but they changed personnel cancelling former arrangements. Now we have entered into a new agreement which will end our worries for a few months.

From this cable you will see that the proposal to have Mr. Harper from Cornell join us as the expert supported by the Shanghai Commercial and Savings Bank proved unsatisfactory to the bank. In looking the man up in all our available sources he did not have any standing in the department, was listed merely as an assistant in the department in 1932, and quite evidently did not have any experience. The bank is very anxious to have a well known man with experience who will carry weight as well as have ability to do the work they are financing. Naturally, they are not giving us this money with the idea of being merely altruistic, but because they have decided we are the best agents through which to work to develop the idea of rural credits and better financing for farmers.

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# TRANSFER

6-9-33

Mr. Garside - 2

There has been disappointment because Mr. Buck has not recommended a single man outside of Cornell University. We are interested in Cornell of course, but it is also true that we are being severely criticised because so many of our graduates are going there, so many of our returned students are from there and we are being influenced so greatly from that one institution. We do not feel at all worried over that part of the criticism, but we regret that Mr. Buck did not give a single person outside of the Cornell group. The Trade Commissioners in Shanghai - Mr. Julean Arnold and Mr. Dawson - have told the bank and Dean Sie that they consider it would be a very simple matter to interest a man, well trained and well qualified, for the work and the bank is just about at the point of withdrawing their gift and allowing some other group to find the man. It puts us in a very difficult position. Yesterday Dean Sie had a long conference with the representatives from the bank and after much talking the decision was reached to postpone the whole matter for the present. We shall hope to find a man for second semester. Dean Sie has some names of men given him by various people and he will start correspondence with some of them to see what the prospects may be for later agreements. I am giving you this background as we shall very likely need your help later in making final arrangements with any man who comes to us under this gift from the bank. The bank is not primarily interested in the money part of it for they will probably continue the support if we can make good our part of the proposition. They are interested in the type man and his ability to train Chinese students for this work. They are anxious to have a man who has experience and standing in his own institution. Men like Mr. Arnold have assured the bank that it is a very simple matter to interest experts to come to China on half salary these days so it makes it very awkward for us to say we have to pay such tremendous salaries as proposed by cables. The wires are crossed somewhere and so we have decided to postpone the whole matter for the present. Meanwhile if you know of any man in the field of Rural Cooperatives, marketing and cooperative societies who might be available for a period not less than two years and preferably three years, send us all available information about him. There is more at stake than just spending the bank's money. If we fail on this proposition we have lost one of our largest future supporters.

The semester is drawing to a close with commencement ahead of us and the usual rush for closing. There is a general plan for practically every family to leave for the summer this year - in fact, it looks as if I was to be the only Western staff member in Hanking for part of the summer at least. Dr. Y. F. Yu, president of Ginling College, is leaving for U.S.A. to attend a conference in Chicago in July. I hope she will be able to call in New York and that you may be there at the time of her visit. She will be in America for only a few weeks, returning to China about September 1st.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Elwin M. Priest*

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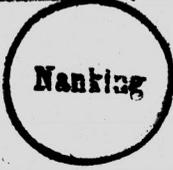
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**TRANSFER**  
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING  
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER  
NANKING, CHINA

INDEXED



June 9, 1933.

ack 7/4

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
New York.

My dear Mr. Garside:

Miss Maude E. Whipple has resigned from the University of Nanking and her resignation has been accepted. We have arranged to pay her salary through the month of September 1933, but will not pay the item of 60 00 Chinese currency mentioned in the minutes. It is arranged that this item is not to be given further consideration in lieu of the settlement of the contract for salary through September.

In addition we shall pay G\$120 00 as a proportionate part of travel. We are not under obligation to do so, but it seemed to us a wise thing to do in view of all conditions involved.

Will you kindly send me a check for the two months of August and September - G\$160 00 - upon receipt of this letter payable to Miss Maude Whipple and then stop all further payments to her? I would like to clear the full account with her in August. We will arrange for the travel item here, but her checks have been coming from your office so we decided to close the accounts in the usual manner.

Miss Whipple was engaged to teach English in the Middle School and has given good service. She is a good teacher and the students like her very much. She has been ill a great deal and we have spent a large amount for her medical expenses during the past few years. Last December she decided she did not care to teach English longer, but would devote her full time to teaching Bible classes. She did a good piece of work in this line and her extra-curriculum Bible classes were popular. However, it left the English Department in a serious state, and it was felt that although we recognized the value of the religious work that we must have someone for the work in English. Then Miss Whipple became ill and her future health is a great question. She has been ill since March 1st and of course we shall clear all medical bills. There are other items that I cannot write today, but this seemed the wise thing to do. Her sister is in Nanking and the family are quite willing to accept this arrangement. Under no circumstances would we have renewed the contract which would have expired in two more years.

Sincerely yours,

*Elie M. Priest*

*Paid 7/1/33  
W 4176-160*

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**TRANSFER**  
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING  
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER  
NANKING, CHINA



June 17, 1933.

*ack 7/24*

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
University of Nanking,  
150 Fifth Ave. New York.

My dear Mr. Garside:

We enclose two orders No. 7111 and 7112 covering some special apparatus in platinum. The price for these articles varies constantly with the fluctuations in the cost of platinum so we are not placing the orders directly. I cannot locate any recent quotation on platinum per gram.

If the price per-gram is more than G\$2.00 per gram please place the order No. 7111. If the price is G\$2.00 or less per gram please place both 7111 and 7112, ordering them to be sent by mail insured and registered etc.

*order placed - 7/7/33*

The bill of lading and invoices for the paper from Alling and Cory Company have arrived and we are quite dismayed to find you have not sent us the consular invoice. Probably I assumed incorrectly that you were familiar with the regulations for shipments to China. Now it will cost us a fine of fifteen gold units - or around 30.00. You may hear from the Department of Botany for they do not like to waste their precious coppers assigned to them.

For your information for future shipments - no freight shipment can be made to China without a consular invoice signed by a member of Chinese consular service at place of shipment, except the value of the invoice is less than two hundred dollars Chinese currency. If the consular invoice is not enclosed the consignee is subject to fines. The system was inaugurated about nine months ago. If a mail shipment should be more than two hundred dollars, the consular invoice is also required.

Very sincerely yours,

*Elmer M. Priest*

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0717

TRANSEER  
INDEXED

*over*



University of Nanking

June 23, 1933

President Y. G. Chen  
University of Nanking  
Nanking, China

My dear Doctor Chen

We enclose herewith copies of our Nanking Executive minutes of the meeting held on June 16.

Inasmuch as action was taken on the 1933-34 budget, and various other items in the minutes are of special interest to the field, we have sent you the usual supply of 50 copies for distribution to the Board of Directors and to others who are directly interested.

In this letter I will comment on such items as seem to require special note.

Matters Arising from Directors' Minutes. Thus far we have received only one copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on April 21. This was sent by Mr. Wheeler, accompanied by a very helpful letter of comments. We went through these minutes with some care and made excerpts for the Executive Committee of all matters which appeared to be of interest to the Board of Founders.

noted

The Executive Committee/with cordial interest the actions of the Board of Directors with regard to the LC\$48,000.00 fund for rural co-operatives, and the request to the Rockefeller Foundation for funds for your rural projects. It was our understanding that no formal action by the Founders is necessary on either of these matters.

You will note that the Executive Committee took only ad interim action on the renewal of the Agreement between the Directors and Founders by extending this Agreement for a period sufficient to enable us to obtain the various schedules which the field is sending, and to permit the autumn meeting of the full Board of Founders to take definite action in the matter. We hope that it will be possible for the field to send us quite early in the fall the various property schedules referred to in the Agreement so that we may have all papers complete when the matter is brought officially to the Founders. My experience has been that if information is complete and all papers are in hand, it is comparatively easy to get constructive and satisfactory action from any of our boards of trustees here in New York, but if information is incomplete and essential documents are lacking, it is extremely difficult to secure any definite action.

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0718

June 23, 1933

The Executive Committee also wished to give the field time to comment on the proposal made by the Board of Founders on April 21 in action BF-689.

I am at this time writing to the University of the State of New York for more detailed information as to the procedure to be followed in our application for an absolute charter. I will probably write you again on this topic next week.

Budget for 1933-34. This is the item which is of most interest to the field. In action EC-689 we have tried to set forth as fully as possible the amounts the Board of Founders hopes will be available during 1933-34, and the sources whence these contributions will be coming. You will note that the phraseology of action EC-689(a) is slightly different from that used last year. In 1932-33 the appropriation was made in Local Currency Dollars with the provision that all expenditures made in gold would be charged to the field at the arbitrary rate of 2.10 to 1. This year the appropriation is made in U. S. Dollars with the provision that all funds disbursed in Local Currency are to be computed at the rate of 2.10 to 1. The net result is about the same, though certain changes in accounting procedure will be necessary. I am writing a separate letter to Miss Priest discussing in somewhat greater detail various matters related to the 1933-34 budget, so I will not need to go into technical details at this time.

We are very sorry indeed that the amounts the Board of Founders are able to appropriate for next year are in several instances somewhat less than the figures contained in the field estimates. This was due in practically every instance to the fact that there have been further losses in income since I wrote the field in January forecasting as best I could the income that would be available in 1933-34. Dividends on Alumina Preferred Stock were cut from \$3.00 per share to \$1.50 per share. Under the mortgage moratorium established about three months ago Banking is losing for the present its interest on one of our large mortgages (referred to in action EC-681). We are doing everything possible to protect both the interest and income on this mortgage, but the real estate situation here is very difficult.

Report of Committee on Instruction. By action EC-690 the Executive Committee approved actions by the Committee on Instruction with regard to Dr. Lewis and Miss Bucher. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the minutes of the Committee on Instruction so that you may be familiar with the details of these actions.

So far as Dr. Lewis is concerned, the only item still to be cleared is that of obtaining somewhat fuller information on a certain point. We hope this will be cleared up in a few days and that the formalities on Dr. Lewis' appointment will be satisfactorily completed.

The proposed appointment of Miss Bucher presents a somewhat unique case. Miss Bucher's support is to be provided by Dr. and Mrs. Buck, and much of her work will be in the nature of personal secretarial services

0719

June 23, 1933

not directly related to University affairs. This being the case the Committee was hesitant to enter into a life agreement between the University and Miss Bucher until we can see all the factors in the situation a little more clearly. This hesitation does not in any sense imply any lack of approval of Miss Bucher or lack of appreciation for the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. Buck in providing her support. It is purely a technical difficulty of fitting a very unique arrangement into the usual regulations of University procedure.

Inasmuch as we have not had time to exchange letters with the field on the matter, the Committee thought it wise to advocate the continuation for the present of the arrangements Miss Bucher has had during the past year, with the understanding that as soon as Dr. and Mrs. Buck and Miss Bucher arrive in Nanking, they will consult with you, and you will then send us your recommendations as to the procedure that will be the best for all the interests concerned. I am quite sure that the Committee would heartily favor Miss Bucher's life appointment if that is the procedure you recommend, or if this appears to be too permanent a contract in view of the unique and experimental nature of some features of the arrangement, an appointment might be made for a regular five-year term, subject to renewal or to extension into a life agreement at the expiration of the original appointment. Will you please keep this in mind as a matter to be discussed with Dr. and Mrs. Buck and Miss Bucher as soon after they arrive in Nanking as may be mutually convenient.

Very cordially yours

YGC:MS

Enc.

CC: Mr. Wheeler  
Miss Priest

0720

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TRANSMIT

Nanking

INDEXED

University of Nanking

June 24, 1933

Miss Esie M. Priest  
University of Nanking  
Nanking, China

My dear Miss Priest

I am sending you copy of the letter we have just written Dr. Chen, <sup>commenting</sup> in general on the minutes of the June 16 meeting of our Nanking Executive Committee. This present letter will deal with the budget for 1933-34.

We studied with a great deal of care your letter of April 27, with its enclosed copy of the 1933-34 budget estimates. We regret very much indeed that the amount now appropriated by the Board of Founders is substantially less than even the reduced estimates of income used by the field in preparing next year's budget. As I explained in my letter to President Chen, there have been further losses of income during the last few months. As a matter of fact the Founders are exercising a substantial amount of faith in placing their appropriations at as high a figure as they have used. There is every likelihood that Mission Board cash grants will be reduced still further during the coming year, and there may be further losses of income from endowment funds.

Moreover, the Founders do not yet know whether we will close the year 1932-33 with a surplus or a deficit. The indeterminate factor is the amount of gain on exchange. Taking into account only the gain in exchange known to us here in New York, there will be a substantial deficit in this year's accounts when we remit to the Board of Directors the two thirds of this year's gain in exchange. We are hoping that the report you sent us when you closed your books (as discussed at great length in my letter of yesterday) will give us a more encouraging outlook. But for the present the Founders are forced to feel conservative.

You will note the form of action EC-689(d) dealing with the appropriation of Famine Funds for next year. This is the first year our Nanking Founders have had any responsibility for the appropriation of these funds, and they wish to go slowly until they are thoroughly familiar with all the factors involved. I am afraid that the interest on these funds during 1933-34 will be at least \$5,000.00 less than the U.S.\$30,500.00 you anticipated, since interest on some of the notes held by the National Savings and Trust Company is now in arrears. Possibly this will be compensated for by the surplus still remaining in our 1932-33 Famine Fund account. The question of whether appropriation should be made from the principal of the Famine Fund in order to provide for the current budget of the University is a matter that will have to be discussed on its merits by the Board of Founders at its next meeting. This action of the Executive Committee should not therefore be considered as establishing a precedent for the future.

0721

June 24, 1935

We will wait until we receive your report after closing your books for 1932-33 before taking up formally the question of remittances on account of the 1933-34 budget. Meantime we will, of course, be making some disbursements, for such items as salaries and pensions and for books, equipment, and supplies. But the Executive Committee expressed itself quite strongly as desiring to have a final clearance of the 1932-33 accounts before making any large remittances on account of 1933-34.

There are several specific items in your letter of April 27 on which some comments should be made:-

You refer to an inquiry in your letter of February 11 as to whether the Founders would allow the use of at least some of their one third of this year's gain on exchange for the support of Mr. Wheeler's publicity work and for assisting with the cost of erecting residences on the Wu Tai Chan property. Your letter of February 11 apparently did not reach us, and seems to have been part of a batch of letters from Nanking written about the middle of February which got lost somewhere in its 9000-mile journey from the field. I am afraid, however, that even if the letter had reached me, I could not have given any very definite reply. Much depends upon the amount of this gain on exchange, and what, if anything, will be left after the Founders take care of the deficit now facing us. It would certainly be in order for the field to suggest these two items for the Founders' consideration. I would be glad to pass along to them the proposal as set forth in the middle of the second page of your letter of April 27.

Sorry that the reduction in income has necessitated the postponement of the plans for erecting the Wu Tai Chan residences. All of us are getting the habit of making sacrifices here and there in order to continue carrying on in some sort of fashion.

We are very much interested in the copy you enclose of the regulations for the standard of promotion of faculty and staff members, and for the regulations governing the retirement allowances for the Chinese staff.

We are very sorry indeed that all this accumulation of financial burdens has brought about another postponement of your richly earned furlough. After adding to your worries by all the discouraging information I have given above, it would seem a bit farcical to express the hope that you can get away from the field earlier than your letter of April 27 indicates. We certainly do hope, however, that in some way you will be able to shift your burden of responsibility to other shoulders in the near future so that you can give your own head and shoulders a rest for a while.

Very cordially yours

B A GARSIDE

BAG:MS  
Enc.

0722

## UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

NANKING, CHINA

Letter No. 1



June 28, 1933.

ack 8/4

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
University of Nanking.  
New York.

My dear Mr. Garside:

Your letter of June 5th has just arrived and calls to my attention that you have not received my reply to your letter of January 19th. My letter was mailed on March 15th. In turn, I have been concerned that I had no word from you. It looks as if most of my letters to you since January had been lost in the mail and we are very suspicious of our local post office. We have lost in the neighborhood of fifty letters that can be traced - how many others we do not know. We have had two letters containing bank deposits stolen with two checks taken out and cashed - the bank took the responsibility as it was on the Postal Bank and we had a clear receipt from the post office for the letter.

The three letters that concern us particularly are dated February 2d, 11th, and March 15th. I enclose duplicates of the February 2d and March 15th. In the February 11th I asked you to send me a cable for our Board meeting regarding a certain matter long since settled in other ways now. No use to send that letter to you today. Not only did I send you the original of the February 2d, but also sent a duplicate in a second letter.

In order to enable you to go ahead with your closing I have just cabled you

"Following option two letter January nineteenth. Replied March. Priest."

Beginning from today we will number all letters to you. This one will go registered but of course we cannot afford to register every letter to you. We have protested at the post office and hope to have better conditions. If you find you do not receive the letters in numerical order please let me know.

I can only express my deep regret that your work has been delayed because of these lost letters. It is most annoying and I have been feeling much neglected inasmuch as you did not send me any of the information I asked for during the spring! I am still uncertain about orders - how many have been lost etc. We know some checks mailed from here never reach U.S.A.

Most of the information requested in these letters has been secured in other ways. In the February 2d letter, I would still like to know about property requirements. Mr. Su has done a fine piece of work in gathering the inventory and just as soon as I have time I will have it translated and start the capital ledger.

My request for the June statement did not reach you but it does not matter as I am not leaving this summer.

Regarding Famine Funds; I have assumed you would treat this budget the same as our general Budget only keeping it in a separate column on your

0723

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JUL 24 1933  
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Mr. G. Side - 2

# TRANSFER

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statements. We are working out a system with our men in the Yenching station whereby we control accounts from Nanking. The Yenching office advised us they would require 900 00 per year to handle our accounts which in total amount to about 20,000. per year. This seemed to us too high a commission and even if we have to pay for transfer of funds it would not amount to any such figure. Therefore we are arranging to handle all accounts ourselves.

With reference to the hospital - I have also been rather puzzled to note you did not make the monthly adjustments after all our correspondence regarding the matter. Evidently this word will be news also. In the future please adjust monthly, charging against the current account.

We are sorry this has happened this year. Much seems to be settled without letters but it is reassuring to have some word. School is closed and we are beginning to work for the closing of the year.

Sincerely yours,

*Elsie M. Priest*

Elsie M. Priest.

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Letter No 3.

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING  
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER  
NANKING, CHINA



June 30, 1933.

*ack- 7/4/33 to Alling & Cory  
7/16/33*

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
Associated Boards, New York.

My dear Mr. Garside:

That shipment of paper for the Botany Department has caused us a great deal of trouble and now we cannot take delivery because you sent us the wrong bill of lading. I should not have noted the missing signature when the papers arrived two weeks ago but it did not occur to me that you were not familiar with shipping instructions of this nature.

You had the bill of lading made out "from The Alling and Cory Company" and then "deliver only to the "order of the shippers". Naturally we are helpless for such a bill of lading requires the endorsement of Alling and Cory Company before the steamship company will let us have the goods. I am still puzzled to see why you did this as the ordinary and customary method is to have the goods marked and the bill of lading inscribed to deliver only to the "University of Nanking".

We are returning a copy of the bill of lading and will have to request you to secure the missing signature from Alling and Cory Company and return at your earliest convenience. For safety I will enclose two copies so you can mail by separate mails or else register one.

Inasmuch as you are not familiar with shipping regulations may I request that in the future if you have any such transactions for the University of Nanking that you turn the matter over to a shipping broker. We would prefer to pay him a commission than to have all this trouble - it would save us tens of dollars as well. By the time we pay the fine for the missing consular invoice, the storage and fines for this incorrect bill of lading as well as the funds for a bond to secure the goods this paper will be worth its weight in gold.

Please let me have the properly endorsed bill of ladings by earliest mail possible.

Sincerely yours,

*Elsie M. Priest*  
Elsie M. Priest.

*Alling Cory 133 W. 21  
Mr. Stewart*

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