Nanking
Corres.
Reisner, John H. 1927 Oct-Dec

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 526
SHANGHAI, CHINA

Nanking

INDEXED

October 4, 1927.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
Dr. A. J. Bowen,
Mr. B. A. Garside.

Dear Dr. Speer, Dr. Bowen and Mr. Garside:

It is only a few days since I wrote my last letter, but in the meantime Dr. K. C. Liu and Mr. Kuo have both been in from Nanking, and there are a few matters which I should probably report.

The Colleges

Registration closed October 1 with 390 odd students enrolled, of whom about fifteen were special students in the Chinese Department. There are between eighty and one hundred subfreshman and about forty new students have transferred from other colleges. The morning assembly and chapel exercises are being conducted as organized for last spring semester. Dr. Chen secured the services of Mr. Hsiung, who had been connected with the Methodist Mission at Kiukiang. Bishop Birney says he is a very fine man indeed, one of the strongest men in their whole church, and he was very loth to lose him. We have not had many details as to new teachers, except I understand Dr. Chen has secured about fifteen new teachers only a few of them giving full time and some of them only a few hours. The College of Agriculture and Forestry has three new teachers and there is one more to come. The students seem to be in a more studious mien and to have been chastened by their experiences of the past six months. The fact that the present student body has such a large percentage of old students should be considered a factor that would add to its stability and make for greater reason on the part of the students.

The buildings are still occupied by the Seventh Army and the colleges are still their headquarters. The Administrative Committee have been unable to get in direct touch with General Li Tsung-ren, who is one of the highest commanding officers and one of the most powerful militarists in the Nationalist government. Mr. Kuo feels that if no fighting takes place between the Nanking government and the Wuhan government, as seems imminent, then the Seventh Army will remove within ten days. If there is fighting they will not move. This word was brought to them by one of our graduates, Mr. Chang, who is in the Foreign Affairs Office and who has been a very good friend of the University throughout the past months.

The Middle School

A letter received from Mr.C. F. Liu several days ago reports 144 students enrolled, of whom 118 have paid and twenty-six have not yet come. Another entrance examination for the Middle School is being held this week. A number of government middle schools are also opening this week, so I am hoping that a fairly large number of new students may be secured. I think an enrolment of 200 in the Middle School is quite a reasonable expectation. After the Board of Managers voted $1,000 for repairs on the Middle School, which would represent only a very small percent. of what was actually needed, Mr. Gee and Mr. Liu decided that they had better wait for a few days and for the present make only such small and necessary repairs as were absolutely unavoidable.

A Visit to Nanking

The people at Nanking all seem to feel that a visit of several days by Messrs. Bates, Buck, Thomson and myself would be a good thing, and so we shall probably go up shortly after my return from vacation on the 16th. I understand that certain difficulties seem to be cropping up from the Chinese side in connection with the return of the foreign teachers to Ginling College. These are not administrative difficulties or within the institution but with reference to their being in Nanking at all. Dean Kuo certainly feels strongly that we should not go back at the present time.

The Political Situation

The political situation has changed very little these last few days, except that the lack of confidence in the present government seems to daily become more apparent. Certainly there is no enthusiasm for it, and the life of the government, so far as ministries, etc., are concerned, will depend absolutely upon the fortunes of the military men. If Nanking maintains itself militarily then the present civil administration will probably stand, but it is nothing more than a house of cards and is apt to break down at any small crisis that may arise. A very interesting letter appeared in the correspondence columns of the North-China Daily News, signed by F. D. Z., who is popularly known to be Mr. Francis Zia, one of the leading Chinese newspaper men and editor of the China Courier, which styles itself "the mirror of Chinese Nationalist opinion." One paragraph of the letter is worth quoting, as follows:

"Let us respect Dr. Sun as a man, and not falsely worship him as a god. Truth only can abide in this world; hypocrisy must die and shall die! The Northerners are heartless despots; the Nationalists are heartless despots and hypocrites combined together! The greatest need for China to-day is no longer the abrogation of the unequal treaties, or the extinction of the militarists, or the suppression of the Bolshevists; it is the annihilation of

hypocrisy and the upholding of truth! Let us boldly face truth whatever consequences that may involve. But alas, the Chinese public opinion is as timid as ever; the newspapers who ought to be the mirrors of truth keep on vying with one another to win favour from the great men of power. How many of us are cowardly slaves! Null and void indeed is all our talk of freedom and democracy!" The statement itself is not so significant to me as that it should ever be made, and particularly by the one who makes it.

The Military Situation

Not so good. Wuhan has its eye on Nanking. The Seventh Army in Nanking for some days past has been moving out toward Wuhu and a battle between the Nanking and the Wuhan forces is expected almost any day. Unfortunately there is not too much confidence in the strength of the Nanking group. All hope, of course, that the Wuhan clique will not win, because that would mean much more trouble for Nanking than she has yet experienced, but that it finally results in a rather nice balance - and some small influence may throw it one way or the other. Fighting has started between Fengtien and Shansi, but that is too far away for us to take much interest in it or for it to have much significance for us in the Yangtze valley. There is considerable expectation that the North will move down to the Yangtze and possibly try to cross it. The Red armies have made a lot of trouble in Swatow and are apt to make still more until they are suppressed. Fighting has also broken out along the Peking-Hankow Railway and so it looks as if preparations were being made for a considerable amount of fighting this coming autumn. It is doubtful, however, whether the South will try to move very far north; the weather is against them.

Dean Kuo tells me that Cheng Chien is in Nanking but without an army. I have also learned that the Chinese refused to punish Cheng Chien as demanded by the foreign powers, for the reason that Cheng Chien was not responsible for the Nanking outrage but that the chief of the Political Bureau connected with his army was responsible. They claim to have documentary evidence to prove this. It seems that every army has a general, and over the general is the head of the political bureau. The general cannot issue an order without countersignature by the political bureau head, but the political bureau head can give an order without referring it to the general, and this is what is claimed to have happened in Cheng Chien's army. Lin Tsu-hung, the name of the man who is responsible, is now with the Red armes operating in Kwangtung.

Relative to the Nanking incident, an interesting statement appeared in the North-China Daily News as recorded in an interview which Sokolsky had with General Ho Yin-ching, next to General Chiang Kai-shek one of the two strongest men originally connected with the revolutionary army which came up from Canton.

The paragraph is quoted below and needs no further comment:

"I called General Ho's attention to the fact that the only impediment in the way of such a restoration was the failure to settle the Nanking Incident (i. e., the restoration of former pleasant relations with foreigners). 'The Nanking Incident was a C. P. product,' he said. 'My troops were not in the city. The Communist agents knew every foreign house and led the looters directly to the houses which were to be looted. Their object was to destroy the political position of General Chiang Kai-shek. That is their method: to destroy one man politically, they ruin a city and sacrifice the Nationalist Movement and involve us in intricate and difficult international relations. We do not know where Lin Tzu-hon is now. He has run away somewhere. He organized the Nanking looting; then he disappeared. That is their way.'"

I do not know how many of our forward-looking editors, such as Paul Hutchinson et al, still believe that the Russian influence played no part in the early stages of the movement of the revolution into the Yangtze valley. The Nationalist military leaders and many of their politicians certainly have no misgivings on this point, as is clearly indicated in the very frank statement by General Ho just quoted.

Registration

We have received a reply from the Central Educational Committee ~~and~~ to a request made by the Board of Managers asking for an extension of time for reorganization and registration. This has been granted and December 31 fixed as a date. I suppose if necessary this can be further extended. The big point is that we are ~~actually~~ actually trying to work out our problems. Dean Chen and Dean Kuo have visited the Central Educational Committee in Nanking and report the members as very friendly. One of the members spent a good part of a day recently going over the plant and work of the College of Agricultture and Forestry.

I have had one good talk with Mr. AlexanderPaul and am hoping to see Mr. Corey this afternoon. We leave tonight per S. S. Coblenz for ten days afloat.

With kind regards and best wishes, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H Reisner

John H. Reisner.

University of Nanking

October 6, 1927

Mr.John H.Reisner,
Room 526, 20 Museum Road,
Shanghai, China.

My dear Mr.Reisner:

Enclosed is a confirmation copy of a cablegram which our office has today dispatched to you. I am sorry that it has required so much time to hear from members of the Board of Trustees and from the five co-operating boards in regard to the proposed plan of reorganization acted on by the Trustees' meeting of September 14th. You will be glad to know, however, that at present three of our cooperating boards have given formal approval of action No.T-331 as taken by the Trustees on September 14th, and that the other two cooperating boards have taken tentative action and will give formal approval as soon as a properly constituted group can be assembled. Of the twenty-two Trustees we have received a vote of approval from all except three who have been out of the country or who, for some other reason, have not been reached by our letters. I feel that this is a most gratifying response from the Trustees and the cooperating boards, particularly as the whole situation around Nanking has caused increasing concern during the last few weeks.

The one member of the Board of Trustees who has been outspoken in his criticism of this proposed reorganization is Mr.J.W.Severance. About ten days ago he wrote, sending me his vote of approval, but stated that, while he voted affirmatively because it seemed to be the unanimous opinion of the other Trustees, he himself was not in accord with some of the items covered in Action T-331. Specifically, Mr.Severance disapproves of (a) the new relationship between the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees as proposed by the field; (b) the recommendation to the boards that they continue their present cash grants to the University. He makes the significant statement that "Personally, I will not put any more money into China under the existing state of affairs there."

I am passing on to you this information in regard to Mr.Severance's attitude because I am sure you will want to know the reaction of this most outstanding friend and supporter of the University of Nanking. This is the attitude of a large and growing number of people in America who have had a tremendous share in building up Christian institutions now existing in China. I think it is well that our Chinese colleagues should be informed of this attitude though, for obvious reasons, it is better that no names should be mentioned. I hope that you on the field may be able to do something to win back the confidence and goodwill of Mr.Severance.

We will do what we can from the office but any effective measures will have to come from the field.

We have studied with interest and concern your letters of August 31st and September 9th. Obviously they were written under most disturbing and discouraging conditions. We have had no cabled word as to whether or not the University of Nanking was able to open its regular session, but we sincerely hope that it was able to begin its work at the usual time.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-H

Enc.1

Shanghai College,
Shanghai,
October 12, 1927.

Mr. J. H. Reisner,
University of Nanking,
Nanking.

My dear Mr. Reisner:

This letter is to inform you concerning two students of the University of Nanking who very self-sacrificingly interceded on my behalf last March 24th when I was prisoner at the hands of three Nationalist soldiers.

Ni Ru-chien came into the yard of Mr. Bates after soldiers had entered the house, searched us, robbed us, and the rabble were ransacking the house. Mr. Bates had gone around the back of his house, leaving me standing there hatless, coatless, shoeless. Soon three soldiers and a civilian, the latter with a large clothful of loot, came into the yard and began angrily demanding money from me. It was about this time that Ni entered the y ard, saw that a foreigner was in trouble (he and I had never seen each other before) came up and started talking to the soldiers, trying to pacify them. They, or one particularly ugly one, kept threatening him with the gun. Finally Ni offered to go back to his room in the dormitory and get money and bring it back to them. This he did, returning to the yard after eight or ten minutes in which the soldiers made it uncomfortable for me. Ni handed them several bills. I could not see whether they were five or ten dollar denominations. I do not know whether it was 20, 30, 40 dollars or more.

Still, of course, the soldiers were not satisfied. Ni then, after being threatened repeatedly, said that he would take them (the soldiers) to his dormitory room and get more money. We then formed a parade, Ni and I as prisoners of these three soldiers, the civilian remaining to get his share. We walked to the dormitory, via the tennis courts, across campus, down the steps, across the road, in the gate and turned to the right then up to the top floor to Ni's room.

Here Ni took several bills from between the leaves of his Chinese books and gave them to the soldiers. Then he would protest that it was all he had. The soldiers threatened him with guns, he searched for more bills and found them. This happened two or three times. Finally he stood up on a chair and scooped from the top of a beam a large handful of silver dollars which he had hidden there, gave these to the soldiers. This was apparently all he had, for they threatened him further, but he could produce no more. How much in all he had given them I cannot say. I should think a hundred dollars nearly. What else he lost from his room while the soldiers were there poking around, I cannot say either. They poked around his desk and drawers.

Several times while we were there in that little attic room, groups of students had tried to come into the room, only to be aimed at by the soldiers, who drove them back down. At last, however, one student did brave their guns and entered the room, closing the door behind him, talking to the soldiers. (Most of the talk that went on I could not understand). This second student's name was Yu Chien-hsuin. The soldiers immediately took his watch from his wrist. He and the "sergeant" (one of the soldiers was older than the other two, wore a Sam Brown belt, seemed to be in charge) went out in the hall for a conference (concerning me). Yu came back and told me that unless I could

produce a thousand dollars, they were going to kill me. He was sympathetic, urged on me the seriousness of the situation. Finally I decided that if we could telephone, perhaps we could get money. He finally persuaded them, after much hesitation on their part, to all go over to Severance Hall where I could telephone friends for money.

So the parade formed again. Ni had slipped out somehow, and I did not see him again until the next day. Yu was now taking my part bravely (he and I had never seen each other before). We marched downstairs, out the gate, across the road and into Severance Hall. There in the little telephone room, Yu called up the American Consulate and Standard Oil offices for me, receiving word in each case that all foreigners had left. The soldiers were getting more and more impatient. Yu tried to urge me to think of others to call up, but I was so paralyzed with dismay and fear that I couldn't think or do anything reasonable. The particularly ugly soldier then took me by the belt, led me out into the hall (I suppose to take me outside to shoot) after a few steps down the hall, a voice from back in the telephone room called "Bu Yao da" (don't kill him).

We stopped, and after a time walked back to the room. To omit details, Lawrence Lew and a few students came up with a Southern officer (in olive drab overcoat, cane, gloves, black moustache) who shouted and drove off the soldiers. Students then took me to first floor of Bailie Hall. It was very cold in the room, I had nothing but my shirt and trousers on. Yu stayed with me after the other students left, then he went out and brought back an overcoat belonging to a friend, and the only pair of shoes he could find, a pair of little tennis oxfords about three sizes too short, In these I scuffed around the rest of the day. Yu wrote in Chinese the name of the owner of the coat inside the inside pocket, and also gave me his and Ni's names on a scrap of paper which I still have. Yu told me that he was a Christian from a Presbyterian church up in Anhwei, and that "Christians are supposed to help people out." Whether Ni was a Christian or not I did not ask, nor do I know. But I do know that few Christians have done braver things than these two boys did for me, a total stranger, that terrible day in Nanking last March 24.

I should appreciate information concerning these boys. They should cretainly be repaid for what they lost on my behalf, on behalf of the foreigner that day when without their help many of us should perhaps have shared the fate of Dr. Williams. I had been within four feet of the latter when he fell, and later when I was prisoner and had many horrible visions of what might also happen to me, I tell you it was a great comfort to have these two Chinese students so bravely take my part.

That day I had revealed to me the two extremes of what Chinese nature, human nature, can be - utter self-forgetting devotion, and utter disrespect for life. These two boys belong to that long list of unsung heroes who in every land and in all ages reveal the spirit of Christ but who are never decorated with medals by Carnegie Foundations. Verily, they shall not lose their reward.

Sincerely,

Herbert D. Lamson.

over.

TRANSFER

Nanking

University of Nanking

October 19, 1927

Mr.J.H.Reisner,
Room 526 20 Museum Road,
Shanghai, China.

My dear Mr.Reisner:

We have been happy to learn from your letters of September 16 and September 23, and your Occasional Letter No.7, that the University of Nanking has found it possible to open up at the regular time. I am more than ever impressed with the persistence and courage of our Chinese members of staff who are sticking by the job when the safest and easiest thing for them would be to turn their attention elsewhere.

We have distributed the 20 extra copies of Occasional Letter No.7 to those members of the Board of Trustees who do not receive copies direct. We find that twenty copies fall one short of the number required to supply all the remaining trustees and would suggest that you increase our allotment to 25 copies so that we may reach everyone and have a few copies available to supply the frequent requests received by our office for this material.

There is not much use of our commenting on the political situation as it exists at Nanking because the conditions there at the time you wrote have already been materially altered and before this letter reaches you the chances are there will be another transformation of the political and military scenery. The one thing we may be sure of as regards the Nanking situation is that we can depend upon the occurrence of the unexpected.

We are glad to know that the Middle School was able to open up in spite of the difficult problems that confront it. We hope that the military changes may at least produce one happy result in making it possible for the University to get back the control of the Hospital.

Naturally we are greatly interested in the estimated amount of emergency deficit to June 30th as contained in your letter of September 23rd. Of course, there will be still further heavy additions to this deficit in this present fiscal year. For the last week I have been trying to get a meeting of our Nanking Emergency Fund Committee and have at last been able to set up this meeting for luncheon tomorrow. As yet I do not see just what further steps they are going to be able to take but I am hopeful that the Committee will have more fruitful ideas. As you know, all of the efforts that we have been able to make since the

first of June, assisted as they have been by the interest in Nanking created by the incident of March 24th, have only netted us a bare $10,000. There still remains at least $20,000. more to be secured. Where and when this is to be obtained is a mighty difficult proposal.

I am afraid that our financial situation has been made considerably more acute by Miss Priest's revision of Mr.Owen's schedule for the payment of remittances on the Famine Fund account during this fiscal year. It has been extremely fortunate for us that thus far the Famine Funds have come in rapidly enough for us to maintain a substantial credit balance in this account. Since our Emergency account is at present overdrawn about $7,000. and the Current General is in the same sad condition, it has only been because of the $14,000. balance in the Famine Fund account that we have been able to keep going. It seems that, under the revised schedule, it is planned to use practically all of these Famine Funds before any further receipts come in. If that is done, it will mean that we must from some source obtain about $14,000. in order to remain solvent. It is extremely unlikely that the Emergency Campaign will net any such amount for a good many months to come. So our only alternative would be to obtain a loan for that amount at some bank here in New York. That would certainly prove both a difficult and expensive procedure. Let us hope that our finances work out more favorably than we anticipate.

We very much hope that the short vacation you and Mrs.Reisner were planning to take gave you some opportunity to gain a little rest. You have been carrying a tremendous burden these last six months and could not be expected to carry the load indefinitely. Nanking cannot afford to have you incompacitated through overwork just now so, aside from any personal considerations, we hope you will be able to take care of yourself.

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
Nanking, China

Occasional Letter No. 8.

20 Museum Road, Room 526
Shanghai, China
October 19, 1927

Dear Friends:

Toward the end of the summer I had the feeling that the time had about come to end these Occasional Letters which I have been sending to you since last April. Recent letters of appreciation, however, would seem to indicate that they do serve some useful purpose. Moreover I have tried to make them contain information that would be of both personal and general interest, and to help in a small measure to answer such questions as have recently come to us from former members of our faculty, some of which were: How does the whole situation in China look to you? Do you think the troops will soon be withdrawn from Shanghai? Will the Nationalist Army pay reparations? Will the Nationalist Army succeed in reaching Peking? Such questions and many others that come to us cannot be answered, of course, in such a letter as this but they will help to indicate wherein your interest lies and we will do the best we can. Another difficulty is the matter of financing these letters and if any of you care to do so, we shall be glad to have a check to help cover expenses and relieve us of any embarrassment. Mimeographing is very expensive here in Shanghai and this letter will cost us at least $20.00 gold to get out, which helps to make me wonder whether the letter is worth it. Your response will indicate the course to take.

Situation in the Colleges

Four hundred and fourteen students have been enrolled in the College of Arts and Science and the College of Agriculture and Forestry, including about fifteen special students in the Chinese Department, between eighty and a hundred subfreshmen, and about forty that have transferred from other colleges. There is probably a larger percentage of old students in the student body than we have had for a number of years, which should be considered a very favorable factor in looking to the year ahead. The students seem to be in a more studious mien and to have been chastened by the experiences of the past six months. Quite a number of our students evidently joined various governmental bureaux and many of these have returned to school, feeling that they will be able to serve their country better by finishing their education and preparing themselves for more constructive work than the government at the present time offers. Morning assembly and chapel exercises are being conducted as organized and put into effect at the beginning of the last spring semester. Because of the presence of so many soldiers and the constant use of Sage Chapel, I understand united Sunday services have been held at Ginling.

The Seventh Army has made its headquarters in Severance Hall, the new dormitory, the gymnasium, and the chapel more or less since August 17. Soldiers are around everywhere; entrance to the buildings occupied by the Army are, of course, sentineled by them, including the entrance to the campus. The campus and the athletic grounds have been used freely for drilling. Field kitchens have been set up at various points on the campus, which consequently does not have as tidy a look as it had during the summer, but the campus can be quickly cleaned up

once the Army leaves. The Library has moved reference ~~books~~ and reading rooms to the top floor of Bailie Hall. All the classes have had to be held in Swasey and Bailie Halls. The Treasurer's office moved into my office and has been carrying on there. Entrance into Severance Hall could only be by use of a special badge. The attitude of the soldiers, even to our own students and teachers, has been at times anything but pleasant. I am hoping to be able to add a postscript to this letter indicating that the soldiers have finally removed, but there have been so many false alarms that we are beginning to suspect every report of the intentions of the Army to leave what they must consider very superior headquarters.

Dr. Chen, for the College of Arts and Science, has called about twelve or fifteen new teachers, only several on full time and the rest on part time, some of them giving only a few hours a week. Dean Kuo has secured three new men for the College of Agriculture and Forestry and one more will arrive from the States in November, and these are all on full time. Mr. Hsiung, one of the strongest men in the Methodist Mission, a returned student, has been secured for the Department of Religious Education.

The Middle School

The Middle School has opened and a very excellent spirit pervades. Mr. C. F. Liu a few days ago wrote us as follows: "All soldiers are out of the Kanhoyen campus. We are now busy with cleaning the 'haunted' buildings. Everything is fine! Never in my life have I been so occupied and never have I enjoyed my work so much! We have quite a number of good new students. Mr. Chen, the head of the Nanking Bureau of Education, sent his son to us yesterday. We also have the sons of both the Chief of Police (now called the Head of the Bureau of Public Safety) and his first associate, so we are fairly 'safe.' Up to this afternoon we have 144 students. We are short 16 students. But 'some more are coming.'"

Our Return to Nanking

Mr. Bates and Mr. Thomson, who are both offering courses by correspondence, planned to go up to Nanking last week for a little visit and particularly to meet with their classes and to go over the terms work with them and with the teachers in Nanking who are helping them. A letter came back from Nanking which seems to me to be the most representative consensus of opinion on the part of faculty and students that we have yet had regarding the return of us to the University, and particularly of the return to Nanking of missionaries generally. I think it is best not to mention any names, but the letter is as follows: "While we all sincerely wish you to come back, for it will cheer up the morale of the students, release the colleges from being criticized of being insufficient in teachers, and clear up a host of sundry matters, it is still better, we think, for you not to plan to stay here at least under present circumstances. We do not want you to be involved in further complications, that is our main purpose. There will be no question with our faculty and students if you return. In fact, we all want you to come; we earnestly hope you will come right now. We also feel pretty sure that the government authorities will say, and honestly that they will protect you. We are certain that the commanders of troops will declare that they will protect you. But what we are not

certain, what we cannot deal with, is that group of the common soldiers the rank and file, who do not realize what they are doing. Plainly, there are too many soldiers in the city, nay, around our campus. Some of them are quite unruly that they become a source of danger to the common people. They are capricious; they may do anything to anybody. What, then, if something is done to you when you come? The University has a history somewhat different from that of Ginling College since March 24. And we have soldiers in the very center of our campus. We all love you and welcome you; students as well as teachers want to meet you again. But we all feel that it is a risk, a risk which may be too great for you." And then the writer adds: "Personally I am one of those who do not favour your immediate return. I think in this matter caution is more necessary than risking. Mr. -- will be able to tell you many things which will corroborate with my view. Now if you want to come to Nanking and get a view of the University and the new capital, that is of course a different case. You are surely welcome, you can certainly stay here for several days. Just let us know when you will come."

- There has evidently been a very large movement of soldiers out of Nanking during the past few days and I hope the situation will soon clear up sufficiently so that some of us can make a little visit as suggested.

Reorganization and Registration of the University

Last week we had a cablegram and letters from the Board of Trustees saying that the recommendations made by the Board of Managers last July had been in general favourably acted upon by the Board of Trustees. A number of very excellent suggestions were also made, which I think will undoubtedly be embodied in the plan. A meeting of the Board of Managers will be called shortly and work on reorganization pushed to completion as rapidly as possible. When this has been accomplished the authority for registration will then be in the hands of the Board of Managers, who have already voted favourably on it. A short time ago the Board of Managers requested the Central Educational Committee of the Nationalist Party to extend the time for registration. The request was granted and the time extended to December 31. Several of our men from Nanking have reported meetings with members of the Central Educational Committee, who appear to be very friendly. One of the members spent a good part of a day recently visiting the work and plant of the College of Agriculture and Forestry.

President Bowen's Resignation

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 14 also contained President Bowen's letter of resignation and the Trustees' action on it. Without asking for permission from the Trustees, I am including these items in the letter, because we all are interested, and because the action "came much closer home" to us than to anybody else. President Bowen's letter is only typical of his magnanimity of soul, so many evidences of which we who have been associated with him have had. We know, too, that the sentiments expressed by Dr. Speer and the members of the Board of Trustees are altogether deserved. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees read the following letter from Dr. Bowen, dated August 24, 1927, addressed to the President of the Board of Trustees:-

"It seems to me that the time has come when I should send in my formal resignation as President of the University, so that the men on the field can be free to take steps toward electing a Chinese President. As you know, it is not only in the Regulations of the Governments of China that from now on the heads of private schools shall be Chinese, but it is the universal sentiment of the Chinese leaders, Christian and non-Christian,. It has long been the hope, not only of the Trustees and the Managers but of Dr. Williams and myself, that the day would soon come when the administration of the University could be put into the hands of the Chinese. The day has now arrived, and so it becomes my duty as well as a pleasure to hereby tender my resignation as President of the University of Nanking.

"The years during which it has been my privilege to act in this capacity and to serve under you as President of the Board of Trustees have indeed been the most happy years of my life. Our relationships with Trustees, with Board of Managers, with faculty - Chinese and foreign, and with the people of Nanking, have been most pleasant and uniformly helpful to me. As one thinks of severing such relationships he cannot but be saddened and have many regrets, but it is all made the easier when one thinks of the splendid Chinese Christian leaders who have already taken over the work, and are carrying it successfully forward under most abnormal conditions and in the face of very great difficulties. In their hands, in due time, I am sure that we can look for greater days of usefulness for the University.

"I wish to thank you personally for all of the help and inspiration and blessing you have been to me - it is this that has made possible the success of the University up to this point in its history. I am sure that the same loyal and inspiring backing will be accorded the new administration by you and by the Board of Trustees. I shall be only too happy to continue to help the University in any way possible. During all these years of union work, Dr. Williams and I always very definitely felt that God was leading and guiding in this adventure, and I am still just as sure that He is leading and that we only need to follow His clear guidance.

"With very best wishes and most earnest prayers for the future prosperity and highest usefulness of the University, and assuring you of my continued interest and desire to help in every way, believe me,

Very faithfully yours,
(Signed) A. J. Bowen."

Dr. Speer, President of the Board of Trustees, spoke briefly as follows:- "I am sure that Dr. Bowen knows the feeling of the Board, and the gratitude of the Board for all he has done and been in connection with the University. It would not have been possible for the University to be what it is now, except for the service which Dr.Bowen has rendered. Certainly God prepared him for this work and brought him to the place that when we embarked upon this union enterprise there was only one thought in the minds of all the cooperating bodies as to who should assume the authority. His relationship could not have been happier, and we rejoice in his personal spirit, his influence and character, his modesty, unselfishness, sincerity, and absolute truthfulness of mind and nature, and his complete and untiring devotion to his work. We cannot be thankful enough to God for all Dr. Bowen has been as President of the University throughout these years. It is an almost impossible thought to contemplate, after Dr. Williams' death taking him from the University, that there should now be this proposal

by Dr. Bowen that he should withdraw. No words can express sufficiently what we feel."

Dr. Frank Mason North, Dr. J. H. Franklin and others spoke warmly in praise of Dr. Bowen and the service he has rendered. After discussion it was voted by the Trustees

"That the Board of Trustees, having heard with the profpundest regret Dr. Bowen's letter tendering his resignation from the Presidency of the University of Nanking, hereby records its gratitude to President Bowen for the splendid service he has rendered to the cause of Christ in China as the head of this institution. During the more than seventeen years since the University was first organized as a union institution Dr. Bowen has so administered it as to build up not only an institution of large educational service but also a center for the development of strong Christian character. Few men have been privileged to render such distinguished service or to win such a warmth of affection and esteem from colleagues, students, and associates. It is the Board's earnest desire that Dr. Bowen may always continue to assist the institution with his interest and counsel.

"The Board of Trustees reluctantly accepts Dr. Bowen's resignation, to become effective upon the election and installation of his successor."

In connection with Chinese presidents for our missionary institutions, you will all be interested to know that Soochow University, Hangchow Christian College, Fukien Christian University, and Canton Christian College already have secured Chinese presidents, that Shanghai College has been looking for one for some months now, who will be elected as soon as he can be found. I understand a new reorganization at Peking has made a place for a Chinese president and within a year undoubtedly practically all of the mission colleges and universities will be under Chinese administration. A special committee of the Board of Managers has tried to get Dr. Chen Yu-gwan to accept the presidency, but so far he has been unwilling to accept.

Recent Visits to Nanking

Mr. Drummond of the Presbyterian Mission, Mr. Plummer Mills of the Y. M. C. A., Mr. Burch of the Christian Mission and Mr. Alexander Paul now visiting the Christian Mission as representative of the United Christian Missionary Society have recently visited Nanking. In the following general comments I shall try to summarize some of their impressions, and I am also including some facts which have been supplied by Chinese friends, so that I shall have to assume final responsibility for the statements as made. The soldiers and various sicknesses, including cholera, dysentery, measles, dengue fever and typhoid fever, have kept the Nanking community in a state of constant dread and fear and uncertainty. The cholera seems to have abated considerably since early September. Not only are all the foreign residences, many general foreign buildings such as school buildings and churches, still being occupied by the soldiers, but thousands of Chinese homes find themselves in exactly the same plight. Relatives of a number of our teachers have died during the summer from contagious diseases. Several of our teachers have had typhoid fever and dysentery, but fortunately our faculty and their families have all come through safe and sound. The city streets have not been cleaned for a long

time and only very occasionally and so are unusually dirty. One visitor describes it as "down at the heels." The soldiers have begun to cut the trees and shrubs in some of the foreign compounds. This has been the case in our own yard, and it has been reported from several other compounds. The soldiers were selling flooring out of President Bowen's house for fuel for whatever they could get for it. One foreigner says that living in Nanking makes him feel as if he were sitting on top of a powder magazine which was apt to blow up at any time. Many of the roads are badly in need of repair. Business generally is dead. The hotel business, because of the large number of officials and office seekers, has been fairly good. There is still martial law, which goes in force at 8 P. M. but is evidently not very strict. One visitor reported a sense of resentment and deep disappointment on the part of some of the original soldiers who had started out just a little over a year ago from Canton. They feel that they must start all over, that the aims of the Kuomintang have become confused and their enthusiasm and ideals dissipated. Tens of thousands of new soldiers who know nothing of what the revolution stands for have, of course, been incorporated into the victorious armies of the Nationalist Government, and these not only know nothing at all of what the revolution stands for but have only communistic and destructive rather than patriotic ideas. Certainly a new start will have to be made. Some of the mission primary schools have opened. One of the recent visitors said that a Chinese friend always accompanied him whenever he went out, thinking it was best not to let him go around alone. Nothing disagreeable has happened to any of the visitors, although all were very strictly cautioned. The Y. M. C. A. is still being used as a hospital and there were in it at the same time cases of typhoid, cholera, and dysentery. The cost of living has eased off somewhat, due to a very excellent rice crop, which has in turn caused the cost of rice to drop from $17.00 to $9.00 to $11.00 per picul. None of the visitors succeeded in entering any of the foreign compounds, which were guarded by soldiers.

The Political Situation

The political situation has changed very little since my last letter. Lack of confidence in the present government is still very evident. Certainly there is no enthusiasm for it, and the life of the government, so far as ministries, etc., are concerned, will depend absolutely upon the fortunes of the military men. If Nanking maintains itself militarily, then the present civil administration will probably stand, but it is not much more than a house of cards and is apt to break down at any small crisis that may arise.

A very interesting letter recently appeared in the correspondence columns of the North-China Daily News, signed by F. D. Z., a Chinese whose letters to the paper appear probably more often than those of any other single individual. He was discussing Sunyatsenism and the Nationalist Party. One paragraph of the letter seems to be to be worth quoting, not that the statement itself is so significant as that it should be made at this particular time. I am not sure whether this paragraph should be considered politics, morals, or ethics, or what, but it is as follows: "Let us respect Dr. Sun as a man, and not falsely worship him as a god. Truth only can abide in this world; hypocrisy must die and shall die! The Northerners are heartless despots; the Nationalists are heartless despots and hypocrites combined

together! The greatest need for China to-day is no longer the abrogation of the unequal treaties, or the extinction of the militarists, or the suppression of the Bolshevists; it is the annihilation of hypocrisy and the upholding of truth! Let us boldly face truth whatever consequences that may involve. But alas, the Chinese public opinion is as timid as ever; the newspapers who ought to be the mirrors of truth keep on vying with one another to win favour from the great men of power. How many of us are cowardly slaves! Null and void indeed is all our talk of freedom and democracy!"

The Military Situation

The Yangtze valley has been quiet. Two Communist armies that split off from Hankow in August made their way overland into Kwangtung and are stirring up trouble about Swatow. The most significant military activities are taking place in northeast and south of Shansi province involving Governor Yen of Shansi with the Fengtien armies. The reason for this outbreak has not been made particularly clear. One explanation is that Yen was forced to it because of large units of Feng Yu-hsiang's army, which he captured during the fighting in July and August 1926. Another explanation is that he started the fighting on the basis of an understanding between himself and Feng Yu-hsigng and that Feng has double crossed him as he has double crossed every one who has tried to work with him these past months. The papers, however, indicate success on the part of the Fengtien armies and a possible understanding between them and General Yen. Feng is about as popular as a boil!

During the past few days there have been many troop movements out of Nanking northwards and the paper this morning reports a drive north along three routes by the Nationalist armies. I doubt very much whether the Nanking armies will try to get farther than the Hwai river. The weather is all against them. The spirit of the troops is not very good. If, however, they could make the Hwai river their front line it would relieve their capital from immediate danger of attack from the north and thus greatly strengthen the position of the government.

Wuhan troops are still in Wuhu but it is claimed that an understanding between the Nanking government has been made with Tang Seng-chi and the Wuhan people for the latter not to attack Nanking. It has also been reported on fairly good authority that had Sun Chuan-fang been successful in crossing the Yangtze and in securing Nanking the Wuhan armies would immediately have attacked Sun before he could have gotten himself entrenched at Nanking. These Wuhan armies at Wuhu are too far away from the Wuhan headquarters to be there with any good intentions. One should not try to prophesy military movements, but except for a drive against Feng Yu-hsiang I do not believe that there will be much military activity this coming fall, and the chances are that from now on and during the winter the Yangtze will be fairly free of fighting. The movement of troops northwards from Nanking, including the troops of the Seventh Army, will, I hope, cause the withdrawal of the Seventh Army headquarters from our University buildings.

Responsibility for the Nanking Incident Placed

It is reliably reported that Cheng Chien, whose soldiers did the killing and looting in Nanking, is in Nanking again but without an

army. I have also learned that the Chinese refused to punish Cheng Chien (as demanded by the foreign powers?) for the reason that Cheng Chien was not responsible for the Nanking outrage but that the Chief of the Political Bureau connected with his army was responsible. They claim to have documentary evidence to prove this. It seems that every army had a general, and over the general was the head of the political bureau. The general could not issue an order without countersignature by the political bureau head, but the political bureau head could give an order without referring it to the general, and this is what is claimed to have happened in Cheng Chien's army. Lin Tsu-hong, the name of the man who is responsible, is now with the Red armies operating in Kwangtung. I have used the past tense in telling about the political bureaux as I understand their position has since been greatly curtailed by the Military Council.

Relative to the Nanking incident, an interesting statement appeared in the North-China Daily News as recorded in an interview which Sokolsky had with General Ho Yin-ching, next to General Chiang Kai-shek one of the two strongest men originally connected with the revolutionary army which came up from Canton. The paragraph is quoted below and needs no further comment:

"I called General Ho's attention to the fact that the only impediment in the way of such a restoration (of former pleasant relations with foreigners) was the failure to settle the Nanking Incident. 'The Nanking Incident was a C. P. product,' he said. 'My troops were not in the city. The Communist agents knew every foreign house and led the looters directly to the houses which were to be looted. Their object was to destroy the political position of General Chiang Kai-shek. That is their method: to destroy one man politically, they ruin a city and sacrifice the Nationalist Movement and involve us in intricate and difficult international relations. We do not know where Lin Tzu-hon is now. He has run away somewhere. He organized the Nanking looting; then he disappeared. That is their way.'"

I do not know how many of our "forward looking" editors (such as Christian Century et al) still believe that the Russian influence played little or no part in the early stages of the movement of the revolution into the Yangtze valley which finally caused the present collapse. The Nationalist military leaders and many of the civil officials certainly have no misgivings on this point, as is clearly indicated in the very frank statement by General Ho just quoted.

Some General Observations

With the exception of Shantung province, crops have been very good generally throughout China. The rice crop in the Yangtze valley has been especially heavy. Lack of communications means that much of the grain will not be able to be moved and that there will be plenty and cheap food in the country. While in Tsingtao I was told that at least 500,000 farmers and their families had emigrated out of Shantung into Mahchuria, that an organization had been formed in Tsingtao to look after the emigrants, and that when a ship leaves Tsingtao it carries all the passengers it can squeeze in. I noticed an advertisement in one of the Tsingtao papers to the effect that tickets would no longer be sold for fir st and third class passengers and that all space would be used for emigrants. These emigrants go to Dairen, the terminus of the South Manchuria Railway, which organization helps to dis-

tribute them into Manchuria Proper. Robbers and bandits, even in provinces like Kiangsu and Chekiang, are on the increase and there will be much local trouble during the coming winter. As an illustration of what these local tragedies can be, a North Anhwei missionary told me only a few days ago that 200 villages had recently been wiped out near Hwaiyuen as a punitive act by Fengtien military. The Red Speers, whom I mentioned in one of my previous letters as a possible nucleus for an agrarian uprising in North China if conditions got worse, have extended their organization into Honan, North Anhwei, Shantung and Chihli. These are not bandits or soldiers but local citizenry who have banded themselves together for protection against bandits, soldiers, and bad officials. River and coastwise trade seems to be very heavy, and certainly here in Shanghai there are no external evidences of the troubles in the interior.

Missionary Movements

A number of missionaries are making visits to their stations in the various provinces but very few families are going back. Three Presbyterian missionaries left this morning for Hunan, one a doctor who is prepared to stay indefinitely if he can open up his hospital work again. In the northern part of Shantung and north and east Chihli missionary families are at work more or less as usual. I think this also applies to Fukien province. There are only a handful of missionaries left in Szechuen province. But the fact that the mission stations do not have their usual complement of foreign missionaries must not be taken to indicate at all that the missionary movement is failing. Missionaries almost unanimously report Christian work going forward under the direction of the local Christian leaders. As a matter of fact, the revolution has given us an opportunity to see the kind of stuff our Christian leaders and colleagues are made of that we might not have been able to discover in a number of years. I have a very fine letter from Mr. Lamson, who was in the Language School last year, telling of his experiences on March 24 and of how he had been protected and saved by two University students whom he had never seen before that day. No one with any intelligence at all can fail to appreciate or understand the tremendous influence and success which Christian missionary work has been having during the years past. While there are many petty annoyances in the present situation, and indeed some very grave problems, nevertheless there is more to give one cause for joy and hope and optimism. The General Assembly of the Church of Christ in China held the first of their triennial meetings the early part of this month and during these days the National Christian Council is having its annual meeting.

The University Finances

I have asked Miss Priest to make a statement re our financial condition, which she has done, as follows:

"The books have been closed for the year ending June 30, 1927, and are now in the hands of the auditor. We closed the current budget accounts with a deficit of Mexican $576.99, which, under the circumstances, was surprisingly small. However, it has increased our current deficit to Mexican $10,910.04. Of this amount, Mexican $10,089.11 represents the old uncollected balance due from Boston University; $243.94 the balance of the 1925-1926 current deficit, and the balance, $576.99, the deficit for the past year.

"In addition the total emergency deficit amounts to approximately Mexican $70,000, representing travel, re-outfit allowances, and emergency expenses for the whole University-supported staff. There were sufficient University special funds to provide for Mexican $26,033.86 of the deficit and Mr. Garside reports they have received Gold $8,663.50 for the special campaign to apply against the balance. About Gold $13,000 will still have to be received to cover the balance and I know the Board of Trustees will appreciate your cooperation in every possible way.

"It will require very special care and very strict economy to keep our expenditures within our income for this present year, and I am glad to say that the staff in Nanking are cautiously and earnestly working under the budget. We shall do our best to close the year without a further deficit."

Personal

The Bates and Buck families have recently taken a furnished house, together with the Yaukey family, at 1056 Avenue Joffre. The Thomson family have an apartment in the American School on Avenue Petain. Mrs. Reisner and the two boys and I had a very fine vacation October 5-17, on the Norddeutscher Lloyd S. S. Coblenz, going from Shanghai to ~~Dairen~~ Tientsin, thence to Dairen, and then to Tsingtao and back to Shanghai. All of us very greatly appreciate the letters which come from you people in the homeland, and all of your letters which come here to the office are passed around to the other members of the staff so that all may read them and be in touch with you again.

With kind regards and best wishes to you all, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner.

P. S. Mr. Burch of Chuchow has just reported that he watched the Seventh Army move out of our College buildings on the 18th inst.! Mr. Bates and Mr. Thomson are going up to Nanking for a little visit and to get in touch with their classes tomorrow. The situation looks much better - and will be if the Wuhan Army does not attack Nanking and the city can be kept free from the excess of soldiery under which it has just suffered.

J. H. R.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE.

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 526
SHANGHAI, CHINA

October 21, 1927.

copy attached

Mr. B. A. Garside,
China Union Universities,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Garside:

This is just to acknowledge your letters of September 17 enclosing first draft of the minutes of the meeting of the University of Nanking Board of Trustees on September 14, along with a copy of the suggested changes in documents A, B, and E, which will be brought before the Board of Managers Committee on Reorganization. Your letter of September 22 has also come, and the following cablegram reached us on October 7; which we have decoded as follows: "Board of Trustees approve in a general way Board of Managers reorganization plan. You are authorized to proceed in the matter of registration. Sending full details by letter under date of September 17, 1927." The extra twenty copies of the Board of Trustees' minutes have not yet arrived but I am hoping they will be in on to-day's mail.

There is no occasion to make further comment than to say that we are tremendously pleased with the sympathetic and generous attitude and the favourable actions that the Board of Trustees have taken on the recommendations of the Board of Managers. So far as I can see they could not possibly have done any more than they did and we have not failed to note that in some instances the Trustees have gone even further than was contemplated by the Board of Managers. We shall be calling a meeting of the Board of Managers within the next two weeks and shall push forward reorganization to completion. I noted in my last letter to you and Dr. Speer and Dr. Bowen the friendly attitude and interest which the Central Educational Committee had shown in the University.

There are a few other matters which I want to write but I shall include them in my regular letter to Doctors Bowen and Speer and yourself.

With kind regards and best wishes, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE,

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 226
SHANGHAI, CHINA.

October 21, 1927.

Mr. E. A. Kersler,
China Union Universities,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Kersler:

This is just to acknowledge your letters of September 17 enclosing first draft of the minutes of the meeting of the University of Nanking Board of Trustees on September 14, along with a copy of the suggested changes in documents A, B, and E, which will be brought before the Board of Managers Committee on Reorganization. Your letter of September 22 has also come, and the following cablegram received us on October 7; which we have decoded as follows: "Board of Trustees approve in a general way Board of Managers reorganization plan. You are authorized to proceed in the matter of registration. Sending full details by letter under date of September 17, 1927." The extra twenty copies of the Board of Trustees' minutes have not yet arrived but I am hoping they will be in on to-day's mail.

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Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE.

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 526
SHANGHAI, CHINA

October 21, 1927.

Dr. R. E. Speer,
Dr. A. J. Bowen,
Mr. B. A. Garside.

Dear Friends:

Upon my return from vacation Monday morning I was very glad to find Doctor Speer's letter of September 21, Mr. Bowen's letters of September 15 and 18, Mr. Garside's letters of September 17 and 22, with copies of the Trustees' minutes and the recommendations of the subcommittee on suggested changes in Documents A, B, and E of the Managers' proposed plan of reorganization, and finally the cablegram from Mr. Garside, which was as follows: "Board of Trustees approve in a general way the Board of Managers' reorganization plan. You are authorized to proceed in the matter (of) registration. Sending full details by letter (under date of September 17, 1927)."

It seems to me that the Board of Trustees have been wonderfully sympathetic and generous in their attitude and actions regarding the plan of reorganization submitted by the Board of Managers. I do not see how you possibly could have done more, and I have noted with much pleasure where in several instances you have gone further than the Board of Managers seemed willing to go. We interpret Mr. Garside's cablegram to mean that the approval of the cooperating boards had been secured covering actions of the Trustees. I am trying to arrange now for a meeting of the Board of Managers, which will probably be held within the next two weeks, to carry forward to completion the plans for reorganization and registration.

There is not a great deal new to report, The most important item being the evacuation of the college buildings by the Seventh Army. A few soldiers and a few officers, I understand, still remain, but I am hoping that even these may be cleared out before long. It gives us a tremendous feeling of relief to have the army out of the way. The men are moving back immediately into Severance Hall, and Mr. Gee is getting the new dormitory into shape for immediate occupation by the students. Mr. Bates and Mr. Thomson went up to Nanking this moring to get in touch with the classes which they have undertaken by correspondence. I shall go up very shortly, but it may not be possible until after the meeting of the Board of Managers.

The spirit in the Middle School seems to be very good indeed. They now have 144 students and a few more are to come. As we look back upon the situation now, I feel sure it was wise for the Middle School to be opened.

Stanley Smith was just in the office with a letter from James C. Peng, one of the Theological Seminary professors, asking for advice about their buildings. He said that"The soldiers have already destroyed the houses of the faculty outside the compound. They have taken off the boards and posts to sell as fuel for three coppers per fatty. Yesterday they began to take off the boards and posts in Doctors Richardson's and Price's houses and the central building to sell as fuel. I saw them doing so and tried to stop them, but in vain, so I talked it over with others. They could not help the situation. Last night they have taken away the wooden door in our Seminary compound near Lao Chang's garden, so a few feet of the wall has fallen down. Poor people went in to cut trees and soldiers began to destroy the central hall. I went to see the head representative of the two divisions and wanted them to stop. They said frankly that if we could not make better arrangements both the west building and the central hall will be destroyed. They can't stop the sick soldiers to take off the boards and posts." I have quoted the above to indicate as clearly as possible the state of mind that the soldiers are in generally; The sanse of lawlessness, lack of obedience, and the inability of commanding officers and officials to deal with the situation. The Foreign Office has been quite frank about their inability to do anything or to provide any effective protection. So the situation in Nanking is far from being good and we can only be patient and hope that matters will clear up and return as soon as possible to something approximating normal.

We are sending out Occasional Letter No. 8 in this same mail, copies of which have gone to all of you and twenty extra copies to the Central Office. Please note particularly the paragraphs relating to our return to the Colleges and my quotation from a letter which was received from Dr. K. C. Liu, our librarian and secretary of the Administrative Committee. It shows splendid spirit and excellent judgment.

The men at Nanking have been splendid and the attitude of the student body is equally good. I think we have every reason to feel mighty proud over the way they have carried on and that the experiences of the past six months should give us confidence and hope for the future.

The Famine Fund accounts have been audited & finished today. Mr. Begg is now working on the other accounts. We closed the year 1926-27 with a deficit of $576.99 - which may be increased if we cannot cancel some funds carried over on library, and I doubt if we can. On the other hand, Miss Priest says there is a

little interest account and a carry over of a thousand dollars that can be used if necessary, so the deficit will likely stand as it is for the present. Our deficit on current accounts is as follows now:

Boston University Banking Association	$10,089.11
1925-1926 deficit	243.94
1926-1927 "	576.99
	$10,910.04

What an awful millstone that Boston cooperation has proved to be!

With cordial regards to all, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE.

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 526
SHANGHAI, CHINA

November 2, 1927.

Dr. R. E. Speer,
Dr. A. J. Bowen,
Mr. B. A. Garside.

Dear Dr. Speer, Dr. Bowen and Mr. Garside:

I am going up to Nanking tomorrow morning and so want to send this little note before I go, particularly as I did not write my usual letter last week.

On Monday (October 31) the Committee on Reorganization and Registration of the Board of Managers met and considered the actions of the Board of Trustees, particularly the suggestions that were made by the committee of three. Such actions as were taken will be brought before the full Board of Managers, which meets for two days November 9 and 10. This will be a rather full meeting as there are many matters to be brought up for consideration. Until the Managers meet and act finally on the Trustees minutes and suggested changes I shall not write further regarding these things.

Mr. Thomson and Mr. Bates returned to Nanking last Friday. Mr. Bates went back again the following Monday (October 31), and Mr. Thomson is going up again with us tomorrow. They report a hearty welcome on the part of teachers and students. I missed three opportunities of seeing Mr. Bates so did not talk with him personally about his visit. I rather think Mr. Thomson would be happier if he felt he did not have to spend too much time in Nanking. The situation is far from settled. I shall take up the matter of return of our foreign staff with the Administrative Committee and make sure that there is full unanimity in their judgment as to the wisdom of Bates and Thomson staying on in Nanking. There is no particular reason why I should be there as Board of Managers' business keeps me fairly busy and will until the plan for final revision goes through. Mr. Buck has also plenty to do in Shanghai. But whatever is decided on you may feel sure will be on the basis of the bext judgment that we can secure.

The day Thomson and Bates arrived in Nanking the soldiers of the Seventh Army moved out of the residences. Three days afterwards the residences were reoccupied by soldiers and officers of the First Army, belonging to General Ho Ying-ching. Mr. Hsiung, of the Department of Religious Education, and his family moved into Dr. Bowen's house after the soldiers had left, but the new soldiers came along and demanded the house on the basis that the houses were really soldiers' barracks and did not belong to the University.

My house is now occupied by four Indians, who presented cards indicating that they belonged to the Eastern Oppressed People's Association. Mr. Gee wrote me this morning saying that Tsai Yuen-pei wished to rent our house. The irony of it all!

In the party tomorrow will be Mr. Buck, Mr. Thomson, Professor Blakeslee, who attended the Pan-Pacific Conference in Honolulu last summer and is professor of international law at Clark University, myself and two of our teachers in the College of Agriculture and Forestry. I rather urged Professor Blakeslee to go along and I shall do my best to let him see everything that can be seen that might help to correct some of his apparently misguided notions. Miss Hughan, and her sister, from Ginn & Co., were in this afternoon but I happened to be out. I think they want to go to Nanking also.

The general impression seems to be that the situation is not as good now in Nanking as it was two or three weeks ago, in spite of the Seventh Army soldiers. When I return I shall write a very full letter of my trip. Some Episcopal Church property not heretofore occupied has been occupied by the First Army during the past ten days. So the situation goes.

Everything at the Colleges seems to be going very nicely indeed. There are 420 students in the Colleges and about 160 in the Middle School. There was great joy, of course, when the soldiers left the college buildings. Mrs. Thurston and seven other ladies are at Ginling. Mrs. Thurston will stay about two weeks and the other ladies as long as possible.

With kind regards and best wishes, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

Mr Garside

Nanking

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

TRANSFER

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE.

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 526
SHANGHAI, CHINA

November 8, 1927.

Dr. R. E. Speer,
Dr. A. J. Bowen,
Mr. B. A. Garside, The University of Nanking.

Dear Friends,

I returned from Nanking on the night train arriving here early last Sunday morning after a SPLENDID trip. How many times I wished that all of our Nanking friends could be sharing my experiences. Our welcome was hearty and sincere. The spirit of our men has been more wonderful than I have been able to express in any of my previous letters. Their difficulties have been great and varied. They have met these difficulties and discouragements with a resourcefulness and courage that hase been magnificent. I am more than ever convinced that the direction and measure of recent reorganization has been and will continue to be eminently wise. The men at Nanking and the undertaking there must have our full share of confidence and faith in them. Troubles and difficulties will certainly arise in the future;the coming days may be fraught with considerable danger, but after what we have seen of the spirit of our men during these past months we should be able to face our future with more assurance and a greater degree of faith in our men and the usefulness and influence of the University.

With the exception of the residences, I was pleased to find our buildings in as good shape as they are in. The Language school Keen Hall looked as if nothing had happened. Of course all equipment was cleaned out. I refer only to the buildings. The Ministry at their expense has had the heating plant refitted for use under Mr. Gee's direction. The Middle School compound ~~xxx~~ buildings looked the worse for their looting and occupancy by military but they have been gotten in useable shape with no great expense and the use of much ingenuity. Mr. Gee says the Hospital buildings are in fair shape. I did not have time to visit them. The Agricultural Gardens buildings look ran down at the heel but a mason and some whitewash will help there. The College Campus was much better than I had dared to hope for and has suffered only to the extent of a path or two across lawns. My greatest surprise and pleasure , on the property side, was in the condition of Sage Chapel. The benches show dents(slight) where the soldiers and officers' steel outfit pieces struck when sitting down, a few book racks are gone, but the walls were in quite decent shape and the benches can very easily be sandpapered and smoothed over and revarnished(which a great many people have hoped would happen sometime soon) and as I entered,it was to go back into the Chapel quite as we left it last March. It had lost nothing of its atmosphere of worship and quiet;it was what it always has been,what it was built for, a house of God, and that is what I know it will continue to be.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

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SHANGHAI, CHINA

But the conditions of the residences gave you a shock. We are adding thirty odd thousand dollars to earlier estimeats of damage, which brings the total residence damages up to $75,000.00. No point to describe them now. I shall try it in my next Occassional letter. A few are still a little better than some of the others and Gee is trying to rent these to officials as that is the only way by which what is left can be saved.

The middle school now has over 160 students and they will be able to meet their current expenses from tuition and other fees, but leaves a little deficit for the months July and Aug, but no serious problems so far as I can see. I feel quite hopeful over the M.S. situation. I had lunch, Saturday, with a group of the M.S. teachers and I was most satisfactorily impressed with their reports and spirit. They are really getting a lot of kick out of meeting and overcoming difficulties.

We arrived Nanking after dark Thursday evening. The Administrative Committee had prepared a simple feast for us. All day Friday I was more than busy renewing acquaintences and friends, visiting departments, examining property with Mr. Gee, and in the evening the faculty had a little reception for us (and Prof. Blakeslee), a number of our faculty friends had prepared a special dinner and after this we were the guests of the Senior class. It was an experience that was well worth waiting seven hard long months to enjoy and share and it was ever evident that the joy of returning to the University was mutual. Saturday was a continuation of Friday except in the afternoon I went over to Ginling to see Mrs. Thurston and the other Ginling ladies who havent been out of their gate since they ensered it.

Enclosed J. S. Magee

I am enclosing a fine report of Mr. Bates covering his first visit to Nanking, which I shall send out generally to Nanking friends with Occassional letter No. 9 which I hope to get off soon. I am going to spend as much time as I can in Nanking just as soon as I can get this Reorganization business finished up. There are too many good opportunities going to waste in Nanking to spend any more time here than is necessary. But I do not favor a general return of missionaries to nanking, yet. Only the evacuation of our buildings by the 7th army makes it possible for any of us to go back even now. But my impression of both the military and political situation, so far as Nanking is effected, is, that it is distinctly better. My reasons for feeling this is chiefly that the center of military activity has been steadily moving away from Nanking and leaving military power in East China more and more in the hands of Ho Ying-chin and his cohorts. There is also a distinctly more reasonable and friendly attitude on the part of Government people.

Managers meeting tomorrow and next day. A heavy agenda and I hope the meetings will be good ones. How sick I am of meetings when there is so much real work to do!

At Nanking, during these years we have builded better than we thought and the building is not yet completed.

Sincerely,

John H. Reisner.

John H. Reisner

Nanking

WER

TRANSFER

University of Nanking

November 11, 1927

ack. 12/7/27

Mr.J. H. Reisner,
20 Museum Road,
Shanghai, China.

My dear Mr.Reisner:

During the last few weeks we have received letters from you dated September 23rd, September 28th and October 4th. I will comment on such items of these letters as seem to need further discussion, and will also refer to one or two matters touched on in earlier letters from your office.

Supplying copies of Trustees' minutes and Managers' minutes.

In accordance with the suggestion of your letter of September 6th, we will be glad to send you forty copies of the minutes of the Nanking Board of Trustees' meetings. We understand that you desire particularly the minutes of the meetings of the full Board, and probably also minutes of the Executive Committee meetings where matters of particular interest to the field are taken up. Frequently throughout the year there are more or less informal meetings of special committees of the Board, empowered to deal with questions of passing interest. You would hardly care to distribute minutes of such small committee meetings to your Board of Managers unless the matters touched upon interested them directly.

We are anxious to have you continue your customary practice of sending us for distribution to the Trustees from thirty to forty copies of the minutes of the Board of Managers and its committees. Usually thirty copies of such minutes will supply all members of the Board of Trustees and leave a sufficient reserve for the use of this office. Where the questions dealt with areof special interest, however, an added quantity is of value. For example, the material dealing with the field Board of Managers' plan of reorganization has proved of such interest that the supply we had on hand was quickly exhausted and we have been compelled to refuse a number of requests from various people who could have made good use of this material. I am not sure how Miss Priest got the impression that "very often the New York office does not wait until these (Managers' minutes) arrive, but mimeographs copies for immediate distribution". As far as our records go, this office has duplicated one set of the Managers' minutes and that was done a few months ago when we received one copy of the minutes of the meeting held soon after the March 24th incident. In this particular instance we had no information as to when, if at all, duplicate copies might reach us, and under the circumstances it was urgent that we report the facts to the Trustees without delay. Mimeographing is even more expensive in New York than in Shanghai because of our higher clerical costs and since we are trying in every way to reduce ex-

penses we never undertake such mimeographing if it can be avoided.

Former comments on Managers' plan of reorganization. In your letter of September 28th you call attention to the apparent inconsistency between one of my comments in a letter of August 26th to Mr.Cressy and a second comment in my letter of August 30th to you. So much water has flowed under the bridge since these two letters were written that it is not necessary to give any lengthy explanation. The thought I had in mind when I said to Mr.Cressy on August 26th that the other four universities in this office which were facing the question of reorganization "have gone farther" than has Nanking was simply that these other four universities began on their reorganization plans at earlier dates than did Nanking, and by this last summer three of them had already secured permission from their Boards of Trustees to proceed with their plans of reorganization, while one of them had actually completed registration with the Chinese government. This statement, as you see, was not inconsistent with the comment in my letter of August 30th addressed to you, that the reorganization " proposed for Nanking is so much more sweeping than has been effected in the case of the other universities cooperating in our office." While Nanking started her plans for reorganization somewhat late, she has gone farther in the short time than most of the others. The actions of the Nanking Board of Trustees as transmitted to you by cable and letter during September and October certainly are most gratifying. The Trustees went much farther than I dared expect and our greatest hope is that their generous actions will be justified by the future progress of the University.

Famine Fund Minutes. Thanks for the trouble you took in preparing an extra set of Famine Fund Committee minutes for us. I am sorry that our oversight caused your office this trouble. The copy of the minutes to which I refer was a set sent to Dr.Robert E.Speer as a member of the Committee of Reference and Counsel and not as President of our Nanking Trustees. This set should have gone direct to the office of the Committee of Reference and Counsel, but Dr.Speer sent ~~them over~~ it for our information while our own set was on the way. We now have all this material on hand except the budget of Peking University for which I have written to the Field Treasurer in Peking.

I trust that your short rest this autumn proved more efficacious than did the brief vacation of Dr.J.D.MacRae, our Acting President in Shantung Christian University. Just yesterday I received word of a cablegram stating that Dr.MacRae was being sent home to Canada for a complete rest on account of seriously impaired health. Those of you who have been carrying such a tremendous burden these last few months are in serious danger of a breakdown. We hope you will take every care of yourself and we earnestly pray that you may be given the strength to carry on the work.

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

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20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 531
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Nanking

INDEXED

TRANSFER

November 17, 1927.

Mr. R. A. Garside,
China Union Universities,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Garside:

Acknowledgment is made with thanks of the following letters: of October 6 enclosing confirmation of your cablegram of same date, of October 11, enclosing the minutes of the annual meeting of the Supervisory Committee of China Union Universities, and your letter of October 19.

not in file

Did not mention his name

I am glad that you have written us both sides of the reaction of various members of the Board of Trustees to the recent plans for reorganization. At the last meeting of the Board of Managers I read rather fully from your various letters, including your letter of October 6, in which you wrote particularly about Mr. Severance's attitude. I am more convinced than ever that the move is in the right direction. It may be that we have gone a little bit too far and may want to retrace some of our steps. The psychological effect of the Trustees' attitude has been good and has indicated as nothing else possibly could their unselfish interest in and devotion to the purposes for which the University was founded. If there are reactions, they will not be reactions of resentment but more likely of humility and wisdom gained of experience.

On the other hand, I have a great deal of confidence in the ability of the Chinese to make the new venture a success and I hope that our people at Home will not lose confidence. Now is no time for that - rather more faith and confidence are needed than ever before.

In the financial statement of the Central Office for the year ending September 30, 1927, we were gratified that our share of the division of general charges to the Universities was not greater. We appreciate very much indeed all that the Central Office has done for us during the past months. I do not know what the attitude of the Board of Managers will be with reference to these expenditures in the future. I am inclined to feel, however, that the amount of detail that will go through the New York Office on account of Nanking will drop off very, very considerably. However, experience may prove that I am wrong

and we will just have to wait and see.

May I add a word to Miss Priest's comments regarding use of the Famine Funds by our New York Office as outlined in one of your recent letters to her. Your letter, if it fell into the hands of some one who was not very friendly to the University, would, I believe, be sufficient to discredit the University very, very seriously. It was, of course, not your fault that these funds were on hand. They were placed with you by the Washington Trust Company as result of a schedule decided upon by us at Nanking and it is possible that transfer of general university funds were made here in China to the Famine Funds in the same way as Famine Funds were used to cover other accounts in New York. It, however, does not reflect upon the good judgment of us in the field to draw out large sums of money, some of which represents principal, and then have no need for it for a number of months to come. It was this reason that led us to cancel the November payment. We are only trying to play safe and to live up not only to the letter but the spirit of the legal instrument under which the Famine Funds were made available for the use of the University. Please understand that in writing this we are not in any sense criticizing you. I feel, however, that it would be very much worth your while to read over the legal agreement which conveys these funds to the use of the University, and after you have read the documents discuss any points that are not clear with Dr. Eric North.

We are increasing to twenty-five the copies of occasional letters as per your request.

It strikes me that $10,000.00 collected for our emergency account is mighty good, in view of the experience of other boards, and I hope that money will still continue to come in. We are going to begin to feel the pinch of finances from now on a little more, I think, than we have up to the present, but this is all in the game and we can only hope that your burdens will be as light as possible.

With kind regards and best wishes to you, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

Nanking

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SHANGHAI OFFICE.

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 526
SHANGHAI, CHINA

INDEXED

November 18, 1927.

TRANSFER

Dr. R. E. Speer,
Dr. A. J. Bowen,
Mr. B. A. Garside.

Dear Dr. Speer, Dr. Bowen, and Mr. Garside:

I want to write briefly about the Board of Managers meetings which were held for two and a half days last week, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. We were unable to finish up all the matters that were before us and another meeting of the Board was called for November 29, at which time reorganization will be completed and the new Board of Directors constituted. There are a few actions taken by the Board at the last meeting to be referred to the Board of Trustees. These were in connection with reorganization, and as there will undoubtedly be other actions taken along the same line at the next meeting, I am going to wait till all the actions can be referred to you as a unit.

Suggestions from Trustees by Committee of Three

The suggestions which grew out of the Board of Trustees meeting in September and which were formulated by Dr. Bowen, Dr. Scott and Mr. Garside, were considered at a special meeting of the Committee on Reorganization and Registration and favourable action taken upon practically all of them. These actions ~~will~~ were later laid before the Board of Managers and accepted by them. The suggestions, to my mind, were all good and some of them very excellent, and the Board of Managers was very glad indeed to have them.

Election of Dr. Y. G. Chen as President

On Tuesday we cabled to you that Dr. Y. G. Chen had been elected President of the University and had accepted. I think we all feel that Dr. Chen is by far the most desirable available candidate, and from Dr. Bowen's letters I am quite sure that this choice will not only be acceptable to him but will please him very greatly. We were also glad to learn from Dr. Bowen that Dr. Chen would carry the confidence of the Trustees. I am working up a little biography of Dr. Chen and have asked him to have some photographs taken, which I shall forward to you, thinking that you might like to use the material in connection with some of the church papers. Dr. Chen immediately accepted the responsibilities of the

Wrote for Chen 12/13/27

President. The College Administrative Committee and the Advisership were dissolved and the former University Advisory Committee reconstituted - of course with new membership. The faculty gave Dr. Chen a reception last Wednesday and the students were planning to give him a reception today.

Registration

As soon as the new Board of Directors is duly constituted Dr. Chen as President will proceed with the question of registration. The Board of Directors has to be registered first, and after that is completed comes the registration of the University. Registration may be effected without any difficulty whatever, and again it may be delayed by the Central Educational Committee. One can never tell until one gets into such a matter how long it will take. A very interesting speech made by a member of the Central Executive Committee at Shanghai Baptist College was printed in several of the Shanghai papers this last week. It was very sympathetic and indicated that the help of the foreign institutions was still very greatly needed and desired by the Chinese.

Our University Indebtedness

Miss Priest presented a splendid report and financial statements to the Board of Managers, copies of which will be sent to you in due time. Actions were taken wiping out the deficits on current for the two years 1925-6 and 1926-7 from late tuition fees received at the beginning of the present semester. The deficit on Bailie Hall was wiped out with funds remaining from the new dormitory funds, which leaves our two items of indebtedness (1) the Boston University cooperative undertaking of $10,089.11 and (2) the emergency deficit. Have you any suggestions at all as to how the Boston University deficit can be handled?

Our General Financial Situation

Miss Priest reported that it would be necessary for us to borrow possibly up to $15,000.00 to take care of salaries for the months of January and February until spring tuition fees were collected. The Board of Managers voted to arrange for a loan or an overdraft from the bank to be paid back from the tuition fees received. Mr. T. C. Woo, vice president of the Shanghai Nanking alumni, who has been attending very regularly the meetings of the Board of Managers, was appointed to help make the necessary arrangements at the bank. It would have been a very simple matter, I think, for Miss Priest to have made the arrangements herself, but we have been doing all we possibly could to bring the Board of Managers to a realization that they were strintly responsible for keeping out of debt or incurring a debt if it became necessary.

The General Military Situation

There has been considerable troop movement in the Yangtze valley, Tang Seng-chi moving west toward Wuhan from Wuhu and closely

followed by Nanking troops. There has been very little fighting but the movement was sufficient to eliminate Tang Seng-chi, who has gone to Japan. It has not yet clearly appeared who Tang's successor is to be, but undoubtedly another of the same stripe. Along the Lunghai railway there has been rather active fighting for the past two or three weeks. The advance of the Chihli-Shantung forces west of Kaifeng from Hsuchowfu was made possible by the treachery of one of Feng's generals. This general then double crossed the Chili-Shantung people and caused them a very, very severe defeat with loss of all the territory gained and many soldiers and much military equipment. The Chihli-Shantung troops after they had been driven back almost to Hsuchowfu staged a come-back, which to date has succeeded in driving Feng's armies west of Kweiteh and on towards Kaifeng. The Fengtien forces do not seem to be able to make much headway against Shansi. Neither Feng's armies nor the Nanking armies have very much ammunition. Sun Chuan-fang is holding the line along the Tientsin-Pukow railway as far south as Pengpu. It is very clear that the Nanking armies are in no position to move northwards and there is very little chance of Feng being able to decisively defeat the Chihli-Shantung troops. Unless Sun undertakes an expedition southwards toward the Yangtze Nanking should be fairly safe. The collapse of Tang Seng-chi, I think, very definitely removes the fear of an attack from the west along the river. Unfortunately this does not mean that the soldier problem in Nanking will be very much lessened.

Political Situation

Interest is beginning to centre upon the coming plenary session of the Kuomintang Central Executive Committee. Chiang Kai-shek is back from Japan and evidently discovered that Japan had an orderly government. Wang Ching-hwei arrived today from Canton. General Chiang in a speech at the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce came out very flatly and blamed the recent defeats and inability of the government to function on the fact that the members of the Central Executive Committee (which is the party organization over and above the government) ~~being~~ were unable to cooperate among themselves. The Anti-opium Association of China came out a short time ago in a very bold statement attacking the sincerity of the government in its opium policy. Such a statement would have been inconceivable six or even three months ago. Our Administrative Committee at Nanking for one reason and another has never seen fit to start the Monday morning memorial services for Dr. Sun Yat-sen. These are only a few of the many evidences of the utter disgust with the Kuomintang Party and the government officials which they have appointed. The present government is going to hage a hard time to get back into the confidence and good graces of the people.

Situation in Nanking

Stanley Smith and Mr. Drummond and Mr. Kepler are in Nanking attending a meeting of the presbytery. The situation evidently is about the same, possibly a little worse. Miss Lyon, who

spent a couple of weeks in Nanking several weeks ago, was planning to return when she had a letter from some of her people advising her not to go back. An invitation to Mrs. Gish to return to their South Gate work has also very recently been withdrawn. I have not been able to find out the reasons for this change in attitude.

I have not yet been able to get out my occasional letter covering a fuller report of my visit to Nanking. Board of Managers matters have had to come first, but I hope that during the coming week we can get the letter into shape.

In spite of all the difficulties and a great many inconsistencies, I am more than ever convinced that our move toward reorganization is wise. There will be a swing back, no doubt, but we must not allow the situation to swing back further than to allow of a hearty cooperation between the Chinese and foreigners in the actual work we have before us and insisting that the Chinese carry the administrative details. One looks back with a great longing to the days that ended March 24 and in the coming years that longing will undoubtedly deepen, but I feel sure that our services as missionaries and our contributions to the strength of the University will be many times greater as teachers and cooperators and helpers rather than as responsible administrative officers.

With kind regards and best wishes to you all, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

COPY

University of Nanking,
Nov. 19, 1927.

Dear Reisner:-

Thanks for your two notes. The copies of my November 2 letter made in the Mission office have provided for my needs, but Claude and Mrs. Bates may make requests for a few in response to your kind offer.

Things are going well in the main. On Wednesday the Administrative Committee had two hours of welcome speeches for Dr. Ch'en. On Thursday night there was a feast run jointly by students and teachers - well-managed, though hurried in order to let people get home early. Yesterday was a holiday, in response to heavy student pressure and in accordance with faculty judgment that it was good policy; this was the first official action of Chen, I believe. Anyhow, the students were ordered out for propaganda over the acquisition of Hankow. The outcome was a long morning program of speeches to and for Ch'en, and afternoon in which some students went out for street speeches, and an evening entertainment of songs, stunts, and a play.

On the whole the attitude of teachers and students has been good, though we could not expect to get by without difficulties. Students over the city are in a furore, and Chung Shan is sliging on the edge of a razor, with one normal school paralyzed and several middle losing the semblances of discipline. I think it was Tuesday morning that carelessly written posters were on all the buildings, denouncing Chen the foreign slave. Reaction among servants, teachers, and students was prompt and healthy; indeed, the later splurge of the students for extensive demonstration was prompted by their desire to show that they really approved the election. Difficulty No. 2: In long papers on the bulletin board, and in some of the speeches, certain students put forward criticisms of policy and of teachers, with definite suggestions as to changes which they thought Chen should make. Many of the points had much reason in them, though some were foolish or impossible; the manner and method was not good, of course, though the spirit was in part creditable. Chen himself was much displeased, as were others of the faculty. He replied gently, but clearly, that real improvements could only be made slowly, after careful study by the administration, and within limits of resources and reason. In general his speeches impressed various types of hearers as sincere, earnest, well-balanced, and cautious. Number three: A boob from the Municipal Party Headquarters, with support from a small group of students, has capitalized the occasion in speeches, handbills, and posters as a victory for student effort since May 30, 1925, a success in the struggle to regain educational authority, and as an evidence that our students can and should lead an effort to dislodge foreign administration from other mission schools in the city and region. Even this sentiment, however, is put in the form of pride in the University. General opinion is glad to have a Chinese president, of course, and the difficulties of foreign administration have been mentioned in contrast with new

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opportunities, but usually with gratitude for foreign help and often with specifically friendly reference to Dr. Bowen; this latter variety of statement has been given in public as well as in private.

Some of these things do not make us happier, but they are about as few and weak as could be expected. My expectation is that when this first rush of hot air is past, things will go all right on the points involved. The Students' Union and the Party Headquarters are both on the defensive, and must exaggerate all their "services" and achievements. Party men have openly attacked the local Headquarters, saying that they have two or three hundred salaried persons who do nothing but give ill-considered orders to others in matters outside their own proper sphere.

Last night Claude and I saw two Indians moving beds, straw, and clothing from your house. This morning the whole group (four, anyhow) were in our Chapel, and one of them spoke. He was announced by his own confession as Crown Prince of a native state in India. Unfortunately we had no notice of the affair, and knew nothing about it until it was nearly over. Attendance was very small and several questions have so far failed to find any friend who was there.

General conditions xxxx not much changed, though the official attitude is excessively cocky over the Hankow fiasco and alleged triumphs in the north. Thomson's house is now marked as a rest-home for sick and disabled soldiers, and various decrepit men hang around it.

Please let Lossing take this letter to the house for a day, since I've not found time to mention the week's "doings" in any detail for them.

Do you think it is desirable (before winter pillage is excessive) soon to encourage the University as an institution to take up with the authorities the re-acquisition and protection of buildings? Even if nothing comes of it immediately, there might be some advantage in getting written statements which would be of use in final settlements of various kinds.

With best regards,

(Signed) M. S. Bates.

P. S. 1. Some effort made to-day at Seminary and elsewhere to encorce new order keeping soldiers from foreign and mission property. K. C. Liu and others wish Gee were here to help in a new try for residences, though all appreciate his need for rest.

P. S. 2. The Indian said that British control would not let him say anything about the Revolution! He then gave a strong religious talk, saying that Jesus' life and message were direct from God!

Note from Mr. Thomson, dated Saturday P. M. (Nov. 19,1927)

"The Indians from your house came en masse to the Chapel this morning. One of their number addressed the student body and to the surprise of all he preached a straight Christian sermon!! Miracles are still happening!

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE.

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 526
SHANGHAI, CHINA

November 26, 1927.

Dr. R. E. Speer,
Dr. A. J. Bowen,
Mr. B. A. Garside, The University of Nanking, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Speer, Dr. Bowen and Mr. Garside,

My letter this week will consist chiefly of the enclosed most interesting letter from Mr. Bates and a note from Mr. Thomson. Little comment is needed. My reaction to the demonstrations against Dr. Chen is one of relief-indicating as they have done, the solidarity of our faculty and student groups as almost nothing else could have done. The general approval of Dr. Chen is clear.

The episode of the Indian revolutionists at Saturday Morning meeting as described by both Bates and Thomson needs this additional touch of information: The most radical student in school was responsible for getting them there and introduced the speaker to the audience. How surprised and chagrined he must have beemat the outcome!

Friday I attended the meeting of the Advisory Council of the East China Christian Educational Association at Dr. Chens request, representing the Bd. of Managers. Mr. Russell Hsiung represented Dr. Chen and the faculty was not represented. Cressy tried to get through his plan of Federation for the Proposed East China University. Dr. Potts reported for the committee that had drawn it up. After much palaver it was ~~[illegible]~~ reported back to individual institutions with recommendations to consider"it. This is just an attempt as I see it to sugar-coat a bad dose of medicine that all the institutions so far have been unwilling to take. When these various colleges and universities agree among themselves what operations are necessary, desireable and then are willing to submit to the accompanying local anaesthetics, then and only then will we be in a position to move forward in East China as a unified coopsratiing Christain Higher Education undertaking.

We have spent the week for the most part in anticipation of next Tuesdday's Board of Managers Meetings and constitution of new Board of Directors. Executive Finance Committee meeting on Monday. We have spent much time in working over The Bye Laws of the Board of Managers and bringing them into line with practices which have been established, growing out of our experiences of the past 16 years. As noted in my last letter to you, practically all the suggestions made by the Trustees through the committee of three have been incorperated in Documents A and B, that is the constitution and Agreement, which are the most important.

Bates is in the Country Hospital with a mean infection (abcess) on his face. Jessie Reisner was operated on for appendicitis last Satrdy. We all enjoyed Thanksgiving. Had much to be thankful for. Our very best wishes for a merry Christmas.

Sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

R/R

Chinese Seeds
Collection and Distribution

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
NANKING, CHINA

Cable address: The University of Nanking, Nanking, China
A.B.C. 5th Edition

INVOICE

Date Dec. 1, 1927 Our Order No. Your order of March 17, 1927 Sept. 24, 1927

Ship to: Mr. John A. Stevenson,
Bureau of Plant Industry,
Washington, D. of C.

When Shipped: Dec. 1, 1927

How Shipped: Parcel Post via Shanghai Mail to San Francisco, Dec. 1, 1927

Federal Horticultural Board:

F.H.B. Parcel Post Permit, Number

Number of P.P. Tags enclosed

F.H.B. Freight Permit Number,

F.H.B. Inspection at Washington, D.C.

Forwarding Agents at Port of Entry: Federal Horticultural Board

Terms of Invoice: Please send check to Univ. of Nanking 150 - Fifth Avenue, New York

12	lbs.	Amygdalus davidiana	$4.92 - Pd 1/6/28
100	"	Castanea mollissima	38.00 - Pd 1/23 Kng
2	Vouchers attached hereto to cover above.		

Micoria seeds will follow very shortly.
We are having difficulty in making collections of Diospyros kaki and may not be able to supply. We are doing the best we can under the circumstances.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE.

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 526
SHANGHAI, CHINA

December 7, 1927.

corr. attached

Mr. B.A. Garside,
China Union Universities,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Garside:

I have for acknowledgment your letters of November 7 and November 11. Dr. Bowen also forwarded to us your letter of October 18, in which you discussed the matters of the emergency debt and the application to the Regents in regard to the granting of graduates' degrees.

2

Neither Miss Priest nor I see how the amount of your emergency debt can be so large, and Miss Priest is now working on a statement which will go forward in this same mail.

Your letter of November 7 dealt with the matter of unpaid seed bills and your attempt to collect two bills that had previously been paid. You will soon have my letter of several weeks ago asking you to forward to us all unpaid seed bills in your file, with the exception of two. This request, I think, will answer in full all the questions which your letter of November 7 raises.

Pd on notified on all purr.

I am enclosing herewith duplicate copy of an invoice to Mr. Stevenson of the United States Department of Agriculture, from whom in a short time you will undoubtedly be receiving a government check to cover. No correspondence with Mr. Stevenson will likely be necessary. With one or two such exceptions, we are having all bills for filled orders made payable directly to us here.

Referring to your letter of November 11, we shall send you from thirty to forty copies of such minutes as are issued from this end, a larger number to be sent whenever there is something of special importance and which might be of interest to others outside our immediate Nanking circle.

There are a number of other matters which will be of direct interest to you but which I shall include in my letter to Dr. Speer, Dr. Bowen and yourself.

With kind regards and best wishes, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
NANKING, CHINA

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE.

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 526
SHANGHAI, CHINA

December 9, 1927.

Dr. R. E. Speer,
Dr. A. J. Bowen,
Mr. B. A. Garside.

Dear Doctor Speer, Doctor Bowen and Mr. Garside:

Enclosed please find copies of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Managers November 9-11, minutes of the Executive-Finance Committee November 28, and the minutes of the Board of Managers and Directors November 29. These are for information rather than for action. The documents in connection with reorganization will, I hope, be ready soon, and then I shall write fully covering all the items that were taken with reference to these documents. I want particularly to report on the meeting of November 29 and to discuss several of the actions taken.

The November 29 meeting wa the whole was a very, very good one. The new Board of Directors was constituted and the various documents approved. Mr. T. C. Woo, one of our alumni and vice-president of the Shanghai Nanking Alumni Association, was elected chairman, and the Rev. Handel Lee, pastor of the Ku I Lan, Nanking Methodist Church, another alumnus, was elected vice-chairman of the Board of Directors. Doctor Chen was re-elected President by the new Board of Directors. I was elected Foreign Assistant to the President. I should have preferred to spend the rest of my time before furlough in the College of Agriculture and Forestry, but I felt that I should go ahead and help Doctor Chen until various items connected with reorganization have been completed. There was a good attendance and Doctor Ferguson was present. The minutes are to be approved by the Executive-Finance Committee and then will be mimeographed and copies sent to you. I have written Doctor Chen asking him to indicate what actions he wishes me to attend to but have not yet heard from him. However, there are a few things which I want to call your attention to anyway.

Rental of Property

The item of the amount of rent to be paid for the property came up for a great deal of discussion, as it had at previous meetings. There were three particular arguments brought forth which decided in favour of the action taken - that the amount of rent be placed at $1.00 instead of $120,000. In the first place, the Trustees had already suggested one difficulty in the matter of the transfer of funds. A second difficulty has arisen here in the minds of many because of possible taxation policies by the Nationalist gov-

ernment. A favourite form of taxation is on the basis of rents. Doctor Ferguson brought out the other strong argument, that the $1.00 rental indicated the true relationship between the Trustees and the Directors. The Trustees own the property and are giving it to the Directors for use as a Christian University. This matter will be discussed in a later letter, when all the documents are submitted to you for final approval.

Property Losses

Minute D-27 indicates the action taken with reference to reparations. It is expected that the Board of Trustees, if they so desire, shall submit a statement of losses to the United States government for their information, so that in case of negotiations between the Nationalist government and the American government these might be offered in evidence but not as a demand for reparations. My own feeling is that we are about as apt to get reparations one way as another. Of course, many individuals are putting in lists to the government in the expectation ~~of~~ that reparations will be demanded, and if the government finds that the only way it is going to be possible to settle the Nanking incident is by the paying of reparations for losses, they may volunteer to make reparations and thereby get some face out of it. My own feeling is that they would be well advised to follow this latter line of action. We will send a more detailed list of losses to you at a later date. I have already placed with the Nanking American Consul a list of losses as of some time in June. This was not a claim but for his information only.

Return of Doctor Bowen

Action D-43 indicates the attitude of the Directors and administration with reference to the return of Doctor Bowen. There could be no question whatsoever about the sincerity of the Directors and our teachers and students in wanting Doctor Bowen to return just as soon as possible. Although the action stated that Doctor Bowen's return was wanted at the earliest possible date, I think most people feel that he should finish out his furlough year. The Chinese did not wish any conditions placed in the action, and they wanted it to express just as ~~soon as it was~~ fully as possible their desire to have Doctor Bowen back just as soon as it was wise for him to come. The discussion preceding this action will, I am sure, be of great interest to all of you. There was no action taken that brought out a more spontaneous discussion than the one dealing with Doctor Bowen's return. We are enclosing herewith the English translation of the resolution drawn up in Chinese by the special committee appointed at the meeting of the Board of Managers on November 9.

Return of Foreign Staff

Action D-29 indicates the best judgment of the University administration and the Board of Directors with reference to this very perplexing problem. I think it would be very unwise indeed to

wait to return the foreign staff to ~~Nanking~~ China until it becomes possible for all the families to go back to Nanking to live under more or less normal conditions. There was never a time in the history of the institution when the foreign staff was more urgently needed or when its opportunities for service were greater than right now. I heartily concur in the action and I hope that the Boards will be willing to carry out the request. The details of personnel in case of vacancies to be transferred to Board quotas will be worked out by the Executive-Committee at its next meeting.

Conditions at the University

The following two paragraphs are being quoted from a statement which I asked Mr. Bates to make with reference to the attitude of teachers and students in the University of Nanking, and particularly in connection with the election of Doctor Chen as President. I have asked Mr. Du Bois Morris of Hwaiyuan also to give me a short report of his impression of the University as he found it during the three or four days' visit with Mr. Thomson last week. Mr. Morris was very greatly impressed with the attitude and spirit of teachers and students. Mr. Bates writes very significantly as follows:

"With very few exceptions both teachers and students have carried on their school work with remarkable regularity of program and effort. Scarcely a dozen have given any appreciable time to political activity; indeed, the conservative reaction is almost excessive, and frequently there is a degree of discouragement which leads almost to asceticism. There is some outside interference, coming chiefly from the Municipal Party Headquarters, which meets with more and more resentment on the part of nine-tenths of the men in the University; but this interference has resulted in nothing more than a couple of extra holidays and a few stereotyped posters and speeches which have failed of their purpose, whatever the purpose may have been. Such difficulties as exist within the school are old friends with familiar features. Regularity of work is the finer achievement when we realize the losses and insecurity, the widespread unemployment, and the general despair which affect almost every Chinese individually and through his family.

"The election of Dr. Ch'en Yü-gwan as President has been well received in the University. Appreciation is measurable in the length and number of speeches, feasts, and celebrations which crowded the third week of November. There is a general feeling that after the experimental and pioneer years the University is now better able to take a normal and less precarious place in Chinese Society. References to the general difficulties of foreign administration were often combined with straightforward thanks for the personal services of Dr. Bowen and other foreigners. One doctrinaire student and an unwelcome representative from the Party Headquarters were responsible for the only untoward remarks that were noticeable, and they were promptly countered by more sensible opinion. The events and spirit of the week were further evidence of stability, cooperation, and good general attitude."

General Educational Situation in the City of Nanking

The following paragraph is taken from a statement which I asked Mr. Bates to write. It helps to make us appreciate the high quality of the accomplishments of our own men in the University.

"For the most part, schools are in a precarious dondition. Those which depend upon government support are not sure of the next month's funds; even the Chung Shan University has paid salaries to only part of its staff, amid disrupting charges of favoritism, and its small funds have come from loans raised by the personal efforts of the President, while its designated income was seized by generals. A government middle school has had three presidents since September; the latest dignitary forced aut all teachers who were not his former associates at Southeastern, and filled their places with schoolmates. Six weeks after the Girls' Normal School (Provincial) had tardily opened, teachers were still divided into factions, each supported by part of the students, whose strife had prevented the holding of a single class. There has been much turbulence in the Chung Shan University, some of it led by a couple of the troublesome men who transferred from the University of Nanking two years ago. When the President ordered every student to participate in a certain political parade, some refused to go, and finally agreed to do so only if the President would lead the procession; his secretary attempted a demurrer which drew stones in reply, and the President was compelled to comply with the demand. Some teachers in government schools have been warned that they must be orthodox in all references to Party programs and the Three People's Doctrines, or lose their places. Yet one teacher in the School for Party Workers, using data from the University of Nanking, is able openly to challenge Dr. Sun's formulas on population - because he has a friend on the Central Executive Committee. The Department of Education has tried to protect school work from unnecessary interruptions, but its efforts have frequantly been over-ridden by the Municpal Party Headquarters, which is earning much ill-will by its irresponsible and puerile interference in other people's business."

The Military Situation

Military activity is now centred along the Tientsin-Pukow line, chiefly at Hsuchowfu and Tsining, and on the Shansi front. It has not been very decisive one way or the other. The ~~only~~ difficulty with the North is that they want to get rid of Chang Chung-chang and are willing to see him suffer defeat but at the same time do not wish to see the Southerners gain a general victory. Some feel that the present fighting will eventuate in General ~~Chang~~ becoming Governor of Shantung, meaning, of course, the elimination of Chang Chung-chang. With Feng the dominant figure in Honan, Sun and Feng would then unite, possibly with General Yen, in a drive to get control of all North China south of the Great Wall. There has been no military activity recently in the Yangtze valley outside of the movement of troops.

A number of military leaders followed Tang Seng-chi into Central China and are now fighting among themselves for the control of Hupeh and Hunan. There is similar struggle going on in Kwangtung. There are fewer soldiers in Nanking then there have been for some time, which makes everybody feel more hopeful. However, I fear for what might happen along toward Chinese New Year's, when the Nationalist soldiers begin to return from the North, as they are sure to do before the winter is over.

The Political Situation

The preliminary meetings to the Fourth Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Nationalist Party are now being held in Shanghai. If they can agree in the plenary sessions, they will hold a final formal session of the Central Committee. At the present time the outlook does not look very hopeful. There are too many people interested in getting out of the situation all they possibly can. It is a mad, sordid struggle for power. The most hopeful element in the whole situation is the fact that people generally have lost complete confidence in their political leaders and are aware of their insincerity and of their inability to accomplish any of the better things for which the revolution stands.

Doctor Speer seems so interested in the statements of F. D. Z., whom I erroneously referred to as Francis Zia, that I am going to quote briefly from a letter from him in the correspondence columns of the China Courier of November 22, 1927. F. D. Z. is evidently a business man connected with the International Dispensary, Foochow Road, Shanghai, was an old student of Mrs. Samuel Couling and is a graduate of St. John's University. I got this information from Mrs. Couling at the Shanghai Missionary Association meeting last Monday evening. F. D. Z. in the course of the article expressing what seems to me to be a universal feeling on the part of the better thinking Chinese, writes as follows:

"None will deny that China is in a critical condition. The coming of the Nationalists for a time raised boundless hopes in the minds of all. Who did not long for the day when, under the wise guidance of the Nationalist leaders, China would be united in peace and prosperity? The Nationalists fared badly; but our faith was unshaken. We have come under the rule of the Nationalists; war is continuing; taxes are piling up; robbers run wild everywhere; our miseries, instead of decreasing, are increasing by leaps and bounds. The Nationalist party, instead of uniting China into one, is itself divided into as many factions as there are political and military leaders. These leaders, it becomes more and more evident, are fighting only for their own interest; we poor people are but pawns in their game; and the ideal of nationalism nothing but a blind with which they seek to cover the eyes of the world!

"Who does not agree, heart and soul, with the ideals of Nationalism? But Nationalism is now a mere name. Dr. Sun is the canonized deity whose name alone makes it possible to unite in a nominal way all the factors of the Nationalists together. Dr. Sun is no longer a man, but a god that is, a being remote and unreal - a nonentity! Dr. Sun is in all mouths; but, if we could but read into the hearts of men, we would find there nothing but desire and selfishness. Every sensible man knows Dr. Sun, great as he is, is full of shortcomings. To make him perfect and infallible is to tell a lie. Man, as a seeker of truth, detests all lies. But our nationalist leaders, it appears, are seeking to overcome all opposition by appealing to the sacred authority of Dr. Sun. Whatever Dr. Sun says is right; whatever he has left out is wrong. The Three Principles are fixed, eternal, immutable. The river floods; Dr. Sun's name is used as a dike to hold them. Neglecting the real cause of trouble, the dike is built higher and higher with the rising of the flood. But nature is irresistible. The day will come when the dike will break and water will have its way! Not even the sacred name of Dr. Sun will be able to stem the tide of chaos, based as it is on an untruth.

"The root of the trouble is the prevalence of hypocrisy and the death of truth. The Nationalist officials are enriching themselves at the expense of the people. Will the people endure this forever? The reckless use of the name of Dr. Sun is fast changing what is sacred to what is hateful. The best of men will become a tyrant in our eyes if we are perpetually forced to accept him as our idol. As a great admirer of Dr. Sun and a sincere well-wisher of the Nationalist cause, I will call on all these hypocrites: "halt!" "halt!"

General

We were all shocked to learn of the sudden death by heart failure of Doctor Proctor yesterday, shortly after noon. He is to be buried in the Bubbling Well Cemetery tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. Bates was in the hospital for about a week with a very painful abscess in his upper lip. He returned to Nanking last Wednesday.

Mr. O. J. Todd, engineer of the International Famine Relief Commission, Peking, is interested in and perhaps will attempt to secure for his department the $100,000 from the American Committee for China Famine Fund, which has been held at the call of the Committee of Reference and Counsel in case a general appeal was made for large funds for famine relief in China. He evidently overlooked the fact that this $100,000 automatically becomes a part of the other fund. If the fund is opened up to meet the wishes of our friend Mr. Bovyer there undoubtedly will be many other requests for what seems to be (at least to those making such requests) equally needy and worthwhile causes.

President Yang's inauguration took place at Soochow University last Saturday. Shanghai College has been having a very difficult time evidently and for a while there seemed to be considerable uncertainty as to whether the Southern Baptists would stay in or get out. They have as yet been unsuccessful in securing a Chinese president, and my guess is that it will be some time before they do find a good man.

The seriousness of the Nanking shooting incident, which you doubtless have been reading about, is to be measured rather by its value as propaganda against the parties in power, including a few individuals. It is a good bit like the May 30th shooting incident in Shanghai. It has been reported that another church or two in Nanking have been reoccupied by soldiers. Mr. Chang Wen-tsai, one of our faculty, who left Nanking Wednesday night, said that the soldiers were out of the Gardens and had vacated a good many of the residences and that faculty members had been placed in the Buck house. This will be done with other houses just as quickly as they can get hold of them. Mrs. Meigs' house was rented to the manager of the Farmers and Labourers Bank (Nanking).

I am hoping to get all my work in connection with the reorganization finished up by January 1, in the expectation of spending the majority of my time from then on in Nanking.

We are moving our office into a smaller room, No. 531, on the floor where we now are. Please note change of address.

With kind regards and best wishes, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

over

TRANSFER

Nanking

INDEXED

University of Nanking

December 11, 1927

Mr. John H. Reisner,
Room 526, 20 Museum Road,
Shanghai, China.

My dear Mr.Reisner:

I take the liberty of quoting below certain extracts from a recent letter of Dr.Bowen. What Dr.Bowen says raises a number of important questions on which we would like your comments. You are the best judge as to how these quotations should be used. Since they are of a very frank and informal nature you will naturally be careful to keep them confidential.

Very cordially yours,

"If by Feb. or so at the latest I get no intimation from our Chinese administrators that I am wanted back, I shall begin to scratch about for a job for September. I have no expression of "hope" or desire that I return from any of our administrative staff, tho Robson, Hamilton and Jones, that I know of, have letters from Dr.Chen to this effect. This may or may not be significant. They may feel as I did very strongly when we left China, that one so closely connected with the administration might be a serious embarrassment to the new President and so prefer he keep away. Also I have no teaching specialty as the others have. So I recognize these as quite legitimate and reasonably possible attitudes on the part of Pres.Chen and the others and we shall not feel "hurt" by not being asked back. But if they do not settle it soon, we shall - and finally.

I urged Dr.Jones to plan to return this summer and he said he had written you also. He can do his maximum service now and for the next 10-20 years. They desire him back; he prefers on the whole to return, and by this summer I rather think the way will be open to return. Of course a house and a Board support are two problems involved, the house to be settled in China and the Board support to be settled here. He is a Southern Methodist and would have to be taken on by the N.Methodists I take it. That involves who of the former Methodist Board staff are or are not returning. There is too the problem of how many Americans the Chinese administration will want and how many each of the cooperating Boards can or are willing to support. New agreements and understandings will need to be worked out but they cannot as yet be taken up - not till you know how many men they will be able to "absorb". In the

meantime if we can hold the Boards to the former supported number for each - if desired - we will be doing all possible, I feel. I take it that the former class of University supported Americans will now drop out, except possibly in the case of secretaries and treasurer. They would, I should think, have to be supported by the budget of the University and not by the Boards. A number of problems and difficulties, I take it, will emerge when the new basis begins to operate and teachers (foreign) begin to return."

University of Nanking

December 13, 1927

Mr. J. H. Reisner,
Room 531, 20 Museum Road,
Shanghai, China.

My dear Mr.Reisner:

I have your letter of November 17th and a letter from Miss Priest dated November 11th in which both of you comment on the fact of our having used our Famine Fund balance to keep the current and emergency account deficits from forcing us to negotiate loans at the bank. You are, of course, quite correct in your statement that this is not in line with our agreement with the Famine Fund Committee. Miss Priest was quite correct in asking the National Savings & Trust Company to postpone payments so as to permit the field to catch up with its expenditure of famine funds.

As the matter now stands, the famine fund balance has been considerably reduced so that our November 30th balance sheet will show a little more than $8,000.00 in famine funds still in our hands. On the first of December we received a further remittance of $5,000. from the National Savings and Trust Company so our present famine fund balance is a little over $13,000.00. We presume, however, that we shall soon be receiving a draft drawn by Miss Priest for at least the $5,000.00 sent us by the Trustee of this account this month. We will hold ourselves in readiness to meet the draft at any time for the remaining balance of this account in our hands, even though that will necessitate bank borrowings in rather large amounts. That, I presume is all that we in the New York office can do to safeguard these famine funds. Of course, if the field so directs we can keep the famine fund in an entirely separate bank account and draw 1-1/2% interest on the average monthly balance. Meanwhile our current and emergency fund accounts would have to borrow money from the bank at from five to six per cent. It seems to me a more logical procedure, and one which would mean more both to the famine fund account and to our current accounts, would be for us to continue the present system of keeping one bank account (even though we carefully separated each University account on our records), and pay to the famine fund account at quarterly intervals interest at borrowing rate on the average balance maintained during the quarter, charging these interest payments to whatever accounts have been overdrawn during the period. This latter method would mean a considerably larger interest payment for the famine fund account and would also effect a substantial saving both in trouble and expense for other accounts.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-H

CC:Miss Priest

University of Nanking

December 13, 1927

Mr. J. H. Reisner,
20 Museum Road,
Shanghai, China.

My dear Mr.Reisner:

We are glad to learn from your letters of November 17th and 18th that steady progress is being made by the Board of Directors on the problems of reorganization. The semi-annual meeting of the Board of Trustees is supposed to take place in December, but since obviously it will be impossible for us to receive final reports of the action of the Directors in time for a meeting this month, it has been agreed that the Trustees will wait until sometime in January before holding such a meeting. I hope that by that time we will have the Directors' actions before us and will be able to take final steps in the plans of reorganization.

The sentiment here in New York on the question of the reorganization of our Christian universities in China ebbs and flows more or less, depending to some extent on the trend of the news from China, but in general our Trustees have taken a very liberal attitude, and I am sure they will continue to do so.

We note your comment on the work of the Central Office during the last year, and the expression of your hope that in the future the amount of detail handled by the New York office on account of Nanking will drop off considerably. The attitude of the New York office is always that it desires to render a maximum of service to the various Universities at a minimum of expense. I hope that we may avoid the constant danger of setting up an increasingly large and complex organization here. We have had so many illustrations of an organization being set up to accomplish a relatively simple function and soon growing into an expensive and elaborate structure. Yet I do feel that this Central Office must have an important and permanent place in helping forward the work of our Universities in China. Its importance must grow rather than decrease during the next few years as our Universities go through the process of reorganization. It would be disastrous to the universities and to the home constituency if they should break off the ties that join them to their western constituencies.

With best wishes for a most enjoyable holiday season, I am

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

TRANSFER

Nanking

University of Nanking

December 21, 1927

Mr. J. H. Reisner,
20 Museum Road,
Shanghai, China.

My dear Mr.Reisner:

We were very much interested in your letters of November 2nd and 26th addressed jointly to Dr.Speer, Dr.Bowen and myself. The progress of events in Nanking has shown much reason for encouragement as well as some apprehension.

We are postponing the semi-annual meeting of the Board ofTrustees until sometime in January so as to allow time for the Trustees to receive and study the latest actions of the Board of Managers on their plan of reorganization. I am not sure whether the Trustees intend to revise their constitution in accordance with this reorganization or simply to continue the present status of holding the constitution in abeyance for the time being.

During the last month or two we have been doing what we could to persuade all the cooperating mission boards to maintain their agreements with the University in full, including a payment of gold $1300. in lieu of each member of the respective quotas now no longer on mission support. We have not dared to put too much pressure on the boards because there is an even more marked tendency than usual just now for them to retrench wherever possible. Our request to the Southern Presbyterian Board for a cash grant in lieu of Dr.Hutcheson was answered by a brief note asking how they could gracefully withdraw from the University altogether. The Methodist Board has voted to confer with the other boards cooperating in the University on "the question of the readjustment of policies and agreements with such modifications as conditions existing in China may make desirable." Of course, Nanking is not the only institution involved in such threatened retrenchment for all the other universities in China are affected in the same way, some of them even more seriously. Our mission boards are in pretty difficult straits just now because the events in China during the last year have increased their expenditures there considerably, while the unfavorable attitude here in America has cut down their contributions for the China work to an alarming extent. Still, I am hoping that we will get through the crisis without any serious loss of support. During the last month our second emergency appeal for Nanking has met with a fairly satisfactory response. We have thus far received during this month $2,150.00. We have asked the Presbyterian Board, the Methodist Board and the United Christian Missionary Society to each assume responsibility for raising $7,000.00 emergency funds, using whatever method they desire. The Presbyterian Board has replied that they will include the Nanking appeal with their other emergency appeals, but we

have not yet heard officially from either the Methodist or the U.C.M.S. However, one or two substantial contributions have come in through the Methodist Board and I know that Dr.Frank Mason North has been using all his influence to secure financial assistance for the University from the Methodist constituency. The Emergency Fund Committee asked the Southern Presbyterian Church to try to secure gifts amounting to $1,000. but that Board took unfavorable action.

I enclose a couple of copies of the folder we sent out with letters of appeal.

With best wishes for the New Year, I am

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-H

Enc.

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
Nanking, China

Occasional Letter No. 9

Room 531, 20 Museum Road,
Shanghai, China,
December 28, 1927.

Dear Friends:

The hearty response to Occasional Letter No. 8 on the part of so many will indicate that we should attempt at least a few more of these letters. Occasional Letter No. 8 was written on October 9, and in the more than two months that have passed so much material has accumulated that it has been very difficult for me to weed out the material in order to keep this letter within reasonable bounds. I am very glad to be able to enclose Mr. Bates' report on his first visit to Nanking and a letter from Mr. Lamson, one of last year's Language School students, briefly describing his experiences on March 24 when two of our University students befriended him. I am quoting from quite a number of sources for this letter, which I am sure will add greatly to its interest. We want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the financial help which has been forthcoming and which will make the next several occasional letters possible.

On My First Return to Nanking

The following paragraphs are quoted verbatim from a letter under date of November 8 to Dr. Speer, Dr. Bowen, and Mr. Garside. Perhaps next time I can go into some of the details which are hinted at only in a very general way. I was in Nanking again last week and found a very great improvement in many ways, so far as conditions within the University were concerned.

"I returned from Nanking on the night train arriving here early last Sunday morning (November 6) after a SPLENDID trip. How many times I wished that all of our Nanking friends could be sharing my experiences. Our welcome was hearty and sincere. The spirit of our men has been more wonderful than I have been able to express in any of my previous letters. Their difficulties have been great and varied. They have met these difficulties and discouragements with a resourcefulness and courage that have been magnificent. I am more than ever convinced that the direction and measure of recent reorganization has been and will continue to be eminently wise. The men at Nanking and the undertaking there must have our full share of confidence and faith in them. Troubles and difficulties will certainly arise in the future; the coming days may be fraught with considerable danger, but after what we have seen of the spirit of our men during these past months we should be able to face the future with more assurance and a greater degree of faith in our men and the usefulness and influence of the University.

"With the exception of the residences, I was pleased to find our buildings in as good shape as they are in. The Language School looked as if nothing had happened. Of course all equipment was cleaned out. I refer only to the buildings. The Ministry of Justice, to whom they are rented, at their expense, has had the heating plant refitted for use under Mr. Gee's direction. The Middle School compound buildings looked the worse for their looting and occupancy by military but they have been gotten in usable shape in parts, with no great expense and the use of much ingenuity. Mr. Gee says the Hospital buildings

are in fair shape. I did not have time to visit them. The Agricultural Gardens buildings look run down at the heel but a mason and some whitewash will help there. The College campus was much better than I had dared to hope for and has suffered only to the extent of a path or two across lawns. My greatest surprise and pleasure, on the property side, was in the condition of Sage Chapel. The benches show dents (slight) where the soldiers and officers' steel outfit pieces struck when sitting down, a few book racks are gone, but the walls were in quite decent shape and the benches can very easily be sandpapered and smoothed over and revarnished (which a great many people have hoped would happen some time soon),and as I entered, it was to go back into the Chapel quite as we left it last March.

"But the condition of the residences gave one a shock. We are adding thirty odd thousand dollars to earlier estimates of damage, which brings the total residence damages up to $75,000.00. No point to describe them now. I shall try it in my next Occasional Letter. A few are still a little better than some of the others and Gee is trying to rent these to officials as that is the only way by which what is left can be saved.

"The Middle School now has over 160 students and they will be able to meet their current expenses from tuition and other fees, but there will be a little deficit for the months of July and August but no serious problems so far as I can see. I feel quite hopeful over the Middle School situation. I had lunch Saturday with a group of the Middle School teachers and I was most satisfactorily impressed with their reports and spirit. They are really getting a lot of kick out of meeting and overcoming difficulties.

"We arrived in Nanking after dark Thursday evening (Nov. 3). The Admininstrative Committee had prepared a simple feast for us. All day Friday I was more than busy renewing acquaintances and meeting friends, visiting departments, examining property with Mr. Gee, and in the evening the faculty had a little reception for us and Professor Blakeslee, A number of our faculty friends had prepared a special dinner, and after this we were the guests of the Senior Class. It was an experience that was well worth waiting seven hard, long months to anjoy and share, and it was ever evident that the joy of our returning to the University was mutual. Saturday was a continuation of Friday except that in the afternoon I went over to Ginling to see Mrs. Thurston and the other Ginling ladies who have not been out of their gate since they entered it.

"At Nanking, during these years, we have builded better than we thought and the building is not yet completed."

Dr. Chen Yu-gwan Elected President

At the Board of Managers meeting on November 10, Dr. Chen Yu-gwan was unanimously elected President of the University of Nanking. He assumed his responsibilities immediately. His election was reaffirmed by the new Board of Directors when this body was formally constituted on November 29. Miss Priest was elected Treasurer of the Board of Directors at the same time, and Mr. T. C. Woo, vice-president of the Shanghai branch of the Nanking Alumni Association, was elected chairman of the Board of ~~Managers~~ Directors. Doctor Chen's election has been received generally with much satisfaction and I am sure that we could

have found no one who will more sincerely or energetically undertake to carry out the purposes for which the University was founded.

Request for Return of Doctor Bowen

One of the first requests made to the Board of Directors by President Chen was for the return as soon as possible of Doctor Bowen. No action that was brought up at this first meeting of the Board of Directors brought forth more spontaneous interest on the part of all, and particularly of the Chinese members who were present, before the formal action quoted below was taken, and we hope that Doctor Bowen will definitely plan to return early next autumn. The action follows:

VOTED that the President be authorized to write a letter to Doctor Bowen expressing the Board's appreciation of his long years of service in China and asking him to return to the University at the earliest possible date.

Attitude of Students and Teachers in the University of Nanking

When Mr. Bates was in Shanghai for Thanksgiving vacation, I asked him to put in writing part of a conversation which we had on the above subject, and I am glad to quote him as follows. The general educational situation in the city of Nanking, which is found under the next general heading, has also been contributed by request.

"With very few exceptions both teachers and students have carried on their school work with remarkable regularity of program and effort. Scarcely a dozen have given any appreciable time to political activity; indeed, the conservative reaction is almost excessive, and frequently there is a degree of discouragement which leads almost to asceticism. There is some outside interference, coming chiefly from the Municipal Party Headquarters, which meets with more and more resentment on the part of nine-tenths of the men in the University; but this interference has resulted in nothing more than a couple of extra holidays and a few stereotyped posters and speeches which have failed of their purpose, whatever the purpose may have been. Such difficulties as exist within the school are old friends with familiar features. Regularity of work is the finer achievement when we realize the losses and insecurity, the widespread unemployment, and the general despair which affect almost every Chinese individually and through his family.

"The election of Dr. Chen Yu-gwan as President has been well received in the University. Appreciation is mensurable in the length and number of speeches, feasts, and celebrations which crowded the third week of November. There is a general feeling that after the experimental and pioneer years the University is now better able to take a normal and less precarious place in Chinese society. References to the general difficulties of foreign administration were often combined with straightforward thanks for the personal services of Doctor Bowen and other foreigners. One doctrinaire student and an unwelcome representative from Party Headquarters were responsible for the only untoward remarks that were noticeable, and they were promptly countered by more sensible opinion. The events and spirit of the week were further evidence of stability, cooperation, and good general attitude."

General Educational Situation in the City of Nanking

For the most part, schools are in a precarious condition. Those which depend upon government support are not sure of the next month's funds; even the Chung Shan University has paid salaries to only part of its staff, amid disrupting charges of favoritism, and its small funds have come from loans raised by the presonal efforts of the President, while its designated income was seized by generals. A government middle school has had three presidents since September; the latest dignitary forced out all teachers who were not his former associates at Southeastern, and filled their places with schoolmates. Six weeks after the Girls' Normal School (Provincial) had tardily opened, teachers were still divided into two factions, each supported by part of the students, whose strife had prevented the holding of a single class. There has been much turbulence in the Chung Shan University, some of it led by a couple of the troublesome men who transferred from the University of Nanking two years ago. When the President ordered every student to participate in a certain political parade, some refused to go, and finally agreed to do so only if the President would lead the procession; his secretary attempted a demurrer which drew stones in reply, and the President was compelled to comply with the demand. Some teachers in government schools have been warned that they must be orthodox in all references to Party programs and the Three People's Doctrines, or lose their places. Yet one teacher in the School for Party Workers, using data from the University of Nanking, is able openly to challenge Dr. Sun's formulas on population - because he has a friend on the Central Executive Committee. The Department of Education has tried to protect school work from unnecessary interruptions, but its efforts have frequently been over-ridden by the Municipal Party Headquarters, which is earning much ill will by its irresponsible and puerile interference in other people's business."

A Friend of the University Visits Nanking

When Mr. Thomson returned to Nanking after Thanksgiving Vacation, Mr. duBois S. Morris, a missionary of the Presbyterian station at Hwaiyuan, North Anhwei, accompanied him for a short visit. Mr. Morris has been in China one year longer than Mr. Williams, and so can write from a very intimate point of view not only of old personal associations but also of developments that have taken place in the last twenty odd years. The following paragraphs are extracts from letters which Mr. Morris had written to Mrs. Morris during his visit.

"November 30. We went first to the Williams' house to leave our baggage and where there is a bedroom for us. The house had been repaired for the University to use as a social center and with some extra bedrooms for Chinese. Externally it looked the same, but inside it seemed O, so tragically different. I was glad to go there first; it seemed almost a necessity, but I knew there I should have to face the memory of the supreme cost of that fateful day in March. Many memories came crowding upon me of those early days in Nanking with Jack Williams, for he came to China the year after I did. Those were happy days, when after our daily language study, exhausted mentally, we found relaxation in tennis or riding our ponies or walks on the city wall, and always with much conversation about things Chinese and problems and plans for the work. Jack was always the kind, thoughtful, Christian friend. China never had a truer lover and now his grave is in the little foreign cemetery with those other Nanking saints "who from their labours

rest." His house, in spite of desolate emptiness and spattered walls and plaster, broken by the nails on which soldiers had evidently hung their clothing, will always speak to me of friendly hospitality and Christian love, and what is best of all, at its very gate still stands unharmed and 'carrying on' the University, which he loved, the crowning of his life work, and in the lives of the young men who go out from this institution to build the new China the life of Jack Williams will live on for years to come."

"December 1. This has been rather a depressing day and I have constantly to keep my will in action and not let hope and faith falter. ..... In Bailie Hall I saw the bullet holes in the window glass and in the ceiling and other places. Then we went to the top floor where, on that never-to-be-forgotten day the women and children hid on one side under the eaves and the men on the other, the same room in which that remarkable military official sat and told the Americans that the Nationalist government was like that of Abraham Lincoln and where only several hours previously his soldiers had robbed the missionaries of what little they had left after being looted individually in their homes before being gathered together in Bailie Hall for safety."

"December 4. This morning we went to the University chapel. The preacher was Herman Liu, of the Y. M. C. A. His subject was Christianity and the present revolution and he made a stirring appeal for more and better Christians to meet the present crisis. The congregation of about one hundred and fifty students was very attentive and responsive. A Ginling student played the piano and the hymns were well sung. Altogether it was a most inspiring service. I met Dr. Chen, President of the University, and some of the fine University faculty, and I came away with deep thanksgiving and great hope for the future. Such a group as that is worth all that it has cost in mission funds and buildings and in personal work and sacrifice. China cannot fail as long as there are such Christians among her leaders."

"December 5. ..... Dr. Chen was with us at lunch and we had a delightful time. He is perfectly splendid and I cannot imagine a better man for the place. After lunch Mr. Chu Chi-chang (a graduate of the University and now in charge of the church at Fudong) came to take us to the various centers of our Presbyterian work in the city. He was a splendid and inspiring guide. He told us much of his own experiences with the soldiers and one felt how much he had suffered and what heavy responsibilities he had carried. He is a member of the Kuomintang Party but when they came only recently and asked him to help in some party organization, he refused and gave as his reason that he did not feel the party was being true to its principles. When he was asked 'What principles?' he said, 'Religious liberty.' He continued: 'You take churches like our Hupehchiai Church, like the Episcopal Church (St. Paul's), and do not let the Christians worship in them. I am a Christian and I cannot help the party unless it changes these things.' Surely one cannot find anything weak-kneed or indefinite about such a stand as that. Such fearless Christian testimony must leave a real impression wherever it is made.

"..... Everywhere on walls and buildings throughout the city are extracts from the 'Three Principles' and posters, miles and miles of them, 'tataoing' ('down with') everything. Where is this all leading to? When everything is pulled down will there be any strength left for building up? One is constantly tempted to be discouraged.

What has kept me optimistic is the thought of those two institutions by the old Drum Tower, Ginling and the University, unharmed by the looting and running smoothly under most difficult conditions. By continuing their constructive Christian work in the face of disintegrating and destructive forces, these institutions are bringing new hope to the friends of Christian Missions and are an important factor in hastening the return to normal conditions.

"This is a time for us to keep a firmer hold upon our New Testament and then, taking our stand under the Cross of Jesus, to open our hearts for more of His sacrificial love, and with Dr. Chen, Mr. Chu and all that fine group of men and women who are loyally 'carrying on,' with them in the foreground, we can steadily face what is happening in China today and not lose our faith in the present or our hope for the future."

What of Our Chinese Christians?

This is a question that I know many of you have thought of often. One of the best answers that I have had came as part of a Christmas note from Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Niles, Presbyterian missionaries at Hwaiyuan, North Anhwei. The letter abundantly speaks for itself.

"..... can think of no better way of wishing our friends a Happy Christmas than by quoting from the last letter which Pastor Sun has sent to us from Hwaiyuan. After telling of the siege, when a portion of the roof of the Girls' School was shot away by a cannon ball, when soldiers looted and pillaged all through the city, when fires raged destroying between eight hundred and a thousand homes, when two plain clothes men were shot down by their enemies in our own city chapel, another beheaded on the front steps of the chapel and still another shot to death at the back gate, the evangelist in charge nearly losing his life at the same time, the Pastor goes on: 'After the Sunday School was over, I heard that there was a battle in progress on the Boys' School athletic field and that several soldiers had been killed..... On Wednesday we had prayer meeting just as usual. Including myself there was a total of ten people present. Although the meeting was not a large one, the spiritual atmosphere and the 'taste' of direct communion with God were even greater than when the attendance is larger. It was a time when faith is strengthened a hundred fold.... I live in the midst of deep water and hot fire, which forces me daily to a closer communion with God. I find much deeper and richer flavour to the study of the Scriptures now than I ever did in times of peace and quiet. Every day brings happiness - not one bit of gloom. Surely this is the gracious gift of God through your constant prayers for me. On the one hand I praise and bless His Glorious Name, and on the other give thanks to all those who are remembering me before his throne. My home is at peace. The homes of all the Christians are at peace. And may you, too, have that Peace which passeth all understanding.'"

A Few General Observations in Nanking

The Seminary buildings have been rented to the Supreme Court of the Ministry of Justice. Two months' house rent on all residences was collected in October and November. I understand <u>everybody</u> paid except the very poor people. Taxes were collected for the alleged purpose of providing for the Municipal Department of Public Safety. The Hsi I Lan Church was taken back during the month and regular church ser-

vices are now being held there. The Hillcrest gymnasium has been carried off lock, stock and barrel and nothing now remains except the foundations. The University Hospital is now being used partly for a hospital and partly for a hotel. We are sorry to report the resignation of Doctor Hutcheson, which came to us in a letter directly from him a few weeks ago. The services which the University Hospital rendered were never more appreciated than they are now, when the people have to do without them. It is not clear when or how the Hospital can be reopened. The final enrolment for the two colleges was 415, and for the Middle School 170 students. Much larger enrolments are anticipated for the spring semester. Mrs. K. S. Liu, whom many of you remember, was some time ago elected Principal of the Methodist Girls' School at Hwei Wen. Mrs. Thurston is spending the holidays at Nanking. The Ginling ladies, I understand, with only one exception - that being Miss Vautrin on the occasion of a celebration in honour of Dr. Chen's election as President of the University - have not been off the Ginling campus. Among recent visitors to Nanking have been Professor Blakeslee, Professor of International Law, Clark University, and Professor Condliffe, Director of Research, both of them connected with the Institute of Pacific Relations.

The Political Situation

One short paragraph must suffice. The coup made by the Reds at Canton December 12 served as the occasion for the breaking off of relations with Russia by the Kuomintang. This has been the chief item of interest for several weeks past. Preliminary meetings have been held in preparation of the Fourth Plenary Session of the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang, which is scheduled for January 1-15. The last Canton coup has eliminated a number of the outstanding members of the Central Executive Committee, such as Wang Ching-wei, from the conference. Please note that none of the higher-up Reds who were implicated in the two recent Canton coups have been punished, nor are they likely to be. The Russians were made the principal goats on this occasion - and they simply reaped the harvest they have been preparing for themselves for the past three years or more. There is nothing in Chinese politics at the present time to give any one any particular hope. The conservatives are gaining control slowly, but their victories are rather costly, as witness the destruction at Canton. The Kuomintang Party Central Executive Committee, of course, controls the government, and this committee, so far as I can see, is made up mostly of political and military usurpers who in no way represent the Chinese people or the larger national interests of China. Papers this morning report the probable resignation of C. C. Wu, Wang Chung-hui, and Sun Fo from the government - some of their best men. There is a strong move to reinstate Chiang Kai-shek as head of the military. The Nanking government is now under the control of the Kuangsi military group. With the progressive suppression (?) of the Russians and Chinese Red activities and influences, the political and military situations will assume a more nearly Chinese norm.

Recent Military Developments

Tang Seng-chi has been eliminated from the Yangtze valley. Kuangsi generals are now in control at Wuhan. Hsuchowfu has at last fallen, due about 95% to Feng Yu-hsiang and the other 5% to the Nanking armies. It looks very much as if Shantung would fall and would go to Feng Yu-hsiang, not to the Nanking group as such, though Feng and the

Nanking crowd would probably be able to cooperate on certain broad issues. One Shantung general and two Fengtien generals have recently gone over to the other side. The situation between Fengtien and Shansi changes very little and no decisive results are in sight. The Northern provinces, however, are thoroughly honeycombed with Nationalist propaganda and the people, in spite of what they now know about the Nationalists, seem to prefer the unknown to the known. They have had all too much of militarism by the Northern group to wish for any more of it or to be unwilling to get rid of it at any cost.

Return of University Teachers

For general information I am quoting below the action taken at the meeting of the Board of Directors; the details of personnel have not yet been worked out but I hope will be soon. There can be no question in the world about the desire on the part of our Chinese teachers and students for the foreign teachers to return to their work at the University. The University, however, will be up against very, very serious financial problems for the next few years and it is obviously quite impossible for the former number of foreigners to return as University-supported teachers. The action follows:

VOTED that, although it is difficult to foretell what the future political situation will be in Nanking, nevertheless, on the basis of the continuation or the improvement of present conditions, we feel justified in making the following recommendations and requests to the cooperating Boards:

1. That the full quota of missionaries from each Board be returned to China, for the beginning of the autumn semester 1928.
2. That in case it is unwise or inconvenient for families to proceed to Nanking, the Boards, as an emergency measure, provide residence for them in Shanghai, the teachers proceeding to their work in the University.
3. That in case of vacancies in the quota of any Board, these vacancies be filled with experienced university teachers who have heretofore been supported by general university funds.
4. That the details of personnel be worked out by the President and the Executive-Finance Committee.

Personal

We have had many letters and cards from our old Nanking friends during these holidays and it has given us much pleasure indeed to be brought in touch with you all once again. While our disillusionment makes it impossible for any of us to be in the same mental state that we were in this time last year regarding Nationalist control of Nanking and the Yangtze valley, nevertheless the situation is very much better today than it has been any time since March 24, and I am one of those who believe that the situation will continue to get considerably better - IF it does not go and get worse again. The coming year finds us faced with problems that we never dreamt of twelve months ago, but after the experiences we have been through and after what we have seen of our Chinese colleagues in action and carrying heavy responsibilities I think we are all more than justified in starting the New Year full of faith and confidence and hope in the immediate future.

With cordial regards to all, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO
SHANGHAI OFFICE.

20 MUSEUM ROAD, ROOM 536
SHANGHAI, CHINA

December 30, 1927.

Dr. R. E. Speer,
Dr. A. J. Bowen,
Mr. B. A. Garside.

Dear Dr. Speer, Mr. Bowen, and Mr. Garside:

I spent last Monday to Thrusday on a trip to Nanking and found conditions at the University much more normal and stable and satisfactory than they had been on my earlier visit in November just a few weeks after the soldiers had evacuated the buildings. I think the students have lost but two days so far during the fall on account of political celebrations, and every one seemed to be in a very good humour.

Doctor Chen is working very, very hard. I arrived in Nanking a day earlier than scheduled, making the trip up from Shanghai with Mrs. Thurston, who is spending the holidays at Ginling. Tuesday morning I went to chapel and found Doctor Chen there before me. On Wednesday morning he was there also before eight o'clock, had a luncheon engagement, called a meeting of the Advisory Committee at two o'clock, presided at a reception for Dr. Connddliffe at 4.30, was host at a feast that same night, to which Dr. Connddliffe and a number of others of us had been invited, and at nine o'clock met with a Y. M. C. A. committee. He is also teaching at least one class, and with the many new problems that are constantly arising out of the abnormal situation into which he has been projected, he is more than busy, which may account for the lack of more correspondence with you people in the homeland. If he has been singularly quiet, I think it is not because of any lack of interest but because he is more than busy with the immediate problems that face him.

They are in touch with the educational authorities and have had several conferences with Dr. Tsai Yuen-pei and others of the Educational Committee. Dr. Tsai told them not to do anything further about registration until he sent them a letter. A new set of regulations, I understand, is to be issued, particularly for the primary and middle schools, which are more lenient than those issued in Canton a year or more ago. The educational authorities made it perfectly clear that the regulations were not meant to apply to such institutions as Nanking, Soochow, Shanghai College, etc., but to a group of diploma factories and money-making middle schools here in Shanghai. Of course, it is ridiculous for them to worry about regulating and registering a lot of private schools,

the best in the country, when more than nine-tenths of the children of China have no place to go to school at all, and I am pretty well convinced that registration is not going to mean very much either one way or the other, so far as government relationships are concerned, and our own teachers and all the Chinese in general will feel very much better if they feel they have complied at least with the regulations of the government and have thus shown themselves to be good citizens.

Mr. Buck accompanied Dr. Conndliffe, now in charge of the research work of the Institute of Pacific Relations, on a trip to Nanking about two weeks ago. My trip to Nanking was particularly for conferences with Dr. Conndliffe in connection with some help which we are asking him for. Buck, and Dr. Conndliffe, and Mr. Burch and I returned together. Dr. Conndliffe, who is professor of economics in a university in New Zealand, was evidently very much impressed with the type and quality of work which we are doing.

The Bowen and Buck houses have been rented and are occupied. The Reisner house was supposed to have been occupied by a number of teachers, and it was also hoped to place some teachers in the Thomson house. We have found some money left over from the original grant for the three Famine Fund houses, which will be about enough for minimum repairs on the Lowdermilk house, which will be made as soon as some one can be found to go in it. Mr. Gee was also hoping to rent the Owen house to Mr. Chang Kennien, who has befriended the University many times during the summer and who has now been made Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, replacing Mr. Hu Hsioh-yuen, one of our own graduates. The whole inside of the Daniels house has been removed and will probably have to be rebuilt. The Seminary buildings have been rented to the Supreme Court. I hope at least by the next mail to be able to send you some pictures of some of the houses.

Mr. Thomson and Mr. Bates came down to spend Christmas here in Shanghai with their families. Our friends at Home have been most thoughtful in sending remembrances, so that we have had a very happy Christmas season. I am going up to Nanking next week for a week and am planning definitely to spend most of my time in Nanking during the spring semester.

With kind regards and best wishes, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.