Nanking
Corres.
Reisner, John H. 1932

TRANSFER

Nanking

January 5, 1932

Mr. John H. Reisner,
Agricultural Missions Foundation,
419 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

My dear Mr. Reisner,

I enclose the sheaf of correspondence with Van Buskirk, concerning which we talked over the telephone this morning. If you think he offers possibility of satisfactory service, we'd be glad to have your suggestions. I enjoyed the letter from Lowdermilk in regard to Li Teh-l. Mr. Li has obviously been making a great record here in America, both for himself and for ~~Cornell.~~ Nanking

Cordially yours,

BAG/G
Enc. 2

Reuner

Nanking

TRANSFER

(Rec'd) January 7, 1932

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FAMINE PREVENTION.

INDEXED

In connection with the famine prevention program carried on by the College of Agriculture and Forestry of the University of Nanking, attention is called to three outstanding projects described in detail below. In addition to these, many other important contributions have been made in the fields of plant disease control, forest investigations and research, extension projects, rural education, economic studies and investigations in economic phases of Chinese agriculture, organization of Cooperative Societies, the training of many hundreds of students in regular and special courses from which, up to June 1932, there have been more than 500 graduates from the one, two and four-year courses, of whom at least 80% are active in the fields of agriculture and forestry. For a detailed account of what has been accomplished, the reader is referred to the special five-year report submitted to the American Famine Fund Committee, Shanghai, and to the annual report of the College of Agriculture and Forestry for the years 1928-32. Any one of the three projects referred to above and described below would, in the judgment of the writer, more than justify the original action of the American Committee for China Famine Fund in assigning a portion of their left-over funds to the University of Nanking.

1. Crop Improvement Work. Twenty-eight varieties or strains of improved seed of wheat, corn, cotton, millet and kaoling have been produced under the crop improvement project of the Famine Prevention Program. Tons of these improved seed are being distributed each year now. In addition to the very large experiment station at Nanking, there are 14 smaller experimental stations, eleven under mission control and three under government control in

this project. The work at all the stations is correlated not only with Nanking but with each of the other stations so that any successful result at one station can be made immediately available for experimentation or demonstration at all the others. An important factor in achieving these results has been the cooperation of professors from the Department of Plant Breeding of the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University. Five Cornell professors have spent six months of each year at Nanking 1925-1932, except 1927-28. The season 1932 brings to a close this important cooperative undertaking between Cornell University, the International Education Board, and the University of Nanking. Not only have definite results of tremendous practical value been secured in the improvement of food crops, but four special training institutes have been held at which have been present practically all of the Chinese who were engaged in crop improvement work in China, and much better methods are now being used on practically all Government Crop Improvement projects. The Nationalist Government has recently invited Professor Love, of Cornell, to spend three years in China organizing crop improvement work under government auspices along the lines whichhave been developed so successfully at the University of Nanking. Dr. Love is now at Nanking serving also as Agricultural Advisor to the Central Government. The University of Nanking has also been asked to cooperate in this undertaking, particularly in connection with the training of the personnel.

2. Another project has been the development of a very simple method of controlling smut of cereal crops, especially wheat, millet, kaoliang and hull-less barley. Losses from this disease range from five to seventy-

 TRANSFER

five per cent of the crop annually. A ten to fifteen per cent loss is probably near to the average. By the use of copper carbonate dust this disease can be controlled. Thousands of demonstrations have already been made of its use. The treatment is simple, cheap and fool proof. Anyone can do it. The wide use of this method of disease control now depends upon wide organization and especially upon a greater degree of political stability. It has also been found to be an effective control against grain weevil and moth which cause great damage to stored grain. The saving in food by this simple treatment annually can easily be made to have a value of many, many times all the money that was allocated to Nanking.

3. The third significant piece of work accomplished has been in connection with an understanding of causes of soil erosion and a means for wide-spread control. Especially in North China, control of erosion which causes the wasting away of valuable soil, preventing crop production, causing the silting up of river beds, resulting in overflow and floods which in turn result in loss of crops and other property, many of them eventuating in famine, is found not to be contingent upon reforestation but upon revegetation. Any plant that can be found to grow in the areas of a river drainage, or any groups of plants that will make possible revegetation of the ground and provide a protective covering to the soil will be of economic value and sufficient to bring about full erosion control. This particular piece of work was started in China by Dr. Walter C. Lowdermilk who has recently completed his studies at the University of California in cooperation with the United States Forest Service. This work by Dr. Lowdermilk, in solving one problem, has presented us with the next one in line, viz: the locating of

suitable plants with which to revegetate the great areas of erosion in North China. Cooperation has already been established with the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Forest Service in a plan to secure seeds and plants from arid and semi-arid areas of the world for experimental plantings in China and the United States. It is hoped that the University in the years to come can make outstanding contributions to the solution of this problem also.

Respectfully submitted,

JHR:LP

John H. Reisner.

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Respectfully submitted,

JMH:LP John M. Helmer.

1932

TRANSFER

Nanking

February 17, 1932.

Mr. John H. Reisner,
419 Fourth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Reisner:

I have just received a letter from Mr. M. T. Caldwell of the University of Illinois, Y. M. C. A. It reads as follows:-

"The choice Christian leader of the University of Illinois graduating class is available for service abroad with particular reference to the field of Agriculture.

This young man of 23 is now President of Y. M. C. A. He has been President of the Disciples Foundation work. He is vigorous physically having been a wrestler. He is the sone of a faculty man in Agriculture at Illinois. He has a thoroughly sane and balanced Christian spirit but he wants a place where he can combine his years of interest and training in Agriculture with his vital concern for people and their Christian outlook on life. Would you have an opening at Nanking for such a leader?"

Do you think there is any possibility whatever that the U.C.M.S. could be made interested in this man? They have a couple of vacancies on their quota at Nanking for which they have been paying G $1300 a year, but within the last month they have informed us that decrease in income has compelled them to scale down their expenditures sharply in all directions.

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:PC

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AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION

419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

JOHN H. REISNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

February 18, 1932

TRANSFER

Nanking

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

My dear Mr. Garside:

Replying to your letter of February 17th, I am in no position to pass judgment on Mr. Caldwell without more information in regard to his technical training. From the standpoint of personal character and personality, he would seem to be quite A-1.

I think the attitude of the U.C.M.S. would be greatly influenced by whether or not the University of Nanking were willing that a second man of their quota should be assigned to the College of Agriculture and Forestry. Several years ago the Board of Directors said that the College of Agriculture should have five out of the total quota of the boards. The college now has Mr. Steward of the Methodist Board, Mr. Goodsell of the U.C.M.S., Mr. Buck of the Presbyterian Board, and Mr. Slocum of the Baptist Board, so they should have one more board man on their faculty.

I think, however, Caldwell would not be desired at Nanking unless he had some graduate work along some particular line. In fact, I have come to the conclusion that there is very little place for any agriculturally trained man on the mission field unless he has had more than an undergraduate training.

I saw Mr. and Mrs. Slocum and Mr. and Mrs. Riggs at Ithaca, from where I returned this morning. Both Riggs and Slocum are excellent men and, with their families, are going to fit admirably into the community at the University and, I am sure, will be real additions to the staff.

I shall be glad to help you find a fifth man for Nanking for the board's quota, whenever you may designate the time is right for such a man to be appointed.

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

JHR:LP

 TRANSFER

P. S. The thought just occurs to me that the fifth man might probably have to be the second Baptist Board man for the College of Agriculture. But it might not do any harm to write directly to Dr. Chen. J.H.R.

TRANSFER

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION

419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

JOHN H. REISNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

March 1, 1932

Nanking

China Union Universities
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Gentlemen:

We would greatly appreciate your giving us further information regarding the following missionaries:

Funkhouser, W. L. - Lingnan University (?) resigned from Lingnan about 15 yrs ago.
Date next furlough is due, and home address. Present add: County Farm Agt Keene - N H

Gibbs, Rev. C. S. - (Resigned ?)
Present address and type of work in which engaged.
Residence: 9 Phillips St., Amherst, Mass
Bus. address: Paige Laboratory Massachusetts Agricultural College Amherst, Mass

Hancock, Marcus L. - (University of Nanking) (Resigned?)
Present address and type of work in which engaged.
In 1927 he started a nursery business in Belleville, Ontario.
Home Address: Bowmanville Ontario

Zook, Lester M. - Lingnan University (On furlough ~~now?~~) at present not yet, June 1932
Furlough address, date of expected return to the field, and year next furlough will be due.
unknown
Address in America: RFD #4 Chambersburg Pa

Thanking you in anticipation, we are

Yours very sincerely,

Lydia J. Pettus

Lydia J. Pettus,
Secretary to Mr. Reisner.

LJP:

John H. Reisner

TRANSFER
Nanking

March 2, 1932

Miss Lydia J. Pettus
Agricultural Missions Foundation
419 Fourth Avenue
New York, New York

My dear Miss Pettus

The following is the information for which you asked in your letter of March 1 with regard to four missionaries at Lingnan and Nanking. In the case of Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Hancock our records are not up to date. The last time we heard from them was in the first half of 1930, and they may have moved since that time.

Funkhouser, W. L. - Resigned from Lingnan about 15 years ago. Present address: County Farm Agent, Keene, New Hampshire.

Gibbs, Rev. C. S. - Residence: 9 Phillips Street, Amherst, Mass. Business address: Paige Laboratory, Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Massachusetts.

Hancock, Mr. Marcus L. - In 1927 he started a nursery business in Belleville, Ontario. In 1930 he gave his address as Bowmanville, Ontario, but we do not know what work he is engaged in at the present time.

Zook, Mr. Lester M. - Is at Lingnan University at the present time. He will come on furlough in June 1932, but it is not yet known whether or not he will return to the University. His address in the United States is R. F. D. #4, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

Very sincerely yours

MS

TRANSFER

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION

419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

JOHN H. REISNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Nanking

March 29, 1932

Mr. V. A. Garside
China Union Universities
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Garside:

Mr. Reisner has asked me to send you the attached copy of excerpts from a letter by Mr. Frank W. Price, Nanking, China.

If you desire additional copies to send to the Board of Founders, we will be glad to send them to you upon request.

~~I am~~ and Hoping that all is going well with you, looking forward to seeing you some time in the near future, I am

Yours very sincerely,

Lydia J. Pettus

LYDIA J. PETTUS,
Secretary to Mr. Reisner

LP/HF

TRANSFER

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

THE CHURCH AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION IN CHINA

(The following paragraphs are taken from a recent letter from Mr. Frank W. Price, Nanking, China, a missionary of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S., member of the faculty of the Nanking Union Theological Seminary, and are too good not to share with you. They need no comment. J. H. Reisner.)

"This is a flood story. On one of my trips last fall to study flood conditions and help plan for relief in the region south of Nanking, I met a young graduate of University of Nanking School of Agriculture who has been working two years in a government extension station. The people in the market-town nearby told me of the awful days last summer when the waters rose higher and higher, higher than any living man could remember. One of the important dykes was beginning to give way. Young Chieh rallied over a thousand farmers and fought the swelling river for three days and nights. He organized the women and boys to carry food and water. The irresistible flood waters finally found a hole and broke through with a roar upon the hundred villages within the embankments. Chieh lost his battle with the flood but won the confidence of the people in a remarkable way. Now he has one of the best organizations around Nanking to distribute wheat seed and provide work relief for the neediest families. I watched Chieh in a meeting with his local farmer leaders. In everything he pushed them forward and made them feel their responsibility. They were not ashamed to show their devotion to him. Quietly Chieh said, 'I could not preach but I am trying to live out my Christianity here in the country'. Many more like Chieh have shown the spirit of heroic service that is latent in China's students and graduates, the spirit of real service that is one of Christianity's great contributions."

. . . . . .

"Shunhwachen, where we are carrying on our rural church experiment, is on high ground and did not suffer although ten miles of road between Nanking and there was covered with water for three months. And other good news from 'Pure Market-town'(Shunhwachen). One of our finest young Seminary graduates has come to take the pastorate in the little church there. What he has done in just two months for the church and community is a wonderful demonstration and promise of what a well-trained and devoted rural ministry can do for China. With Mr. Chu at Shunhwachen and Mr. Yu Mo-ren, a gifted young Chinese writer working with me both at the Seminary and in the country on new religious education materials for the rural church, I hope we can move ahead in our project. Mr. Yu looked up this morning from his desk and said, 'I am not worrying about this war business. I am going ahead with my work, for it is a work of real spiritual reconstruction that looks to China's future'. We hope nothing will prevent the spring training institute for our Seminary students at Shunhwachen and our plan for the rural Seminary."

New York City,
March 28, 1932.

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AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

Copy for Reisner

AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

TRANSFER

14 Beacon Street Boston, Mass.

April 5, 1932

Mr. John H. Reisner
Agricultural Missions Foundation
419 Fourth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Reisner:

It is my very unpleasant duty to write and tell you that the present financial circumstances combined with the future outlook so far as a very careful study can interpret it has forced the American Board to the almost unprecedented step of reviewing at this time of the year its whole financial program. As with the Methodist Board this has involved the decision very radically to cut our existing work and staff and in fairness to all the work which we have done it happens that one of these pieces of reduction is the assignment of Charles Riggs to Nanking University. We are asking him to withdraw temporarily at least from the service of the Board. The ground of this reversed policy is the one that though we believe in the work that the College of Agriculture and Forestry at Nanking is doing, we have not participated in it in this form before, so that it is essentially a new commitment for the Board and in the face of all the old work which the Board is being obliged to close, we do not feel that we are justified in starting the new work.

We know that this will be a disappointment to you as it is to us. If an opportunity should come to you to make suggestions with regard to Riggs' finding a place of service in this country, we are sure that you will be glad to make them. We know that it is no easy thing to find an opening at the present time, but we hope that this year of study at Cornell will prove to have made helpful contacts.

Very cordially yours,

(Signed) Wynn C. Fairfield

WCF:B

Copy for Council

TRANSFER

AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

14 Beacon Street Boston, Mass.

April 8, 1932

Mr. John R. Mott
International Missions Conversation
216 Fourth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mister:

It is my very unpleasant duty to write and tell you that the present financial circumstances combined with the future outlook so far as a very careful study can indicate it has forced the American Board to the almost unprecedented step of relinquishing at this time of the year the whole financial program. As with the Secondary Board this has involved the decision very reluctantly to cut our salaries work and staff and in fairness to all the work which we have done it happens that one of these pieces of reduction is the assignment of Charles Riggs to teaching University. We are asking him to withdraw temporarily at least from the service of the Board. The ground of this reversed policy is the conviction though we believe in the work that the College of Agriculture and Forestry at Nanking is doing, we have not participated in it in this form before, so that it is essentially a new commitment for the Board and in the face of all the old work which the Board is being obliged to close, we do not feel that we are justified in starting the new work.

We know that this will be a disappointment to you as it is to us. If an opportunity should come to you to make suggestions also regard to Riggs' finding a place of service in this country, we are sure that you will be glad to make them. We know that it is no easy thing to find an opening at this present time, but we hope that this year of study at Cornell will prove to have made helpful contacts.

Very cordially yours,

(Signed) Wynn C. Fairfield

WCF:B

TRANSFER

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION

419 FOURTH AVENUE

NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

JOHN H. REISNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

April 11, 1932

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

Dear Garside:

I enclose herewith letter from Dr. W. T. Swingle, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Swingle, as you will recall, has been very greatly interested in our work on the old Chinese literature; and it was through his interest and with his financial aid that the cooperation between the Department of Agriculture and the University of Nanking was brought about some years ago, when Miss Wead went to China and got us started on our work of indexing old Chinese agricultural literature. For many years Dr. Swingle has been interested in the possibility of much more active cooperation between the University of Nanking and the Congressional Library in connection with the purchase of old agricultural literature. It is this matter to which he refers in his letter.

I have written Dr. Swingle that you are badly tied up with meetings this week but that, if you are free, I am sure you will be glad to see him and talk over with him some scheme whereby money may be advanced to Nanking for such purchases. The only reason why the scheme has not been put in operation long before is because of lack of capital funds by the University to invest in such purposes. There is no question of the principle of the cooperation or Nanking's desire to do whatever they possibly can. I do hope that it may be possible for you to see Dr. Swingle if he should arrive this week. As you know, he has been a mighty good friend of the University for many years.

With cordial regards and best wishes, I am

Yours very sincerely,

Reisner

John H. Reisner,
Executive Secretary.

JHR:LP

C O P Y

TRANSFER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Plant Industry
Washington

April 8, 1932.

Dr. John H. Reisner
Agricultural Missions Foundation
419 Fourth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Reisner:

I had a very interesting trip to Chicago and in the course of a general discussion of bibliography, I was able to present much of the matter you were kind enough to write, although no formal papers were read at the conference.

I hope to go to New York next week and should like to have a chance to talk with you and perhaps with the University of Nanking officials, about advancing funds for the purchase of agricultural works and gazetteers through the cooperation of Mr. Wan Kwoh-ting. I am anxious to know how many could be placed so they would be absolutely safe.

The only fund in sight is one which could merely be loaned for the purpose and must be repaid in full at a later date. It would be necessary to keep it on deposit in some safe place and when it is spent, insurance must be taken out on the books so that by no chance could the works be lost.

If some way can be found to place this money at the disposal of Mr. Wan Kwoh-ting, I think I have in mind a source that could be used, free from danger of loss.

Possibly you can talk the matter over with some of the Nanking University authorities before I come. Perhaps the money could be kept on deposit in New York City in a safe place and then drawn upon when needed in Nanking, out of, let us say, local funds which would at once be met by a check from New York covering the amount of the draft.

Please give my best regards to Mrs. Reisner and the children.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) Walter T. Swingle,
Principal Physiologist in Charge,
Crop Physiology & Breeding Investigations.

WTS/B

TRANSFER

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION

419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

JOHN H. REISNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

April 12, 1932

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

Nanking

INDEXED

Dear Mr. Garside:

Many thanks for sending me a docket of the meeting of the Nanking Founders called for Friday. I regret that I shall not be able to be present.

In the material which you submitted relative to the famine funds, may I suggest that by all means at least the first three paragraphs of President Chen's letter to you, under date of February 25th, should also be included. It is this particular letter which indicates Nanking's attitude toward the joint request; and without it, it seems to me, it is quite impossible for the Board of Founders to appreciate the attitude of the men at Nanking with reference to the joint request.

In view of the fact: (1) That these famine funds were allocated to the two Universities for specific purposes and under definite conditions; (2) That Yenching so far failed in the use of the funds, that the Shanghai American Famine Fund Committee caused the agricultural work at Yenching to be reorganized and placed under the University of Nanking; (3) That the responsibility for the agricultural work, under the funds originally allocated to Yenching, has now been placed on Nanking, in which Yenching has been in full agreement; (4) That the funds represent public gifts from America to China; (5) That, on the basis of achievement, Yenching has earned no right to their final allocation; and (6) That it is difficult to understand under these circumstances why Yenching does not recognize this situation and that there can be no possible justification for her asking for these funds to become the permanent property of Yenching University, I am absolutely opposed to the joint request made by President Chen on behalf of the University of Nanking.

 TRANSFER

After reading Dr. Chen's letter of February 25th to you, it is difficult for me to understand just why the joint request was entered into. One of course perhaps should not be critical of Dr. Stuart. Most of us, I suppose, would be equally interested in securing close to G$200,000 for his own institution. But it is quite clear in Dr. Chen's letter that the joint request was entered into, not that it had any merits in itself, but because of Dr. Stuart's whole personality and the wish of the University to give at lease the appearance of cooperation with him. The situation is, to say the least, rather unfortunate; and I do hope that the conferences proposed some days ago between representatives of Yenching and Nanking can be held, and a more objective attitude taken toward all the problems that are involved.

With cordial regards,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner,
Executive Secretary.

JHR:LP

TRANSFER

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION

419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

JOHN H. REISNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

April 28, 1932

ack 5-10-32

Nanking

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

INDEXED

Dear Garside:

Enclosed please find letter from Mr. Riggs, in the third paragraph of which he raises a question which only you can answer. I am enclosing herewith copy of my letter to him, so that you may know what I have written.

The attitude of the A.B.C.F.M., as indicated in the second paragraph of Riggs' letter, is also understandable; but it is just too bad if we have to lose Riggs to China.

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner,

John H. Reisner,
Executive Secretary.

JHR:LP
Enclosures: 2

TRANSFER

119 York St. Ithaca, N.Y.
April 26, 1932.
ack 5-10-32

Mr. John H. Reisner,
419 Fourth Ave.
New York City.

Dear Reisner,

I was very sorry to miss you last week. I was speaking at one of our Congregational Association meetings in Pennsylvania and did not return home until late. I tried to locate you by phone but did not succeed. Your letter of April 8th received. Thank you for taking the matter up with Garside. As I have not yet heard from him I assume that there are no vacancies and that he has nothing to offer.

Nevertheless I do not seem to be able to give up all hope that a way may be found. The reactions of two of my supporting churches (Columbus O. and Ithaca) raised this hope momentarily as they both indicated a desire to get behind the situation with sufficient increase in their giving to cover our salary completely. In the past their donations have been only about $1100, not counting the $425 trust fund which would come to us in any case were we on the field. I took the matter up with the Board but their reply was that no amount of increased giving on the part of these two churches would alter their decision; that is to say, they consider the Nanking proposition as new work, and as such would only be undertaken in case of a general increase from all the churches.

However, there remains the one possibility (good for one or two years, but meager for a whole term) that these friends who have indicated a strong desire to do something about it, might conceivably be able to finance the proposition independently of the Board and their regular apportionments. Before investigating this possibility however, I should like to know whether you would consider it advisable to push the matter, and also whether such a proposition would be acceptable to the University.

Should our return to China prove to be impossible, I think we would be interested in a rural community church here in U.S. To tell the truth I have not as yet really been able to think thru the problem of our work here, should we remain. The Board

TRANSFER

has asked us to be on a "reserve list" with faint prospects of eventually returning us to our work. I would not like to take a position which would close that door. Further, I do not know enough of the American situation to know what the possibilities in that line would be, or how to get located in such a job.

Thanking you for your interest and sympathy, I remain

Most cordially yours,

Charlie.

Charles H. Riggs

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

TRANSFER

April 28, 1932

Mr. Charles H. Riggs
119 York Street
Ithaca, N. Y.

Dear Charlie:

Your letter of April 26th has just come. I was disappointed not to see you in Ithaca last week. After several attempts to get you by telephone, I learned through Mr. Kelsey that you were out on a speaking engagement.

I know how hard it is to give up the idea of getting back to China. I can understand how very keen you are to get back to China, and the desire to keep the way open as long as possible for return.

With reference to the question of support independent of board sources, and how such a proposition would appeal to the University, I am in no position to judge. This is a matter for the University to decide. I am accordingly forwarding your letter to Mr. Garside and am asking him to reply to you directly on this point. I can state very clearly and truly that the men at Nanking are going to be mighty disappointed when they learn that you will not be with them this autumn; and I am sure that they would rejoice in any plan which might get you to the University.

I do hope that the way is not permanently closed for you to get to Nanking. It seems incredible that your years of training and experience and the special preparation of these last two years for work in China has to come to naught. I do hope that some way may be found to get you back to China.

With best wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner,
Executive Secretary.

JHR:LP

CC: Mr. B. A. Garside

TRANSFER

Nanking

INDEXED

Nanking

May 5, 1932

Mr. J. H. Reisner
Agricultural Missions Foundation
419 Fourth Ave., City

My dear Mr. Reisner:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your correspondence in regard to Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Riggs. I have also had letters from Dr. Fair~~child~~ field telling of the inability of the American Board to carry through their plan to send Mr. & Mrs. Riggs to Nanking this year.

There seems absolutely no prospect of securing support for Mr. and Mrs. Riggs either from any of the other Mission Boards co-operating at Nanking, or directly from University resources. The Presbyterian Board is sending out Mr. and Mrs. ~~Fan~~ Fenn and Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler and are already incurring a substantially larger financial obligation for the University of Nanking than was provided for in their original estimates for this year. I am sure we could not persuade them to send out Mr. and Mrs. Riggs as well during the present fiscal year. There might be a possibility that the Presbyterian Board would appoint the Riggs to the place on their quota in the College of Agriculture and Forestry which you formerly held; but the earliest we could hope for any favorable action along this line would be the summer of 1933. The Methodist Board and the United Christian Missionary Society are in such desperate financial straits that it would be worse than useless to suggest that either of them take on the support of the Riggs. The Baptist Board is sending out Mr. and Mrs. Slocum this year, and we can hope for nothing more from them at present.

As far as the University of Nanking funds are concerned, the appointment of any new workers is quite out of the question. We are suffering substantial losses in income and it is going to be very difficult to achieve a balanced budget when we include only the obligations we have already assumed. I presume that

it would not be possible to send out the Riggs under support of the famine funds; but that point would have to be settled on the field rather than in New York.

Mr. Riggs's letter suggests the possibility of his securing support from some source independent of his Mission Board. Of course, if this can really be done it might solve the situation, though there are many difficulties in the way. It happens all too frequently that special support of this kind dwindles away after a year or two leaving a missionary and his family on the field without any available source of support and even without travel funds to bring them home. There might be a possibility that if Mr. and Mrs. Riggs could obtain the support necessary to get them to Nanking, and to care for their expenses for one or two years, the American Board might by that time be able to assume the burden. There are many obvious weaknesses in such a proposition but it may be worth considering. I am writing to Mr. Riggs at this time asking him for further information as to the prospects for securing independent support. A copy of that letter is enclosed herewith.

We all agree that it would be most unfortunate to lose the services of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs when we have been counting on their appointment. On the other hand, these are times when even such optimists as you and I are forced to turn conservative.

Very cordially yours,

BAG/RC
Enclosure

Write Swingle
copies to Miss Priest

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION

419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

JOHN H. REISNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

May 9, 1932

ack 5-13-32

TRANSFER Nanking

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

See "Walter T. Swingle" 5/3/32

Dear Garside:

I am enclosing herewith a letter from Dr. Walter T. Swingle, indicating that he hopes it will be possible to arrange for a small revolving fund for the purchase of Chinese books by the Research Library at the University of Nanking. The plan would be for Dr. Swingle to deposit a certain sum of money, against which payments could be made for books as they are bought in Nanking. As you will note in his letter, he wants to be perfectly sure ~~it~~ the fund will not be used up or lost. I see little chance of any losses but, beyond taking every reasonable precaution against losses and possibly having the books insured at Nanking, I see no reason at all why there should be any loss.

Will you kindly answer Dr. Swingle's questions as to how the fund could be handled. Should it be sent out to Nanking in Gold; or would it be best to retain the Gold fund in New York, with the understanding that Miss Priest could draw against it as she needs Mexican to pay for the China purchases? With your experience you will know what can be done, and I shall greatly appreciate your writing directly to Dr. Swingle.

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner,
Executive Secretary.

JHR:LP
Enclosure

TRANSFER

Nanking

University of Nanking

May 9, 1932.

Mr. John H. Reisner,
419 Fourth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Reisner:

I have your letter of May 4th, in which you call attention to the fact that as the Minutes of our last C.C.C.C. conference were drafted, the work in agriculture and forestry at Nanking seems to be limited to the undergraduate field.

As I have talked with others who were present at the conference I have found that their judgment agrees with mine that the conference did not intend to pass any definite decision on this point. Our more logical course of procedure would have been to include the work in agriculture and forestry under the heading of professional work, rather than that of undergraduate work. The specialized types of work shown under the heading of professional have not been segregated to graduate and undergraduate levels, and our general attitude toward this professional work has been that it should be developed as the needs may require and resources may permit, whether this can all be done within the undergraduate level, or may extend into the graduate field.

I believe it will be possible for us to remedy this difficulty when the Executive Committee of the C.C.C.C. prepares its "Uniform Report" covering the deliberations and decisions of the last two joint conferences. I will suggest to the Committee that agriculture be included among professional work, where medicine, law, journalism, business, and engineering have already been placed. If this is done we would then refer briefly to this item in describing the work of the University of Nanking where the scope of the program of the individual institutions is taken up.

We are putting Dr. Bowen's name on our mailing list to receive all University of Nanking material.

Very cordially yours,

BAG:PC

B A GARSIDE

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

JOHN H. REISNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

May 11, 1932

TRANSFER
Nanking

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

Dear Garside:

Thanks for your letter of May 9th.

Your suggestions regarding agriculture and forestry at Nanking are excellent; and I hope that, if they are finally included under professional work, a note will be made of the fact that graduate work is to be included.

I am glad you are putting Dr. Bowen's name on your mailing list. I hope you sent him such back material as he may not have received.

If there is any chance of Riggs getting out under the Presbyterian Board next year, I certainly would suggest your following it up. I certainly would o.k. the appointment, if I had anything to do with it.

Yours very sincerely,

Reisner

John H. Reisner,
Executive Secretary.

JHR:LP

TRANSFER

Nanking

University of Nanking

May 13, 1932.

Mr. John H. Reisner,
419 Fourth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Reisner:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 9th. With this you enclose a letter from Dr. Swingle telling of his desire to arrange for a small revolving fund for the purchase of Chinese books for the Research Library at Nanking.

I am also enclosing a copy of the letter I am writing today to Dr. Swingle. I am also sending a copy of this same letter to Miss Priest. It seems that this matter could either be handled through the gold account Miss Priest is already carrying herein New York, or else might be handled direct with her office in Nanking. My own informal judgment is that it would be simpler to handle the matter through her New York account, but in all matters affecting Miss Priest's financial affairs I feel that the decision must lie in her hands.

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:PC
Enc.

TRANSFER

University of Nanking

May 13, 1932.

Dr. Walter T. Swingle,
United States Department of Agriculture,
Bureau of Plant Industry,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Swingle:

Mr. John H. Reisner has forwarded to me your letter of May 3rd in which you inquire as to the possibility of arranging a small revolving fund for use by the University of Nanking in making purchases of Chinese books for the Library of Congress.

Miss Elsie M. Priest, the Field Treasurer of the University, has a gold account in the Central Hanover Bank and Trust Company at Broadway and 18th Street, New York City. It seems to me that the simplest way to handle such a revolving fund would be to make deposits in this account, and to have Miss Priest draw on such deposits as might be needed to pay for purchases. This would appear to be easier and safer than sending remittances to Nanking.

However, in matters affecting the funds for which Miss Priest is responsible, I always feel that the decision must rest in her hands. I am, therefore, sending to her a copy of your letter of May 3rd, together with this reply. If our office can be of any further assistance to you, I hope you will feel free to call upon us.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG:PC

Secretary

TRANSFER

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION

419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

JOHN H. REISNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

May 26, 1932

ack. 5-27-32

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

Nanking

INDEXED

Dear Mr. Garside:

Following our conversation last Monday at lunch, with reference to getting the Riggs family to Nanking, I have just had a letter from Mr. C. W. Chang, one of the Nanking teachers studying at Ithaca, saying that Cornell-in-China is more favorably inclined to getting back of Mr. Riggs' salary than at first seemed likely. My own opinion is that it will go through. This would mean that we could count from the U.S.A. end definitely on the following items against Riggs' salary: Income from endowment of $10,000 set up for use of Mr. Riggs as directed, - say $500; Cornell-in-China - a minimum of $500; some Ithaca friends of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs have promised at least $250; the Community Church at East Lansing has been backing Riggs to the extent of about $250, and I understand Mr. Riggs has the assurance of the continuance of this. These four items total $1,500.

In addition, friends of Mr. Riggs in Columbus have accumulated about $1,000 for his use, which he indicates they would be willing to use toward his travel to Nanking. He thinks this amount might also be increased somewhat. So the situation looks to me about like this: Guarantees of $1,500 per annum toward salary and at least $1,000 toward out-going travel. As you know, the Nanking boys at Ithaca have written to Dean Sie asking the University to get under the balance of Riggs' salary from the famine fund. All the above is more or less by way of recapitulating what I said to you last Monday, also that you may understand the cable if it comes from Nanking. If a cable comes you will of course notify Mr. Riggs, and also will you please notify Mr. C. W. Chang, 238 Linden Avenue, Ithaca, N. Y. I am sending copies of this letter to Dean Sie and Mr. Chang.

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

JHR:LP

John H. Reisner.

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

TRANSFER

May 21, 1932

Rev. Hugh Moran
Cornell United Religious Work
Ithaca, N. Y.

My dear Hugh:

Last evening I spent a couple of hours in Ithaca on my way down from Buffalo, where I had been attending the Biennial Conference of the Community Church Workers of the U.S.A. I was sorry my time was so short that it was just impossible to get around to see you. I was anxious to see our old Nanking boys and to get some late word from Nanking from Mr. Heh who has just arrived at Cornell.

Mr. C. W. Chang and several others of the Nanking boys told me of the proposal which had been made for Cornell-in-China getting back of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs. You know what a sticker I have been for holding our Cornell-in-China in line with the purposes for which it was organized. This proposal regarding Riggs seems to me to have a lot of real merit in it. It comes quite within the purposes for which Cornell-in-China was founded; and the only objection possibly is, it seems to me, that it moves us over a little more rapidly than we had anticipated into the field of engineering. Mr. and Mrs. Riggs are wonderfully fine people and would bring training and a spirit and interest in agriculture and rural problems to Nanking that would be a contribution of the first order. I have known Riggs all the years he has been in China, and he was one of the best liked missionaries where he was working in Fukien Province. He has the confidence and liking of our Nanking students at Cornell; and I am sure he would be able to do a mighty fine piece of work in a field of agriculture in which not a single bit of work that I know of is being done. This applies for the whole of China. Not a single soul is devoting a bit of time to the problems of farm engineering or farm mechanics interpreted in as simple terms as you like.

Another great advantage of Cornell-in-China getting behind Riggs would be that it would launch us into China with a living link. It would give us a more definite responsibility than we have yet had; and whether we undertake the support in whole or in part, that would make no serious difference at the present time. We would have someone who could vitalize and personalize our contacts and our contributions.

Another argument is that the help which Cornell could now give would yield results infinitely greater than its own investment. Riggs has personal friends and organizations from which at least $1,000 could be expected. If Cornell would put in $500, to begin with, that would leave about $1,500 which I believe the College of Agriculture and Forestry itself would be able to put up in order to get Riggs out there. So from every angle it seems to me that the enterprise is not only within the purposes of Cornell-in-China, but that by adopting Riggs we would in a larger measure achieve our purposes than we are at the present time.

I hope you will give this matter your earnest consideration. I am only sorry that I had to get back here to New York this morning and could not stay over in Ithaca and talk with you personally about it. The next best thing is to send along this letter.

With deep appreciation and with best wishes,

I am

Yours very sincerely,

JHR:LP

John H. Reisner

Another great advantage of Cornell-in-China getting behind Riggs would be that it would launch us into China with a living line. It would give us a more definite responsibility than we have yet had; and whether we undertake the support in whole or in part, that would make no serious difference at the present time. We would have someone who could vitalize and personalize our activities and our contributions.

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I hope you will give this matter your earnest consideration. I am only sorry that I had to get back here to New York this morning and could not stay over in Ithaca and talk with you personally about it. The next best thing is to send along this letter.

With deep appreciation and with best wishes,

I am

Yours very sincerely,

JHR:LP John H. Reisner

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

Nanking TRANSFER

May 26, 1932

Dean K. S. Sie
College of Agriculture & Forestry
University of Nanking
Nanking, China

Dear Dean Sie:

Enclosed please find letter which I have just received this morning from Mr. Chang relative to Mr. Riggs and the arrangements which are being proposed to get him to Nanking. Mr. Chang asked me to write to you especially asking you to cable in case Nanking acts favorably on the matter. I would therefore suggest that, in case favorable action is taken, you cable Mr. Garside, to whom I am sending a copy of this letter, also a copy of my letter to you of a few days ago, so he will be fully apprised. Last Monday Mr. Garside and I lunched together, and I reported fully on the matter as it had developed in Ithaca. You will note in Mr. Chang's letter that he says the Cornell-in-China people are much more favorably disposed to their backing Mr. Riggs. With the backing of Cornell-in-China, we would have a good $1,500 annually to begin with; and I do hope that you may be able to find the rest out of the famine funds. This would be Mr. Riggs' third period of service in China, and he understands it to be for seven years.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Chang, so that he may understand fully what I have written you.

I noticed in last night's paper that the Shanghai-Nanking Railway between Nanking and Shanghai was again operating. I know it is a relief to be in quick communication with Shanghai again. I hope everything is going nicely with you all.

With best wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner.

JHR:LP
Enclosure

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

TRANSFER

May 20, 1932

Dean E. R. Lie
College of Agriculture & Forestry
University of Nanking
Nanking, China

Dear Dean Lie:

Enclosed herewith this morning from Mr. Chang relative to Mr. Rigg and the arrangements which are being proposed to get him to Nanking. Mr. Chang asked me to write to you especially asking you to cable in case Nanking acts favorably on the matter. I would therefore suggest that, in case favorable action is taken, you cable Mr. Carlile, to whom I am sending a copy of this letter, also a copy of my letter to you of a few days ago, so he will be fully apprised. Last Monday Mr. Carlile and I launched together, and I reported fully on the matter as it had developed in Ithaca. You will note in Mr. Chang's letter that he says the Cornell-in-China people are much more favorably disposed to their backing Mr. Rigg. With the backing of Cornell-in-China, we could have a good $1,500 annually to begin with and I do hope that you may be able to find the rest out of the funds. This would be Mr. Rigg's first period of service in China, and he understands it to be for seven years.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Chang, so that he may understand fully what I have written you.

I noticed in last night's paper that the Shanghai-Nanking Railway between Nanking and Shanghai was again operating. I know it is a relief to be in quick communication with Shanghai again. I hope every thing is going nicely with you all.

With best wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

Arthur J. Brown.

AJB:LF
Enclosure

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

TRANSFER

July 12, 1932

Nanking

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

Dear Mr. Garside:

Your letter of July 9th and enclosure have been received. I have read Wenrick's letter carefully, but it does not mean anything to me so far as Nanking is concerned. He seems to have some very practical ideas and some that probably are not as good as they are large. I should be interested in knowing a little more about him for purposes other than Nanking; and am assuming that you would not object to my writing directly to him to get his pedigree. If he is an agricultural missionary, I should be in touch with him. We do not seem to have him on our list of missionaries, which is a fairly complete and up-to-date one.

My judgment, without more detailed and pertinent information, is that he would be better in connection with general mission work than he would be with a university.

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner.

JHR:LP
Enclosure

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

TRANSFER
Nanking

July 20, 1932

INDEXED

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Speer:

Thanks for your letter of July 19th. I shall be glad to write again in the early fall regarding the furlough list of missionaries to receive the announcement of the Fourth Annual Cornell School for Missionaries.

I have a letter from Miss Priest, dated June 26th, in which she writes with regard to the action of the China Famine Fund Committee as follows:

"The Committee decided to allocate all funds - both Yenching's and Nanking's - to the University of Nanking. They were sending a preliminary draft of their recommendation to the Supreme Court for suggestions regarding the technicalities, wording, etc.; but from all I know there will not be likely to be any further question or work required about the allocation of the funds. There was some discussion of Mr. Edwards' letter regarding the proportion to be used in North China, but as I understand the matter it was left to the University to adjust that point. Whether they took up the question of the land at Yenching, I do not know. Mr. Buck was planning to discuss it with Dr. Patton previous to the meeting; and he will be writing you, I am sure, and will see you soon after his arrival in America. He has been so very busy lately getting ready to leave that we have not had a chance to talk over the meeting in detail."

B. A. G.
this looks good

I am sending a copy of this to Mr. Garside.

The enclosed letter from Mr. Harper Sibley will be of interest to you, I am sure.

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner.

JHR:LP
Enclosure

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

CC: Mr. B. A. Garside:
For your information.

Nanking TRANSFER

August 2, 1932

Mr. S. T. Shen
238 Linden Avenue
Ithaca, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Shen:

Your letter of July 30th has come, and I am glad to know you got back to Ithaca safely after a satisfactory trip. I was sorry that I could not see more of you here and that our home situation was such that I could not take you out to spend the night with us. We are all moved now in our new home, and you will be a welcome guest at any time.

I am not in a position to authorize any expenditures whatsoever on account of the College of Agriculture and Forestry. Perhaps Dean Sie will send you the necessary formal order blank in a few days. He certainly knows that this is a necessary part of the procedure; but it is quite likely that, under the peculiar circumstances of having it ordered through you, the matter of the formal order slipped his mind. However, I would suggest that, when you are ready to send the order in, you do it through the New York office and thereby secure the usual trade discount. Mr. B. A. Garside, treasurer of the Board of Founders, University of Nanking, 150 Fifth Avenue, will be able to arrange this for you, make the necessary payments, and give the necessary shipping instructions to the firm, so that the machinery will be awaiting you in Seattle. I should think that a letter from Professor Myers to Mr. Garside, explaining the situation, or from you to Mr. Garside with Professor Myers' approval, would be sufficient authorization. If Dean Sie's letter could accompany your letter to Mr. Garside, that would help to regularize the matter.

CAE

I do not know when I shall get to Ithaca, though I should enjoy attending the Genetics Congress.

With best wishes to you all, I am

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

JHR:LP
(Signed in Mr. Reisner's absence from the office.)

John H. Reisner.

TRANSFER

Nanking

September 9, 1932.

Mr. John H. Reisner,
419 Fourth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Reisner:

I have this week read with a great deal of interest the copy of Carson's letter to you under date of July 22nd, which I found on my desk upon my return from vacation.

I hope that some time in the near future I will have a chance to talk with you and get your impressions as to what Carson is doing and planning. It seems to me that he is making a hopeful beginning, and that very large opportunities of service seem to be opening up. Perhaps it is for the best that Carson is being compelled to carry on for a while with very meager resources, because this will give him a better opportunity to see what are the really essential and practical lines of development. I do hope, however, that within the near future we can secure an increased support for his work.

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:PW

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

September 27, 1932

TRANSFER
Nanking

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Speer:

In talking with Mr. Garside he suggested that I write you directly regarding a suggestion which I made to him of your sending to Mr. Thomas W. Lamont, with a personal letter, a copy of Mr. Buck's report of his survey of "The 1931 Flood in China". We thought possibly that, in calling the attention of Mr. Lamont to the report, you could indicate to him that the National Government had asked the University of Nanking, through the Department of Agricultural Economics of its College of Agriculture and Forestry, to make a comprehensive survey of the flooded area as by far the most effective agency in China to prosecute the work. The work of this department has of course shared with other departments in the College of Agriculture and Forestry in the famine funds which were allocated to it in 1928 by Mr. Lamont's committee. It is the first reliable quantitative survey which, to my knowledge, has ever been made of a major calamity in China; and has helped us tremendously in understanding the quantitative extent of the disaster.

The summary of the report on page 41 might be called to his particular attention. The whole incident is an excellent single illustration of the wise and constructive use which has been made of the funds during the intervening years. You may use your own judgment as to whether any reference should be made to the final allocation by the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia next year.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Garside and he will send you an extra copy of the report for Mr. Lamont.

1 copy sent 9/28/32

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner.

JHR:LP
CC: Mr. B. A. Garside

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE: CALEDONIA 5-1271

September 16, 1932

To Secretaries of Foreign Mission Boards.

Dear Friends:

Through the courtesy of the University of Nanking, we are able to send you this copy of a survey of "The 1931 Flood in China", with which you are familiar and which came so close home to many mission boards and involved the program of so many missions and missionaries.

The report is noteworthy for many reasons. It is the first comprehensive authenticated factual study of a flood in China that makes possible a quantitative as well as a qualitative analysis of the situation. (See summary, page 41.) The survey was made by a Christian university at the request of the China Nationalist Government through Mr. T. V. Soong, Minister of Finance and Chairman of the China National Flood Relief Commission. The College of Agriculture and Forestry of the University was organized in 1914 as one of the important means to permanent famine prevention in China. The Department of Agricultural Economics of the college, responsible for the study and report, has been built up in part during the past nine years with funds allocated in 1923 by the American Committee of One Hundred for China Famine Fund. Mr. J. Lossing Buck, head of the department, who directed the survey, is an agricultural missionary (Presbyterian North) who has been in China seventeen years. Of even greater significance than the flood study is a Five Years' Land Utilization and Population Study of China now being made by the college under Mr. Buck's direction for the China Committee of the Institute of Pacific Relations. The Nationalist Government has made wide use of various studies in rural economics and sociology made by the college.

We hope the enclosed report will not only be of great value to you in understanding the significance of the great flood disaster of 1931 in China, but as indicating to you the very great significance of agricultural mission work when it is broadly conceived, wisely planned, and effectively executed.

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner,

John H. Reisner,
Executive Secretary.

JHR:LP
Enclosure

John F. Kerner

Nanking

September 1932

Letter to accompany Famine Report, sent by Kerner

TRANSFER

Through the courtesy of the University of Nanking, we are able to send you this copy of a survey of "The 1931 Flood in China", with which you are familiar and which came so close home to many mission boards and involved the program of so many missions and missionaries.

The report is noteworthy for many reasons. It is the first comprehensive authenticated factual study of a flood in China that makes possible a quantitative as well as a qualitative analysis of the situation. (See summary, page 41.) The survey was made by a Christian university at the request of the China Nationalist Government through Mr. T. V. Soong, Minister of Finance and Chairman of the China National Flood Relief Commission. The College of Agriculture and Forestry of the university was organized in 1914 as one of the important means to permanent famine prevention in China. The Department of Agricultural Economics of the college, responsible for the study and report, has been built up in part during the past nine years with funds allocated in 1923 by the American Committee of One Hundred for China Famine Fund. Mr. J. Lossing Buck, head of the department, who directed the survey, is an agricultural missionary (Presbyterian North) who has been in China seventeen years. Of even greater significance than the present study is a Five Years' Land Utilization and Population Study of China now being made by the college under Mr. Buck's direction for the China Committee of the Institute of Pacific Relations. The Nationalist Government has made wide use of various studies in rural economics and sociology made by the college.

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AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

October 6, 1932.

TRANSFER

Nanking

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

INDEXED

Dear Mr. Garside:

In a recent letter from Dr. W. C. Lowdermilk, of the United States Forest Service, Berkeley, California, he asked me to send you the enclosed copy of a letter endorsing an application for a fellowship in the Graduate School from Mr. T. I. Li, at the present time a member of the faculty of the College of Agriculture and Forestry of the University of Nanking. Please find this letter of endorsement enclosed.

Yours very sincerely,

Reisner

John H. Reisner.

JHR: LP
Enclosure

Copy for Univ of Nanking
N.Y. Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
CALIFORNIA FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION

ADDRESS REPLY TO
DIRECTOR
AND REFER TO
RS
Personnel
Li, Teh I.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
HILGARD HALL
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

TRANSFER

February 13, 1930

Dean C. B. Lipman
Graduate Division
University of California
Berkeley, California.

Dear Dean Lipman:

I am informed that Mr. Teh I. Li is submitting an application for the Baker Research Fellowship in Forestry. I take pleasure in indicating for the benefit of the Committee on Graduate Fellowships qualities which Mr. Li has demonstrated during his close association with me since 1922. Mr. Li was the senior of three full time associates who worked with me in forest investigations and regional surveys in regions ofhigh famine hazard in China. Mr. Li has exhibited initiative, originality, and critical analyses in our studies of the influenses of vegetation on run-off and erosion. I placed him in charge of one of the important study areas during the second and third seasons of the field studies, and he demonstrated the ability to devise instruments and methods to collect additional data pertinent to our problem. He made himself so fully acquainted with the significance and factors of the complex problem with which we were dealing that his counsel and judgment became of great value to me in the prosecution of these studies.

We have traveled together for thousands of miles into the interior of central and northern China, have tramped with our baggage trains hundreds of miles into the remote parts of the mountains searching out examples of remnants of the original vegetation which once covered the landscape, for our detailed studies. We have undergone hardships of primitive travel, weather, and have faced dangers of death together at the hands of bandits and of communistic Chinese soldiery.

These opportunities enabled me to know first hand and to value the high qualities and purposes which Mr. Li possesses. He belongs to a large, ancient, and proud Chinese Clan. He was schooled as a youth in the Chinese classics, which he can recite from memory for hours on end to my knowledge. His father is a scholar, and more remarkable for the past generation, his mother is likewise a scholar.

In addition to his classical learning, Mr. Li has grasped the significance and purposes of the scientific method. This he has fully

TRANSFER

demonstrated in the studies which he has assisted me in making in China. The part which Mr. Li has taken has been acknowledged in my papers, and as joint authorship in one of our most important papers, namely, "A cover and erosion survey of the Hwai River watershed", by W. C. Lowdermilk, Teh I. Li, and C. T. Ren. The Hwai River flood problem represents without question the greatest river conservancy scheme in the world. Our expedition into the headwaters of this river discovered and described processes of accelerated erosion, its consequences and probable trends as it might affect the engineering works proposed by consulting hydraulic engineers, among whom are von Heidenstam of Sweden, and John R. Freeman of America. Mr. Li has twice been called into personal consultation by Chiang Kai Shih, the present president of China concerning the Hwai River study. Since my departure from China, Mr. Li made two other regional forest surveys besides his duties as Assistant Professor of Forestry at the University of Nanking.

Mr. Li has proved himself fearless and persistent in the face of danger in pursuit of information relative to these studies. To my personal knowledge he has disguised himself as a country farmer to get information about forest conditions in bandit ridden sections of the country to complete information needed to round out surveys in particular regions.

His qualities of scholarship have been demonstrated here at the University of California, which may be attested to by faculty members who have come to know him.

Mr. Li's behavior and activities demonstrated courage of the highest order during the so-called Nanking incident, where communistic Chinese soldiery harassed, attacked, and killed foreigners, looted and burned their homes, on March 24, 1927. Several foreigners were doubtless saved from death by Mr. Li's fearless action in the face of ridicule and of being called a "foreign dog" by the Chinese soldiery. After the barrage from foreign gunboats which checked the attack on foreigners, I was commissioned to go with a small bodyguard of Chinese soldiers furnished in response to the American Admiral's ultimatum, to search out missing foreigners that Thursday night into the Chinese city where foreign buildings were burning and the communistic soldiery was drunken with victory and hate of the foreigner and were firing promiscuously. I called on Mr. Li to go with me, knowing I could count on him in emergencies. He accompanied me without fear, and was chiefly responsible for finding and rescuing a group of foreigners, one of whom was Miss Anna Moffet, who had been shot twice, at 7 a.m. that day, and had lain hidden by loyal Chinese under straw without medical attention until 10:30 that night when we found her.

Mr. Li has demonstrated courage of a high order and abilities in scientific study to justify the belief that he will make use of a fellowship in a way creditable to the University and would contribute an important influence of the University of California in the conservation of forest soils and water in the Pacific basin.

TRANSFER

The ravages of civil war in his home district and the low exchange rate of Chinese currency require him to seek financial aid to continue his studies in America.

Very sincerely yours

W C Lowdermilk

Senior Silviculturist.

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AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

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Oct. 13,1932.

Dr. John H. Reisner,
Agricultural Missions Foundation
419 Fourth Avenue,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Reisner:

Did you get out any newspaper publicity on the release of the Report of the University of Nanking on the China Flood Survey ? The summary is of very considerable news value. I very much hope that this was done.

Faithfully yours,

Eric

Eric M. North

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

Nanking

TRANSFER

October 17, 1932

Dr. Eric M. North
American Bible Society
Bible House
Astor Place
New York City

Dear Dr. North:

Replying to your letter of October 13th, I did not get out any newspaper publicity, nor do I know of any that has been put out with regard to the China Flood Survey of the University of Nanking. I believe that Major D. O. Lively, executive secretary of China Famine Relief, Inc., has taken the general position that the report has no news value; and it is this organization more than any one who, it seems to me, should be interested in utilizing the report. I sent out about a hundred and fifty, including all the foreign mission boards in the United States and Canada, using the Foreign Missions Conference of North America's list, with a covering letter similar to the one received by you. I believe the University of Nanking is making some considerable distribution of the report. It is to be distributed by sale by the University of Chicago Press, and they will of course advertise it in their list of books.

I am taking the opportunity of sending your letter with my reply to you to Garside for any further information which he can give on the question you have raised.

I quite agree with you that the summery is of very considerable news value.

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner.

JHR:LP

CC: Mr. B. A. Garside

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

October 17, 1932

Mr. Eric M. Norton
American Bible Society
Bible House
Astor Place
New York City

Dear Mr. Norton:

Replying to your letter of October 12th, I did not get out any newspaper publicity, nor do I know of any that has been put out with regard to the China Flood Survey of the University of Nanking. I believe that Major D. C. Lively, executive secretary of China Famine Relief, Inc., has taken the general position that the report has no news value; nor is this organization more than any one else, it seems to me, should be interested in utilizing the report. I sent out about a hundred copies, including all the foreign mission boards in the United States and Canada, using the Foreign Missions Conference of North America's list, with a covering letter similar to the one received by you. I believe the University, of Nanking is making some considerable distribution of the report. It is to be distributed by mail by the University of Chicago Press, and they will of course advertise it in their list of books.

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Yours very sincerely,

JHB:LP

cc: Mr. B. A. Garside

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

TRANSFER

December 6, 1932.

cleared by 7 above

Nanking TRANSFER

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

See "College of Agriculture and Forestry" December 1932

My dear Garside:

I am enclosing herewith a Summary Report of the Nanking Cooperative Crop Improvement Project, in which Cornell University, the University of Nanking and the International Education Board were engaged during the years 1925 to 1931.

This report is a recent revision of a Report of Progress which I prepared several years ago and which was sent to the International Education Board and to Cornell University. In the present revision I have had the aid of Professors C. H. Myers and R. G. Wiggans, of Cornell, and the statement as handed to you herewith has already been approved by them.

Professor Myers has under preparation, and will shortly finish, a full report covering the six years' work. This will be more technical than the enclosed report and, as I understand it, arrangements have been made to have it printed in Nanking as one of the regular bulletins of the College of Agriculture and Forestry.

May I suggest that copies of this Summary Report be sent, with suitable covering letter, to the International Education Board or its successor and to Cornell University.

wrote 12/8/32

yes

I should also like permission from you to mimeograph the report and distribute it widely through the mailing list of the Agricultural Missions Foundation as an example of a successful and significant project in Agricultural Missions. The use I have in mind may be illustrated by the mimeographed statement concerning the Martandam (India) Rural Reconstruction Center, being sent to you under separate cover.

OK

Yours very sincerely,

John H. Reisner

John H. Reisner

P
Enclosure

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS FOUNDATION
419 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

TRANSFER

THE MARTANDAM (INDIA) Y.M.C.A. RURAL RECONSTRUCTION CENTRE

WHAT IT IS AND WHAT IT DOES

D. Spencer Hatch

I shall try briefly to picture to you the Martandam Rural Centre and its Extension Work as a basis for discussion. You may then criticise and ask questions as you like. I speak of our own work in a humble spirit. Though so evidently enthusiastic about it, the size of the task for so small a staff, and the realization of how much more needs to be done with improvement in every department, makes us humbly dependent upon Him with Whose help we know all things are possible.

LOCATION. The Centre is located 25 miles from Trivandrum and 20 miles from Nagercoil, the nearest large towns. Martandam is a natural centre of villages. It has besides our Centre, a small hospital, a government high school, travellers' bungalow, a little post office, and the mission quarters, and in that way is different from the other villages for which it is a natural centre. But otherwise it is a village itself with dwellings only one house deep along the road. This is a main road with bus traffic, which is a great accommodation to a centre's work, especially after cooperative marketing begins. The high school makes Martandam the educational centre for miles of rural area around, and the most important point in our Centre's location is that it is adjacent to the school. Six hundred boys and girls in it know all that we are doing and teaching there; and many of them go out and practice these things, teaching them to their elders.

POOR AREA. Martandam is a centre of one of the most poverty stricken areas in India. Most of the land is hilly, rocky and poor, which is one of the main causes of poverty. Since we are primarily interested in those who really need help, we deliberately chose a poor area, feeling that, if we could make a demonstration under difficult conditions, what we did there might be copied, perhaps more easily, in more favoured places. Our newer type of work is in the midst of the old London Mission area where that work has been going on for more than 130 years. Our new work in an old mission area has been heartily welcomed, and it has given us great pleasure to hear a senior missionary say to his people "This was needed to complete the mission programme. When we have taught the people the better way of life, many of them actually are not able to live it. They are too poor."

Although this is, so called, a strongly Christian area, our survey made at the time of starting the Centre showed that for every Christian there are three Hindus. Since our work is very deliberately designed to be for, with and by, all classes and creeds, much of it is in connection with non-Christians.

COOPERATIVE GROUPINGS. Our first work of an economic nature was establishing and nourishing cooperative credit societies to help the people out of debt and to enable them to make savings. We already had the village Y.M.C.A.'s in the villages for miles around the Centre. In our district (Travancore and Cochin) we have these associations in about eighty villages; and among this large body of

workers not one receives any pay. An example of voluntary service! These little organized groups of voluntary workers were, have been and are, a great help in starting and carrying on any kind of new work. We find it much easier to work through groups than through individuals. In the little village Y.M.C.A.'s the honorary secretaries and heads of departments were keenly looking for what more they could do to better the conditions of village life. Not only that, they were embued with the spirit of service, and were practised in that service. The cooperative societies, established mostly by one of our Indian secretaries who went first to that field, made for us other groups through which we could work. The leaders and members of all these groups naturally become our most important demonstrators by practising the new cottage industries and new methods which we teach.

THE RURAL CENTRE. The Centre is an essential, though not the most important, part of the Reconstruction Unit in action. It is needed as headquarters, as a place to show some things, and as a place to experiment with many things. We place greater importance on the Extension Department, whose function it is to get many people actually to have these better things, to practice better methods, and to enjoy the benefits therefrom.

The Centre has to be headquarters for a very comprehensive programme. Our experience, and what we can learn from experience of others, tells us that it is not much good to help a villager with one thing, on one side of his life only. Mr. K. T. Paul so often said that the villager must be helped comprehensively, that he must be surrounded with benefits. So our work looks to the spiritual life of the villagers, then to the educational, the recreational and health, the social and the economic sides of life.

At our Centre, which is in unpretentious rented quarters, you can see a weaving school for poor boys. Weaving in our part of India is at the present time a profitable industry. We teach it primarily as a subsidiary industry. We should like to see a loom in every house to be used in spare time and by spare members of the family. At the Centre there is a small number of fowls of improved breeds for experimentation and for supplying eggs and fowls to the villagers. There are honey bees and equipment to head up our bee-keeping in the villages of the area. We have a few of what we think are the best of the Indian milch cows, the Schindi breed. Our seed bull in two years has some seventy-five calves - half-breed calves from cows within 20 miles of the Centre. We have a scheme for five seed bulls in our demonstration area. We have made a start on goats of Surat, heavy milking, breed. Good goats give more milk than the local cows and are so much more cheaply fed, especially during the dry part of the year when there is nothing green for cows, for the goats can be fed from green leaves of the trees.

The headquarters of our circulating library system, which supplies books to the villages, is at the Centre in a little building which the night school boys built for Rs. 40/. This building is also used for the Centre night schools and for many other purposes, making it one of the useful buildings of South India. It is being copied in the villages for even less than Rs. 40/. The Boy Scouting and Girl Guiding of our area head up at our Centre.

In the rainy seasons, especially, we have experimental plots of improved types of vegetables and grasses including fodder crops so much needed for cattle. It is our purpose to improve one by one every indigenous product of the area, and then help the people to the better prices these improved products merit. So cooperative credit came to be used to aid cooperative production, and the cooperative production has led on to cooperative marketing. At the Centre you will see at all times various products being put in shape for marketing; and on Mondays and Thursdays of every week you will see these products being brought in by the villagers, old and young, being weighed, tested and graded and packed for shipment. So far we have marketed to a greater or less extent eggs, poultry, cashew nuts, palmyra sugar, other palmyra products, tree cotton, fruit, milk, honey, bees, bee-keeping equipment, and various woven products from our weaving school.

Extension Work. As I have said, the important thing is getting people actually to practice the better methods taught, to have the profitable industries and to enjoy the benefits therefrom. This means constant, brotherly, patient visitation to keep the work balanced in all its comprehensiveness, teaching the new methods, examining the initial efforts, taking away discouragement when bad luck happens and telling wherein the practice was wrong and how it brought on the bad luck.

All the time we put emphasis on the value of the village demonstrator. The villager is not half so apt to copy what he sees at a Reconstruction Centre or at a Government Farm as he is to copy his neighbor, who - living like himself in the village - takes up a new venture and makes it profitable. We work to have a large army of village demonstrators actually doing these things. They are those honorary leaders in the village Y.M.C.A.'s, leaders of the cooperative societies, village teachers, farmers, and others.

MARKET AND VILLAGE DEMONSTRATION. Within five miles of our Centre there are eight village markets which come into being on different days of the week. Some 5,000 real country people come to each of these on a market day. We set up our demonstration tent in or near those market places. Some days we take poultry and equipment, some days the bees - the bull and the goat go along - some days health and temperance charts, etc.; and all day long we have an audience of really rural people who never went to school, who probably would never come to our Demonstration Centre until we made this contact in the market place.

We also make similar demonstration in villages. If our tent is set very early in the morning in any village, we calculate that by 9 o'clock at night every man, woman and child of all classes and creeds in the village will have visited our tent, and heard our message.

SOCIALIZATION. In Dr. Butterfield's report on his study of rural India, he states that the question will need to be answered in each mission as to whether the work shall be entirely for Christians. We refuse to have any work or any society for Christians only. We believe that one of our greatest opportunities is to help to bring in this country - so hindered by caste divisions - all

classes and creeds to mingle together and to work together happily. We put special emphasis on those features of the work such as the drama, temperance, and the recreational, sanitation, health and economic programmes in which those of all religions more easily work together. The bringing of all classes and creeds to move and work happily together, we call socialization.

SINGLE PRODUCT SOCIETIES. Our cooperative credit work of bringing freedom from debt leads on to give help in Cooperative Production. Our aim is to take up every local product one by one and improve its quality. Then comes Cooperative Marketing to bring for the improved product the better price it is worth.

Dr. Butterfield has also said in his report that it will have to be tried out whether it is better to have cooperative societies for each product or single societies dealing with all or many products. We practise and thoroughly believe in having a society for each product. When you have, for instance, one society dealing with eggs, cashew nuts and honey, you will have a portion of the members who have no interest in eggs. But when you have an entirely egg producers' society, every member is keen and interested in every question which comes up in the society. We find it useful to encourage producers of any improved product very soon to start a simple cooperative society with almost no rules to begin with. Gradually it will develop, and later can be registered as a full-fledged society.

THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION. To further the process of socialization and to bring all in the area who are interested in the improvement of village life to feel they are working together and also to feel that the work is their own, we have a Martandam Area Rural Development Association. This has an advisory committee with a Hindu president; and the association has a majority of non-Christian members. It is designed to bring into its membership not only those who already belong to such groups as village Y.M.C.A.'s and cooperative societies, but other individuals who belong to none of these. There are now 189 members. Everyone makes some annual money contribution to the work.

EXTENT OF DEMONSTRATION AREA. The Martandam extension area is really bound by lines of strength of interest. We believe thoroughly, from experience, in intensive work. We consider villages within six miles of our Centre to be in our primary extension area. We do not try, however, not to spill over the six mile radius circle. Some times a village even fourteen miles away gets going with these improvements better than some place near the Centre, through some local families taking up and practising the new pursuits and methods and thusly becoming demonstrators to their neighbors. They come for our help, and we certainly go where there is this strength of interest. Now we are helping some villages more than a hundred miles away.

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES. It will be recognized that the very important leaders in the work are the unemployed honorary leaders who do so much in their spare time in the many villages. Our staff consists of these many splendid unpaid men and women, and five employed workers. There is one secretary in charge

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of the Rural Reconstruction Centre and one secretary in charge of the Extension Work. They help each other; and helping each of them is a young man recently out of the local high school - both in a way products of our programme. I, along with other responsibilities for a wider area, give general direction to the rural reconstruction work and help wherever I can.

TRAINING. All this is essentially educational work, but further training of workers for rural reconstruction has been forced upon us. Month after month requests come from those who wish to send a man or men to learn from what we are doing. We have apprentices, but with such a small staff we could hardly do justice to many students, even though they worked as apprentices and learned by the best way of learning, that is, by doing. It seemed better to set aside a definite period in the year and to invite as many as possible of those who wished training to come at that time.

The first session of the Martandam Practical Training School in Rural Reconstruction was held this year. It extended over six weeks, and included in the last two weeks the annual Travancore and Cochin Summer School which we have held annually for six years. The greatest pleasure of this training experience was the splendid men who came to study. They were sent largely by missions. Every sending organization had selected a man or men whom it deemed capable enough to grasp this comprehensive programme and to come back and lead in instituting features of it. This meant a group of able, splendid spirited, men; and their perpetual eagerness to learn was actually surprising. In the last two weeks, they took part in the actual running of the annual Summer School. About one hundred members, students and staff, were involved in the two schools; and we had seventy sitting for the examinations. We went into the villages several days of eaxh week actually to join with the village workers in what they were doing there; and I am more than ever convinced that such practical field training combined with sufficient class work and evaluation of field findings is infinitely better. The next session of the school will be held from March 3rd to April 14th, 1932.

We are not sorry that training is forced upon us, for we believe it is about the most valuable work those of us from foreign lands can do; and we would like to spend a good portion of the remainder of our time in India, be it long or short, in training workers for the reconstruction of Rural India.

THE RURAL RECONSTRUCTION UNIT. The success of the Martandam work owes everything to the hearty cooperation and participation of all agencies, which include the London Mission (missionaries, pastors, and catechists of the churches, the home mission workers - who when we came with this new type of work into their old field welcomed us saying "This was needed to complete the Christian programme. When we had taught the people the better way of life - the Christian way - many of them were actually too poor to live it."); the village Y.M.C.A.'s (which are autonomous); the Salvation Army; the school authorities (as I have described) - the Director of Public Instruction, the Headmaster of the central high school and the teachers of the village schools; members of the staffs of the State Colleges; the officials of the Government Cooperative Department; the Agricultural

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Department and the Department of Industries; the Tahsildar; the village officers; the doctors of the Medical Mission (which has a small hospital across the road from our Centre) and the Government doctors; the Department of Public Health; the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides authorities; and above all the people - the people of all castes and creeds and conditions.

HOW INDIA MAY HAVE ENOUGH CENTRES. Commissions who study us always want to know what is the cost of this Centre and all these extension activities. The best way of answering is to say it costs from outside the area only Rs. 886/ - for the year and the budget of two good Indian workers. The Rs. 886/ - is the annual grant through our headquarters in India. It has been diminished every year. The two workers are the secretary in charge of the Centre and the one in charge of the Extension Department. The young assistant at the Centre and the one helping in the Extension Department are paid from Centre income. My own maintenance is paid from outside India for general services in the Travancore and Cochin area of which direction of Rural Reconstruction is a main part. There is a small grant from Government to help each of the following: night schools, maintenance of service bull, weaving school, central library, and central exhibition. We try to make each feature of the work such as weaving, cattle, poultry, bee-keeping, self-supporting as far as we can without sacrificing their educational aim and being sure to keep their benefits within reach of the poorest people. The economic level of the area is extraordinarily low, but the people are given an opportunity to contribute to Centre funds.

I should like to point out as some comfort to those who worry, that it is not at all necessary to have such centres in every five mile area. While we have six mile range for intensive work, we continually receive evidence showing that the influence and inspiration of this work is felt far more than a hundred miles. And anyone so interested, no matter what his distance, is welcome to come and study with us and learn how to put our methods into practice in his locality. Everyone who practices these methods well and profitably becomes a demonstrating centre to his neighbors.

When there is a main centre like ours, a small centre for a single village or a few adjacent villages can be started anywhere within a hundred miles, with a young, energetic, inexpensive but well trained worker in charge. His centre need be little more than his headquarters. The large centre does his research and experimentation for him; his work is mainly extension. With the large centre and staff back of him, no man will despise his youth. He daily shows that he can do all the things he teaches and advocates.

On this basis, I am enjoying seeing ignorant age learn respectfully at the feet of well informed youth. By this method Rural Reconstruction can be done very inexpensively and well with not more than one centre for a radius of a hundred miles.

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OUR FUTURE.

1. Development. Our plans for the future are development not expansion. We have such a comprehensive piece of work already covering enough territory, that we have no ambition for expansion except that which comes through helpful influence and teaching. We would like to do a good enough piece of work, that others could learn from it in various ways, especially in training through working with us.

2. Improvement. This improvement of the work in every department is all important. In rural reconstruction we enter the field of exacting science and competitive business. These are the two fields in which the large numbers of those wishing to do rural reconstruction now in India are least fitted. Yet we are putting the work not only on an Indian basis but on a self-help basis. It is very difficult for our full-time workers or for the village leaders, who have never seen any methods or results much better than those which maintain in the local area, to get a vision of the improvement and perfection we should aim for. They are not ashamed enough for falling far short of this. This gives us the momentous problem of training workers and perfecting all lines of work. After that there is what is in India almost the greater task of keeping to that perfection.

3. More Agriculture. We want to give more training, leadership and help in scientific agriculture and gardening - to do much more in the introduction and maintenance of better varieties of plants and crops.

4. Marketing Societies in Individual Villages. The demand is now come for Cooperative Marketing Societies in the villages apart from those at the Centre. This is a healthful development. We wish to help towards the organizing and early efforts of these. They will do much of their marketing through societies at the Centre, but may market wherever they can most advantageously. Different villages are fast rising to this stage where they wish to have local societies for each product in which they have become advanced. We want to push ahead with the five Bull Clubs which are projected for the area.

5. Equipment and Staff. I heard Mr. Hodge say in the Rural Reconstruction Conference at Kottayam that two things impressed him greatly at Martandam: the first being the religious emphasis that one could feel permeating all phases of our work, and becoming its foundation; and the other the fact that we had not put up any buildings. This latter fact is a part of deliberate policy. However it exists to a somewhat precarious extent. The small compounds we rent might be taken from us at any time and we would lose this strategic location which we so much value. We ought to have the funds to buy these. Then we are greatly embarrassed at times such as during our Training School for a place to put the students and staff. This is more difficult when ladies come. We should have a small simple hostel and apart from this a simple class-room building.

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We are much embarrassed each year by the need of equipment and need of stock, for which we have no funds.

We are embarrassed in the lack of money to carry on this training and for certain general expenses.

We also very greatly need transport in the way of small truck and its running expenses. Our market and village demonstration work, described above, constitute a movable school, and we need quicker transportation for it. Also it takes so long to get our equipment out to villages in bullock carts or by coolies and, since we follow the method of students in training working out in the villages with the people, we have the problem of getting them back and forth in time for classes at the Centre.

The business management of the work, heading up at the Centre and now including so much marketing, makes a need for a business and office secretary or assistant.

6. Women and Girls. The demands of women and girls is more and more insistent; and it is our plan to bring them more and more into these activities and benefits.

7. Wider Extension Help. The way in which the Centre can help in the development of work over a wider area, as I have suggested above, is working out in our area. There is keen interest in rural reconstruction throughout our two States to a distance of 200 miles, and several areas are considering plans. I am now committed to give what assistance I can to such schemes in connection with our Associations in various parts; and I am called in consultation regarding schemes being considered by other organizations. We have a multitude of contacts now with people in various parts, many of them users of our products, many attempting on their own grounds some of our projects, and many of them supporters of our work in different ways. It is a big effort to stay on our job. When we go out to help elsewhere, the heavy programme in the primary extension area around the Centre is every time weakened. Our staff is too small to give this wider service, and we should like to add one or more extension workers who would be primarily responsible for those developments in our Wider Extension Area.

* * * * *

Mimeograph Series No. 11,
August 1, 1932.