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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

Nanking
Corres.
Riggs, Charles + Grace 1935 - 1940

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THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

BY THE SENDER OF THIS MESSAGE, PLEASE GIVE IT TO THE MESSENGER OR TELEPHONE IT TO

WESTERN UNION (25)

SIGNS	
DL = Day Letter	
NM = Night Message	
NL = Night Letter	
LC = Deferred Cable	
NLT = Cable Night Letter	
Ship Radiogram	

WHITE
IDENT

NEWTON BELTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

SYA576 46 NL=ITHACA NY 14
B A GARSIDE, NANKING UNIV=
150 FIFTH AVE NYK=

Nanking

1935 MAR 14 PM 4 28

ack - 3/15/35

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

HAVE NEVER RECEIVED WHEELER REPORT ON RIGGS WORK ARE
HOLDING CORNELL IN CHINA FEAST MONDAY NIGHT COULD USE ONE
HUNDRED FIFTY COPIES OF RIGGS REPORT IF AVAILABLE IF NOT
PLEASE SEND IMMEDIATELY ONE COPY OF RIGGS REPORT AND SUPPLY
OF WHEELERS LAST CIRCULAR LETTER ON NANKING=
HUGH MORAN.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

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3/15/35

CHARLES HENRY RIGGS - AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER

For nearly forty centuries the farmers of China have patiently tilled the fertile Yangtze plain with crude tools handed down from father to son with little change or improvement. One of the most valuable contributions modern agricultural science is making to China is the development of modern tools and machinery which are not only simple and efficient but are also inexpensive.

A Missionary in a Buddhist Temple. When Charles H. Riggs arrived in Nanking with his family two years ago to begin his work in agricultural engineering, he at once set about securing a building in which to carry on his activities. An ancient Buddhist temple was purchased. Dusty old Chinese gods gave way to lathes, drills, emery-wheels, and work-benches. Here, with his corps of Chinese assistants, he has worked enthusiastically on the solution of the problem which had challenged him from so many angles during the thirteen years he had previously spent in China - that of producing tools and machinery which would be simple, inexpensive, made of materials obtainable locally, and capable of operation in small units by either man or animal power.

1. Some of the results. Some of the concrete results Mr. Riggs has accomplished in these two years are as follows:-



Mr. Riggs demonstrates a planter made under his supervision.

An improved plow. He has designed a plow similar to our American plow, but somewhat lighter and made of Chinese materials. The plow is being sold for only about \$1.25, American currency.

Single row planter. After building and testing twelve models, he is building an efficient planter, simple enough to be manufactured in a small blacksmith shop.

Cotton gin. He has designed a saw gin costing only one-third as much as those previously available. The Hupeh Reconstruction Committee has ordered a number of these gins for installation in Hupeh Province.

Other tools and equipment. He has designed a number of special tools for the College of Agriculture, such as soil mixers, picks, and hole diggers. He has also constructed several strong, light carts and wagons.

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2. Wool Weaving Equipment. For more than a decade there has been a severe decline in the silk industry, throwing many thousand weavers out of work. The University has undertaken to establish wool weaving centers to provide re-employment for these impoverished workers. Mr. Riggs was asked to help in providing the first requisite for the success of such an undertaking - simple and inexpensive equipment. He has succeeded in producing a full complement of equipment, including the following:-

Teaseling machine. Teaseling machines from the United States cost about a thousand dollars. Mr. Riggs has constructed a satisfactory hand-operated machine for eight dollars, Chinese currency, and is working on an automatic machine which will cost about fifty dollars.

Spindle. No hand spinning frame which would spin steadily and evenly was available at any price. Mr. Riggs has developed a spindle simple and inexpensive enough to be within reach of rural Chinese workers.

Loom. Mr. Riggs has repaired some old looms, and has built inexpensive new ones.

Other equipment. All such essential equipment as ironing boards, dye vats, fireboxes, etc. has been designed and constructed in a manner that has both improved the finished product and at the same time has put the wool-weaving process on a profitable basis.

Work in the Classroom and Laboratory. These practical accomplishments in the development of tools and machinery are only one phase of Mr. Riggs' work. He is spending twenty six hours each week in the classroom and the laboratory in his regular work of teaching - a full-time job for most men. His classes cover theoretical and practical work in farm shop, farm machinery, and farm power machinery. Here he is training the men who will not only be able to take over the work he is doing, but who will develop it still further and carry it throughout the whole of China.

"Spare Time" Tasks. To occupy his idle moments, Mr. Riggs has a wide variety of avocations. He teaches a course in manual training for children in the American School, and another at the government university. He has repaired the university's decrepit refrigeration plant until it not only serves the Sericulture Department but also does a popular and profitable business in the manufacture of ice. He has successfully adapted the engines used on the farm and the campus so they will operate on cheaper crude oils, saving much of the cost of using gasoline.

In fact, about the only duty for which Mr. Riggs is unable to find time is the prosaic one of writing letters and reports. All the information we have been able to secure with reference to him and his work has been obtained through the kindly connivance of his colleagues in Nanking.

HUGH A. MORAN
ITHACA, NEW YORK

PRESBYTERIAN UNIVERSITY PASTOR
RESIDENCE 221 EDDY ST.
DIAL 9537

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
CORNELL UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
OFFICE: BARNES HALL
DIAL 2337
EXTENSION No. 2

Hoosay! Good 22/3/35



March 20, 1935

ack 3/26

Mr. B. A. Garside,
Christian Colleges in China,
150 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Garside:

The reports of Professor Riggs' work for which I wired came in astonishingly quick time. That is what we call service. I have great curiosity to know how you mimeographed the half-tone cut which is the making of the report from a circulation point of view.

We had an exceptionally successful banquet at the Cosmopolitan Club on Monday night, at which copies of the report were distributed. The program was an unusually varied one with Confucian temple music by Miss Julia Hardin, popular Chinese airs on the flute by two American boys, the Chinese zither and sword dancing by Mr. Ch'en, and an excellent address on mission work in general, and the Riggs in particular, by Dr. Maynard. I do not know how much money we will be able to raise this year. Otherwise we are having a good year. We have an exceptionally fine lot of Nanking students this year.

Faithfully yours,

Hugh A. Moran

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Cornell-in-China

Nanking

March 26, 1935

Dr. Hugh A. Moran
Ithaca, New York

My dear Dr. Morans

Glad to know that the report of Dr. Riggs' work arrived in time for your use at the banquet last Monday.

The secret of "mimeographing" the half tone cut we used was simply that we had a printer friend print the half tone hastily on the paper we planned to use, and then added the mimeographing later that day. I am afraid that what we gained in speed we lost in quality for neither the printing nor the mimeographing had time to dry thoroughly.

We were very much disturbed this week to receive in a letter from Nanking the news that Mr. Riggs was seriously ill with spinal meningitis. The letter containing this news was written March 2nd, and since there has been no other word from the field since then we assume that he is recovering satisfactorily.

We are glad that the Cornell-in-China group is having a good year, and trust that you will round out your accomplishments by a nice fat contribution toward the support of Dr. and Mrs. Riggs. Upon our friends in Cornell depends the answer to the question of whether the budget item for Dr. and Mrs. Riggs will be properly provided for this year or will result in a deficit.

With all good wishes, I am

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

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The Peoples Church



April 3, 1935

Rev. N. A. McCune
The Peoples Church
East Lansing, Michigan

My dear Mr. McCune:

We enclose herewith six copies of a brief statement we have just prepared with reference to the work of Mr. Charles H. Riggs at the University of Hanking. If you need any additional copies of this material, we will be glad to supply you with them.

Just a few days ago we received word from Hanking that Dr. Riggs was seriously ill with spinal meningitis. Later letters have indicated, however, that he had passed the crisis of his illness and was beginning to improve. In the absence of any adverse news by cablegram, we feel sure that his improvement has continued, and we trust that by this time he is almost well again.

We hope that during the next month or two we can send you further material with regard to Dr. Riggs' work. If you have any special date or occasion when such material would be of particular value, we will be glad to try to have it for you at that time.

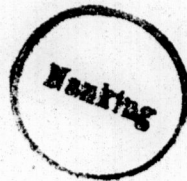
Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

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May 29, 1935

Dr. Charles H. Riggs
University of Nanking
Nanking, China

My dear Dr. Riggs:

We have just received from the Peoples Church, East Lansing Michigan, their contribution of \$250 toward your support. Dr. McCune asks that we convey to you the interest and good wishes of the Church, and their expressions of hope that you have now entirely recovered from your attack of meningitis.

For your information we attach a list of the various contributions, totalling \$1,017.50 which we have received from various sources during the year toward your support. So far as we know, we have now received all the contributions on which we can depend for this current fiscal year. I hope there may be a possibility that some further gift will be coming in before June 30th from Cornell in China though they may wish to postpone their next payment until after the summer.

We have all been very much concerned about you during recent months. We earnestly hope, however, that you have now completely recovered from your illness, and that you are back in your normal stride once more. But we hope that you will go a little cautiously this summer, and will take ample time for rest and recreation during the hot months just ahead.

Very cordially yours,

BAG:MP
Encl.

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GIFTS RECEIVED DURING THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR

Congregational Couples Club	\$ 175.00
Congregational Christian Church	272.50
Cornell-in-China	160.00
Congregational Christian Church	160.00
Peoples Church, Lansing, Mich.	250.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,017.50

Up to May 29, 1935

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N. A. McCUNE,
MINISTER
MARTIN LUTHER FOX,
ASSOCIATE MINISTER
MISS EMMA SATER,
DIRECTOR OF WOMEN STUDENTS
AND Y. W. O. A. SECRETARY
ROLLO R. MAY,
DIRECTOR OF MEN STUDENTS
AND Y. M. O. A. SECRETARY
MRS. GRACE LYON,
CHURCH SECRETARY
C. H. RIGGS,
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING,
REPRESENTATIVE ON FOREIGN FIELD

The Peoples Church

INTERDENOMINATIONAL

EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN
(MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE)

April 13, 1936

ack 4/18/36

B. A. Garside, Secretary,
University of Nanking,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York.

Dear Sir:

This church has just taken its Easter offering to be applied on the support of Charles H. Riggs of Nanking University. Mr. Riggs wrote me about getting some books for him on agricultural engineering. I am very willing to do this, and write to inquire whether your board will pack these books and send them to him, if they are delivered to your office.

It would seem needless expense to have the books shipped here from New York, where they will be bought, and then shipped back again.

Kindly advise whether you will take care of the shipping of these books.

Yours truly,

N. A. McCune
N. A. McCune

Mr. Evans is having some merchandise for Nanking sent to our office, which we are to repack and forward in one shipment. Perhaps these books could go at the same time. HV

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The Rights of...

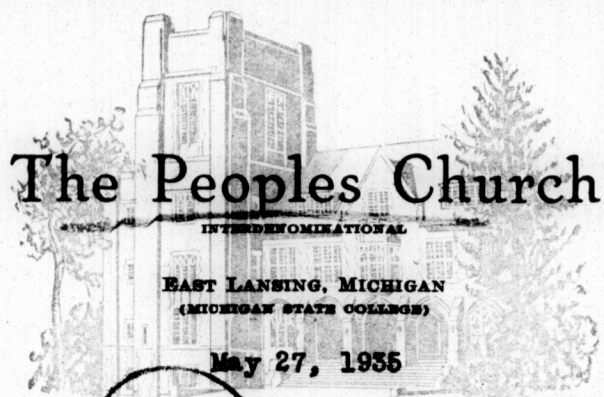
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N. A. McCUNE,
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MARTIN LUTHER FOX,
ASSOCIATE MINISTER
MISS EMMA SATER,
DIRECTOR OF WOMEN STUDENTS
AND Y. W. C. A. SECRETARY
ROLLO R. MAY,
DIRECTOR OF MEN STUDENTS
AND Y. M. C. A. SECRETARY
MRS. GRACE LYON,
CHURCH SECRETARY
C. H. RIGGS,
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING,
REPRESENTATIVE ON FOREIGN FIELD



Nanking

ack 5/29

Secretary B A Garside
Associated Boards of Christian Colleges
in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr Garside:

Enclosed please find draft of \$250 for the support of Charles H Riggs of Nanking University. You are authorized to endorse this draft and deposit it and remit it to Mr Riggs. I wish that it were more but it is as is. I hope that Mr Riggs is much improved by this time, if not entirely well, from his attack of meningitis. Please convey the interest and good wishes of this church to him when you remit.

Mrs Riggs sent us some photos previous to Easter this year. They were exhibited in the church lobby and no doubt had something to do with the church offering.

Very sincerely yours,

N. A. McCune

N A McCune

check enc - \$250. -

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Nanking

May 29, 1935

Mr. N. A. McCune
The Peoples Church
East Lansing, Michigan

My dear Mr. McCune:

Let me acknowledge with sincerest thanks your draft for \$250 for the support of Mr. Charles H. Riggs, at Nanking. We are crediting this amount to Mr. Riggs' account and are notifying him of its receipt.

The last word we had from Nanking indicated that Mr. Riggs was making a satisfactory recovery. That news was received some time ago, so we trust that by this time he is practically well again. We will convey to him the interest and good wishes of the Peoples Church.

Early in the autumn we will try to supply you with fresh information concerning Mr. Riggs and his work which will help to keep your people in close and friendly touch with the remarkably fine service he is rendering to the University of Nanking. Certainly the gifts you make for this work from year to year represent the finest type of investment in both Christian service and in better international understanding and good will.

Very sincerely yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:MP

Copy for Accounting office

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HUGH A. MORAN
ITHACA, NEW YORK

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
CORNELL UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
OFFICE: BARNES HALL
DIAL 2337
EXTENSION NO. 2

PRESBYTERIAN UNIVERSITY PASTOR
RESIDENCE 221 EDDY ST.
DIAL 9537



June 13, 1935

ack 7/1/35-

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

My dear Mr. Garside:

Herewith I enclose a check on Cornell-in-China, Inc., for \$140.00. This is a pitifully small and disappointing sum, but I have had almost no response from our appeal this year. It is possible that a few checks still may come in; and I will send you any additional funds that I may be able to secure. I have myself made the largest single contribution toward this check which I am sending, and only wish that I could send more. I think I shall try a second appeal in the early autumn to all former givers who have not responded. One hates to fail so miserably in such an undertaking, but I live in hopes of doing better.

As ever

Faithfully yours,

Hugh Moran
Hugh A. Moran

*check
enc - \$140. -*

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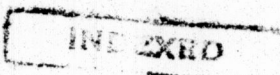
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Cong. Couples Club



Ithaca, New York,
136 Spencer Place.

July 1, 1935.



ack. 7-2-35

Mr. B. A. Garside,
China Union Universities,
150 5th Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Garside:

Enclosed please find Bank Draft in amount of \$175 00 representing our contribution toward the support of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Riggs and their work in Nanking, China.

It is with regret that we again fall short of our expected quota but trust that the years 1935-36 will find conditions improved to such an extent that the full \$300 00 will be raised.

Any correspondence pertaining to our organization during the year should be addressed to Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Kelsey, 105 Cornell Street, Ithaca, N. Y., the recently elected presidents.

Yours truly,

CONGREGATIONAL COUPLES CLUB.

H. B. Davis

Mr. & Mrs. H. B. Davis,
Presidents.

check
enc - \$175. -
Dep. 7/3/35

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Cong. Couples Club

Nanking

July 2, 1955

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Davis
Congregational Couples Club
136 Spencer Place
Ithaca, N. Y.

My dear Mr. and Mrs. Davis:

I wish to acknowledge with sincerest thanks your draft for \$175.00, representing the contribution of the Congregational Couples Club toward the support of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Riggs and their work in Nanking, China.

While we regret that the Club was not able this year to provide the full \$500.00 you gave in more normal times, we hope the coming year will be marked by the return of more prosperous days, accompanied by a corresponding increase in ability to give.

We have already given you word of Mr. Riggs serious illness during the latter part of the winter. We understand that his recovery from this attack of meningitis has been quite satisfactory, and that he is now getting back into his heavy schedule of work with his customary vigor.

We would be grateful if you would keep us informed throughout the year of the most effective ways in which we can maintain the interest of the members of your Club in the very fine work which Mr. and Mrs. Riggs are doing.

Very cordially yours,

P.S. Will you please note for future remittances that it would be a little simpler for us to negotiate drafts made out either to "The Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China", or to "University of Nanking". The use of the words "China Union Universities" was discontinued about two years ago.

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THE RURAL INSTITUTE FOR RELIGIOUS WORKERS

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April 16, 1936

Mr. B. A. Garside,
Nanking University Office,
150 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Garside:

We are holding the annual Cornell-in-China feast next week. I write to ask whether you have any Nanking films, 16 mm. size, that we could use as a part of the program. My understanding was that you had some fresh films. If you have not, the old ones we had several years ago would be acceptable. If you have nothing available, I wonder if you could secure some for us from one of the mission boards. Anything that gives a good impression of Chinese life, though, of course, we much prefer films showing directly the work of the University.

We have mimeographed a considerable portion of Riggs' report, and are counting on a very interesting program.

The films should reach us in time for trial on Wednesday, April 22. Trusting that you may be able to supply these, I am

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hugh Moran".

Hugh Moran

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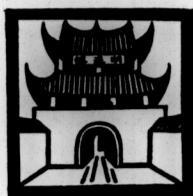
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ITHACA, N. Y.

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CHARLES RIGGS: CORNELLIAN FIRST AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER IN CHINA

There is another major famine in China. Millions of the Chinese people have never known what it meant to have enough to eat. Thousands are dying of starvation and exposure, according to a recent letter from Mr. James M. Speers, chairman of the Board of the China Famine Relief, Inc. It would be a joy to relieve this human suffering; but it is wiser and more Christian to remove the cause of such disasters.

It is generally agreed that famines are preventable, and the Cornell-in-China Club has set itself to do its bit toward famine prevention. The prevention of famine lies in the practical fields of agriculture and engineering, in both of which Cornell is outstanding, as well as in the field of spiritual awareness and unselfish service.

The Department of Plant Breeding at Cornell has taken a leading part in the agricultural problem of producing more food. The Cornell-in-China Club has assisted in making this crop improvement work available to the people by supporting extension work, and is also supporting in part the work of Agricultural Engineering under Charles Riggs.

Mr. Charles H. Riggs received the degree of Master of Science from Cornell University in 1932. The Chinese faculty at Nanking University requested that the Cornell-in-China Club help support Mr. Riggs in founding the first Agricultural Engineering Department in China, at Nanking University.

The Chinese farmer has been an assiduous worker, but has failed to select and improve his seed and has continued to plough his fields with a crooked stick that only scratches the surface, and to reap his harvest with a hand sickle. Mr.

Riggs works at developing better tools and farm machinery which are not only more efficient, but simple and inexpensive to make. The requirements for such tools are that they be, "cheap enough to meet the economic conditions; light enough to

be readily transported and handled with the power available; so designed as to be readily constructed in our small shop which may be duplicated almost anywhere in China, and simple enough to be easily handled and repaired by the average farmer." (1)

A hand model harvester has been constructed and used, and a one donkey harvester has recently been completed. Hand power, cattle power, and small engine power threshing machines, an iron plough which is neither too brittle nor too expensive for practical use, a cultivator, a planter, cotton planters, and cotton gins, all have been built by the workers in Mr. Riggs' shop. He writes, "An addition to our own shop has been built, largely by our own workmen. Besides these, various equipment has been constructed" at the University, "such as the boiler and machinery for the wool plant, insect cages of various sorts for Agronomy and Entomology, a soil mixer for the Soils Division and many smaller tools. All of this has been built at cost and in most cases has effected a very considerable saving to the University." (2)

The Department of Rural Engineering has also sponsored small industries to absorb the spare time of the Chinese farmer and to help better his economic status. The weaving of woolen cloth is by far the best method to accomplish these ends. The equipment constructed to make this home industry more efficient "includes spinning frames, teasing frames, steam boiler, with dyeing vats, hand and semi-automatic loom, etc. Equipment for washing, shrinking, pressing and finishing the cloth is now under construction." (3)

The repair of all these machines is taught in the department, as well as their construction.

Some extension work is done, such as lectures, consultation and advice, besides the distribution of improved farm tools. The education of the students results in the greatest distribution of knowledge, however, since the resources for extension work as such are limited, and the program of instruction and research large. This work ought to be enlarged. It cannot even be continued on its present basis without the generous support of the friends of China in Cornell and Ithaca.

-
1. Riggs, Charles, Report of the Division of Rural Engineering, Nanking. July 1, 1933 - June 30, 1935. Page 4.
 2. Op. Cit. Page 8.
 3. Op. Cit. Page 9.

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Mr. Charles N. Riggs



April 18, 1936

My dear Dr. Moran:

Mr. Garside has asked me to answer your letter of Thursday. We have four reels of Nanking films of the 16 mm. size. A mailing carton containing these films goes forward to you today by insured Parcel Post. We hope that these will make a helpful contribution to your program next week.

We had hoped that we might be able to send you one of the three copies of the splendid motion picture story which has only recently come to us from Ginling College. Since its arrival, however, this material has had a very full schedule and during these last days of April there is no chance of tacking in a visit to Cornell for your feast next week. If any sudden change comes in the program and we are able to send the Ginling picture to you, you may be sure we will do so. It may be, however, that the Ginling story ^{will} not fit in with your plans since it is built upon a continuous scenario and cannot be effectively presented unless the full forty minutes is available. Will you not have it in mind for the future, for the Cornell people would certainly be as delighted with it as have been many groups far and near in America?

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. T. D. Macmillan

Dr. Hugh A. Moran
Barnes Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

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HUGH A. MORAN
ITHACA, NEW YORK

PRESBYTERIAN UNIVERSITY PASTOR
RESIDENCE 221 EDDY ST.
DIAL 9537

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
CORNELL UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
OFFICE: BARNES HALL
DIAL 2337
EXTENSION NO. 2

April 26th.

Wh 5/1/36

Dear Mr. Garfield -

May I thank you for having the 4 reels of film sent so promptly for the Cornell-in-Chris Feast. They served the purpose excellently. We had about 160 people (including voluntary student workers) present, plenty of good show, and an excellent program.

I am writing from Lisle, N.Y., - a week-end retreat - and have not many conveniences, or I should write direct to the young lady who sent the film. They are being used tonight in Ithaca First Presbyterian Church for the young people. I should like to keep them to use again Friday evening, May 1st. I was given no terminus ad quem for their use. If you need them, please wire me collect, at Ithaca. If I do not hear from you to the contrary, I will keep them another week and probably use them twice again.

Sincerely yours

Hugh Moran

0695

HUGH A. MORAN
ITHACA NEW YORK

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
LIBRARY

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0696

NANKING UNIVERSITY.
Four Reels, by Rex Wheeler.

Reel I:

City of Nanking: Old City: Walls built before Columbus. Rickshaws.
Drug Tower: Ming Tombs on Purple Mountain: Camels and Elephants in
New Nanking: Aeroplanes, Radio. Modern Traffic.
Sun Yat-Sen Tomb. Wide view from tomb. Tien hsia wei Kung: World One.
Gin Ling College for Women. Chrysanthemums. Buildings in Winter.
Girls athletics. Hockey. High Jump. Mrs. Thurston, 1st. Pres. Miss Wu.
Theological Seminary. Mr. Price and Mr. Chia. Beneficiary of Wendells.
The Prices, father and son. Building rented to Supreme Court.
The University: The Middle School.

Reel II:

The New Pagoda and a temple. Nanking.
Walls and gates of the City. National Athletic Meet.
Welcome to gen. Chiang Kai-shek.
Student band: Flags. Athletes marching.
Girls playing volley ball.
Commencement at Ginling. Mrs. Thurston and Miss Wu.
Soccer Football at Nanking University.
Sericulture. Healthy silk worms. Cocoons.
University farm outside Tai Ping Gate. Rice plants and culture.
Rural leaders' Training School. 10,000 silk weavers reduced to 500.
Change from silk to wool in men's clothing by adoption of Western clo.
Mr. Chang & Dr. Smythe. Hand spinning wheels replaced by foot treadels.
Modern hand looms, as developed on Berea model, built by Chas. Riggs.
Dyeing wool. Finished product for sale. Workers' Cooperative.

Reel III.

Cradling wheat. Selecting samples.
Hand threshing. Rubbing out samples.
Thresher and gas engine. Stacking and threshing wheat.
Scientific analysis and selecting of wheat samples.
weighing on the old and new scales.
Commencement at Nanking University. Wang Chin-wei makes a speech.
Prof. Harry Love crosses the path.
The Commencement procession.

Reel IV.

The Medical School and the Hospital.
Scientific care of baby.
Hospital ward.
Chickens, rabbits, guinea pigs.
Nurses. Nurses' Training School.
The University Campus. Main Building: Severance Hall, Swazey Hall,
Sage and Twines Chapels.
Campus Gardens. Harvard-Yen-Ching Institute of Classical Studies.
Library. 2nd Century inscription.
Track Meet. Military Drill. ROTC. The Deans. The Librarian.
The College of Agriculture and Forestry.
Commencement, Bd. of Trustees. Dr. Ferguson. Mr. & Mrs. Chen.
Jack Williams' Tomb.

Congregational Couples Club



May 7, 1936

Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Kelsey, Presidents
Congregational Couples Club
105 Cornell Street
Ithaca, New York

My dear Mr. and Mrs. Kelsey:

At about this time of the year we usually write to the friends contributing to the support of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Riggs at the University of Nanking to see whether there is anything we can supply in the way of fresh material from Nanking. This year we have not received anything very definite direct from Mr. Riggs, although I understand that he has been sending some material direct to the groups contributing to his support.

I hope that the Congregational Couples Club has been receiving sufficient information concerning Mr. and Mrs. Riggs to maintain interest in their work. If, however, there is any further information our office might be able to supply, we would be happy to assist in any way we can. Our latest information from Nanking is that the University is going right ahead with its work despite the numerous problems which it has had to face during recent months. I enclose herewith a copy of a letter from Mr. W. R. Wheeler, which possibly you may have already seen.

With every good wish for the continued success of your work, I am

Very sincerely yours,

BAG:MP
Encl.

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The Peoples Church



May 7, 1936

Rev. H. A. McGune
The Peoples Church
East Lansing, Michigan

My dear Mr. McGune:

At about this time of the year we usually write to the friends contributing to the support of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Riggs at the University of Nanking to see whether there is anything we can supply in the way of fresh material from Nanking. This year we have not received anything very definite direct from Mr. Riggs, although I understand that he has been sending some material direct to the groups contributing to his support.

I hope that the Peoples Church has been receiving sufficient information concerning Mr. and Mrs. Riggs to maintain interest in their work. If, however, there is any further information our office might be able to supply, we would be happy to assist in any way we can. Our latest information from Nanking is that the University is going right ahead with its work despite the numerous problems which it has had to face during recent months. I enclose herewith a copy of a letter from Mr. W. R. Wheeler, which possibly you may have already seen.

With every good wish for the continued success of your work, I am

Very sincerely yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:MP
Encl.

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HUGH A. MORAN
ITHACA, NEW YORK

PRESBYTERIAN UNIVERSITY PASTOR
RESIDENCE 221 EDDY ST.
DIAL 9537

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
CORNELL UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
OFFICE: BARNES HALL
DIAL 2337
EXTENSION No. 2

May 8, 1936

ack 5/15

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

Dear Mr. Garside:

Many thanks for the use of the films of Nanking University. We have had several very effective meetings, particularly the feast. I am getting a few checks in, but find it most difficult to raise any money. I will send you what little I have toward the latter part of this month.

We would be glad to have Mrs. Macmillan reserve for us the Gin Ling films for the second week in October, and send them to us at that time.

I rewound the films we had myself, finding them in good condition, and got them off earlier this week. *Received*

Thanking you for your ever ready help,
I am

Faithfully yours,

Hugh Moran

Hugh Moran

Dictated by Dr. Moran
Signed, in his absence, by his secretary

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0700

HUGH A. MORAN
THIRTEEN NEW YORK

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
CONSTITUTIONAL, LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WASHINGTON, D. C.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION
RECORDS SECTION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 4, 1936

Dr. F. A. [?]
Katharine University
100 Fifth Ave.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. [?]:

Thank you for the use of the office of
Katharine University. We have had several very
effective meetings, particularly the last.
I am sending a few checks to you, but if it
differs, I will raise my money. I will send
you these little bills toward the latter part
of the month.

I am sure that you have had a very
productive time in the office for the second
week in a row, and send the love of that
time.

I would be glad to have you and yourself, finding
them in good condition, and not from the earlier
time.

Thanking you for your ever ready help.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Hugh A. Moran

Dictated by Dr. Moran
Signed in his absence by his secretary

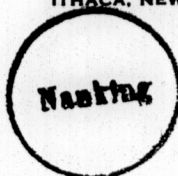
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HUGH A. MORAN
ITHACA, NEW YORK

PRESBYTERIAN UNIVERSITY PASTOR
RESIDENCE 221 EDDY ST.
DIAL 9537



DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
CORNELL UNITED RELIGIOUS WORK
OFFICE: BARNES HALL
DIAL 3473

INDEXED

June 11, 1936

Arch 6/13

Mr. B. A. Garside,
Christian Colleges in China,
150 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Garside:

Thank you for your letter regarding films
which will be sent us the first week in October.

The term is drawing to a close. We have
not been able to raise as much for Cornell-in-
China this year as I had hoped. A few checks
are still dribbling in, though I think no more
are likely to come. I will check on the bank
account, and enclose a check to you for what-
ever balance we have.

Very sincerely yours,

Hugh Moran

Hugh Moran

Cheque for \$175⁰⁰ enclosed.

*check
enc. - \$175. -*

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June 24, 1936

ack. 6/25/36

Rev. N. A. McCune
The Peoples Church
East Lansing, Mich.

Dear Mr. McCune:

Some weeks ago you stated that you would soon be sending us a check for approximately \$250 covering the contribution which the Peoples' Church is this year making toward the support of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs at Nanking.

Since our fiscal year closes on June 30th, we are anxious to get in all outstanding contributions in time to credit them toward this year's work. We hope therefore that it will be convenient for you to send us this contribution in time to get it into this fiscal year.

The latest word from Nanking indicates that they will close the work in excellent style. President Y. G. Chen will be spending at least a part of the coming year in America and is arriving on the Pacific coast about the middle of July. We certainly hope that he will have the privilege of visiting East Lansing and getting acquainted with you and your congregation.

Very sincerely yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:MP

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N. A. McCUNE,
MINISTER
MARTIN LUTHER FOX,
ASSOCIATE MINISTER
MISS EMMA SATER,
DIRECTOR OF WOMEN STUDENTS
AND Y. W. O. A. SECRETARY
ROLLO R. MAY,
DIRECTOR OF MEN STUDENTS
AND Y. M. O. A. SECRETARY
MRS. GRACE LYON,
CHURCH SECRETARY
C. H. RIGGS,
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING,
REPRESENTATIVE ON FOREIGN FIELD



The Peoples Church

INTERDENOMINATIONAL

EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN
(MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE)

June 25, 1936

*Wick
6/29*

B. A. Garside, Secretary,
Associated Boards, Christian Colleges in China,
150 Fifth Ave
New York

Dear Sir:

Inclosed please find draft for \$276.00 to be applied on the support of Prof. Charles Riggs, Nanking, China. I see that our treasurer has had it made out to Mr Riggs, hence you will have to sign it, in order to put it into an international money order.

This it will be remembered is in addition to the books which were sent some weeks ago, which this church purchased and had delivered to your office, for shipment to Mr. Riggs.

Very truly yours,

N. A. McCune
N A McCune

*check
enc - \$276. -
Dep 6/25/36*

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0705

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Q 22 7 17-36

Columbus, Ohio, July 13, 1936.

INDEXED

Mr. Garside:-

The enclosed check is the interest from the "Menoka Fund" of Plymouth Congregational-Christian Church, and according to the terms of the agreement with the founder of that fund, it is to go to Mr. Chas. Riggs for his personal account.

Yours truly,

W. G. Bristow

WGB-GF

Treasurer, Plymouth Congregational Christian Church

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October 5, 1936

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

Dear Mr. Garside:

Enclosed you will find bank draft for \$120, representing a contribution of the Young Couple's Club of the First Congregational Church toward the support of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Riggs in their work at Nanking.

I am sorry that the club is unable to send you the full amount of our pledge, but I think there will be a revival of interest in the organization this winter and we can send our full amount next year.

As I am new both in the church and in this organization, I don't know too much about their activities for the past year, but we have great hopes for the coming year.

Very truly yours,

THE YOUNG COUPLE'S CLUB

Per

Paul Taber, Treasurer

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October 7, 1936

Mr. Paul Taber,
Agricultural Advertising & Research Service,
Trust Company Building,
Ithaca, New York

Dear Mr. Taber,

Thank you for your letter of October 5th, with its check for \$120.00 to be applied toward the support of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Riggs in their work at Nanking.

We are grateful for this continued support from the Young Couples Club of the First Congregational Church of Ithaca. We recognize the difficulties which all organizations have had to meet in maintaining their pledges just at this time. We are glad to know of the Club's reviving interest and of the more promising prospects for the future.

This year are particularly fortunate in having here in America three members of our Nanking staff, all of whom can give a first-hand description of the splendid work Mr. and Mrs. Riggs are doing:-

President Y. G. Chen is in America for a few weeks, and is planning to be in Ithaca for a brief visit on November 20th. I do not know whether it would be possible for him and for the Young Couples Club to get together at that time, but the matter may be worth further exploration.

Miss Hilda M. Anderson, now at home on furlough after five years of service on the Nanking staff, is a Cornell graduate and was working with Dr. Hugh Moran in the Cornell United Religious work at the time of her appointment to the University of Nanking, so is well known in Ithaca. I am sure she would be glad to consult with you as to how she might help to stimulate the interest of your Club by telling you of Mr. Riggs' work.

Professor W. Reginald Wheeler, of the Department of Western Languages at Nanking, is in America this year. He knows Mr. Riggs work intimately, and could give you some interesting information about it.

We are anxious to cooperate with you in whatever ways will be most productive, and would welcome your suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

BAG/e

Extracts from letter from Charles Riggs,
Nanking, March 12, 1938.

It is Sat. eve. and I am thru work for the day. As there is a boat out to-morrow I will write a little. Got your letter of Jan. 30 yesterday. It came by Mr. Atcheson from Shanghai. He is here for a few days and then returns to go to Hankow. (Embassy) I sent you a cable three days ago "SAFE AND WILL. AM REMAINING ANOTHER YEAR ON UNIVERSITY RESIST" in answer to yours, so presume that you have the news by now. As practically all of the college staff went west there is no one of authority here to help on the farm and so those that are left want me to stay on and help them. It means another lonesome year but I finally agreed, so Bates as Vice-president pushed it thru. Just what is ahead for us one hardly can tell but we will try to keep things going. As soon as I can make the necessary arrangements I shall be spending part of my time out at the farm and hope to be able to do some ag. relief work. Just how or what will depend on circumstances.

At present I am spending my time as technical advisor to the new "Self-Government", looking after their transportation system. In other words, I am running a garage. After getting the refugee housing work into a routine and having found a most capable man, Mr. Hsu to take full responsibility and after the mad hectic days of the last of the year when no one dared show themselves on the street, and all trucks but our few were either carried off or wrecked and ours only saved by driving them ourselves, we (the International Com.) found it necessary to convoy our trucks which we used to bring rice and coal to the refugees, which wasn't so difficult as there were only three of them. Then after the new government got started they were allotted by the invaders a pittance of rice and coal, but had no way to transport it. So we turned over our two rented trucks and I went along to assist them to get the thing going. At first I still had to convoy them, but gradually they got a few men who dared to go and were given for a time the help of a J. Consular police so I could spend more of my time organizing and getting after other trucks. It has been hard up-hill work. The owners afraid of losing their trucks would only go if I personally guaranteed them safety; so I called the old American bluff into play and took the risk, but between owners, rivers, coolies, new government people (who knew nothing and dared nothing), with very little money) soldiers of all kinds, opposition and hatred of the invaders; nothing but broken-down, resurrected trucks from the boneyard; bad weather, no good place to work, no parts, no tools, no mechanics, no one to take any responsibility, etc. It has been rather difficult.

However, I have now built up quite an organized, semi-cooperative with 8 owners, some helping, 15 drivers, 50 coolies, 15 mechanics, 2 clerks and 2 traffic directors. When I get 25 trucks rebuilt and repaired I hope to gradually get out from under and let them run it themselves. Have hauled as much as 100 tons of food in a day at our best and with a total of about 2000 tons of coal and food in the past month. The probabilities are 100 to 1 that little or none of this would have gotten to the refugees if I had not helped get them together and spit fire and brimstone to keep them going. It has been a terribly hard fight all around and has had me working harder than I ever did before, but is getting easier now that things are shaping up.

Mr. Ritchie came up a couple days ago and expects to have P.O. going by end of month. . . . Most of city is in ruins and whole population have become grubbers and petty salvagers. Uncontrolled license continues in some places.

0712

Extracts from letter from Charles Riggs, Nanking July 17
Received Scotia, Aug. 13.

Yours of June 5 received yesterday. I started to write last week but was too lazy to finish. Am just dragging these days out as its hot now and I'm still feeling a bit weak so that I do no more than I have to. When night come, I usually just flop. Also have to take afternoon nap. Did I mention in my last letter that I had had an attack of dysentery? I ate nothing for five days and lay abed for more than a week. We most of us had a touch of it, tho Bates and I had it worst. There was a suspicion at first that mine was cholera but it was finally blamed on the sardines. Now I have prickly heat but think it is due as much to my insides as to the heat as up till this week it has been the coolest summer I have seen in Nanking.

My work goes along without much change or excitement these days so not much to report. The relief situation is much better so the Committee is only carrying on and preparing for the fall and winter when it may or may not become serious, so I have little work of that kind now. University shop is reduced to 10 workmen and we are still clearing up and finishing off jobs started last year. Have been keeping it going on outside work. Expect to get some experiments underway as soon as we get the old ones cleared up.

My new government shop has been operating full blast for one month. We have 25 workers and have produced in the month over 2300 tools; axes, hoes, forks, spades, grass knives, etc. What used to be the Govt. garage is now reorganized and operating commercially, tho it still is under my wing and takes a good deal of attention. We are running 5 taxies and 7 trucks and have as much repair as we can manage. Rebuilt only one truck last month but have two under way now and will be starting a third soon. Am also reconditioning one in U. shop and expect to use it for Com. business and to have it belong to U. when they get thru with it. We are not running Ice Plant this year. I have just finished overhauling it and putting it in shape so it wont rust out. Have made a couple trips to Farm but Mr. Ren seems to be getting along with it nicely so am not taking over much there.

Bates leaves in few days for Japan for a month. Smythe for P.I. and will probably not return here but go to Chengtu. Sone and Mills hope to bring their families here in fall. Forster got married and they are living in Miss Spicer's house. Drs. Woods and Lee who were here to help hospital have left. Several ladies have returned; Misses Hyde, Smith, Simpson, Sims, Drummond, and others. word from Dr. Judd that he is trying to get pass to come for for day or so but I doubt if he makes it. I am still living with gang at Buck's house. Their hours do not fit in with mine very well, but I can't bear to think of living alone and it sure is a swell gang to live with.

Mail seems to be getting thru regularly as you had best send direct to Nanking as Thomson is also leaving for Japan and will probably later go on to Chengtu.

Signed, "Charlie"

0713

金陵大學農學院
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
NANKING, CHINA

農藝系
DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY

April 28, 1939,

INDEXED

Dr. B. A. Garside,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Check 5/2

Dear Dr. Garside,

With regard to the United Christian Missionary Society sending an irrigation and drainage engineer as a substitute for Goodsell, have you had any success in discussing the matter with their New York representative? If nothing has yet been decided, do you think it would be worthwhile for me to go to headquarters myself? I am to visit the Peoples Church in East Lansing, Mich. on May 14th, and the Christian-Congregational in Columbus, Ohio on May 21, so that it would be convenient for me to contact Indianapolis on the 22nd or 23rd. In case you think it would be wise for me to go, with whom should I correspond, or could you make arrangements for me? I would remind you of the urgency of this request, as voiced by President Chen and Dean Chang and would like to reach an agreement as soon as possible since Dean Chang was anxious to have me interview the candidate.

After Columbus I shall go to Berea to study their textile developments and if time and funds permit, would like to visit a cotton gin factory in Georgia. Are there any University funds available for such travel? As you suggested, I will plan to be in New York June 2 - 6 and will have the time from, say May 26 (allowing three days for Berea) till then, and desire to spend it in the best way possible. Have you any suggestions or instructions?

I have been talking with our Board Secretaries with regard to the Board-University relationships for the coming term and they have, I believe come to a decision which Dr. Fairfield will no doubt take up with you this week. This arrangement, as I understand it, leaves the matter of travel funds entirely to the University. However, the suggestion was made that it might be possible to contact some humanitarian non-church group who could be interested in our University and textile program, especially as travel expenses would be a non-recurring item. If this idea appeals to you and you ~~any~~ particular groups in mind or any suggestions with regard to developing such interest I will be glad to cooperate in any way possible.

Sincerely yours,

Chas. K. Riggs

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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

ANN ARBOR, MICH.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

April 28, 1932



Dr. E. A. Gerstner
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Gerstner:

This report to the United Textile Machinery Society
regarding an investigation into the economic situation of
textile machinery in the United States and the possibility
of a new type of machinery is being prepared. The
matter has been discussed with the members of the
Society and it is hoped that you will be able to
assist in the preparation of this report. I am
writing you to request that you will contact the
Society at 150 Fifth Avenue, New York City, or
at 1500 University Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan,
whenever you are in New York City. It would be
very desirable if you could visit the Society's
office in New York City during your stay there.

It is my hope that you will be able to assist in
the preparation of this report. I am writing you
to request that you will contact the Society at
150 Fifth Avenue, New York City, or at 1500
University Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan, whenever
you are in New York City. It would be very
desirable if you could visit the Society's office
in New York City during your stay there.

I have been talking with our board of trustees
regarding the best-possible arrangement for the
coming year. I believe that a decision will be
made in the near future. This arrangement
will be based on the best-possible use of the
travel funds available. I am writing you to
request that you will contact the Society at
150 Fifth Avenue, New York City, or at 1500
University Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan, whenever
you are in New York City. It would be very
desirable if you could visit the Society's office
in New York City during your stay there.

Sincerely yours,

W. A. Gerstner

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224 E 78

INDEXED

May 1, 1939

Dear Mr. Riggs:

I have your letter of April 28th.

I have not had any success in discussing with any representative of the United Christian Missionary Society the request that they send an irrigation and drainage engineer as a substitute for Goodsell. It would certainly seem to me worth while for you to go to the U.C.M.S. headquarters while you are visiting the Peoples' Church in East Lansing Michigan, and the Christian Congregational Group in Columbus, Ohio. The person with whom you should correspond is probably Mr. C. M. Yocum, and the address as you probably know is, Missions Building, 222 Downey Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana. Meantime, I am writing to Mr. Yocum, and asking him to give the matter as sympathetic consideration as possible. I believe that the matter has already been urged upon the U.C.M.S. by President Chen and Dean Chang.

You ask as to whether there are any University funds available for expenses in connection with your travel to Berea and to Georgia. As far as Mr. Evans and I can find, there has been no instructions from the Field Treasurer for us to make such travel funds available for your use while on furlough. Obviously, therefore, any action on such an item would have to be cleared by the Finance or Executive Committee of the Nanking Founders. If you will give us a memorandum showing just what will be required, we will be glad to bring the matter up, though we dare not make any optimistic promises in advance.

We have not yet had any word from Dr. Fairfield as to the Board-University relationships with regard to your salary and allowances for the coming term of service. Apparently, however, some progress is being made. We will await with interest more definite word from Fairfield or Chandler.

We look forward to seeing you and Mrs. Riggs here during the first week in June.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles H. Riggs
20 Sunset Road
Somerville, Mass.
BAG:MP

0716

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May 20, 1939

Dear Mr. Riggs:

First, I need some information - which I will use only as you may authorize. When you were here in the office you mentioned the action of the Chinese Government in conferring the Order of the Jade on eighteen of the Westerners who went through the siege and the occupation of Nanking. Will you give me the list of those who received this award, and indicate the grade in each case? (I remember that some were with cravat, others not.)

My purpose in asking this is that I am preparing for our Annual Meetings a summary of some of the things our China Colleges people have done during the last two years, to share with the members of our Associated Boards and other friends. The things the group in Nanking did below at the top of the roll of honor. At the same time, we don't want to say anything that might harm or embarrass the members of the Nanking group.

If you could shoot this list back to me chop chop, accompanied by such limitations as to its use as you feel must be imposed, I would be deeply grateful.

Second, we are counting on you and Mrs. Riggs being with us at the Annual Meeting of the Associated Boards on June 2nd and 3rd, and at the meeting of the Nanking Founders on June 7th. We particularly want you to be present at the Annual Dinner on the evening of June 2nd. Unless you and Mrs. Riggs have already made plans to sit with someone else, Mrs. Garside and I would be most happy to have you as guests at our table. I enclose a copy of the invitation, so you'll get a good idea what it is all about.

Cordially,

Mr. Charles H. Riggs,
20 Sunset Road,
Somerville, Mass.

0717

WM
Mrs. C. H. Riggs
20 Sunset Rd.
Somerville, Mass.

May 23, 1939

Dear Mrs. Riggs:

I am very grateful to your son Fred for sending a note upon the arrival of my special delivery letter, explaining that you and Mr. Riggs are away from Somerville but that you would return tomorrow.

I am hoping that Mr. Riggs is planning to be in New York for the meetings of the Associated Boards and for the Nanking Board of Founders before he returns to Somerville about June 7th. We have been counting on having both of you here for the meetings. And, as I wrote, my wife and I have been hoping that you would be our guests at the annual China Colleges Dinner on the evening of June 2nd.

Of course we know that there are many things in life much more important than attending meetings. If Mr. Riggs is busily engaged elsewhere on June 2nd and 3rd, we could not conscientiously urge him to change his plans in order to be here in New York to sit through the various sessions of the Associated Boards Annual Meeting. Then there would be the three days of June 4th, 5th, and 6th, during which there are no important meetings here for him to attend. The meeting of the Nanking Board of Founders beginning at 9:30 A.M. on June 7th is the most important gathering of the series from the standpoint of Mr. Riggs' attendance. One would hope that he could be here for that, even if the earlier meetings are not possible for him.

I enclose herewith a draft of a piece of publicity material we are preparing for use at the dinner on June 2nd, and for more general distribution later among our China Colleges friends. You will note the reference we propose to make with regard to the conferring of the Order of the Jade upon the group of Americans in Nanking. Would there be any objection to this reference? Mr. Riggs told us that the American Embassy advised, at the time the decorations were conferred, against giving any publicity to them in China just at that time, lest the news make the Japanese even more suspicious of and hostile toward those who received these decorations. But since a number of months have now elapsed, and there have already been reports and dispatches with regard to some of these decorations, one would hope that there would not be any possible harm at this date to such a reference as is made in the article. We would, however, like to have your opinion - or that of Mr. Riggs if he is available - before this material is published. Since we must get this into the hands of the printer within the next two or three days, I would be grateful for your prompt comments.

Very cordially yours,

0718

May 24, 1939.

My dear Dr. Garside,

I have just returned from my part of that western trip, and find several letters from you. I'm glad Fred let you know why you didn't hear sooner from us.

July 22
You have doubtless heard of our sailing on July 22, from Van Couver on Empress of Russia, and can realize a little of how busy these days are. Especially with getting the children who will stay here ready for school. Did you get the word that we will not take Wendell, (13) now, and are making final plans for him to attend Mt. Hermon, Mass.

Charles expects to be in New York June 2 to 6 inclusive, since that is what he had noted as the first dates you gave him. However, I expect he will prolong his stay an extra day to include the meeting on 7th, altho that will mean he will miss Betsy's graduation from High School on that date.

For myself, it is hard to say. we had agreed when I left him on Monday in Columbus, that I would try to come down on June 3 and come back with him on 6th. Now perhaps I will come on 2nd, and will return ahead of him on 5th. I suppose you will wish to have a definite answer regarding your very kind invitation for dinner on the 2nd. so I will accept for both of us with appreciation.

I shall probably come to New York on that afternoon, arriving at Grand Central at 4 (EST) Unless you have something else to suggest, I shall probably stay that night at Biblical Sem. at 235 E. 49th. I shall try to get word to

Charles to meet me there, or else at station.

Or do you suggest some other place for us to stay? There are various cousins and friends in town, but too far away for that night. I suppose the best way will be for us to meet you at the Hotel Commodore at 7 o'clock.

I have read the copy of "Citation for Gallantry", and find nothing to object to. I think it perfectly alright to tell about the Order of the Jade now. In fact we have given the announcement to our home papers, and our Board publication gave an account also. Missionary Herald, May, 1939. p. 218.

Sincerely yours,

Grace Riggs

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金陵大學農學院
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
NANKING, CHINA

July 4, 1939.

農藝系
DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY
Dr. B. A. Garside,
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City.

INDEXED

ack 7/10/39

Dear Dr. Garside,

Mr. Evan's letter of June 24th enclosing check covering travel to New York received with thanks. We are keeping to our original plan to sail from VanCouver on July 22. on Empress of Russia. We will leave here at noon on 7th, and be in Scotia, N.Y. (204 First St.) until evening of 17th. Will go by Canadian Pacific R.R.

In accordance with request from Dr. Fairfield following vote of Prudential Committee of American Board, we have sent letters to the churches at East Lansing and Columbus, copies of which are enclosed. This covers these two sources of income. Of the other two from Ithaca which was formerly received by the University; the Couples Club of the Congregational Club discontinued that special project due to an almost complete change of personnel in membership of the Club.

The Cornell in China Club is a student organization which naturally changes with the student body, and as those who were interested in us are no longer there, and the Board has no means of cultivating a new interest, they are not considering the Club as a source of revenue for our support. Hence this field is open for the University to cultivate for any other project which you may have in mind.

In this connection, I might suggest that inasmuch/af the time the Club undertook the contribution toward our support, they had been interested in the extension work of the University and especially in financing the support of Chinese who were Cornell men, they might be interested in contributing toward the support of Mr. Kwan who has been studying in Cornell and no doubt he and his wife have many friends there. It appears to us that this would be an opportune time to re-enlist this source of income for the University, especially since Mr. Kwan himself is going out for extension work.

We have just received an airmail letter from Lewis Smythe dated June 14. He wrote that at that time Bill Fenn was considering cabling to Frances to delay her coming out. Could you tell me what he decided? We are especially interested just at present since the suggestion has been made to us that it might be wiser for us not to take Edith (aged 9½) to Chengtu just now. There seems no doubt in my mind that I can be much more useful in the work ahead if we can find some way to go out, just the two of us. However, Edith is pretty young to be left just yet, and I don't want to do it unless it seems quite necessary. I should be glad to know what you think. I have written to brother and his wife who expect to be in Syracuse the coming year regarding their taking her for perhaps two years. Have not heard from them

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UNIVERSITY OF MANKING
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

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JUN 1939
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yet, I am not clear in my own mind what might happen at end of two years, I wondered if I might suggest to them that after that time, if conditions were any better, that we might send for her to come out to us. Of course whatever decision is made must be done soon.

Sincerely yours,

Grace F. Riggs

P.S. (By C.H.R.)

attention

I wish to call your/again to the result of my conference with C.M. Yocum in Indianapolis. The United Christian Missionary Society is willing to send a drainage and irrigation engineer to fill the vacancy left by Goodsell and agreed a instigate search for such a candidate at once. He said, however, that he had had no direct request from either you or the field. In view of our immediate departure, I shall be unable to carry out Dean Chiang's instructions to assist in locating a candidate or to discuss the situation with him. I suggested to Mr. Yocum that Dr. Weeks of U. of Cal. who was formerly in Nanking, might be able to assist in this regard. I should like to suggest that in case you have not already done so, it would be well to send an official request at once to the Christian Missionary Society and urge an appointment as soon as practical. It may be necessary to follow up with an occasional reminder as Chengtu was very urgent in their instructions to me. It might also be wise to solicit the assistance of Dr. Weeks.

Chas. H. Riggs

P.S. 2 (By G.R.) July 5th. Have just had word from my father in Scotia, and he says they will take responsibility for Edith for period of two years. Due to rather frail health, they don't dare say longer than that, and of course even two years may be too long, but at least they are willing to take her now. Will you, in your next cable to Chengtu, please include this information? It will make difference in their planning for us. We are willing to go in with another family, or live "Chinese" if some family will take us as boarders. Point is, we do not want them to reserve one of their few houses for us. In fact I'd say make no arrangements ahead, but wait till we get there.

Grace Riggs

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us. Of course whatever decision is made must be done soon. Conditions were any better, that we might send for her to come out to us. I wondered if I might suggest to them after that time, if yet, I am not clear in my own mind what might happen at end of two years.

Sincerely yours,

Frank F. Taylor

(S. S. R. O. G. R.)

attention
I wish to call your attention to the result of my conference with C.M. Youm in Indianapolis. The United Christian Missionary Society is willing to send a drainage and irrigation engineer to fill the vacancy left by Goodell and agreed a tentative search for such a candidate at once. He said, however, that he had had no direct request from either you or the field. In view of our immediate departure, I shall be unable to carry out Dean Chiang's instructions to assist in locating a candidate or to discuss the situation with him. I suggested to Mr. Youm that Dr. Weeks of U. of Cal. who was formerly in Nanking, might be able to assist in this regard. I should like to suggest that in case you have not already done so, it would be well to send an official request at once to the Christian Missionary Society and urge an appointment as soon as practical. It may be necessary to follow up with an occasional reminder as Chengtu was very urgent in their instructions to me. It might also be wise to solicit the assistance of Dr. Weeks.

Chengtu

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JOINT OFFICE

Frank Taylor

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June 29, 1939.

Trustee Menoka Fund,
Congregational-Christian Church,
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

You may or may not be acquainted with our past relationship with the University of Nanking and the American Board, and of our hope as well as theirs, that a more satisfactory arrangement could be made for the coming term. The University had requested the Board to take us back on full support, but this the Board still felt unable to finance, altho they were willing to undertake the responsibility. The result is a reversal of the former situation in which the Board gave the University a fixed amount. The University has now agreed to pay the Board a fixed contribution, allowing the Board to receive the income from the Menoka Fund plus any other contributions which may come from the church, and be responsible for the balance.

Following the receipt of a cable from Chengtu, the Prudential Committee of the American Board on June 20 passed the following vote:-

Voted: that the Treasurer be authorized to execute a new agreement with Nanking University concerning the support of Rev. and Mrs. Charles H. Riggs of the North China Mission upon the following basis:

- 1- The University to provide outgoing and return travel to and from Chengtu for Mr. and Mrs. Riggs and one child, exclusive of refit allowance:
- 2- The University to pay \$1200 per annum for eight years from July 1, 1939 to the American Board, minus any net savings that may come during the period because of changes in children's allowances, and plus any increase that may come as the result of a general increase in the basal salary of members of the North China Mission:
- 3- The American Board to assume its usual financial responsibility for the support of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs upon the regular North China basis, including refit allowance; and to receive the income from the Menoka Fund and the Easter offering of the East Lansing Community Church as well as any other miscellaneous gifts to apply upon increased obligation;
- 4- This agreement to take effect July 1, 1939.

You will see from this that we are again regular missionaries of the American Board, and hence the income from Menoka Fund should now be sent to Treas. Harold Belcher, 14 Beacon St. Boston, Mass.

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June 29, 1939.

Rev. N. A. McCune,
East Lansing, Mich.

Dear McCune,

You will doubtless remember that when I was with you in May, I discussed with you our past relationship with the University of Nanking and the American Board, and our hope, as well as theirs, that a more satisfactory arrangement could be made for the coming term. The University had requested the Board to take us back on full support, but this the Board still felt unable to finance, altho they were willing to undertake the responsibility. The result is a reversal of the former situation in which the Board gave the University a fixed amount. The University has now agreed to pay the Board a fixed contribution, allowing the Board to receive your contributions. and be responsible for the balance.

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- 4- This agreement to take effect July 1, 1939.

You will see from this that we are again regular missionaries of the American Board, and hence the Easter offering gift from your church should be sent to the Treasurer of the American Board, Harold Belcher, 14 Beacon St. Boston.

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INDEXED

July 10, 1939

Mr. & Mrs. Charles H. Riggs
204 First Street
Scotia, New York

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Riggs:

I am answering your letter of July 4th to Mr. Garside. We are very glad to know the definite arrangements you are making for your trip.

Your suggestions regarding the Cornell-in-China Club will be followed up. We will probably ask Mr. Caldwell to get in touch with the group and see what can be done in the way of getting them interested in Mr. Kwan. There should be a good possibility of securing some new interest at this point.

As far as we have been able to discover, Mrs. Fenn sailed on June 30th for Japan. One of the new teachers for the English Department was trying to go with her, and we have had no advice that the plans made for the sailing on the President Coolidge were changed.

We are quite in agreement with your judgment regarding leaving Edith in America if you have been able to make satisfactory arrangements. You, of course, are in a position to judge best about such arrangements, and we would hesitate to advise. Whatever plan you do make will be quite agreeable, and we will be glad to cooperate with you in any way in seeing that future plans are carried out.

Word has come from Mr. Yokum, in Indianapolis, that they are definitely searching for a successor to Mr. Goodsell. This letter was in response to an official letter from Mr. Garside, asking that such a man be secured. We are following this matter up and will keep after the office in Indianapolis in the hope that an early decision can be reached regarding some candidate.

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Mr. & Mrs. Riggs

-2-

July 10, 1939

Last week I sent you a note, which I hope has been forwarded to you, suggesting that Mr. Allen Spitzer might be awaiting you in Hongkong in case he has not made earlier arrangements for procedure to Chengtu. He is due in Hongkong on July 28th and expects to see Dr. Fenn there. He thought it would be very helpful if he could join your party since he has not had previous experience in travel in China. Mr. Spitzer is one of the new members of the English Department staff.

I wish to take this occasion to extend my best wishes for a pleasant and safe trip as you return to China.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

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THE AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS
14 BEACON STREET, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Letter from,
Grace Riggs

University of Nanking, Chengtu
Szechwan, China.
October 14, 1939

Dear Friends:

Are you as relieved when you see this heading, as I am joyful to be writing it? After three months of traveling, what happiness to be able to start settling in our cozy little three room apartment on the second floor of a West China University campus residence. Sharing the house are Mr. and Mrs. Maurer and Nis with their several Chinese faculty boarders. We will also join their group for meals; their good Chinese food will be relished, and their fellowship enjoyed. Also, we should soon be talking better Chinese.

How far away seems that trip over the Canadian Rockies, the pleasant ocean trip on Empress of Russia, reaching Shanghai August 7. There were several days in obtaining Rail Road passes to go to Nanking necessitating various inoculations; and the trip on the 12th at which time we were sprayed and disinfected at both stations, finally arriving in Nanking after dark (and I mean dark!)--no lights till Drum Tower, terrible taxi, unspeakable roads! Where, alas! was the city we were so proud of?

For our week in Nanking we stayed in our old home, 23 Hankow Road now occupied by Dr. and Mrs. Bob Wilson and baby. How pleasant to find it cleaned and livable; even to use many of our own things and sleep in our own bed! Charlie's time was spent mostly in the shop, sorting and packing necessary equipment for his work here, while there was work for me in the attic. Then there must be a few meals with friends, when we tried to be gay, but one was conscious of two feelings: one depression, the other doubt as to how long they might be allowed to stay. And always envy of Chinese friends who wanted to come West too.

We came back to Shanghai on the 19th expecting to sail for Hongkong on the 23rd but Chinese Guerrillas would choose the 20th to wreck the very freight train carrying our seven trunks of "personal goods and tools of trade," and not till August 31 did they get to Shanghai, badly shaken up, but all safe we think. That Sunday was spent repacking, and listening to shattering news over the radio. Monday September 4 we boarded the Empress of Asia, then sat in harbor, with steam up waiting for momentary word that a cruiser had come to escort us to Hongkong. After 30 hours that word came and we moved silently out of the harbor, in darkness. Thus did European War come to us. If we allowed a crack of light through, our cruiser flashed reprimand to us.

We had three days in Hongkong; then a two day trip to Haiphong on the French S.S. Canton, which was another brand new experience,--a tiny hot cabin, barefooted turbaned Annamese boys, French speaking;--and again the black nights. And the sea was quite red as compared to the Yellow Sea. From September 13-17 we were in Haiphong, living in a French Hotel with an English speaking manager, enduring the heat and working every minute to get our baggage through Customs and started on its trip North. Then we spent one night in Hanoi, a

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much nicer residential town than the port, all with French Colonial influence.

At daylight on the 17th we started on our Rail Road trip, very soon getting into higher and higher hills, covered with jungle like growth, following along the Red River. That night we stopped in LaoKay, on the border, at a China Travel Hostel. We had had a French meal served in our 2nd class compartment at noon, together with a group of China folks. On the morning of the second day we started again at daylight. We had to wait an hour on the China border for customs and immigration, although our things were sealed until we reached Kunming. The scenery on the second day was higher and gradually more barren and rugged. When we had crossed one pass, our companionable stream changed to a branch of the Pearl River flowing by Canton. We had to go through tunnels and tunnels, -they say there are 150, -I think more. The coal gas was stifling, until by accident I discovered a wet handkerchief helped a great deal. Since then I have found others knew of that remedy. The second day we bought bowls of noodles for lunch; the third, plates of scrambled ham, eggs and rice, from men who got onto the train with their portable stoves and kettles, then got off at a next stop and took the returning train back home. The second night we stayed at KaiYuan, at a French Bungalow, as guests of our China friends, we were escorted through the dark streets, with a large gasoline lantern. When we left the next morning there was barely light enough to see the tiny zoo in our garden, composed of three baby fawns, one monkey, a porcupine and a brilliant red rooster, all living happily together, in a cage.

As we drew nearer to Kunming in the late afternoon of the 19th the weather grew refreshingly cooler on this high broad plateau. (One National Geographic of last winter had an article about this town, perhaps called Yunnanfu). It rained most of our delayed time there. I thought I was quite lucky to get a plane ticket for the 24th, it having been agreed that I should come on ahead, while Charlie would follow by truck with the things, and having the company of Peter Goullard, Russian by birth, now a naturalized Chinese citizen. He has left his work in Shanghai, to join in government work in the West. His knowledge of French had helped us through Indo-China, although we wonder just how good a truck traveler he will be. We stayed in Kunming with the Arnolds of the Y.M.C.A. Since they have two sons in Oberlin and one in Mt. Hermon, we felt a mutual tie. Charlie was busy every moment getting things through customs and then making travel plans through the China Travel Office. And then an awful blow struck us; his brief case was stolen from that office. Besides all the important papers, invoices, customs receipts, etc. it contained \$20 in United States bills, \$80 in American Express checks and a check on a Chinese bank, and passport! This a very important document in these days.

Three days later the passport was dropped into the "pillar box," and returned to the American Consulate by the Postmaster. The Chinese check and Express checks were canceled, so our actual loss was the \$20, now meaning over \$300 in Chinese currency here, and the papers. Kunming is now full of this sort of thing. There are so many, many people, trying to travel west that have been delayed there.

But to proceed with our travels. My ticket for September 24th could not be used till October 4, because planes were requested for government service. Charlie finally left by truck on the noon of the

8th, and I have not heard a word from him since. It is just two weeks, and sometimes the trip takes a month, so I have no reason to worry yet. But now I have to take you on my trip, and will tell you more about his over that new "Burma Road" after he arrives and gets into his work.

It was my first air-flight, and I was prepared to be scared. I expressed some such thought to the little Miao gate-man who carried my suitcase to the office in the early morning (5:30) of October 4th. His reply was, "No, do not fear, God will take care of you." A Chinese lady friend advised, "Just say a little prayer, then go to sleep." But who could sleep, with all that grandeur beneath. My first reaction was how slow we were going, until you examined the earth below and realized how fast the mountains and rivers disappeared. Once we were out of the plateau of Kunming, the mountains became steep and rugged, then gradually we saw tiny circles of rice fields around edges of them, then wider valleys, and at last after 2 hours, we came out into the valley of the Yangtse, and were at Chungking, the present center of "Free China." It is truly an interesting city, built on rocky banks at the fork of two rivers. But oh! the devastation all around from that May bombing. It looks even worse now, because in many places other buildings are being torn down to widen the street, and to build better buildings. How can a people like that be conquered? And yet that very week, the week of the full moon, there were air alarms nine nights in succession, one that very night at 12:30, when we dressed and sat in the basement for 3 hours, until "all clear" sounded, lights came on and we could go back to bed. Next morning there came another, but this time enemy planes went another way. The military ones now seem to be after the airfields.

In Chungking, the headquarters of the Canadian Mission Agency, there were gathered Canadian and English missionaries, and an assortment of other international folk. After getting my plane ticket for the 8th, I had time to visit various Chinese Nanking friends now living there, and to see a little of the town. The plane trip here took 80 minutes, the land was more rolling, and the hills, gradually more and larger and greener rice fields and orchards, -then CHENGTU !! But alas! we had to have the window shades drawn as we landed far out of the city, because of proximity to military air field. A bus brought us over the dusty, bumpy road into the city in three-quarters of an hour. Then we traveled by riksha another half hour out to the campus of the West China Union University, where there is now this big student center. It is so lovely and quiet here, except for the sounds of building in various places, of new dormitories to accommodate the constantly arriving young people from the East.

The first two days I stayed with the Slocums, then came here to our new home. Yesterday I went on my first shopping expedition, to search for furniture and bedding for our bare apartment. Everything was priced so high, but with all communications cut off with the exception of the one we just came over, it is no wonder. We will just all have to go "native" and this "native" will mean the native of West China, not the native of the modern Nanking we knew for five years. And it is being just as hard for "down-river" Chinese too, to go back a generation, but as Miss Priest says, "We never forget that we are refugees."

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-4- Grace Riggs

So here we are, and now we sometimes ask, "For how long?" But we shall enjoy the experience, and be glad of the opportunity which might never have been ours of seeing this part of China. Think of us, and write too. Letters mean so much, as they did in Shaowu days. Above address reaches us.

Most cordial and loving greetings,

Grace Riggs,
(Mrs. Charles H. Riggs)

Note: Letters to Mr. and Mrs. Riggs can be addressed to them at Nanking University, Chengtu, Szechwan, China and by ordinary 5¢ mail will usually reach them eventually. Friends wanting to send letters by air mail from Hongkong to Chengtu may send them to the Foreign Department of the American Board accompanied by stamps for 15¢ for each half ounce and they will be forwarded in accordance with arrangements made in Hongkong by Mrs. Riggs.

Wynn C. Fairfield.

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THE AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS
14 BEACON STREET, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Letter from
Grace and Charles Riggs

University of Nanking
Chengtu, Szechuan
August 5, 1940

Dear Friends:

Just a year ago we were landing in Shanghai. Yes, time flies, but when we consider things actually accomplished, there seems little to show for the year. However, we did not reach Chengtu until the end of October, and for another thing, it always takes a long time to get started in this country. We ought to do fairly well at getting started in this, our third new place, but the problems are always new, especially true in a war-torn country. Materials and skilled workmen are very hard to get, and prices for them exorbitant, in fact all prices. It has almost reached the point where it takes a dollar to buy a dime's worth, and, for several months, our dollar has been worth only five cents of your money. Added to this, there is the difficulty of never knowing when a siren may send everybody into dug-outs to sit for 2 or 3 hours in idleness.

Some of you who have been receiving copies of "Notes" of the College of Agriculture, may have read of our new "Farm Shop Building" to be used as a combination laboratory for our students, and shop for research and construction of various textile implements, in cooperation with the National Agricultural Production Promotion Commission, who contributed to the building, and the Chinese Industrial Cooperatives, to whom the University is lending part of our time. The building which is barely finished, is already overflowing with from 40 to 60 workmen, rushing to finish jobs on hand before the opening of the fall term when students will arrive. Young China is awake to the opportunities of the new machine age, and this course is popular.

Eight different types of looms are being constructed and tested, the best of which will be duplicated and put into use by the C.I.C. in village centers throughout this province and elsewhere, also a spinning equipment, known as Model "77", made especially for the Commission, and, in this connection, machines for carding, picking, drawing and teasing. All these are man-power driven. You may ask what this all has to do with "farm machinery." But the University feels this textile program to be one of major importance at present, and other departments, such as Economics, and Sociology are also cooperating. It helps the rural population in three ways: they can produce the wool and cotton on their farms, they can find employment for their leisure winter months, and they can produce moderate priced clothing for themselves and the army. The local branch of the CIC expect to get out several hundred thousand army blankets by December.

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In this new building at present is a nearly completed new type of cotton gin for our Agronomy Department, and 20 sets of laboratory equipment for the incoming farm shop students, the first class of this sort on the campus. Another project under way is a complete leather tanning outfit for West China Union University. In all of this work an important aim has been to use as little metal as possible, substituting wood, bamboo or leather.

Considerable time has also been given to the Machine Shop, previously under auspices of West China University Medical and Dental College, but since February 1940 operated jointly by institutions on campus with C.H.R. as manager. Equipment and supplies for that College have been the biggest factor, but it is also a general repair shop for the community for anything mechanical from automobiles to microscopes. It is here that the scarcity of metals and skilled workmen is felt the keenest.

Last month Charlie spent half the time in Chungking with Lewis Smythe at a CIC conference, and I went to Omei Mountain with his wife and two little girls. From reports, they had an exciting time in Chungking. On the days they were out at the mountain where most of the meetings were held; enemy planes arrived, and, on the few days they were in the city, they were again visited. On the afternoon Dr. H. H. Kung was to entertain the conference at tea, they learned he would be late in arriving since his home had been bombed that morning. Accordingly the guests planned to arrive late also, only to find that he had come at 4 and left at 4:15! Thus, everywhere is an attempt to carry on as near to normal as possible in spite of minor interruptions.

Our party started for Omei on the afternoon of June 25th, and on our boat were Mardie Smythe and girls, and Thelma Liu and fiance Stephen Dee, who have been part of our Chinese family the past year. The second boat contained Mr. and Mrs. George Elliot, newlyweds (English), Mr. and Mrs. George Birtch with a one-month old babe, and another Canadian girl. The boats were larger than our Shaowu boats with eight instead of three boatmen. It is a $2\frac{1}{2}$ day trip going down-stream, south to Kiating (you can find it on the map perhaps) but 10-14 days returning up-stream. It would have been enjoyable had it not been too hot, the nights tied up were especially uncomfortable. At Kiating we had to transfer into two little boats for a branch up-stream trip of a few hours, then after a tedious transfer of all the paraphernalia on to the shoulders of 92 coolies (this included the litter-like Sedan chair carriers for people too) we went for an hour to a temple to spend the night.

Unfortunately we had not been informed that since last year this was now occupied by a government primary school who viewed this foreign invasion most unfavorably. We were told we might find refuge in under the idols or in the open court. In view of the intense heat, we piled baggage inside and made up our beds on the cement floor of the court. The children and the sick bride were already settled and the rest following, when a terrific thunder-storm broke, then a mad scramble while we all sought the protection of the idols! But at last we got settled again, and at 4:30 a.m. the 92 coolies descended upon us with the request that we roll up our bedding and let them start! By 5:30 the caravan was off, with a stop at eight for breakfast, and at twelve for lunch - a really

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pleasant trip on a cool day and increasingly cool as we climbed in the afternoon, reaching our bungalow by 5 p.m.

Three weeks were mostly spent in idleness in rains and mists, the principle diversion being the wedding of Thelma and Steve on the 7th. Then on the 19th I started back home with them. It was our expectation to get a bus at the foot of the mountain and come in one day to Chengtu. But alas, buses for three days were chartered by the Provincial University. After waiting two days in vain hopes, we spent a day in the "litter" to Kiating, to come by bus from there. At the first hotel near west gate, there were "no rooms." On our way to the second the air raid signal sounded and mobs began pouring out of the city with our trying to go against the tide. We reached another hotel just as they were barring the doors. Again "no rooms." We begged to park ourselves, litters, and baggage in the lobby. Luckily no "urgent" came and finally "all-clear." Then Thelma sallied forth, found a clerk from her father's office who procured tickets for us for the 24th and found we could have cover in a Baptist chapel.

After waiting in the turmoil of the bus station from 6:30 to 8:45 that morning, with great excitement and jamming, we did get seats, having been lucky to possess numbered tickets. However, in addition to the twenty-four reserved seat passengers, there were as many or more crowded in the baggage compartment, on the roof and on the hood. And any moment I expected the whole machine to fall apart. But we rattled on past crowds of would-be passengers at every town. At 2:45 came a sudden stop and a call from the driver "Planes, all out." Such a scramble, out of windows and baggage compartment, and into a corn-field, where we could lie and watch and listen to the thirty-four planes high above us, coming from Chengtu direction. But I couldn't believe they would notice one pathetically dilapidated bus on the roadside, and they didn't! On our way again, but in an hour's time we began to notice black clouds, and a suspicious orange near the horizon ahead of us, and as we drew nearer we became more sure that our fears were justified. Arriving at the bus station at 4:30 we learned that a large portion of the business section of the city had been bombed at 2:30 and fires were raging, either from incendiary bombs, or from home fires left burning in the rush of seeking cover when the "urgent" came sooner than usual. It was queer to arrive on that very day, when one reason for leaving town was to escape these events, and that day was the first and only attack of the season thus far. Many are trusting in last year's experience of only one a year. There are occasional "yellow flags" when we just sit around the house and wait, but all are hoping that their ammunition will soon be giving out if the U.S.A. will only stop furnishing it.

The weather is not too bad. A day or two of rather humid heat will be followed by showers. I try to make Charlie rest or play part of each day in lieu of any further vacation on his part, and there are a few others of the faculty around to keep us from being lonely.

-4- Letter from Mr. and Mrs. Riggs

I have enjoyed letters from many of you, and I trust that you will all consider this a personal message which brings our very best of wishes.

Most cordially,

Grace and Charlie Riggs

P.S. Ordinary letters (5 cent postage) reach us in two months or more, while 27 cent postage, letter marked plainly "AIRMAIL IN U.S.A. & CHINA" will get to us in one month. I try to answer all personal letters, even though it may be a note enclosed in somebody else's letter.

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Letter from
Grace and Charles H. Riggs

University of Nanking
Chengtu, Szechuan
Oct. 31, 1941
(Received Jan. 28, 1942)

Christmas Greetings to Friends Around the World:

It has been a long time since August, 1940, when I last wrote this kind of message, and many of you have been kind about acknowledging that. Now I hope this will have the luck to reach you in time to bring our greetings to you for Christmas. I can only hope that Christmas this year may bring to each of you what you in your hearts most desire, and that at least one other person may have a fuller and richer Christmas because of you. We shall be thinking of you all at that time, and trying to make the same wish true for ourselves.

Several of you have accused me of neglecting to mention the children in last year's letter, so to bring you up-to-date with them:

Fred, now 24, received his M.A. last year at Fletcher School, and is beginning his work on doctorate at Columbia, in political science.

Charles, 21, a senior at Oberlin, major in psychology; spent the summer in hitch-hiking trip to California, stop-overs in Colorado and New Mexico (latter in the home of an Indian family) with thrilling adventures. They seem to come his way.

Betsy, junior at Oberlin, major in sociology, councillor in a fresh-air camp for underprivileged Buffalo children. She was 19 in the summer.

Wendell, nearly 16, a young giant, junior at Mt. Hermon, worked in boys' camp in New Jersey, thinks he wants to follow his father's trade; and Edith, who will be 12 on December 30, is in first year junior high school, and sounds very happy in her life in Scotia with my mother and father. The children manage to see each other once or twice a year, and seem keener about each other than ordinarily true.

Their father? Well, as usual, always tired, and overworked, but if he will attempt to be handy-man for all this foreign community, as well as mechanical adviser and technician for all professors who need any kind of equipment, I suppose I need expect nothing else. So many little things come to the house to be done as well as in the three shops, - (1) machine, which now has valuable help of a Russian mechanic, - (2) Wool shop, where experimenting on wool-weaving, rug-making, looms, etc., goes on, and (3) the Nanking farm wood shop and laboratory for students in College. This year there is a heavy teaching schedule, each course with one afternoon a week. Every day he is off at one for laboratory work. The Machine Shop here has just undertaken to keep Mission trucks, Red Cross ambulances in order. Lack of proper care of cars is a terrible draw-back to transportation these days, long delays, wrecks, loss of lives and cargo. Well, if the Machine Shop can help to remedy this, it is well worth while.

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Letter from
Grace and Charles H. Riggs

I know all this seems a far cry from agricultural machinery, but after all war conditions do alter circumstances, don't they? Some of you have been receiving our College "Notes" and will know some other things the College is doing.

For myself, there is still the office work for the Agricultural College nearly every morning, and a new venture this year on campus is starting a high school for our Chinese faculty children. They have been going away to boarding schools, but with rise in all costs, many were going to keep them home this year. Fathers and mothers, or aunts, or friends have volunteered free teaching; a group of 60 pupils have been organized as branch of our University Middle School, now some distance from here, and children can live at home. I am teaching the beginning class of English to seventh graders, sixteen of them, and are they alert? It keeps me on the jump every second. I began teaching them "Little Jack Horner" which they memorized without knowing what they were saying. How they love it and shout it all over the campus. It is really much more fun to teach them than college students who are much more timid, etc. This class comes every day from three to four (even Saturdays). It is a long walk to the other corner of this big campus, so my afternoons seem to fly by, too.

But somewhere in between I must find time to keep the culinary part of home moving. We have two additions to our table. Hilda Chiang, a young German Jewess whose husband is a Red Cross doctor, at front, while she works for our Nanking Library, is eating with us, and now Leatrice Huang, a Hawaiian Chinese girl, working for West China University, has also joined us. Both girls get the Chinese salary which is not enough to cover board on the regular foreign standard, and need something a little better than dormitory food, which at present is so pitifully insufficient, although the board rate is \$100 or more a month, instead of the \$6 a month in Nanking days. However, the girls find they can afford the Riggs' standard, which is about twice that of Chinese families, and a half or less of other foreign families, with our half-and-half basis, partly learned by our experience with Chinese friends our first year here. It is fun to have these girls with us.

Last week we had an American Board tea as a welcome for Miss Grace Boynton who now rooms across the hall from us. She will teach English in Nanking University. Also Miss Ruth Van Kirk is working in Town now, partly for Ginling. And Miss Myra Sawyer, who while now working for the Methodists, still seems quite at home in an American Board group. We count Stella Graves as one of us, too, although she couldn't come to our tea. The three had a great time discussing North China news.

I know one question you all want to ask, - how about raids? And how happy I am to report that we have been free now since August. I have heard no real explanation. Maybe you know more than we do. However, we are not especially dependent on the reason; we just revel in the freedom to go about our daily work without that tension of watching for a yellow flag, which means that we have to drop our work and go and sit in a dugout in damp and dark.

-3- Letter from
Grace and Charles H. Riggs

But the nightmare for all of us now is, higher and higher prices. Not that we are especially hit by this ourselves, but our Chinese colleagues on the University staff find it very hard. It is a great, unsolvable problem. And yet government institutions seem to have money, so the result is that they are calling many of our best men (and women) away with alluring offers, sufficient to keep their families from near-starvation. The problem is driving to distraction those in places of administration, and what the outcome will be, nobody can guess.

Let us hear from you. We need letters more than you guess.

Ever with deepest wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely,

Grace F. Riggs (and Charlie).

Note:

Mrs. Riggs made a number of suggestions about sending air mail letters, or radio messages; but these conditions have all been changed. The best method seems to be to send letters by Clipper mail, at the rate of 70 cents per half ounce. The U.S. Post Office chooses the route, on its best judgment.

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Charles H. Rigg

University of Nanking
Chengtu, Szechwan
China
September 22, 1942
(Received Nov. 14, 1942)

Dear Friends All,

A Board letter has just come in dated August 13th, that looks hopeful of letters getting through now; of course a bit long for Clipper letters, but really not long after the delays of the past year. Along with these one-month-old letters, we are also receiving Christmas messages sent last November. There have also been quite a few letters received which were written last April, after the receipt of my printed letter which left Chengtu October 31, 1941. Most of the April letters were sent with five-cent postage and took five months to get here. So when you answer this, if you can possibly afford it, you'll have to squander seventy cents for Clipper, or else plan for five or six months on the way. If you know how much we appreciate letters these days when no magazines, papers, or new books are coming in, you will not consider the seventy cents wasted.

As I read over my copy of last October's letter, I could almost say ditto for most of it. But in case you don't have it around for reference, I'll review.....First, this year I sincerely hope the Christmas message will reach you before February. I hope for you a deep, abiding peace in your hearts and that we may all have a consciousness of nearness to each other at this season.

Before I begin our family review, let me say how fine it is to have Jim Hunter as a temporary addition to our West China Group. His plans for the future are not yet fully made, in fact may not be for some time, since so much depends on how the war moves; his next move will be to Sian, north of here, four days by truck, to try to contact our Chinese Christian workers in Shansi. In the meantime, he has been sharing our "Apartment", sleeping on a corner of our porch, using the end of the hall for study, where he keeps his typewriter busy most of the time. Some of you will probably already have seen his writeup of first impressions here, with some pictures of student activities.

All that I said in last year's letter about Charlie's work is still true. It is just as heavily scheduled, just as nerve-wracking in the never-ending effort of trying to do satisfactory work with makeshift materials on a minimum amount of money. In addition to demands reported before, we now have the RAF cars and FAU (Friends' Ambulance Unit) asking for help. The former have their own ground force here, but need some help when special machinery is needed, and the FAU have asked our machine shop to serve as their official repair shop. Charlie doesn't do any of the actual work himself, another good Russian mechanic has joined the staff now; but it all goes into the machine shop work which he has to officially manage in the way of getting supplies, labor, keeping accounts, such worrisky jobs.

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This year the University has granted the CIC's (China Industrial Cooperative's) request for part of Charlie's time for definite supervision of construction of their textile machinery. It will make little difference in his actual work, for he has been giving much time to it already, but it will mean that, aside from instruction work in agricultural machinery which takes a good half of his time, the other phase of experimentation and research along that line will be dropped for one year. Little can be done at present along that line anyway, in view of many handicaps already mentioned, such as money, materials, trained mechanics, and time. At present the CIC seems better able to furnish at least some of these necessities (due to kind generosity of friends abroad) so it has seemed wise to go to their aid. The work will be carried on in the same machine shop as formerly.

In the meantime the small appropriation for Agricultural machinery research for this year can be held over and added to the allowance which CIC will give the University for his time, and perhaps next year more can be done in that line. That is, if money is worth anything at all by that time. I might mention in passing (and then forevermore hold my peace, because the high cost of living is getting to be such a terribly over-worked topic of conversation that I can't bear to have it mentioned in polite society), that the latest index given out by our Department of Agricultural Economics, is that one Chinese dollar is worth only two cents of pre-war value. That's the average; in many single articles it is worse than that, i.e. eggs, easily purchasable in 1936 for $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents each now cost \$1.50 each. Our foreign exchange is now nearly 20 Chinese dollars for one U.S., as against \$3.30 then. Is your arithmetic equal to this? Prices are fifty times higher, exchange is six times as much; so we have the actual use of U.S. income at fifty divided by six, that is $8\frac{1}{3}$. If this only applied to imported things, nobody would complain, but every little native article keeps on going up for no earthly reason that we can see.

Day labor that can set its own wages are well off, but where the shoe pinches is for the "white collared", especially all those on mission and church rolls where incomes are from abroad. It would seem that gold should be selling for more in view of what's going on here. But that is regulated by the Chinese Government. Personally we have no complaint, the Board is kindly making adjustments, but our Chinese co-workers are badly off. Those of us who are able, or who receive special gifts from friends abroad, make up a Medical Relief fund for our faculty to help them at times of sickness or death in their families, and now Mr. Hunter and I are scouring possibilities of getting a loan fund started for helping our North China students who have come here to study. If any of you as individuals or in groups care to help out in this work, either for faculty relief, or student aid, we will be very happy to cooperate. Many are children of Chinese preachers and teachers, or poor Christians, and if we are to keep a long look ahead hopeful of one day going back to carry on, it is most important to keep in touch with the coming generation for our future leaders. Especially is this true, since many of our middle-aged workers are being lost by death, hardships, or

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economic pressure to go into other lines of work during this time of cessation of their mission work. How will it all end, we often ask, but this work is at our door, during these days of opening school, every day brings applicants for help. We have cabled to the Board to solicit help, and all are anxiously waiting; to several, Jim and we have advanced from personal funds enough for one month's board, and now we wait most anxiously. Gifts should be sent directly to our Board treasurer, Harold Belcher, 14 Beacon Street, Boston, with whatever assignment you wish.

Our Chengtu Branch of the Nanking Middle (High) School has opened for its second year. I am continuing with three hours of my last year's class. They are now 21 in number, ages 12 to 14 (second year junior high). I will have reading and conversation, and a Chinese teacher teaches grammar and spelling. They are an energetic bunch of promising youngsters. In addition there will be the beginning class again, six hours of them, repeating last year's work. I do love starting from scratch, and I foresee where they will be my favorites, although I'm also quite devoted to second year class, too.

About my own children; I can't report about Fred and Charles*, perhaps you will know more about them than I do now. I mean their last letters were uncertain of how much of their own plans could be carried out. Betsy supposedly has started her last year at Oberlin, and Wendell his last at Mt. Hermon. Edith continues in Scotia. All five got together last Christmas to help celebrate grandparents' golden anniversary. It made me happy to have so many proxies there.

Our International Woman's Club has just put on an international musical program to raise its \$10,000. share of the 5th Anniversary gift subscribed in response to Madame Chiang's appeal to help wounded soldiers and families of soldiers. The YW went way over the top with their bazaar on July 4th with a similar goal.

I trust that you are already aware that there is nothing new to report in the line of air-raids. We don't know whom we have to thank for this joyous omission, but we are grateful for the privilege of being able to carry on work on the days and hours planned as well as freedom from the terrorism connected with hourly expectations of devastation from above. If only we didn't have radios around to learn of similar happenings in other parts of the world, we could almost forget a war was going on.

We hear that England is having no more ice-cream. Well, when America gets to that stage, why bother about furlough? Or cheese? or cocoa? or a real cup of coffee that isn't made of a pinch of coffee boiled at least three times to get every bit of strength? Well, if and when US does get itself to that point, then we can all be sympathetic with each other, and begin to realize there are other things more important in life than meat and drink.

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We do think of you all so often. Thank you all who have written personal letters. Those which I have received, I have tried to acknowledge with tiny notes enclosed in family letters. If you have not heard from me, it means either that yours or mine has been sunk beneath the brine, but anyway, try again; we may both have better luck next time, and in the meantime, take this with heartsful of devotion from your old friends and co-workers,

(Signed) GRACE AND CHARLES

(Charles H. and Grace Frederick Riggs)

* Fred is in a C.O. camp--address, C.P.S., West Campton, New Hampshire. Charles is at Oberlin College.

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